

**MATH 216** (Fall 2021)

Introduction to Analysis

**Midterm #1 Model Solutions**

1. Let  $(x_n)_{n=1}^{\infty}$  be a convergent sequence of non-negative reals with limit  $x$ . Show that  $(\sqrt{x_n})_{n=1}^{\infty}$  is convergent with

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{x_n} = \sqrt{x}.$$

(Hint:  $|\sqrt{x} - \sqrt{y}|^2 \leq |\sqrt{x} - \sqrt{y}| |\sqrt{x} + \sqrt{y}| = |x - y|$  for all  $x, y \geq 0$ .)

*Solution:* Let  $\epsilon > 0$ . As  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = x$ , there is  $n_{\epsilon} \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $|x_n - x| < \epsilon^2$  for all  $n \geq n_{\epsilon}$ . From the inequality in the hint, we obtain for those  $n$  that

$$|\sqrt{x_n} - \sqrt{x}|^2 \leq |\sqrt{x_n} - \sqrt{x}| |\sqrt{x_n} + \sqrt{x}| = |x_n - x| < \epsilon^2$$

and therefore  $|\sqrt{x_n} - \sqrt{x}| < \epsilon$ .

2. Let

$$S := \left\{ n((-1)^n + 1) + \frac{1}{n} : n \in \mathbb{N} \right\}.$$

Determine  $\inf S$  and  $\sup S$ .

*Solution:* First note that, for even  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , we have

$$n((-1)^n + 1) + \frac{1}{n} = 2n + \frac{1}{n} \geq 2n.$$

It follows that  $S$  is not bounded above, so that  $\sup S = \infty$ .

For odd  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , we have

$$n((-1)^n + 1) + \frac{1}{n} = \frac{1}{n} \geq 0.$$

It follows that 0 is a lower bound for  $S$ , so that  $\inf S \geq 0$ . Assume towards a contradiction that  $\inf S > 0$ . By the Archimedian Property of  $\mathbb{R}$ , there is then  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , which we can suppose to be odd, such that

$$\inf S > \frac{1}{n} = n((-1)^n + 1) + \frac{1}{n}.$$

This is a contradiction.

3. Show that

$$\prod_{k=1}^{n-1} \left( 1 + \frac{1}{k} \right)^k = \frac{n^n}{n!}$$

for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $n \geq 2$ .

*Solution:*  $n = 2$  (*induction anchor*): In this case,

$$\prod_{k=1}^1 \left(1 + \frac{1}{k}\right)^k = \left(1 + \frac{1}{1}\right)^1 = 2 = \frac{4}{2} = \frac{2^2}{2!}$$

holds.

$n \rightsquigarrow n + 1$  (*induction step*): Suppose that

$$\prod_{k=1}^{n-1} \left(1 + \frac{1}{k}\right)^k = \frac{n^n}{n!}$$

holds. Then it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \prod_{k=1}^n \left(1 + \frac{1}{k}\right)^k &= \left( \prod_{k=1}^{n-1} \left(1 + \frac{1}{k}\right)^k \right) \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^n \\ &= \frac{n^n}{n!} \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^n, \quad \text{by the induction hypothesis,} \\ &= \frac{n^n}{n!} \left(\frac{n+1}{n}\right)^n \\ &= \frac{n^n}{n!} \frac{(n+1)^n}{n^n} \\ &= \frac{n^n}{n!} \frac{(n+1)^{n+1}}{n^n} \frac{1}{n+1} \\ &= \frac{(n+1)^{n+1}}{n!(n+1)} \\ &= \frac{(n+1)^{n+1}}{(n+1)!} \end{aligned}$$

4. Does the sequence  $\left(\sqrt{n^2 + n} - n\right)_{n=1}^{\infty}$  converge? If so, determine its limit.

*Solution:* By the third binomial formula, we have

$$\sqrt{n^2 + n} - n = \frac{n}{\sqrt{n^2 + n} + n} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + \frac{1}{n}} + 1}$$

for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . By Problem 1, we know that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{1 + \frac{1}{n}} = 1$ . Then limit laws that yield that  $\left(\sqrt{n^2 + n} - n\right)_{n=1}^{\infty}$  converges to  $\frac{1}{2}$ .