

1. Let $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a continuous function with $f(\mathbb{R}) \subset \mathbb{Q}$. Prove that f is constant.
2. Let $f, g : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be continuous functions such that $f(x) = g(x)$ for all $x \in \mathbb{Q}$. Prove that $f(x) = g(x)$ for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$. Is this still true if we only assume that $f(x) = g(x)$ for $x \in \mathbb{Z}$?
3. Consider the function $f : [1, 2] \cap \mathbb{Q} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ defined by $f(x) = |x - \sqrt{2}|$. Prove that f does *not* have a minimum value. Why doesn't the extreme value theorem apply?
4. (*) Define a function $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ by

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x \text{ irrational} \\ 1/n, & x = m/n. \end{cases}$$

Here all rational numbers $x = \frac{m}{n}$ are written in lowest terms, with $n > 0$.

- (a) Prove that if x is rational, then f is not continuous at x .
 - (b) Prove that if x is irrational, then f is continuous at x .
5. Let $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be continuous, and suppose that $f(a) \leq y \leq f(b)$.
 - (a) Let $(a_0, b_0) = (a, b)$, and for all $n \geq 0$, define $m_n = \frac{a_n + b_n}{2}$ and

$$(a_{n+1}, b_{n+1}) = \begin{cases} (a_n, m_n), & f(m_n) > y \\ (m_n, b_n), & f(m_n) \leq y. \end{cases}$$

Prove that the sequences (a_n) and (b_n) converge to the same limit $L \in [a, b]$.

- (b) Prove that $f(L) = y$, concluding a new proof of the intermediate value theorem.
6. For any nonempty set $S \subset \mathbb{R}$, define $d_S : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ by $d_S(x) = \inf_{s \in S} |x - s|$.
 - (a) Describe or draw graphs of d_S when S is each of $\{0\}$, $\{-1, 3\}$, \mathbb{Z} , \mathbb{Q} .
 - (b) Prove that $|d_S(y) - d_S(x)| \leq |y - x|$ for all $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$, and conclude that d_S is continuous.
 7. Let $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a monotonically increasing function, not necessarily continuous. Define $S(x) = \sup_{y < x} f(y)$ and $I(x) = \inf_{y > x} f(y)$.
 - (a) Prove for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$ that $S(x) \leq f(x) \leq I(x)$.
 - (b) Prove for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$ that $S(x) = I(x)$ if and only if f is continuous at x .
 - (c) Find an injective mapping

$$\{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid f \text{ is not continuous at } x\} \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}.$$

Conclude that f is continuous at all but at most countably many real numbers.

8. Prove that a function $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is continuous if and only if for every open set $U \subset \mathbb{R}$, the preimage

$$f^{-1}(U) = \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid f(x) \in U\}$$

is open.