## Midterm # 1

1. This problem asks you to compute the same limit using two different ways:

(10 pts)(a) Using the Algebraic Limit Theorem, prove that the limit of (5n+1)/(4n+5) is as expected.

Solution: We can simplify the sequence as follows:

$$\frac{5n+1}{4n+5} = \frac{n(5+1/n)}{n(4+5/n)} = \frac{5+1/n}{4+5/n}.$$

Using ALT, the sequence in the numerator and the sequence in the denominator are convergent, and  $\lim 5 + 1/n = 5$  and  $\lim 4 + 5/n = 4$ . ALT implies that

$$\lim \frac{5n+1}{4n+5} = \lim \frac{5+1/n}{4+5/n} = \frac{\lim 5+1/n}{4+5/n} = \frac{5}{4}.$$

(b) Using the *definition*, prove that the limit of (5n + 1)/(4n + 5) is as expected. (10 pts)

**Solution:** Let  $\varepsilon > 0$ . We need to find  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that if  $n \ge N$  then

$$\left|\frac{5n+1}{4n+5} - \frac{5}{4}\right| < \varepsilon.$$

The inequality above is equivalent to

$$\left|\frac{20n+4-20n-25}{4(4n+5)}\right| < \varepsilon$$
  
$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{21}{4(4n+5)} < \varepsilon$$
  
$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{21}{4\varepsilon} < 4n+5$$
  
$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{1}{4}\left(\frac{21}{4\varepsilon} - 5\right) < n.$$

Let N to be the smallest positive integer greater or equal than  $\frac{1}{4} \left(\frac{21}{4\varepsilon} - 5\right)$ . Then, if  $n \ge N$ we have that

$$\left|\frac{5n+1}{4n+5} - \frac{5}{4}\right| < \varepsilon.$$

Therefore, according to the definition, we have that  $\lim(5n+1)/(4n+5) = 5/4$ .

- 2. Give an example of each of the following, or state that such a request is impossible by referencing the proper theorems:
- (5pts) (a) A convergent sequence  $(a_n)$  such that  $|a_n a_{n+1}| > 0.01$  for infinitely many n.

**Solution:** This request is impossible. According to the Cauchy criterion, a sequence is convergent iff it is Cauchy. If a sequence is Cauchy, then, for  $\varepsilon = 0.01$ , there is  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that if  $m > n \ge N$  then  $|a_n - a_m| < 0.01$ . Letting m = n + 1 in this inequality we obtain a contradiction.

(5pts) (b) A Cauchy sequence with an unbounded subsequence.

**Solution:** This request is impossible: a Cauchy sequence is bounded; therefore, any sub-sequence of the sequence is bounded.

(5pts) (c) Two sequences  $(a_n)$  and  $(b_n)$  where  $(a_n/b_n)$  and  $(b_n)$  converge, but  $(a_n)$  does not.

**Solution:** This request is impossible. According to the ALT, if two sequences converge, then so is their product. Since  $a_n/b_n \cdot b_n = a_n$ , if follows that  $(a_n)$  converges, which is a contradiction.

(5pts) (d) A set A for which there is no sequence in A with limit sup A that is eventually constant.

**Solution:** Any set that does not contain the sup would do it. For example A = (0, 1).

## (15pts) 3. Show that $\sqrt{\sqrt{2}+2}$ is irrational.

**Solution:** Assume, by contradiction, that  $\sqrt{\sqrt{2}+2}$  is irrational. Then there is a rational r such that  $\sqrt{\sqrt{2}+2} = r$ . If follows that  $\sqrt{2}+2 = r^2$  and  $\sqrt{2} = r^2 - 2$ . Since  $\mathbb{Q}$  is a field, it follows that  $r^2 - 2$  is a rational number. Hence  $\sqrt{2} \in \mathbb{Q}$ , which is a contradiction.

(25pts) 4. Let  $A = \{a \in \mathbb{Q} \mid a^2 < 2\}$  and let  $B = \{b \in \mathbb{Q} \mid b^2 > 2\}$ . Show that  $\sup A = \inf B$ .

**Solution:** Let  $a \in A$  and  $b \in B$ . Then, since  $a^2 < 2 < b^2$  it follows that a < b. Since b was arbitrary, we have that a is a lower bound for B. Therefore  $a \leq \inf B$  for all  $a \in A$ . It follows that  $\inf B$  is an upper bound for A. Therefore,  $\sup A \leq \inf B$ . Assume, by contradiction, that  $\sup A < \inf B$ . Then there is a rational number r such that  $\sup A < r < \inf B$ . Since  $r \notin A$ , it follows that  $r^2 \geq 2$ . Since  $r \notin B$  (and r > 0) it follows that  $r^2 \leq 2$ . Therefore  $r^2 = 2$ , which is a contradiction with the fact that  $\sqrt{2}$  is irrational. Therefore  $\sup A = \inf B$ .

- 5. Let us say that a sequence  $(c_n)_{n=1}^{\infty}$  of real numbers "cervonges to c" (where  $c \in \mathbb{R}$ ) if and only if there is an  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that, for all n > N and all  $\varepsilon > 0$ ,  $|c_n c| < \varepsilon$ .
- (10pts) (a) If a sequence  $(c_n)$  cervonges to c, does  $(c_n)$  converge to c? Explain, and if not, give an example.

**Solution:** The main difference between cervongent and convergent sequences is that, for a cervongent sequence, N does not depend on  $\varepsilon$ , while for convergent sequences it does. That is, for a cervongent sequence, the same N works for all  $\varepsilon > 0$ . This can happen if and only if  $c_n = c$  is constant for  $n \ge N$ . Thus a cervongent sequence is convergent.

(10pts) (b) If a sequence  $(c_n)$  converges to c, does  $(c_n)$  cervonge to c? Explain, and if not, give an example.

**Solution:** In general, a convergent sequence is not cervongent. Any convergent sequence that is not eventually constant would work as an example. E.g.:  $c_n = 1/n$ .