Calculus 1

Appendices

A.1. Real Numbers and the Real Line—Examples and Proofs



2 Exercise A.1.24. A proof of The Triangle Inequality

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Exercise A.1.6. Find all $x \in \mathbb{R}$ satisfying $\frac{4}{5}(x-2) < \frac{1}{3}(x-6)$ and show the solution set on the real number line.

Solution. Since $\frac{4}{5}(x-2) < \frac{1}{3}(x-6)$ then, multiplying both sides by 15 and using inequality property (3), we have $15\left(\frac{4}{5}(x-2)\right) < 15\left(\frac{1}{3}(x-6)\right)$ or (simplifying) 12(x-2) < 5(x-6) or (distributing) 12x - 24 < 5x - 30.

Exercise A.1.6. Find all $x \in \mathbb{R}$ satisfying $\frac{4}{5}(x-2) < \frac{1}{3}(x-6)$ and show the solution set on the real number line.

Solution. Since $\frac{4}{5}(x-2) < \frac{1}{3}(x-6)$ then, multiplying both sides by 15 and using inequality property (3), we have $15\left(\frac{4}{5}(x-2)\right) < 15\left(\frac{1}{3}(x-6)\right)$ or (simplifying) 12(x-2) < 5(x-6) or (distributing) 12x - 24 < 5x - 30. Adding 24 to both sides we have (by inequality property (1)) (12x - 24) + 24 < (5x - 30) + 24 or (simplifying) 12x < 5x - 6. Subtracting 5x from both sides we have (by inequality property (2)) (12x) - 5x < (5x - 6) - 5x or (simplifying) 7x < -6. Multiplying both sides by 1/7 we have (by inequality property (3) (1/7)(7x) < (1/7)(-6) or (simplifying) x < -6/7.

Exercise A.1.6. Find all $x \in \mathbb{R}$ satisfying $\frac{4}{5}(x-2) < \frac{1}{3}(x-6)$ and show the solution set on the real number line.

Solution. Since $\frac{4}{5}(x-2) < \frac{1}{3}(x-6)$ then, multiplying both sides by 15 and using inequality property (3), we have $15\left(\frac{4}{5}(x-2)\right) < 15\left(\frac{1}{3}(x-6)\right)$ or (simplifying) 12(x-2) < 5(x-6) or (distributing) 12x - 24 < 5x - 30. Adding 24 to both sides we have (by inequality property (1)) (12x - 24) + 24 < (5x - 30) + 24 or (simplifying) 12x < 5x - 6. Subtracting 5x from both sides we have (by inequality property (2)) (12x) - 5x < (5x - 6) - 5x or (simplifying) 7x < -6. Multiplying both sides by 1/7 we have (by inequality property (3) (1/7)(7x) < (1/7)(-6) or (simplifying) x < -6/7.

Exercise A.1.6 (continued)

Exercise A.1.6. Find all $x \in \mathbb{R}$ satisfying $\frac{4}{5}(x-2) < \frac{1}{3}(x-6)$ and show the solution set on the real number line.

Solution (continued). ... x < -6/7. So the solution set is $[x \in \mathbb{R} \mid x < -6/7]$ or the interval $(-\infty, -6/7)$. On the real number line this set is:

Exercise A.1.24. A proof of the Triangle Inequality.

Give the reason justifying each of the numbered steps in the following proof of the Triangle Inequality.

$$|a+b|^{2} = (a+b)^{2}$$
(1)

$$= a^{2} + 2ab + b^{2}$$
(2)

$$= |a|^{2} + 2|a||b| + |b|^{2}$$
(3)

$$= (|a| + |b|)^{2}$$
(4)

Solution. Since $(a + b)^2 \ge 0$ then $(a + b)^2 = |(a + b)^2|$ by the definition of absolute value. By absolute value property (2), $|(a + b)^2| = |(a + b)(a + b)| = |a + b| |a + b| = |a + b|^2$ and so step (1) is justified.

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Exercise A.1.24 (continued 1)

$$|a+b|^{2} = (a+b)^{2}$$
(1)

$$= a^{2} + 2ab + b^{2}$$
(2)

$$= |a|^{2} + 2|a||b| + |b|^{2}$$
(3)

$$= (|a| + |b|)^{2}$$
(4)

Solution (continued). By the definition of absolute value, if $x \ge 0$ then |x| = x, and if x < 0 (in which case -x > 0 by inequality property (4)) then |x| = -x > 0 > x; in both cases, $x \le |x|$. So, with x = ab, we have $ab \le |ab|$ and (by absolute value property (2)) |ab| = |a||b|. Hence, $ab \le |ab| = |a||b|$ and so (by inequality property (3)) $2ab \le 2|a||b|$. Then (by inequality property (1)) $a^2 + b^2 + (2ab) \le a^2 + b^2 + (2|a||b|)$ and so step (2) is justified.

Exercise A.1.24 (continued 1)

$$|a+b|^{2} = (a+b)^{2}$$
(1)

$$= a^{2} + 2ab + b^{2}$$
(2)

$$= |a|^{2} + 2|a||b| + |b|^{2}$$
(3)

$$= (|a| + |b|)^{2}$$
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Solution (continued). By the definition of absolute value, if $x \ge 0$ then |x| = x, and if x < 0 (in which case -x > 0 by inequality property (4)) then |x| = -x > 0 > x; in both cases, $x \le |x|$. So, with x = ab, we have $ab \le |ab|$ and (by absolute value property (2)) |ab| = |a||b|. Hence, $ab \le |ab| = |a||b|$ and so (by inequality property (3)) $2ab \le 2|a||b|$. Then (by inequality property (1)) $a^2 + b^2 + (2ab) \le a^2 + b^2 + (2|a||b|)$ and so step (2) is justified.

Exercise A.1.24 (continued 2)

$$|a+b|^{2} = (a+b)^{2}$$
(1)

$$= a^{2} + 2ab + b^{2}$$
(2)

$$= |a|^{2} + 2|a||b| + |b|^{2}$$
(3)

$$= (|a| + |b|)^{2}$$
(4)

Solution (continued). Since $x^2 \ge 0$ then $x^2 = |x^2|$ by the definition of absolute value. By absolute value property (2), $|x^2| = |xx| = |x| |x|$ and so $x^2 = |x|^2$. With x = a we have $a^2 = |a|^2$ and with x = b we have $b^2 = |b|^2$. So $a^2 + 2|a| |b| + b^2 = |a|^2 + 2|a| |b| + |b|^2$ and step (3) is justified.

Exercise A.1.24 (continued 3)

$$|a+b|^{2} = (a+b)^{2}$$
(1)

$$= a^{2} + 2ab + b^{2}$$
(2)

$$= |a|^{2} + 2|a||b| + |b|^{2}$$
(3)

$$= (|a| + |b|)^{2}$$
(4)

Solution (continued). Since $|a + b|^2 \leq (|a| + |b|)^2$, then taking square roots of both sides and using the fact that the square root function is an increasing function on non-negative numbers (so it preserves inequalities involving non-negative numbers), we have $\sqrt{(|a + b|)^2} \leq \sqrt{(|a| + |b|)^2}$ or, since $\sqrt{x^2} = |x|$, $||a + b|| \leq ||a| + |b||$. Since $|a + b| \geq 0$ then ||a + b|| = |a + b|, and since $|a| + |b| \geq 0$ then ||a| + |b|| = |a| + |b|. Therefore, $|a + b| \leq |a| + |b|$ and step (4) is justified. \Box

Exercise A.1.24 (continued 3)

$$|a+b|^{2} = (a+b)^{2}$$
(1)

$$= a^{2} + 2ab + b^{2}$$
(2)

$$= |a|^{2} + 2|a||b| + |b|^{2}$$
(3)

$$= (|a| + |b|)^{2}$$
(4)

Solution (continued). Since $|a + b|^2 \leq (|a| + |b|)^2$, then taking square roots of both sides and using the fact that the square root function is an increasing function on non-negative numbers (so it preserves inequalities involving non-negative numbers), we have $\sqrt{(|a + b|)^2} \leq \sqrt{(|a| + |b|)^2}$ or, since $\sqrt{x^2} = |x|$, $||a + b|| \leq ||a| + |b||$. Since $|a + b| \geq 0$ then ||a + b|| = |a + b|, and since $|a| + |b| \geq 0$ then ||a| + |b|| = |a| + |b|. Therefore, $|a + b| \leq |a| + |b|$ and step (4) is justified. \Box

Exercise A.1.12. Express the solution set as an interval or a union of intervals and show the solution set on the real line: |3y - 7| < 4.

Solution. By the relationship of intervals to absolute values (property (6)) we have that |3y - 7| < 4 is equivalent to -4 < 3y - 7 < 4. Adding 7 to each of the three parts (by inequality property (1)) we have (-4) + 7 < (3y - 7) + 7 < (4) + 7 or (simplifying) 3 < 3y < 11.

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$$1$$
 $11/3$

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$$1$$
 $11/3$

Exercise A.1.16. Express the solution set as an interval or a union of intervals and show the solution set on the real line: |1 - x| > 1.

Solution. By the relationship of intervals to absolute values (property (7)) we have that |1 - x| > 1 is equivalent to 1 - x < -1 or 1 - x > 1. Adding x to both sides of each inequality (by inequality property (1)) we have (1 - x) + x < (-1) + x or (1 - x) + x > (1) + x, which simplifies to 1 < -1 + x or 1 > 1 + x.

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Exercise A.1.16 (continued)

Exercise A.1.16. Express the solution set as an interval or a union of intervals and show the solution set on the real line: |1 - x| > 1.

Solution. ... We have 0 > x (or x < 0) for $x \in (-\infty, 0)$. So the solution set is $[x \in \mathbb{R} \mid x < 0] \cup \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid x > 2\}$, or the union of intervals $(-\infty, 0) \cup (2, \infty)$. On the real number line this set is:

Exercise A.1.16 (continued)

Exercise A.1.16. Express the solution set as an interval or a union of intervals and show the solution set on the real line: |1 - x| > 1.

Solution. ... We have 0 > x (or x < 0) for $x \in (-\infty, 0)$. So the solution set is $\{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid x < 0\} \cup \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid x > 2\}$, or the union of intervals $(-\infty, 0) \cup (2, \infty)$. On the real number line this set is:

Exercise A.1.20. Solve the inequality $(x - 1)^2 < 4$. Express the solution set as an interval or a union of intervals and show them on the real line. Use the result $\sqrt{a^2} = |a|$. **Solution.** Since $(x - 1)^2 < 4$, then taking square roots of both sides and using the fact that the square root function is an increasing function on non-negative numbers (so it preserves inequalities involving non-negative numbers), we have $\sqrt{(x - 1)^2} < \sqrt{4}$ or |x - 1| < 2.

Exercise A.1.20. Solve the inequality $(x - 1)^2 < 4$. Express the solution set as an interval or a union of intervals and show them on the real line. Use the result $\sqrt{a^2} = |a|$. **Solution.** Since $(x - 1)^2 < 4$, then taking square roots of both sides and using the fact that the square root function is an increasing function on non-negative numbers (so it preserves inequalities involving non-negative numbers), we have $\sqrt{(x-1)^2} < \sqrt{4}$ or |x-1| < 2. By the relationship of intervals to absolute values (property (6)) we have that |x - 1| < 2 is equivalent to -2 < x - 1 < 2. Adding 1 to each of the three parts (by inequality property (1)) we have (-2) + 1 < (x - 1) + 1 < (2) + 1 or (simplifying) -1 < x < 3. So the solution set $\{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid -1 < x < 3\}$ or the interval |(-1,3)|. On the real number line this set is:

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Exercise A.1.20. Solve the inequality $(x - 1)^2 < 4$. Express the solution set as an interval or a union of intervals and show them on the real line. Use the result $\sqrt{a^2} = |a|$. **Solution.** Since $(x - 1)^2 < 4$, then taking square roots of both sides and using the fact that the square root function is an increasing function on non-negative numbers (so it preserves inequalities involving non-negative numbers), we have $\sqrt{(x-1)^2} < \sqrt{4}$ or |x-1| < 2. By the relationship of intervals to absolute values (property (6)) we have that |x - 1| < 2 is equivalent to -2 < x - 1 < 2. Adding 1 to each of the three parts (by inequality property (1)) we have (-2) + 1 < (x - 1) + 1 < (2) + 1 or (simplifying) -1 < x < 3. So the solution set $| \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid -1 < x < 3\} |$ or the interval (-1,3). On the real number line this set is:

