## Homework 3

## The assignment is due at the beginning of class on October 6, 2010.

**Problem 1 (10 points)** A sequence  $(a_n)$  is called *proper*, if  $a_n \neq a_m$  for all  $n \neq m$ .

- 1. Show that a proper bounded sequence  $(a_n)$  converges, if  $\{a_n \mid n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  has exactly one accumulation point.
- 2. Show that 1. fails if we omit the hypothesis that the sequence is bounded.
- 3. Show that 1. fails if we omit the hypothesis that the sequence is proper.

**Problem 2 (15 points)** Let  $(a_n)_{n=1}^{\infty}$  be a Cauchy sequence, and let  $\varphi : \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}$  be a one-to-one function. Show that the sequence  $(a_{\varphi(n)})_{n=1}^{\infty}$  is Cauchy.

Problem 3 (15 points) Problem 31 on page 56.

**Problem 4 (10 points)** This problem outlines the beginning of a *construction* of the real numbers from the rational numbers.

Let us denote the set of all Cauchy sequences of rational numbers by  $\mathcal{C}$ . We say that two Cauchy sequences  $(a_n)$  and  $(b_n)$  of rational numbers are *equivalent*, if

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} (a_n - b_n) = 0.$$

If two Cauchy sequences  $(a_n)$  and  $(b_n)$  are equivalent, we write  $(a_n) \sim (b_n)$ .

1. Show that ~ is indeed an equivalence relation, i.e., show for all  $(a_n), (b_n)$  and  $(c_n) \in \mathcal{C}$ :

- (a)  $(a_n) \sim (a_n)$  (Reflexivity)
- (b)  $(a_n) \sim (b_n) \Rightarrow (b_n) \sim (a_n)$  (Symmetry)
- (c)  $(a_n) \sim (b_n)$  and  $(b_n) \sim (c_n) \Rightarrow (a_n) \sim (c_n)$  (Transitivity)

The equivalence class  $[(a_n)]$  then is the set of all Cauchy sequences of rational numbers equivalent to  $(a_n)$ :

$$[(a_n)] := \{ (b_n) \in \mathcal{C} \mid (b_n) \sim (a_n) \}$$

Note that  $[(a_n)] = [(b_n)]$  if and only if  $(a_n) \sim (b_n)$ .

We denote the set of all such equivalence classes by  $\mathcal{R}$ .  $\mathcal{R}$  can be considered as a *model* for the set of real numbers  $\mathbb{R}$ . To every equivalence class in  $\mathcal{R}$  there corresponds in a unique way a real number in  $\mathbb{R}$ : The real number corresponding to  $[(a_n)] \in \mathcal{R}$  is its limit  $\lim_{n \to \infty} a_n$ .

2. Show that under this correspondence an equivalence class  $[(a_n)]$  represents a rational number if and only if  $(a_n)$  is equivalent to a constant sequence.

There will be a follow-up problem on a later homework sheet.