

# On continuity of computable real functions

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## Plan:

1. Numbered sets
2. Computable reals
3. Computable mappings
4. Listable sets
5. Main Lemma
7. Continuity of real computable functions
8. Effective continuity

# 1. Numbered sets

**Numbered set** is a pair  $(X, \alpha)$  where  $X$  is a set and  $\alpha$  is a partial mapping from natural numbers  $\mathbf{N}$  onto  $X$ .

$$\mathbf{N} \supseteq P \xrightarrow{\alpha} X$$

$\alpha$  is a **numbering** of  $X$ ,

$i$  is a number (or **index**) of  $x$ ,  $x = \alpha(i)$

Examples:

- $\mathbf{N}^2$  with  $i \longrightarrow (\text{left}(i), \text{right}(i))$
- rationals  $\mathbf{Q}$  with  $i \longrightarrow \mathbf{r}(i) = (-1)^{\text{sign}(i)} \text{num}(i) / \text{den}(i)$
- recursive functions with Gödel numbering  $i \longrightarrow \varphi_i$
- r.e. sets with numbering  $i \longrightarrow W_i$ , ( $W_i = \text{Dom}\varphi_i$ )
- total recursive functions with Gödel numbering  
(in this case the set of indices is not even r.e.!!)

## 2. Computable reals

A computable real is defined below as the limit of a computable sequence of rationals which is fundamental in some standard way

*A real number  $a$  is a **computable real** if there is a recursive function  $\varphi_i$  such that for all  $n, m \in \mathbf{N}$*

$$|\mathbf{r}(\varphi_i(n)) - \mathbf{r}(\varphi_i(n + m))| < 2^{-n}$$

*and*

$$a = \lim \mathbf{r}(\varphi_i(n))$$

Let  $\gamma$  be the numbering  $\gamma : i \longrightarrow \lim \mathbf{r}(\varphi_i(n))$ . Then  $(\mathbf{CR}, \gamma)$  is a numbered set.

$\mathbf{CR}$  is a field with respect to the usual  $0, 1, +, \cdot$

A computable sequence  $c_0, c_1, c_2, \dots$  in **CR** is **computably fundamental** if

$$\forall n, m \left| c_n - c_{n+m} \right| < 2^{-n}$$

**Theorem:** *Every computably fundamental sequence in **CR** converges. Moreover, the limit computable real can be found effectively*

**Proof.** Limit algorithm: the limit computable real is specified by the sequence of rationals  $r_0, r_1, r_2, \dots$  such that  $r_n$  is  $n + 2$ nd rational approximation to  $c_{n+2}$ .

Let  $l$  be a recursive function which given an index  $i$  of a computable fundamental sequence of reals returns its limit  $l(i)$ .

### 3. Computable mappings

Let  $(X, \alpha)$  and  $(Y, \beta)$  be numbered sets. A mapping  $\Psi$  from  $X$  to  $Y$  is a **computable mapping** from  $(X, \alpha)$  to  $(Y, \beta)$  if there is a recursive function  $f$  from  $N$  to  $N$  such that

1.  $\forall n \in \text{Dom}\alpha$  ( $\neg f(n) \Rightarrow f(n) \in \text{Dom}\beta$ )
2.  $\forall m, n \in \text{Dom}\alpha$  ( $\alpha(m) = \alpha(n) \& \neg f(m) \Rightarrow$   
 $\Rightarrow \neg f(n) \& \beta(f(m)) = \beta(f(n))$ )
3.  $\Psi(\alpha(m)) \simeq \beta(f(m))$

The latter condition yields that the following diagram is commutative provided all the arrows are defined:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & \xrightarrow{\Psi} & Y \\ \alpha \uparrow & & \uparrow \beta \\ N & \xrightarrow{f} & N \end{array}$$

**Real computable function** is a computable mapping from  $(\mathbf{CR}, \gamma)$  to itself.

Some computable functions on  $(\mathbf{CR}, \gamma)$ : addition, multiplication, power, sin, etc.

## 4. Listable sets

A subset  $\mathcal{L} \subseteq X$  for a numbered set  $(X, \alpha)$  is **listable** if for some r.e. set  $W_i$

$$\alpha^{-1}(\mathcal{L}) = W_i \cap \text{Dom}\alpha$$

Index set of  $\mathcal{L}$  is “potentially” r.e.

Some properties of listable sets:

- $\emptyset, X$  are listable
- finite intersections and r.e. unions of listable sets are listable
- domain of every computable mapping  
(Cf.  $X$  is r.e.  $\Leftrightarrow X = \text{Dom}(g)$ )
- inverse images of a listable set under computable mappings

Listable sets of computable reals:

- $\{x \in \mathbf{CR} \mid x > 0\}$ ,
- open intervals
- $\{x \in \mathbf{CR} \mid x \neq 0\}$ , etc.

Non listable: closed intervals, singletons, rationals, algebraic reals, irrational  $\mathbf{CR}$ 's, etc.

## 5. Main Lemma

Set of rationals  $\mathbf{Q}$  is dense in  $\mathbf{CR}$ : every open interval in  $\mathbf{CR}$  contains a rational.

**Lemma** *Every nonempty listable set of computable reals contains a rational*

**Proof.** Let  $\mathcal{L}$  be a listable set of computable reals, i.e. for some  $i \in \mathbf{N}$

$$\gamma^{-1}(\mathcal{L}) = W_i \cap \text{Dom}\gamma$$

Let  $x \in \mathcal{L}$  and

$$q(0), q(1), q(2), \dots \longrightarrow x$$

be a computable fundamental sequence of rationals converging to  $x$ . Let  $K$  be the standard recursively enumerable nonrecursive set of natural numbers

$$K = \{n \mid n\text{-th program applied to } n \text{ terminates}\}$$

For each  $n$  define a fundamental sequence  $\zeta_n$

$$\zeta_n(k) = \begin{cases} q(m), & \text{if } n\text{-th program applied to } n \\ & \text{terminates in exactly } m \leq k \text{ steps} \\ q(k), & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

if  $n \notin K$  then

$$\zeta_n = q(0), q(1), q(2), \dots \longrightarrow x$$

if  $n \in K$  then

$$\zeta_n = q(0), q(1), \dots, q(m), \dots, q(m), \dots \longrightarrow q(m)$$

Therefore  $\zeta_n$  converges for each  $n$ . Let  $h(n)$  be the effectively computed index of the limit point of  $\zeta_n$ . It is clear that

$$n \notin K \Rightarrow h(n) \in W_i.$$

Note that “ $\Leftarrow$ ” does not hold since this would give a negative test for  $K$ . Therefore for some  $n \in K$   $h(n) \in W_i$  which gives a rational  $q(m)$  in  $\mathcal{L}$

**Corollary of the proof** *Let  $\mathcal{L}$  be a listable set of computable reals and  $x \in \mathcal{L}$ . Then each sequence of rationals converging to  $x$  has a member from  $\mathcal{L}$*

## 6. Continuity of real functions

**Theorem** *Every real computable function is continuous*

**Proof.** Continuity of  $\Psi(x)$  at  $a \in \text{Dom}\Psi$ :

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \Psi(x) = \Psi(a)$$

or in “ $\epsilon$ - $\delta$  language”:

$$\forall k \exists m \forall x (|x - a| < 2^{-m} \& \Psi(x) \Rightarrow |\Psi(x) - \Psi(a)| < 2^{-k})$$

Suppose the opposite holds, i.e.

$$\exists k \forall m \exists x (|x - a| < 2^{-m} \& \Psi(x) \& |\Psi(x) - \Psi(a)| \geq 2^{-k})$$

Pick such  $k$  and consider a set

$$Y = \{y \mid \Psi(y) \& |\Psi(y) - \Psi(a)| > 2^{-k-1}\}.$$

$Y$  is listable as an inverse image of a listable set

$$\{u \mid |u - \Psi(a)| > 2^{-k-1}\}.$$

Notation:  $S(a, r)$  = interval with center  $a$  and radius  $r$

By the assumptions made, the sets  $U_m = Y \cap S(a, 2^{-m-1})$  for all  $m$  are nonempty and listable. By the main lemma, in each  $U_m$  we can effectively find a rational point  $q_m$ . Moreover, since  $|q_m - a| < 2^{-m-1}$  the sequence  $\{q_0, q_1, q_2, \dots\}$  is a computable fundamental one converging to  $a$ . Consider the set

$$V = \{v \mid !\Psi(v) \& |\Psi(v) - \Psi(a)| < 2^{-k-1}\}$$

$V$  is a listable set (as the inverse image of a listable one) containing  $a$ . By the Main Lemma,  $q_n \in V$  for some  $n$ , i.e.  $!\Psi(q_n)$  and  $|\Psi(q_n) - \Psi(a)| < 2^{-k-1}$  which contradicts the choice of  $r_n \in U_n$ .

## 7. Effective continuity

**Theorem** (Separation Theorem) *Given indices of disjoint listable sets  $\mathcal{L}_1$  and  $\mathcal{L}_2$  of computable reals and  $a \in \mathcal{L}_1$  one can effectively find  $n$  such that*

$$S(a, 2^{-n}) \cap \mathcal{L}_2 = \emptyset.$$

**Effective continuity** of  $\Psi$  means that there is a total computable function  $g$  such that for each  $x, a \in \mathbf{CR}$  and for all  $n$

$$|x - a| < 2^{-g(n)} \Rightarrow |\Psi(x) - \Psi(a)| < 2^{-n}$$

**Theorem (Tsejtin-Moschovakis)** *Every real computable function is effectively continuous*