

Cauchy Sequences

1. Prove using the definition that the following sequence is Cauchy:

$$a_1 = 1, a_2 = 2, \text{ and } a_n = \frac{1}{2}(a_{n-1} + a_{n-2}) \text{ for } n \geq 3.$$

Hint: Prove by induction that for $n \geq 2$, $|a_n - a_{n-1}| = \frac{1}{2^{n-2}}$ (if you do not know what induction is, just take this as a fact), and use the fact that $1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \dots + \frac{1}{2^k} < 2$ for every $k \geq 0$.

Are the following metric spaces complete?

2. The interval $(0, 1)$ under the usual metric $d(a, b) = |b - a|$
3. The integers \mathbb{Z} under the usual metric $d(m, n) = |m - n|$

Let $\{a_n\}$ be a Cauchy sequence in a metric space (X, d) . Prove the following.

4. $\{a_n\}$ is bounded.
5. If $\{a_n\}$ has a convergent subsequence, then $\{a_n\}$ converges.
6. Use Problems 4 and 5 and the Bolzano-Weirstrass Theorem to prove \mathbb{R} is complete.