

## Continuity (cont.)

1. Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space,  $E \subseteq X$ , and  $p \in X$  a limit point of  $E$  (not necessarily in  $E$ ). Prove there exists a sequence  $\{p_n\}$  in  $E$  such that  $p_n \neq p$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $p_n \rightarrow p$ .

*Hint: For each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , consider the ball  $B(p, \frac{1}{n})$ . Since  $p$  is a limit point of  $E$ , what do you know about this ball? Use this to construct a sequence and show it converges to  $p$ .*

2. Let  $(X, d_X)$  and  $(Y, d_Y)$  be metric spaces,  $E \subseteq X$ ,  $p \in X$  a limit point of  $E$ ,  $q \in Y$ , and  $f: E \rightarrow Y$ . Prove  $\lim_{x \rightarrow p} f(x) = q$  if and only if, for every sequence  $\{p_n\}$  in  $E$  satisfying  $p_n \neq p$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} p_n = p$ , we then have  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(p_n) = q$ .

*Hint: For the forward direction, assume  $\lim_{x \rightarrow p} f(x) = q$ , and let  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Write out what it means that  $\lim_{x \rightarrow p} f(x) = q$  using that  $\varepsilon$ . Then also assume that you have such a sequence  $\{p_n\}$  that converges to  $p$ . Write what that means using the  $\delta$  you just found. Then put those together to show  $\{f(p_n)\}$  converges to  $q$ .*

*For the converse, prove the contrapositive: Assume  $\lim_{x \rightarrow p} f(x) \neq q$ , and write out what that means. Use that to produce a sequence  $\{p_n\}$  which converges to  $p$ , similar to problem 1, but  $\{f(p_n)\}$  does not converge to  $q$ .*

3. Use problems 1 and 2 and the fact that limits of sequences are unique to conclude that the limit of a function is unique.

*Hint: Assume  $\lim_{x \rightarrow p} f(x) = q$  and  $\lim_{x \rightarrow p} f(x) = r$ . Problem 1 gives you the existence of a sequence  $\{p_n\}$  which converges to  $p$  but is never equal to  $p$ . What does problem 2 tell you about  $\{f(p_n)\}$ ? And how does the uniqueness of limits of sequences then tell you that  $q = r$ ?*