
ABSOLUTE VALUE, DISTANCE & INEQUALITIES



UNIVERSITY OF
TORONTO

September 24th, 2018

For next lecture

For Wednesday (Sep 26), watch the videos:

- Limits: 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.5, 2.6

Properties of inequalities

Let $a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}$.

Assume $a < b$. Which of the followings are true, and why?

1 $a + c < b + c$

2 $a - c < b - c$

3 $ac < bc$

4 $a^2 < b^2$

5 $\frac{1}{a} < \frac{1}{b}$

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Properties of absolute value

Let $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$.

Which of the followings are true, and why?

1 $|xy| = |x||y|$

2 $|x + y| = |x| + |y|$

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① $|xy| = |x||y|$

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Sets defined by distance

Let $a, \delta \in \mathbb{R}$.

Describe the following sets in terms of intervals.

- 1 $A = \{x \in \mathbb{R}, |x| \leq \delta\}$
- 2 $B = \{x \in \mathbb{R}, |x| > \delta\}$
- 3 $C = \{x \in \mathbb{R}, |x - a| > \delta\}$
- 4 $D = \{x \in \mathbb{R}, 0 < |x - a| < \delta\}$
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A new function

For $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$, we set

$$f(x, y) = \frac{x + y - |x - y|}{2}$$

Find a simpler description for f .

Find *all* values of A , B , and C that make the following implications true.

1 $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}, |x - 3| < 1 \implies |2x - 6| < A$

2 $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}, |x - 3| < B \implies |2x - 6| < 1$

3 $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}, |x - 3| < 1 \implies |x + 5| < C$

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Triangle inequality¹

Prove the following statements:

1 $\forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}, |x + y| \leq |x| + |y|$

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¹This slide was not used during the lecture. You can use it to train yourself.

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- 4 Study the equality case in 1

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