Dror Bar-Natan: Classes: 2002-03: Math 157 - Analysis I:

Visualization

web version:

http://www.math.toronto.edu/~drorbn/classes/0203/157A nalysis I/V is ualization/V is ualization.html and the second sec

Our task for this week is to master the axiomatically meaningless task of visualization of numbers and functions. We will learn how to interpret graphically all of the following:

- 1. A number a, the order relation a < b and the absolute value of a difference |a b|.
- 2. Intervals such as $(a,b) := \{x : a < x < b\}, [a,b) := \{x : a \le x < b\}, [a,b] := \{x : a \le x < b\}, [a,b] := \{x : x \le b\}, (a,\infty) := \{x : x > a\} \text{ and } (-\infty, a] := \{x : x \le a\}.$
- 3. A point (a, b) in the plane. (Notice the sad clash of notation).
- 4. The graphs of the functions $f_1(x) = c$, $f_2(x) = cx$ and $f_3(x) = cx + d$.
- 5. The Euclidean distance function $d((a, b), (c, d)) := \sqrt{(a-c)^2 + (b-d)^2}$.
- 6. The parabola $y = x^2$ and the graphs of $f(x) = x^n$ for several *n*'s.
- 7. The graphs of $f_1(x) = \frac{1}{x}$, $f_2(x) = \frac{1}{x^2}$, $f_3(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ and $f_4(x) = \frac{x}{1+x^2}$.
- 8. The graphs of $f_1(x) = \sin x$, $f_2(x) = \sin \frac{1}{x}$, $f_3(x) = x \sin \frac{1}{x}$ and $f_4(x) = x^2 \sin \frac{1}{x}$.

9. The graphs of
$$f_1(x) = \begin{cases} x^2 & x < 1 \\ 2 & x \ge 1 \end{cases}$$
, $f_2(x) = \begin{cases} x^2 & x \le 1 \\ 2 & x > 1 \end{cases}$ and $f_3(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & x \in \mathbb{Q} \\ 0 & x \notin \mathbb{Q} \end{cases}$.

10. The circle
$$(x-a)^2 + (y-b)^2 = r^2$$
, the ellipse $\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$ and the hyperbola $\frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$.