

Theorem Every Cauchy sequence is bounded.

Proof Choose N such that $|x_n - x_m| < 1$

for all $n, m \geq N$. Pick $m = N$, so that

$$|x_n - x_N| < 1 \quad \text{all } n \geq N.$$

Now $|a| - |b| \leq |a - b|$ (*)

$$\text{So } |x_n| - |x_N| \leq |x_n - x_N| < 1.$$

Hence $|x_n| < |x_N| + 1$ for all $n \geq N$.

Now choose

$$M = \max\{|x_1|, \dots, |x_{N-1}|, |x_N| + 1\}$$

Then for all n

$$|x_n| \leq M$$

So $\{x_n\}$ is bounded.

To prove $|a - b| \geq |a| - |b|$ (which is very useful)

*) We use the triangle inequality. We know that $|c + d| \leq |c| + |d|$.

Let $d = a - b$, $c = b$. Then

$$|b + a - b| \leq |b| + |a - b|$$

$$\text{or } |a| - |b| \leq |a - b|$$