

Rudin's induction, paraphrased: Fix $y_1 \in \overline{\Lambda(V_1)}$. Assume $n \geq 1$ and y_n has been chosen in $\overline{\Lambda(V_n)}$. We showed that each $\overline{\Lambda(V_n)}$ is a neighborhood of 0. Hence

$$(5) \quad \left(y_n - \overline{\Lambda(V_{n+1})} \right) \cap \Lambda(V_n) \neq \emptyset.$$

This says that there exists $x_n \in V_n$ such that $\Lambda x_n \in y_n - \overline{\Lambda(V_{n+1})}$. Put $y_{n+1} = y_n - \Lambda x_n$. Then $y_{n+1} \in \overline{\Lambda(V_{n+1})}$ and the construction proceeds.

One way to describe what has been done:

Let $\eta \in \overline{\Lambda(V_n)}$. Then by (5) $\left(\eta - \overline{\Lambda(V_{n+1})} \right) \cap \Lambda(V_n) \neq \emptyset$. Hence there exists

$$(6) \quad x_\eta \in V_n \text{ such that } \Lambda x_\eta \in \eta - \overline{\Lambda(V_{n+1})} \text{ and thus } y_\eta := \eta - \Lambda x_\eta \in \overline{\Lambda(V_{n+1})}.$$

We can use this to define, for each $n \geq 1$, a function

$$(7) \quad h_n : \overline{\Lambda(V_n)} \rightarrow V_n \times \overline{\Lambda(V_{n+1})}.$$

First we well-order V_1 . Then for each $\eta \in \overline{\Lambda(V_n)}$ we set the first coordinate of $h_n(\eta)$ equal to the first $x_\eta \in V_n$ that satisfies (6) and then we set the second coordinate of $h_n(\eta)$ equal to $\eta - \Lambda x_\eta \in \overline{\Lambda(V_{n+1})}$. Since the sets V_n and $\overline{\Lambda(V_n)}$ are nested we can define functions $\tilde{h}_n : V_1 \times \overline{\Lambda(V_1)} \rightarrow V_1 \times \overline{\Lambda(V_1)}$ by

$$(8) \quad \tilde{h}_n(y) := \begin{cases} (x, y) & \text{if } y \notin \overline{\Lambda(V_n)}; \\ h_n(y) & \text{if } y \in \overline{\Lambda(V_n)}. \end{cases}$$

Then we set \mathcal{R} equal to the set of all functions $f : V_1 \times \overline{\Lambda(V_1)} \rightarrow V_1 \times \overline{\Lambda(V_1)}$ and define $H : \mathcal{R} \times \mathbb{Z}^+ \rightarrow \mathcal{R}$ by

$$H(f, n) := \tilde{h}_{n+1} \circ f.$$

According to the Recursion Theorem, given $f_o \in \mathcal{R}$, there exists a unique sequence $\{f_n\}$ in \mathcal{R} such that $f_1 = f_o$ and $f_{n+1} = H(f_n, n)$. We apply this with $f_o = \tilde{h}_1$. We can express this intuitively as $f_n = \tilde{h}_n \circ \cdots \circ \tilde{h}_1$ or as

$$x_n = \pi_1(\tilde{h}_n(y_n)) = \tilde{h}_n(\tilde{h}_{n-1}(\cdots(\tilde{h}_1(y_1)\cdots))) \text{ and } y_{n+1} = \pi_2(\tilde{h}_n(y_n)) = \tilde{h}_n(\tilde{h}_{n-1}(\cdots(\tilde{h}_1(y_1)\cdots))), \text{ with } y_1 \in \overline{\Lambda(V_1)}.$$

To verify that "the construction proceeds" we need to show that each $x_n \in V_n$ and each $y_{n+1} \in \overline{\Lambda(V_{n+1})}$. This is a straightforward induction using (7) and (8).