

A Theorem is usually, "Let  $X$  hold, then  $Y$  follows." To prove the theorem 'constructively' (ie not by contradiction) you need to show how  $Y$  follows given any instance of  $X$ . In our case  $X$  was " $x \in I, \epsilon > 0$ ", so your method must take  $x, \epsilon$  as given to you.

HERE'S A NICE PROOF BY KYLE: (I've annotated too...)

3.7 Choose any  $x$  in  $I$ , choose any  $\epsilon > 0$

5 subintervals of  $k$  symbols have length  $2^{-k} \Rightarrow$

what Kyle didn't say here was:  
 since  $2^{-k}$  has 0 as a limit, as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ ,  
 there is a  $k$  such that  $2^{-k} < \epsilon$ , for any  
 given  $\epsilon > 0$ .  
 (constructively: choose any  $k$  larger than  $\frac{\ln(1/\epsilon)}{\ln 2}$ )

Kyle Konrad

$\exists k$  s.t.  $N_\epsilon(x) \supseteq S_1 S_2 \dots S_k \supseteq S_1 S_2 \dots S_k S_1$  ✓

the subinterval  $S_1 S_2 \dots S_k S_1$  exists because  $T$  has a complete transition graph and by Corollary 3.18 contains a fixed point

this is essential, otherwise you might not be able to add  $S_1$  to the end!

$\Rightarrow N_\epsilon(x)$  contains a fixed point  
 $\leftarrow$  by Corollary 3.18 (follows from fixed pt. thm).

v. elegant.

since  $\epsilon$  and  $x$  were arbitrary we have

$\forall x \in I, \epsilon > 0$   $N_\epsilon(x)$  contains a fixed point of  $T$  ✓

$\Rightarrow$  fixed points of  $T$  are dense in  $I$   $\square$

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Proving a theorem is a transaction: I turn you any  $x \in I$  & any  $\epsilon > 0$ , and you have to construct a periodic orbit in  $N_\epsilon(x)$ . I don't mind how you do it as long as you explain your steps. If the construction always works, the theorem is proved.