

Since $f + g$ is nondecreasing, it admits a left and a right limit at each point (except at 0 and at 1, where $f + g$ has a right (resp. left) limit; if $x = 0$, then we set $f(x-) = f(0)$; likewise, we define $f(x+) = f(1)$), and f has the same property by continuity of g .

If f is discontinuous at point x , then necessarily $f(x+) > f(x-)$ (*). The reason for this is that otherwise we would have $f(x+) \leq f(x-)$ and $f(x+) + g(x+) = f(x+) + g(x) \leq f(x-) + g(x) = f(x-) + g(x-)$. This amounts to saying that $(f + g)(x+) \leq (f + g)(x-)$, which is absurd (the equality case is easily discarded by monotonicity of $f + g$). Note also that we must have $(f + g)(x+) \geq (f + g)(x) \geq (f + g)(x-)$, which implies that $f(x+) \geq f(x) \geq f(x-)$ (**).

Let $z = \inf(E = \{x; f(x) \leq 0\})$. If $f(z) = 0$, the problem is solved. If $f(z) < 0$, then necessarily $f(z-) \geq 0$ (by definition of the *inf*), which is absurd by (**). Thus, $f(z) > 0$. But then $f(x+) < 0$ (because z is an accumulation point of E), while $f(x-) \geq 0$. This is absurd by (*).