

Note . $\emptyset$ is bounded; an number is upper bound (and lower bound). (10)

• a given set ~~has~~ ^{may have} many upper bounds. e.g. $\{0, 1, 2\}$ has upper bound $\frac{100}{200}$
2.

special upper bounds:

Defn If there is a number $M \in \mathbb{R}$ s.t. $x \leq M$ for all $x \in E$, then we say M is the maximum of E , notation $M = \max E$.

Defn If there is a number $m \in \mathbb{R}$ s.t. $m \leq x$ for all $x \in E$, then we say m is the minimum of E , written $m = \min E$.

Example $E = [0, 1] = \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid 0 \leq x \leq 1\}$ $\max E = 1$
 $\min E = 0$

Q: does every set have a max or min?

A: No!

Example $E = (0, 1) = \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid 0 < x < 1\}$ $\max E$ DNE
 $\min E$ DNE

§ 1.6 Sups and Infs

Motivation: a set may be bounded above, but with no maximum, and has many upper bounds. Maybe there is a smallest upper bound or least upper bound.

Defn Let E be a set of real numbers, which is bounded above and non-empty. If M is the least of all the upper bounds, then

$$M = \text{least upper bound of } E = \text{supremum of } E = \sup E$$

Defn Let E be a set of real numbers, bounded below and non-empty.

If m is the greatest lower bound, then

$$m = \text{greatest lower bound of } E = \text{infimum of } E = \inf E$$

we extend the definition to $\emptyset$ and unbounded sets by

(11)

1. $\inf \emptyset = \infty$ and $\sup \emptyset = -\infty$
2. E unbounded above, $\sup E = \infty$
3. E unbounded below, $\inf E = -\infty$.

not real numbers.

Completeness

Completeness axiom A non-empty set of real numbers which is bounded above has a least upper bound. (i.e. if $E \neq \emptyset$ and bounded above then $\sup E$ exists and is a real number).

Important: these are the only properties of the real numbers we may use!

Remarks • can't prove completeness from field axioms.

(in fact $\mathbb{Q}$ is an ordered field where completeness fails, e.g. consider $(0, \sqrt{2})$)

• intuition: completeness means "no holes in the number line".

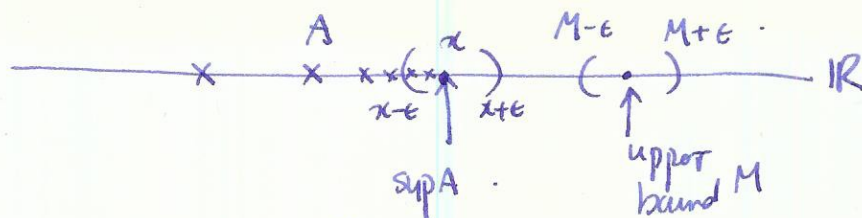
Fact • $\mathbb{R}$ is a complete ordered field

• this essentially characterizes $\mathbb{R}$: $\mathbb{R}$ is the only complete ordered field.

Example (if proving something)

"Sup Thm" shows that if A is a ^{non-empty} set of real numbers, a number x is the supremum of A iff x is an upper bound for A and for every $\epsilon > 0$ there is an $a \in A$ s.t. $x - \epsilon < a$

intuition: draw picture



two directions:

P $\mathbb{Q}$.
 $x = \sup A \iff x$ is an upper bound and for all $\epsilon > 0$ there is $a \in A$ with $x - \epsilon < a$.

contrapositive:

$P \implies Q$ equivalent to $\text{not } Q \implies \text{not } P$

picture:



$\implies$ not/negative statement: x is an upper bound for A and there is an $\epsilon > 0$ such that for all $a \in A$, $x - \epsilon > a$, equivalently $a < x - \epsilon$

but this means $x - \epsilon$ is an upper bound, so x is not the least upper bound, so x is not $\sup A$. (so $\text{not } Q \implies \text{not } P$)

(so we have shown $P \implies Q$).

$\Leftarrow$ suppose x is not the supremum, then there is a smaller lower bound y say $y < x$. set $\epsilon = \frac{x-y}{2}$, then there is an $a \in A$ with

$$x - \epsilon < a, \text{ i.e. } x - \frac{x-y}{2} < a$$

$$\frac{x+y}{2} < a \quad \text{but } y < x$$

$$\frac{y+y}{2} < \frac{x+y}{2} < a, \text{ so } y < a, \text{ contradicts } y \text{ upper bound. } \square$$

§1.7 Archimedean property

Thm The set $\mathbb{N}$ has no upper bound.

Fact: this looks like it should only depend on algebraic and order structure on $\mathbb{R}$, in fact the proof uses completeness, in an essential way.

(Classroom this is because there are ordered fields in which $\mathbb{N}$ has an upper bound - don't know how to construct one offhand...).

Proof Suppose $\mathbb{N}$ has an upper bound, then it has a least upper bound (13)

Let $x = \sup \mathbb{N}$ (a real number).

Then $n \leq x$ for all natural numbers $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

but $n \leq x-1$ cannot be true for all natural numbers n (recall "sup there!")

Choose some natural number m with $m > x-1$

but then $m+1$ is a natural number with $m+1 > x \neq x \sup /$
upper bound.
 $\square$

Consequences

1. No matter how large a real number x is, there is always a natural number n which is larger.
2. Given any positive number y , no matter how large, and any positive number x , no matter how small, can add x to itself sufficiently many times such that $nx > y$.
3. Given any positive number x , no matter how small, there is a fraction $\frac{1}{n}$, n natural number with $\frac{1}{n} < x$.

§1.9 The rational numbers are dense in $\mathbb{R}$

Defn A set E of real numbers is said to be dense in $\mathbb{R}$ if every ^{open} interval (a, b) contains a point of E .
real: (a, b)

Thm The set $\mathbb{Q}$ of rational numbers is dense in $\mathbb{R}$.

Proof Consider the open interval (a, b) , ~~aka~~ ($\Rightarrow a < b$).

By the Archimedean property, there is a natural number n s.t.

$$n > \frac{1}{b-a}$$