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1 The Real Numbers

1.3 The Axiom of Completeness

Exercise 1.3.1

- (a) For some $z \in \mathbb{Z}_5$, if we choose $y = 5 - z \pmod{5}$ then

$$\begin{aligned} z + y &= (5 - z) + z \pmod{5} \\ &= 0 \pmod{5} \end{aligned}$$

Hence y is an additive identity of z .

- (b) This can be done explitley.

z	x
1	1
2	3
3	2
4	4

For example, for $z = 4, x = 4$:

$$\begin{aligned} xz &= 4 \times 4 \pmod{5} \\ &= 16 \pmod{5} \\ &= 1 \pmod{5} \end{aligned}$$

- (c) For \mathbb{Z}_4 , then the construction in (a) will always be valid for a additive inverse. Hence an additive inverse exists for $\mathbb{Z}_n \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$.

Finding a multiplicative inverse is not always possible for any $z \in \mathbb{Z}_4$. For instance, $z = 2$ does not have a multiplicative inverse since any number multiplied by two will be even. However, we require the product to be $4n + 1$ for some $n \in \mathbb{N}$ which is impossible since the product will always be even.

Hence, we conjecture that \exists a multiplitive inverse $\forall z \in \mathbb{Z}_n$ given n is prime so that no element of \mathbb{Z}_n shares a factor with n i.e. the greatest common divisor between any element of the set and n is 1.

Exercise 1.3.2

- (a)

Definition 1.3.1. A real number i is a greatest lower bound for a set $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ if it meets the following criteria:

- (i) i is a lower bound for A .
- (ii) If b is any lower bound for A , then $b \leq i$.

- (b)

Lemma 1.3.1. Assume $i \in \mathbb{R}$ is a lower bound on a set $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$. Then $i = \inf A$ if and only if $\forall \epsilon > 0 \exists a \in A$ s.t. $i + \epsilon > a$.

Proof. (\Rightarrow) Suppose $i = \inf A$, then $\forall \epsilon > 0$ $i + \epsilon > i$ but $i + \epsilon$ cannot be a greater lower bound so there must exist $a \in A$ s.t. $i + \epsilon > a$.

(\Leftarrow) Suppose for some $i \in \mathbb{R}$ $i + \epsilon > a$ for some $a \in A$ for arbitrary $\epsilon > 0$ then:

- (i) i is a lower bound by assumption.
- (ii) Suppose $i \neq b = \inf A$ with $b > i$, then $b = i + \epsilon$ for $\epsilon = |b - i|$ but $b = i + \epsilon > a$ for some $a \in A$ so we have reached a contradiction since we assumed b is a lower bound on A . Hence, i is indeed the greatest lower bound.

□

Exercise 1.3.3

- (a) *Proof.* (i) Suppose $\inf A$ is not an upper bound on B so $\exists b \in B$ s.t. $\inf A \leq b$ but b is a lower bound on A so

$$\inf A < b \leq a \forall a \in A$$

This is a contradiction since this would imply b is a greater lower bound on A so we conclude $\inf A$ is indeed an upper bound on B .

- (ii) A lower bound on A is given by $\inf A - \varepsilon$ for any $\varepsilon > 0$ so $\inf A - \varepsilon \in B \forall \varepsilon > 0$. But this would imply

$$\inf A - \varepsilon < \inf A - \varepsilon/2 = b \in B$$

for any $\varepsilon > 0$ which implies that $\inf A$ is a least upper bound for B .

Alternatively, $\inf A$ is a lower bound on A then $\inf A \in B$. So since $\inf A$ is an upper bound within B then $\inf A$ is a maximum of B . If a maximum exists then $\sup B = \max B = \inf A$.

Hence $\sup B = \inf A$.

For set A define set $-A = \{-a : a \in A\}$. It is clear that $-A$ is bounded so we only need to prove

$$-\sup(-A) = \inf A$$

□

Exercise 1.3.4

Proof. If $B \subseteq A$ then $\forall b \in B \exists a \in A$ s.t. $a \geq b$, this implies

$$\sup A \geq a \geq \sup B$$

□

Exercise 1.3.5

- (a) *Proof.* (i) By defⁿ, $\forall a \in A \sup A \geq a$. Adding c to both sides we get $\forall a \in A c + \sup A \geq c + a$. Hence, $c + \sup A$ is an upper bound on $c + A$.
- (ii) Now for arbitrary $\varepsilon > 0$, $\sup A - \varepsilon < a$ for some $a \in A$. This implies, $c + \sup A - \varepsilon < c + a \in c + A$ for some $a \in A$.

Hence, $\sup c + A = c + \sup A$. □

- (b) *Proof.* (i) By defⁿ, $\forall a \in A \sup A \geq a$. Multiplying by c on both sides we get $\forall a \in A c \sup A \geq ca$. Hence, $c \sup A$ is an upper bound on cA .

- (ii) Now for arbitrary $\varepsilon > 0$, $\sup A - \varepsilon < a$ for some $a \in A$. This implies, $c \sup A - \varepsilon < ca \in cA$ for some $a \in A$. □

- (c) We postulate $\sup cA = -c \inf A$. This can be easily seen by imagining the sequence of manipulations from $A \rightarrow cA \rightarrow -cA$ and observe how the up changes.

Exercise 1.3.6

- (a) 3
(b) 1
(c) 1/2
(d) 9

Exercise 1.3.7

Proof. Since a is an upper bound by assumption, we only need to check that a is the least upper bound. However, this is trivial since for arbitrary $\varepsilon > 0$ $a - \varepsilon < a \in A$ so $a = \sup A$. □

Exercise 1.3.8

Proof. Let $\varepsilon = (\sup A + \sup B)/2$. So

$$\sup A < \sup B - \varepsilon < b$$

for some $b \in B$. So $b \in B$ is an upper bound for A . □

Exercise 1.3.9

- (a) True
(b) False, consider set

$$A = \left\{ L - \frac{1}{n} : n \in \mathbb{N} \right\}$$

where $\sup A = L$.

- (c) False, consider sets

$$A = \left\{ L - \frac{1}{n} : n \in \mathbb{N} \right\}$$

$$B = \left\{ L + \frac{1}{n} : n \in \mathbb{N} \right\}$$

However, $\inf B = \sup A = L$.

(d) True

(e) False, consider sets

$$A = \left\{ 1 - \frac{1}{n} : n \in \mathbb{N} \text{ and } n \text{ is even} \right\}$$
$$B = \left\{ 1 + \frac{1}{n} : n \in \mathbb{N} \text{ and } n \text{ is odd} \right\}$$

Then, $\sup A = 1 \leq \sup B = 1$ but $\nexists b \in B$ that is an upper bound for A .

This statement can be contradicted more easily by noting that the statement is false for two identical sets with the supremum not in the set.