

Quiz 1 Solution

Fall 2024

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1. (5 pts) State the Axiom of Completeness.

Solution. Every nonempty set in \mathbb{R} that is bounded from above has a least upper bound. \square

2. (10 pts) (a) Find the least upper bound and the greatest lower bound of the set $\left\{1 + \frac{1}{3n} : n \in \mathbb{N}\right\}$.

(b) Give an example of a bounded set S so that its l.u.b is not in S (i.e., $\sup S \notin S$).

Solution. (a) The least upper bound is $1 + \frac{1}{3} = \frac{4}{3}$. The greatest lower bound is 1.

(b) Here are two examples:

$A = [0, 1]$ (with $\sup A = 1$) and $B = \{-\frac{1}{n} : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ (with $\sup B = 0$). \square

3. (10 pts) Let a be a real number and $\varepsilon > 0$. Use the Theorem *Density of \mathbb{Q} in \mathbb{R}* to show that the interval $(a - \varepsilon, a + \varepsilon)$ contains infinitely many rational numbers.

Solution 1. Theorem (Density of \mathbb{Q} in \mathbb{R}) states that there is a rational number between any two given real numbers.

There is a rational number in r_1 that satisfies $a < r_1 < a + \varepsilon$. And there is a rational number r_2 satisfying $a < r_2 < r_1$. The process goes on. Assumed we have found $a < r_n < r_{n-1} < \dots < r_1 < b$. By the density of \mathbb{Q} , there is a rational number r_{n+1} satisfying $a < r_{n+1} < r_n$. Thus, by induction, we have infinitely many rationals in $(a, a + \varepsilon)$ and, hence, in $(a - \varepsilon, a + \varepsilon)$. \square

Solution 2. Let r_1 be a rational number in $(a - \varepsilon, a)$ and r_2 be a rational number in $(a, a + \varepsilon)$. Then $r_1 < r_2$. The middle point $r_3 = (r_1 + r_2)/2$ of (r_1, r_2) is a rational number. The middle point of r_2 and r_3 is also a rational number, call it r_4 , and $r_4 = (r_2 + r_3)/2$. More generatly, we define $r_{n+1} = (r_{n-1} + r_n)/2$. Then all $r_n : n \in \mathbb{N}$ are rational numbers (use induction if needed). Thus, there are infinitely many rational numbers in $(a - \varepsilon, a + \varepsilon)$. \square