

# Math 131AH – Honors Real Analysis I

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This is math 131AH – Honors Real Analysis I taught by Professor Visan, and our TA is Thierry Laurens. We meet weekly on MWF from 10:00am – 10:50am for lectures. There are two textbooks used for the class, *Principles of Mathematical Analysis* by Rudin and *Metric Spaces* by Copson. Note that some of the theorems' name are not necessarily their official names. It's just a way for me to reference them without the need of searching through pages for their contents. You can find other lecture notes at my [github](#) site. Please let me know through my [email](#) if you spot any mathematical errors/typos.

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# §1 | Lec 1: Jan 4, 2021

## §1.1 Logical Statements & Basic Set Theory

Let  $A$  and  $B$  be two statements. We write

- $A$  if  $A$  is true.
- not  $A$  if  $A$  is false.
- $A$  and  $B$  if both  $A$  and  $B$  are true.
- $A$  or  $B$  if  $A$  is true or  $B$  is true or both  $A$  and  $B$  are true (inclusive “or” – it is not either  $A$  or  $B$ ).
- $\underbrace{A \implies B}$ : if  $(A \text{ and } B)$  or  $(\text{not } A)$  – We read this “ $A$  implies  $B$ ” or “If  $A$  then  $B$ ”.

In this case,  $B$  is at least as true as  $A$ . In particular, a false statement can imply anything.

### Example 1.1

Consider the following statement: If  $x$  is a natural number (i.e.,  $x \in \mathbb{N} = \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$ , then  $x \geq 1$ . In this case,  $A = “x \text{ is a natural number}”$ ,  $B = “x \geq 1”$ . Taking  $x = 3$ , we get a  $T \implies T$ . Taking  $x = \pi$  we get  $F \implies T$ . If  $x = 0$ , we get  $F \implies F$ .

### Example 1.2

Consider the statement:  $\underbrace{\text{If a number is less than 10}}_A, \underbrace{\text{then it's less than 20}}_B$ .

Taking

$$\begin{aligned} \text{number} &= 5, & T &\implies T \\ &= 15, & F &\implies T \\ &= 25, & F &\implies F \end{aligned}$$

We write  $\underbrace{A \iff B}$  if  $A$  and  $B$  are true together or false together. We read this as “ $A$  is equivalent to  $B$ ” or “ $A$  if and only if  $B$ ”. Compare these notions to similar ones from set theory. Let  $X$  is an ambient space. Let  $A$  and  $B$  be subsets of  $X$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} A^c &= \{x \in X; x \notin A\} \\ A \cap B &= \{x \in X; x \in A \text{ and } x \in B\} \\ A \cup B &= \{x \in X; x \in A \text{ or } x \in B \text{ or } x \in A \cap B\} \\ A \subseteq B &\text{ corresponds to } A \implies B \\ A = B &\quad A \iff B \end{aligned}$$

Truth table:

A	B	not A	A and B	A or B	$A \implies B$	$A \iff B$
T	T	F	T	T	T	T
T	F	F	F	T	F	F
F	T	T	F	T	T	F
F	F	T	F	F	T	T

**Example 1.3**

Using the truth table show that  $A \implies B$  is logically equivalent to (not A) or B.

A	B	$A \implies B$	not A	(not A) or B
T	T	T	F	T
T	F	F	F	F
F	T	T	T	T
F	F	T	T	T

**Homework 1.1.** Using the truth table prove De Morgan's laws:

$$\begin{aligned}\text{not } (A \text{ and } B) &= (\text{not } A) \text{ or } (\text{not } B) \\ \text{not } (A \text{ or } B) &= (\text{not } A) \text{ and } (\text{not } B)\end{aligned}$$

Compare this to

$$\begin{aligned}(A \cap B)^c &= A^c \cup B^c \\ (A \cup B)^c &= A^c \cap B^c\end{aligned}$$

**Exercise 1.1.** Negate the following statement: If A then B.

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned}\text{not}(A \implies B) &= \text{not}((\text{not } A) \text{ or } B) \\ &= [\text{not}(\text{not } A) \text{ and } (\text{not } B)] \\ &= A \text{ and } (\text{not } B)\end{aligned}$$

The negation is "A is true and B is false".

**Example 1.4**

Negate the following sentence: If I speak in front of the class, I am nervous.  
I speak in front of the class and I am not nervous.

Quantifiers:

- $\forall$  reads "for all" or "for any"
- $\exists$  reads "there is" or "there exists"

The negation of  $\forall A, B$  is true is  $\exists A$  s.t.  $B$  is false.

The negation of  $\exists A, B$  is true is  $\forall A, B$  is false.

**Example 1.5**

Negate the following: Every student had coffee or is late for class.

$\forall$  student (had coffee) or (is late for class)

$\exists$  student s.t. not[(had coffee) or (is late for class)]

$\exists$  student s.t. not (had coffee) and not (is late for class)

Ans: There is a student that did not have coffee and is not late for class.

## §2 | Lec 2: Jan 6, 2021

### §2.1 Mathematical Induction

The natural numbers –  $\mathbb{N} = \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$ ; they satisfy the Peano axioms:

N1  $1 \in \mathbb{N}$

N2 If  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  then  $n + 1 \in \mathbb{N}$

N3 1 is not the successor of any natural number.

N4 If  $n, m \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $n + 1 = m + 1$  then  $n = m$

N5 Let  $S \subseteq \mathbb{N}$ . Assume that  $S$  satisfies the following two conditions:

(i)  $1 \in S$

(ii) If  $n \in S$  then  $n + 1 \in S$

Then  $S = \mathbb{N}$ .

Axiom N5 forms the basis for mathematical induction. Assume we want to prove that a property  $P(n)$  holds for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then it suffices to verify two steps:

Step 1 (base step):  $P(1)$  holds.

Step 2 (inductive step): If  $P(n)$  is true for some  $n \geq 1$ , then  $P(n + 1)$  is also true, i.e.,  $P(n) \implies P(n + 1) \forall n \geq 1$ .

Indeed, if we let

$$S = \{n \in \mathbb{N} : P(n) \text{ holds}\}$$

then Step 1 implies  $1 \in S$  and Step 2 implies if  $n \in S$  then  $n + 1 \in S$ . By Axiom N5 we deduce  $S = \mathbb{N}$ .

**Example 2.1**

Prove that

$$1^2 + 2^2 + \dots + n^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6} \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$$

Solution: We argue by mathematical induction. For  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  let  $P(n)$  denote the statement

$$1^2 + 2^2 + \dots + n^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}$$

Step 1 (Base step):  $P(1)$  is the statement

$$1^2 = \frac{1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3}{6}$$

which is true, so  $P(1)$  holds.

Step 2 (Inductive step): Assume that  $P(n)$  holds for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . We want to know  $P(n+1)$  holds. We know

$$1^2 + \dots + n^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}$$

Let's add  $(n+1)^2$  to both sides of  $P(n)$

$$\begin{aligned} 1^2 + \dots + n^2 + (n+1)^2 &= \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6} + (n+1)^2 \\ &= (n+1) \left[ \frac{n(2n+1)}{6} + n+1 \right] \\ &= \frac{(n+1)(n+2)(2n+3)}{6} \end{aligned}$$

So  $P(n+1)$  holds.

Collecting the two steps, we conclude  $P(n)$  holds  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ . □



**Example 2.2**

Prove that  $2^n > n^2$  for all  $n \geq 5$ .

Solution: We argue by mathematical induction. For  $n \geq 5$  let  $P(n)$  denote the statement  $2^n > n^2$ .

Step 1 (base step):  $P(5)$  is the statement

$$32 = 2^5 > 5^2 = 25$$

which is true. So  $P(5)$  holds.

Step 2 (Inductive step): Assume  $P(n)$  is true for some  $n \geq 5$  and we want to prove  $P(n+1)$ . We know

$$2^n > n^2$$

Let us manipulate the above inequality to get  $P(n+1)$

$$\begin{aligned} 2^{n+1} &> 2n^2 = (n+1)^2 + n^2 - 2n - 1 \\ 2^{n+1} &> (n+1)^2 + (n-1)^2 - 2 \end{aligned}$$

As  $n \geq 5$  we have  $(n-1)^2 - 2 \geq 4^2 - 2 = 14 \geq 0$ . So

$$2^{n+1} > (n+1)^2$$

So  $P(n+1)$  holds.

Collecting the two steps, we conclude that  $P(n)$  holds  $\forall n \geq 5$ . □

**Remark 2.3.** Each of the two steps are essential when arguing by induction. Note that  $P(1)$  is true. However, our proof of the second step fails if  $n = 1$  :  $(1-1)^2 - 2 = -2 < 0$ . Note that our proof of the second step is valid as soon as

$$(n-1)^2 - 2 \geq 0 \iff (n-1)^2 \geq 2 \iff n-1 \geq 2 \iff n \geq 3$$

However,  $P(3)$  fails.

**Example 2.4**

Prove by mathematical induction that the number  $4^n + 15n - 1$  is divisible by 9 for all  $n \geq 1$ .

Solution: We'll argue by induction. For  $n \geq 1$ , let  $P(n)$  denote the statement that " $4^n + 15n - 1$  is divisible by 9". We write this  $9/(4^n + 15n - 1)$ .

Step 1:  $4^1 + 15 \cdot 1 - 1 = 18 = 9 \cdot 2$ . This is divisible by 9, so  $P(1)$  holds.

Step 2: Assume  $P(n)$  is true for some  $n \geq 1$ . We want to show  $P(n+1)$  holds.

$$\begin{aligned} 4^{n+1} + 15(n+1) - 1 &= 4(4^n + 15n - 1) - 60n + 4 + 15n + 14 \\ &= 4(4^n + 15n - 1) - 45n + 18 \\ &= 4(4^n + 15n - 1) - 9(5n - 2) \end{aligned}$$

By the inductive hypothesis,  $9/(4^n + 15n - 1) \implies 9/4(4^n + 15n - 1)$ . Also  $9/9 \underbrace{(5n - 2)}_{\in \mathbb{N}}$ .

So

$$9/[4(4^n + 15n - 1) - 9(5n - 2)]$$

So  $P(n+1)$  holds. Collecting the two steps, we conclude  $P(n)$  holds  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ .  $\square$

**Example 2.5**

Compute the following sum and then use mathematical induction to prove your answer: for  $n \geq 1$

$$\frac{1}{1 \cdot 3} + \frac{1}{3 \cdot 5} + \frac{1}{5 \cdot 7} + \cdots + \frac{1}{(2n-1)(2n+1)}$$

Solution: Note that  $\frac{1}{(2n-1)(2n+1)} = \frac{1}{2} \left[ \frac{1}{2n-1} - \frac{1}{2n+1} \right] \forall n \geq 1$ . So

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{1 \cdot 3} + \frac{1}{3 \cdot 5} + \cdots + \frac{1}{(2n-1)(2n+1)} &= \frac{1}{2} \left\{ \frac{1}{1} - \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{5} + \cdots + \frac{1}{2n-1} - \frac{1}{2n+1} \right\} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \frac{2n}{2n+1} = \frac{n}{2n+1} \end{aligned}$$

For  $n \geq 1$ , let  $P(n)$  denote the statement

$$\frac{1}{1 \cdot 3} + \frac{1}{3 \cdot 5} + \cdots + \frac{1}{(2n-1)(2n+1)} = \frac{n}{2n+1}$$

Step 1:  $P(1)$  becomes  $\frac{1}{1 \cdot 3} = \frac{1}{3}$ , which is true. So  $P(1)$  holds.

Step 2: Assume  $P(n)$  holds for some  $n \geq 1$ . We want to show  $P(n+1)$ . We know

$$\frac{1}{1 \cdot 3} + \cdots + \frac{1}{(2n-1)(2n+1)} = \frac{n}{2n+1}$$

Let's add  $\frac{1}{(2n+1)(2n+3)}$  to both sides

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{1 \cdot 3} + \cdots + \frac{1}{(2n+1)(2n+3)} &= \frac{n}{2n+1} + \frac{1}{(2n+1)(2n+3)} \\ &= \frac{2n^2 + 3n + 1}{(2n+1)(2n+3)} \\ &= \frac{(n+1)(2n+1)}{(2n+1)(2n+3)} \\ &= \frac{n+1}{2n+3} \end{aligned}$$

So  $P(n+1)$  holds.

Collecting the two steps, we conclude  $P(n)$  holds for  $\forall n \geq 1$ . □

## §3 | Lec 3: Jan 8, 2021

### §3.1 Equivalence Relation

The set of integers is  $\mathbb{Z} = \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\} \cup \{-n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ .

**Definition 3.1 (Equivalence Relation)** — An equivalence relation  $\sim$  on a non-empty set  $A$  satisfies the following three properties:

- Reflexivity:  $a \sim a, \forall a \in A$
- Symmetry: If  $a, b \in A$  are such that  $a \sim b$ , then  $b \sim a$
- Transitivity: If  $a, b, c \in A$  are such that  $a \sim b$  and  $b \sim c$ , then  $a \sim c$ .

#### Example 3.2

$=$  is an equivalence relation on  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

#### Example 3.3

Let  $q \in \mathbb{N}, q > 1$ . For  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$  we write  $a \sim b$  if  $q/(a - b)$ . This is an equivalence relation on  $\mathbb{Z}$ . Indeed, it suffices to check 3 properties:

- Reflexivity: If  $a \in \mathbb{Z}$  then  $a - a = 0$ , which is divisible by  $q$ . So  $q/(a - a) \iff a \sim a$ .
- Symmetry: Let  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $a \sim b \iff q/(a - b)$  which means there exists  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$  s.t.  $a - b = kq \implies b - a = \underbrace{-k}_{\in \mathbb{Z}} \cdot q$ . So  $q/(b - a) \iff b \sim a$ .
- Transitivity: Let  $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $a \sim b$  and  $b \sim c$ ,  $a \sim b \iff q/(a - b) \implies \exists n \in \mathbb{Z}$  s.t.  $a - b = q \cdot n$ . And  $b \sim c \iff q/(b - c) \implies \exists m \in \mathbb{Z}$  s.t.  $b - c = q \cdot m$ . So, we must have  $a - c = q(\underbrace{n + m}_{\in \mathbb{Z}})$ . So  $q/(a - c) \iff a \sim c$ .

### §3.2 Equivalence Class

**Definition 3.4 (Equivalence Class)** — Let  $\sim$  denote an equivalence relation on a non-empty set  $A$ . The equivalence class of an element  $a \in A$  is given by

$$C(a) = \{b \in A : a \sim b\}$$

**Proposition 3.5** (Properties of Equivalence Classes)

Let  $\sim$  denote an equivalence relation on a non-empty set  $A$ . Then

1.  $a \in C(a) \quad \forall a \in A$ .
2. If  $a, b \in A$  are such that  $a \sim b$ , then  $C(a) = C(b)$ .
3. If  $a, b \in A$  are such that  $a \not\sim b$ , then  $C(a) \cap C(b) = \emptyset$ .
4.  $A = \bigcup_{a \in A} C(a)$

*Proof.* 1. By reflexivity,  $a \sim a \quad \forall a \in A \implies a \in C(a) \quad \forall a \in A$ .

2. Assume  $a, b \in A$  with  $a \sim b$ . Let's show  $C(a) \subseteq C(b)$ . Let  $c \in C(a)$  be arbitrary. Then  $a \sim c$  (by definition). As  $a \sim b$  (by hypothesis), which implies  $b \sim a$  (by symmetry). By transitivity, we obtain  $b \sim c \implies c \in C(b)$ . This proves that  $C(a) \subseteq C(b)$ .

A similar argument shows that  $C(b) \subseteq C(a)$ . Putting the two together, we obtain  $C(a) = C(b)$ .

3. We argue by contradiction. Assume that  $a, b \in A$  are such that  $a \not\sim b$ , but  $C(a) \cap C(b) \neq \emptyset$ . Let  $c \in C(a) \cap C(b)$ .

$$\begin{aligned} c \in C(a) &\implies a \sim c \\ c \in C(b) &\implies b \sim c \implies c \sim b \quad (\text{by symmetry}) \end{aligned}$$

By transitivity,  $a \sim b$ . This contradicts the hypothesis  $a \not\sim b$ . This proves that if  $a \not\sim b$  then  $C(a) \cap C(b) = \emptyset$ .

4. Clearly,  $C(a) \subseteq A \quad \forall a \in A$ , we get

$$\bigcup_{a \in A} C(a) \subseteq A$$

Conversely,  $A = \bigcup_{a \in A} \{a\} \subseteq \bigcup_{a \in A} C(a)$ . Putting everything together, we obtain  $A = \bigcup_{a \in A} C(a)$ .  $\square$

**Example 3.6**

Take  $q = 2$  in our previous example: for  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$  we write  $a \sim b$  if  $2 \mid (a - b)$ . The equivalence classes are

$$\begin{aligned} C(0) &= \{a \in \mathbb{Z} : 2 \mid (a - 0)\} = \{2n : n \in \mathbb{Z}\} \\ C(1) &= \{a \in \mathbb{Z} : 2 \mid (a - 1)\} = \{2n + 1 : n \in \mathbb{Z}\} \\ \mathbb{Z} &= C(0) \cup C(1) \end{aligned}$$

Let  $F = \{(a, b) \in \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} : b \neq 0\}$ . If  $(a, b), (c, d) \in F$  we write  $(a, b) \sim (c, d)$  if  $ad = bc$ .

**Example 3.7**

$$(1, 2) \sim (2, 4) \sim (3, 6) \sim (-4, -8).$$

**Lemma 3.8**

$\sim$  is an equivalence relation on  $F$ .

*Proof.* We have to check 3 properties:

- Reflexivity: Fix  $(a, b) \in F$ . As  $ab = ba$  we have  $(a, b) \sim (a, b)$

- Symmetry: Let  $(a, b), (c, d) \in F$  such that

$$(a, b) \sim (c, d) \iff ad = bc \iff cb = da \iff (c, d) \sim (a, b)$$

- Transitivity: Let  $(a, b), (c, d), (e, f) \in F$  such that  $(a, b) \sim (c, d)$  and  $(c, d) \sim (e, f)$ .

$$(a, b) \sim (c, d) \iff ad = bc \implies adf = bcf$$

$$(c, d) \sim (e, f) \iff cf = de \implies cfb = deb$$

$$\implies adf = deb \implies \underbrace{d}_{\neq 0}(af - be) = 0, \text{ so } af = be \iff (a, b) \sim (e, f).$$

□

For  $(a, b) \in F$ , we denote its equivalence class by  $\frac{a}{b}$ . We define addition and multiplication of equivalence classes as follows:

$$\frac{a}{b} + \frac{c}{d} = \frac{ad + bc}{bd}; \quad \frac{a}{b} \cdot \frac{c}{d} = \frac{ac}{bd}$$

We have to check that these operations are well-defined. Specifically, if  $(a, b) \sim (a', b')$  and  $(c, d) \sim (c', d')$  then

$$(ad + bc, bd) \sim (a'd' + b'c', b'd') \tag{1}$$

$$(ac, bd) \sim (a'c', b'd') \tag{2}$$

Let's check (1). We want to show

$$(ad + bc)b'd' = bd(a'd' + b'c')$$

We know

$$(a, b) \sim (a', b') \iff ab' = ba' \quad | \cdot dd'$$

$$(c, d) \sim (c', d') \iff cd' = dc' \quad | \cdot bb'$$

Adding the two (after multiplying the two terms) together, we have

$$ab'dd' + cd'bb' = ba'dd' + dc'bb'$$

$$(ad + bc)b'd' = bd(a'd' + b'c')$$

This proves addition is well defined.

The set of rational numbers is

Hw: Check (2)

$$\mathbb{Q} = \left\{ \frac{a}{b} : (a, b) \in F \right\}$$

## §4 | Lec 4: Jan 11, 2021

### §4.1 Field & Ordered Field

**Definition 4.1 (Field)** — A field is a set  $F$  with at least two elements with two operators: addition (denoted  $+$ ) and multiplication (denoted  $\cdot$ ) that satisfy the following

- A1) Closure: if  $a, b \in F$  then  $a + b \in F$
- A2) Commutativity: if  $a, b \in F$  then  $a + b = b + a$
- A3) Associativity: if  $a, b, c \in F$  then  $(a + b) + c = a + (b + c)$
- A4) Identity:  $\exists 0 \in F$  s.t.  $a + 0 = 0 + a = a \forall a \in F$
- A5) Inverse:  $\forall a \in F \exists (-a) \in F$  s.t.  $a + (-a) = -a + a = 0$
- M1) Closure: if  $a, b \in F$  then  $a \cdot b \in F$
- M2) Commutativity: if  $a, b \in F$  then  $a \cdot b = b \cdot a$
- M3) Associativity: if  $a, b, c \in F$  then  $(a \cdot b) \cdot c = a \cdot (b \cdot c)$
- M4) Identity:  $\exists 1 \in F$  s.t.  $a \cdot 1 = 1 \cdot a = a \forall a \in F$
- M5) Inverse:  $\forall a \in F \setminus \{0\} \exists a^{-1} \in F$  s.t.  $a \cdot a^{-1} = a^{-1} \cdot a = 1$
- D) Distributivity: if  $a, b, c \in F$  then  $(a + b) \cdot c = a \cdot c + b \cdot c$

#### Example 4.2

$(\mathbb{N}, +, \cdot)$  is not a field. A4 fails.

#### Example 4.3

$(\mathbb{Z}, +, \cdot)$  is not a field. M5 fails.

#### Example 4.4

$(\mathbb{Q}, +, \cdot)$  is a field.

Hw

Recall:

$$\mathbb{Q} = \left\{ \frac{a}{b} : (a, b) \in \mathbb{Z} \times (\mathbb{Z} \setminus \{0\}) \right\}$$

where  $\frac{a}{b}$  denotes the equivalence class of  $(a, b) \in \mathbb{Z} \times (\mathbb{Z} \setminus \{0\})$  with respect to the equivalence relation

$$(a, b) \sim (c, d) \iff a \cdot d = b \cdot c$$

Note  $\frac{1}{2} = \frac{2}{4}$  because  $(1, 2) \sim (2, 4)$ . We defined

$$\frac{a}{b} + \frac{c}{d} = \frac{ad + bc}{bd} \quad \frac{a}{b} \cdot \frac{c}{d} = \frac{ac}{bd}$$

Additive identity  $\frac{0}{1}$  equivalence class  $(0, 1)$ .

Multiplicative identity  $\frac{1}{1}$  equivalence class of  $(1, 1)$ .

Additive inverse:  $\frac{a}{b} \in \mathbb{Q}$  has inverse  $-\frac{a}{b}$

Multiplicative inverse:  $\frac{a}{b} \in \mathbb{Q} \setminus \{\frac{0}{1}\}$  has inverse  $\frac{b}{a}$ .

### Proposition 4.5

Let  $(F, +, \cdot)$  be a field. Then

1. The additive and multiplicative identities are unique.
2. The additive and multiplicative inverses are unique.
3. If  $a, b, c \in F$  s.t.  $a + b = a + c$  then  $b = c$ . In particular, if  $a + b = a$  then  $b = 0$ .
- 3'. If  $a, b, c \in F$  s.t.  $a \neq 0$  and  $a \cdot b = a \cdot c$  then  $b = c$ . In particular,  $a \neq 0$  and  $a \cdot b = a$  then  $b = 1$ .
4.  $a \cdot 0 = 0 \cdot a = 0 \forall a \in F$ .
5. If  $a, b \in F$  then  $(-a) \cdot b = a \cdot (-b) = -(a \cdot b)$
6. If  $a, b \in F$  then  $(-a) \cdot (-b) = a \cdot b$
7. If  $a \cdot b = 0$  then  $a = 0$  or  $b = 0$ .

*Proof.* 1. We'll show the additive identity is unique. Assume

$$\exists 0, 0' \in F \text{ s.t. } \forall a \in F, \begin{cases} a + 0 = 0 + a = a & (i) \\ a + 0' = 0' + a = a & (ii) \end{cases}$$

Take  $a = 0'$  in (i) and  $a = 0$  in (ii) to get

$$\begin{cases} 0' + 0 = 0' \\ 0' + 0 = 0 \end{cases} \implies 0 = 0'$$

2. We'll show that the additive inverse is unique. Let  $a \in F$ . Assume  $\exists(-a), a' \in F$  s.t.

$$\begin{cases} -a + a = a + (-a) = 0 \\ a' + a = a + a' = 0 \end{cases}$$

We have

$$a' + a = 0 \quad | + (-a)$$

$$\begin{aligned} (a' + a) + (-a) &= 0 + (-a) \xrightarrow{A3, A4} a' + (a + (-a)) = -a \\ &\xrightarrow{A5} a' + 0 = -a \xrightarrow{A4} a' = -a \end{aligned}$$



3. Assume  $a + b = a + c$  |  $+(-a)$  to the left

$$\begin{aligned} -a + (a + b) &= -a + (a + c) \\ \xrightarrow{A3} (-a + a) + b &= (-a + a) + c \\ \xrightarrow{A5} 0 + b &= 0 + c \xrightarrow{A4} b = c \end{aligned}$$

So if  $a + b = a = a + 0$ , then  $b = 0$ .

4.

$$\begin{aligned} a \cdot 0 &\stackrel{A4}{=} a \cdot (0 + 0) \stackrel{D}{=} a \cdot 0 + a \cdot 0 \stackrel{(3)}{\implies} a \cdot 0 = 0 \\ 0 \cdot a &\stackrel{A4}{=} (0 + 0) \cdot a = 0 \cdot a + 0 \cdot a \stackrel{(3)}{\implies} 0 \cdot a = 0 \end{aligned}$$

5.  $(-a) \cdot b + a \cdot b \stackrel{D}{=} (-a + a) \cdot \stackrel{A5}{=} 0 \cdot b \stackrel{(4)}{=} 0 \implies (-a) \cdot b = -(a \cdot b)$ . Similarly,  $a \cdot (-b) = -(a \cdot b)$ .

6.  $(-a) \cdot (-b) + [-(a \cdot b)] \stackrel{(5)}{=} (-a) \cdot (-b) + (-a) \cdot b \stackrel{D}{=} (-a)(-b + b) \stackrel{A5}{=} (-a) \cdot 0 \stackrel{(4)}{=} 0$ . So  $(-a) \cdot (-b) = a \cdot b$ .

7. Assume  $a \cdot b = 0$ . Assume  $a \neq 0$ . Want to show  $b = 0$ . As  $a \neq 0$  then  $\exists a^{-1} \in F$  s.t.  $a \cdot a^{-1} = a^{-1} \cdot a = 1$ .

$$\begin{aligned} a \cdot b &= 0 \quad | \cdot a^{-1} \text{ to the left} \\ a^{-1} \cdot (a \cdot b) &= a^{-1} \cdot 0 \xrightarrow{M3,(4)} (a^{-1} \cdot a) \cdot b = 0 \xrightarrow{M5} 1 \cdot b = 0 \xrightarrow{M4} b = 0 \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

**Definition 4.6 (Order Relation)** — An order relation  $<$  on a non-empty set  $A$  satisfies the following properties:

- Trichotomy: if  $a, b \in A$  then one and only one of the following statement holds:  $a < b$  or  $a = b$  or  $b < a$ .
- Transitivity: if  $a, b, c \in A$  such that  $a < b$  and  $b < c$ , then  $a < c$ .

#### Example 4.7

For  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$  we write  $a < b$  if  $b - a \in \mathbb{N}$ . This is an order relation.

Notation: We write

$$\begin{aligned} a &> b \text{ if } b < a \\ a &\leq b \text{ if } [a < b \text{ or } a = b] \\ a &\geq b \text{ if } b \leq a \end{aligned}$$

**Definition 4.8 (Ordered Field)** — Let  $(F, +, \cdot)$  be a field. We say  $(F, +, \cdot)$  is an ordered field if it is equipped with an order relation  $<$  that satisfies the following

- 01) if  $a, b, c \in F$  such that  $a < b$  then  $a + c < b + c$ .
- 02) if  $a, b, c \in F$  such that  $a < b$  and  $0 < c$  then  $a \cdot c < b \cdot c$ .

Note:

To check something is an ordered field, we have to check that it satisfies the properties of order relation and ordered field.

## §5 | Lec 5: Jan 13, 2021

### §5.1 Ordered Field (Cont'd)

#### Proposition 5.1

Let  $(F, +, \cdot, <)$  be an ordered field. Then,

1.  $a > 0 \iff -a < 0$ .
2. If  $a, b, c \in F$  are such that  $a < b$  and  $c < 0$ , then  $ac > bc$ .
3. If  $a \in F \setminus \{0\}$  then  $a^2 = a \cdot a > 0$ . In particular,  $1 > 0$ .
4. If  $a, b \in F$  are such that  $0 < a < b$  then  $0 < b^{-1} < a^{-1}$ .

*Proof.* 1. Let's prove " $\implies$ ". Assume  $a > 0$ .

$$\xRightarrow{01} a + (-a) > 0 + (-a) \xRightarrow{A5, A4} 0 > -a$$

Let's prove " $\impliedby$ ". Assume  $-a < 0$

$$\xRightarrow{01} -a + a < 0 + a \xRightarrow{A5, A4} 0 < a$$

2. Assume  $a < b$  and  $c < 0$

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{cases} a < b \\ c < 0 \end{cases} &\xRightarrow{01} -c > 0 && \xRightarrow{02} a \cdot (-c) < b \cdot (-c) \\ &&& \xRightarrow{01} -ac + (ac + bc) < -bc + (ac + bc) \\ &&& \xRightarrow{A3, A2} (-ac + ac) + bc < -bc + (bc + ac) \\ &&& \xRightarrow{A5, A3} 0 + bc < (-bc + bc) + ac \\ &&& \xRightarrow{A4, A5} bc < 0 + ac \\ &&& \xRightarrow{A4} bc < ac \end{aligned}$$

3. By trichotomy, exactly one of the following hold:

$$a > 0 \xRightarrow{02} a \cdot a > 0 \cdot a \implies a^2 > 0$$

or

$$a < 0 \xRightarrow{2)} a \cdot a > 0 \cdot a \implies a^2 > 0$$

4. First we show that if  $a > 0$  then  $a^{-1} > 0$ . Let's argue by contradiction. Assume  $\exists a \in F$  s.t.  $a > 0$  but  $a^{-1} < 0$ . Then

$$\begin{cases} a > 0 \\ a^{-1} < 0 \end{cases} \xRightarrow{(2)} a \cdot a^{-1} < 0 \xRightarrow{M5} 1 < 0$$

This contradicts (3). So if  $a > 0$  then  $a^{-1} > 0$ .

Say

$$\begin{aligned}
 0 < a < b \quad | \cdot a^{-1} \cdot b^{-1} \\
 &\xRightarrow{02} 0 \cdot (a^{-1} \cdot b^{-1}) < a \cdot (a^{-1} \cdot b^{-1}) < b \cdot (a^{-1} \cdot b^{-1}) \\
 &\xRightarrow{M3, M2} 0 < (a \cdot a^{-1}) \cdot b^{-1} < b \cdot (b^{-1} \cdot a^{-1}) \\
 &\xRightarrow{M5, M3} 0 < 1 \cdot b^{-1} < (b \cdot b^{-1}) \cdot a^{-1} \\
 &\xRightarrow{M4, M5} 0 < b^{-1} < 1 \cdot a^{-1} \\
 &\xRightarrow{M4} 0 < b^{-1} < a^{-1}
 \end{aligned}$$

□

### Theorem 5.2 (Ordered Field)

Let  $(F, +, \cdot)$  be a field. The following are equivalent

- 1)  $F$  is an ordered field.
- 2) There exists  $P \subseteq F$  that satisfies the following properties
  - 01') For every  $a \in F$  one and only one of the following statements holds:  $a \in P$  or  $a = 0$  or  $-a \in P$ .
  - 02') If  $a, b \in P$  then  $a + b \in P$  and  $a \cdot b \in P$ .

*Proof.* Let's show  $1) \implies 2)$ . Define  $P = \{a \in F : a > 0\}$ . Let's check (01'). Fix  $a \in F$ . By trichotomy for the order relation on  $F$  we get that exactly one of the following statements is true:

- $a > 0 \implies a \in P$ .
- $a = 0$ .
- $a < 0 \implies -a > 0 \implies -a \in P$ .

Let's check (02'). Fix  $a, b \in P$ .

$$\begin{cases} a \in P \implies a > 0 \\ b \in P \implies b > 0 \end{cases} \xRightarrow{01} a + b > 0 + b \stackrel{A4}{=} b > 0 \implies a + b \in P$$

And

$$\begin{cases} a \in P \implies a > 0 \\ b \in P \implies b > 0 \end{cases} | \cdot b \xRightarrow{02} a \cdot b > 0 \cdot b = 0 \implies a \cdot b \in P$$

Let's check that  $2) \implies 1)$ .

For  $a, b \in F$  we write  $a < b$  if  $b - a \in P$ . Let's check this is an order relation.

- Trichotomy: Fix  $a, b \in F$ . By 01') exactly one of the following hold:

$$\begin{aligned} b - a \in P &\implies a < b \\ b - a = 0 &\implies a = b \\ -(b - a) \in P &\implies a - b \in P \implies b < a \end{aligned}$$

- Transitivity Assume  $a, b, c \in F$  s.t.  $a < b$  and  $b < c$

$$\begin{cases} a < b \implies b - a \in P \\ b < c \implies c - b \in P \end{cases} \xrightarrow{02'} (b - a) + (c - b) \in P \implies c - a \in P \implies a < c$$

Now let's check that with this order relation,  $F$  is an ordered field. We have to check 01 and 02.

$$01) \text{ Fix } a, b, c \in F \text{ s.t. } a < b \implies b - a \in P \implies b - a \in P \implies (b + c) - (a + c) \in P \implies a + c < b + c.$$

$$02) \text{ Fix } a, b, c \in F \text{ s.t. } a < b \text{ and } 0 < c$$

$$\begin{cases} a < b \implies b - a \in P \\ 0 < c \implies c - 0 = c \in P \end{cases} \xrightarrow{02'} (b - a) \cdot c \in P \xrightarrow{D} b \cdot c - a \cdot c \in P \implies a \cdot c < b \cdot c$$

□

We extend the order relation  $<$  from  $\mathbb{Z}$  to the field  $(\mathbb{Q}, +, \cdot)$  by writing  $\frac{a}{b} > 0$  if  $a \cdot b > 0$ . Let's see this is well defined. Specifically, we need to show that if  $\frac{a}{b} = \frac{c}{d}$ , i.e.,  $(a, b) \sim (c, d)$  and  $a \cdot b > 0$  then  $c \cdot d > 0$ .

$$\begin{aligned} (a, b) \sim (c, d) &\implies a \cdot d = b \cdot c \quad | \cdot (ad) \\ &\implies 0 < (ad)^2 = (ab) \cdot (cd) \text{ where } a \cdot d \neq 0 \end{aligned}$$

So

$$\begin{cases} 0 < (ab) \cdot (cd) \\ 0 < ab \end{cases} \implies cd > 0 \implies \frac{c}{d} > 0$$

Let  $P = \left\{ \frac{a}{b} \in \mathbb{Q} : \frac{a}{b} > 0 \right\}$ . By the theorem, to prove that  $\mathbb{Q}$  is an ordered field, it suffices to show that  $P$  satisfies (01') and (02').

Hw: check (01') and (02')

## §6 | Lec 6: Jan 15, 2021

### §6.1 Least Upper Bound & Greatest Lower Bound

**Definition 6.1** (Boundedness – Maximum and Minimum) — Let  $(F, +, \cdot, <)$  be an ordered field. Let  $\emptyset \neq A \subseteq F$ . We say that  $A$  is bounded above if  $\exists M \in F$  s.t.  $a \leq M \forall a \in A$ . Then  $M$  is called an upper bound for  $A$ . If moreover,  $M \in A$  then we say that  $M$  is the maximum of  $A$ .

We say that  $A$  is bounded below if  $\exists m \in F$  s.t.  $m \leq a \forall a \in A$ . Then  $m$  is called a lower bound for  $A$ . If moreover,  $m \in A$  then we say that  $m$  is the minimum of  $A$ .

We say that  $A$  is bounded if  $A$  is bounded both above and below.

#### Example 6.2

$$A = \left\{ 1 + \frac{(-1)^n}{n} : n \in \mathbb{N} \right\}.$$

- 3 is an upper bound for  $A$ .
- $\frac{3}{2}$  is the maximum of  $A$ .
- 0 is a lower bound for  $A$  ; 0 is the minimum of  $A$ .

#### Example 6.3

$$A = \{x \in \mathbb{Q} : 0 < x^4 \leq 16\} \text{ bounded.}$$

- 2 is the maximum of  $A$ .
- -2 is the minimum of  $A$ .

**Example 6.4**

$A = \{x \in \mathbb{Q} : x^2 < 2\}$  bounded.

- 2 is an upper bound for  $A$ .
- -2 is lower bound for  $A$ .
- $A$  does not have a maximum. Indeed, let  $x \in A$ . We'll construct  $y \in A$  s.t.  $y > x$ . Define  $y = x + \frac{2-x^2}{2+x}$ .

$$x \in A \implies x \in \mathbb{Q} \implies 2 - x^2, 2 + x \in \mathbb{Q}$$

$$x \in A \implies 2 + x > 0 \implies \frac{1}{2+x} \in \mathbb{Q}$$

$$\implies \frac{2-x^2}{2+x} \in \mathbb{Q} \implies y \in \mathbb{Q} \text{ (i). Also note}$$

$$\begin{cases} 2 - x^2 > 0 \text{ (as } x \in A) \\ 2 + x > 0 \implies \frac{1}{2+x} > 0 \end{cases} \implies \frac{2 - x^2}{2 + x} > 0$$

$$\text{So } y = x + \frac{2-x^2}{2+x} > x \text{ (ii). Let's compute } y^2 = \left( \frac{2x+x^2+2-x^2}{2+x} \right)^2 = \frac{2(x^2+4x+4)+2x^2-4}{x^2+4x+4} = 2 + \underbrace{\frac{2(x^2-2)}{(x+2)^2}}_{<0}. \text{ So } y^2 < 2. \text{ (iii)}$$

So collecting (i) – (iii) we get  $y \in A$  and  $y > x$ .

**Homework 6.1.** Show that the maximum and minimum of a set are unique, if they exist.

**Definition 6.5 (Least Upper Bound)** — Let  $(F, +, \cdot, <)$  be an ordered field. Let  $\emptyset \neq A \subseteq F$  and assume  $A$  is bounded above. We say that  $L$  is the least upper bound of  $A$  if it satisfies:

1.  $L$  is an upper bound of  $A$ .
2. If  $M$  is an upper bound of  $A$  then  $L \leq M$ .

We write  $L = \sup A$  and we say  $L$  is the supremum of  $A$ .

**Lemma 6.6**

The least upper bound of a set is unique, if it exists.

*Proof.* Say that a set  $\emptyset \neq A \subseteq F$ ,  $A$  bounded above, admits two least upper bounds  $L, M$ .

$L$  is a least upper bound  $\xRightarrow{(1)}$   $L$  is an upper bound for  $A$ .

$M$  is a least upper bound  $\xRightarrow{(2)}$   $M \leq L$ .

$M$  is a least upper bound for  $A \xRightarrow{(1)} M$  is an upper bound for  $A \implies L$  is a least upper bound for  $A \xRightarrow{(2)} L \leq m$ . So  $L = M$ .  $\square$

**Definition 6.7 (Greatest Lower Bound)** — Let  $(F, +, \cdot, <)$  be an ordered field. Let  $\emptyset \neq A \subseteq F$  and assume  $A$  is bounded below. We say that  $l$  is the greatest lower bound of  $A$  if it satisfies

1.  $l$  is a lower bound of  $A$ .
2. If  $m$  is a lower bound of  $A$  then  $m \leq l$ .

We write  $l = \inf A$  and we say  $l$  is the infimum of  $A$ .

**Homework 6.2.** Show that the greatest lower bound of a set is unique if it exists.

**Definition 6.8 (Bound Property)** — Let  $(F, +, \cdot, <)$  be an ordered field. Let  $\emptyset \neq S \subseteq F$ . We say that  $S$  has the least upper bound property if it satisfies the following: For any non-empty subset  $A$  of  $S$  is bounded above, there exists a least upper bound of  $A$  and  $\sup A \in S$ .

We say that  $S$  has the greatest lower bound property if it satisfies the following:  $\forall \emptyset \neq A \subseteq S$  with  $A$  bounded below,  $\exists \inf A \in S$ .

### Example 6.9

$(\mathbb{Q}, +, \cdot, <)$  is an ordered field.

$\emptyset \neq \mathbb{N} \subseteq \mathbb{Q}$ ,  $\mathbb{N}$  has the least upper bound property. Indeed if  $\emptyset \neq A \subseteq \mathbb{N}$ ,  $A$  bounded above, then the largest elements in  $A$  is the least upper bound of  $A$  and  $\sup A \in \mathbb{N}$ .  $\mathbb{N}$  also has the greatest lower bound property.

### Example 6.10

$(\mathbb{Q}, +, \cdot, <)$  is an ordered field.

$\emptyset \neq \mathbb{Q} \subseteq \mathbb{Q}$ ,  $\mathbb{Q}$  does not have the least upper bound property.

Indeed,  $\emptyset \neq A = \{x \in \mathbb{Q} : x \geq 0 \text{ and } x^2 < 2\} \subseteq \mathbb{Q}$ .  $A$  is bounded above by 2. However,  $\sup A = \sqrt{2} \notin \mathbb{Q}$ .

### Proposition 6.11

Let  $(F, +, \cdot, <)$  be an ordered field. Then  $F$  has the least upper bound property if and only if it has the greatest lower bound property.

*Proof.* ( $\implies$ ) Assume  $F$  has the least upper bound property. Let  $\emptyset \neq A \subseteq F$  bounded below. WTS  $\exists \inf A \in F$ .  $A$  is bounded below  $\implies \exists m \in F$  s.t.  $m \leq a \forall a \in A$ . Let



$B = \{b \in F : b \text{ is a lower bound for } A\}$ . Note  $B \neq \emptyset$  (as  $m \in B$ ),  $B \subseteq F$ ,  $B$  is bounded above (every element in  $A$  is an upper bound for  $B$ ) and  $F$  has the least upper bound property  $\implies \sup B \in F$ .

**Claim 6.1.**  $\sup B = \inf A$ .

(Cont'd – Lec 7)

□

## §7 | Lec 7: Jan 20, 2021

### §7.1 Least Upper/Greatest Lower Bound (Cont'd)

*Proof.* (Cont'd of proposition 6.11)

**Claim 7.1.**  $\sup B = \inf A$ .

Method 1:

- $\sup B$  is a lower bound for  $A$ . Indeed, let  $a \in A$ . We know that  $a \geq b \quad \forall b \in B$ .  $\sup B$  is the least upper bound for  $B \implies a \geq \sup B$ . As  $a \in A$  was arbitrary, we conclude that  $\sup B \leq a \quad \forall a \in A$  and so  $\sup B$  is a lower bound for  $A$ .
- If  $l$  is a lower bound for  $A$  then  $l \leq \sup B$ . Well,  $l$  is a lower bound for  $A \implies l \in B$  and  $\sup B$  is an upper bound for  $B$ . So  $l \leq \sup B$ .

Collecting the two bullet points above, we find that  $\inf A = \sup B$ .

Method 2: Let  $\emptyset \neq A \subseteq F$  s.t.  $A$  is bounded below. Let  $B = \{-a : a \in A\}$ . Note  $B \subseteq F$  by A5.  $B \neq \emptyset$  because  $A \neq \emptyset$ .  $B$  is bounded above: indeed if  $m$  is a lower bound for  $A$  then  $-m$  is an upper bound for  $B$ .

$$m \leq a \quad \forall a \in A \implies -m \geq -a \quad \forall a \in A$$

$F$  has the least upper bound property. Altogether, it implies that  $\sup B \in F$ . In Hw3, you show  $-\sup B = \inf A \in F$  (by A5).  $\square$

**Homework 7.1.** Prove the “ $\Leftarrow$ ” direction.

#### Theorem 7.1 (Existence of $\mathbb{R}$ )

There exists an ordered field with the least upper bound property. We denote it  $\mathbb{R}$  and we call it the set of real numbers.  $\mathbb{R}$  contains  $\mathbb{Q}$  as a subfield. Moreover, we have the following uniqueness property: If  $(F, +, \cdot, <)$  is an ordered field with the least upper bound property, then  $F$  is order isomorphic with  $\mathbb{R}$ , that is, there exists a bijection  $\phi : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow F$  such that

$$\text{i) } \phi(\underbrace{x + y}_{\mathbb{R}}) = \phi(x) \underbrace{+}_{F} \phi(y)$$

$$\text{ii) } \phi(\underbrace{x \cdot y}_{\mathbb{R}}) = \phi(x) \underbrace{\cdot}_{F} \phi(y)$$

$$\text{iii) } \text{If } \underbrace{x < y}_{\mathbb{R}} \text{ then } \phi(x) \underbrace{<}_F \phi(y)$$

#### Theorem 7.2 (Archimedean Property)

$\mathbb{R}$  has the Archimedean property, that is,  $\forall x \in \mathbb{R} \quad \exists n \in \mathbb{N} \text{ s.t. } x < n$ .

*Proof.* We argue by contradiction. Assume

$$\exists x_0 \in \mathbb{R} \text{ s.t. } x_0 \geq n \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$$

Then  $\emptyset \neq \mathbb{N} \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ .  $\mathbb{N}$  is bounded above by  $x_0$ .  $\mathbb{R}$  has the least upper bound property  $\implies \exists L = \sup \mathbb{N} \in \mathbb{R}$ .

$$\begin{cases} L = \sup \mathbb{N} \\ L - 1 < L \end{cases} \implies L - 1 \text{ is not an upper bound for } \mathbb{N}$$

$\implies \exists n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $n_0 > L - 1$ . So  $\sup \mathbb{N} = L < n_0 + 1 \in \mathbb{N}$ , which is a contradiction.  $\square$

**Remark 7.3.**  $\mathbb{Q}$  has the Archimedean property.

If  $r \in \mathbb{Q}$  is s.t. then choose  $n = 1$ . For  $r \in \mathbb{Q}$  is s.t.  $r > 0$ , then write  $r = \frac{p}{q}$  with  $p, q \in \mathbb{N}$ . Choose  $n = p + 1$  since  $\frac{p}{q} < p + 1$ .

#### Corollary 7.4

If  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $a > 0, b > 0$  then there exists  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $n \cdot a > b$ .

*Proof.* Apply the Archimedean Property to  $x = \frac{b}{a}$ .  $\square$

#### Corollary 7.5

If  $\epsilon > 0$  there exists  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $\frac{1}{n} < \epsilon$ .

*Proof.* Apply the Archimedean property to  $x = \frac{1}{\epsilon}$ .  $\square$

#### Lemma 7.6

For any  $a \in \mathbb{R}$  there exists  $N \in \mathbb{Z}$  s.t.  $N \leq a \leq N + 1$ .

*Proof.* Case 1:  $a = 0$ . Take  $N = 0$ .

Case 2:  $a > 0$ . Consider  $A = \{n \in \mathbb{Z} : n \leq a\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ ,  $A \neq \emptyset (0 \in A)$ .  $A$  is bounded above by  $a$ .  $\mathbb{R}$  has the least upper bound property. So  $\exists L = \sup A \in \mathbb{R}$ .

$$L - 1 < L = \sup A \implies L - 1 \text{ is not an upper bound for } A$$

$\implies \exists N \in A$  s.t.  $L - 1 < N \implies L < N + 1$  but  $L = \sup A$ , so  $N + 1 \notin A$ . So

$$\begin{cases} N \in A \implies N \leq a \\ N + 1 \notin A \implies N + 1 > a \end{cases} \implies N \leq a < N + 1$$

Case 3:  $a < 0 \implies -a > 0$ . By case 2,  $\exists n \in \mathbb{Z}$  s.t.  $n \leq -a < n + 1$ . So  $-n - 1 < a \leq -n$ . If  $a = -n$ , let  $N = -n$  and so  $N \leq a < N + 1$ . If  $a < -n$  let  $N = -n - 1$  and so  $N \leq a < N + 1$ .  $\square$

**Definition 7.7 (Dense Set)** — We say that a subset  $A$  of  $\mathbb{R}$  is dense in  $\mathbb{R}$  if for every  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $x < y$  there exists  $a \in A$  such that  $x < a < y$ .

**Lemma 7.8**

$\mathbb{Q}$  is dense in  $\mathbb{R}$ .

*Proof.* Let  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $x < y$ . Since  $y - x > 0$  by corollary 7.5,  $\exists n \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $\frac{1}{n} < y - x \implies \frac{1}{n} + x < y$ .

Consider  $nx \in \mathbb{R}$ . By the lemma 7.6,  $\exists m \in \mathbb{Z}$  s.t.

$$m \leq nx < m + 1 \implies \frac{m}{n} \leq x < \frac{m + 1}{n}$$

Then

$$x < \frac{m + 1}{n} = \frac{m}{n} + \frac{1}{n} \leq x + \frac{1}{n} < y$$

w where  $\frac{m+1}{n} \in \mathbb{Q}$ . □

**Lemma 7.9**

$\mathbb{R} \setminus \mathbb{Q}$  is dense in  $\mathbb{R}$ .

## §8 | Lec 8: Jan 22, 2021

### §8.1 Construction of the Reals

Recall that we say a set  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  is dense if for every  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$  s.t.  $x < y$ , there exists  $a \in A$  s.t.  $x < a < y$ . Last time we proved

#### Lemma 8.1

$\mathbb{Q}$  is dense in  $\mathbb{R}$ .

**Remark 8.2.** For any two rational numbers  $r_1, r_2 \in \mathbb{Q}$  s.t.  $r_1 < r_2$ , there exists  $s \in \mathbb{Q}$  s.t.  $r_1 < s < r_2$ .

Indeed if  $r_1 < 0 < r_2$  then we may take  $s = 0$ .

Assume  $0 < r_1 < r_2$ . Write  $r_1 = \frac{a}{b}, r_2 = \frac{c}{d}$  with  $a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{N}$ . Take  $s = \frac{ad+bc}{2bd} \in \mathbb{Q}$ . Note  $r_1 < s < r_2$ .

$$r_1 < s \iff \frac{a}{b} < \frac{ad+bc}{2bd} \iff 2ad < ad+bc \iff ad < bc \iff \frac{a}{b} < \frac{c}{d} \iff r_1 < r_2$$

**Homework 8.1.** Construct  $s$  in the remaining cases.

#### Lemma 8.3

$\mathbb{R} \setminus \mathbb{Q}$  is dense in  $\mathbb{R}$ .

*Proof.* Let  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$  s.t.  $x < y \implies x + \sqrt{2} < y + \sqrt{2}$ .  $\mathbb{Q}$  is dense in  $\mathbb{R}$ . So  $\exists q \in \mathbb{Q}$  s.t. (since  $\mathbb{Q}$  is dense in  $\mathbb{R}$ )

$$x + \sqrt{2} < q < y + \sqrt{2} \implies x < q - \sqrt{2} < y$$

**Claim 8.1.**  $q - \sqrt{2} \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \mathbb{Q}$ .

Otherwise,  $\exists r \in \mathbb{Q}$  s.t.  $q - \sqrt{2} = r \implies \sqrt{2} = q - r \in \mathbb{Q}$ , contradiction.  $\square$

#### Theorem 8.4 (Construction of $\mathbb{R}$ (Existence))

There exists an ordered field with the least upper bound property. We denote it  $\mathbb{R}$  and call it the set of real numbers.  $\mathbb{R}$  contains  $\mathbb{Q}$  as a subfield.

*Proof.* We will construct an ordered field with the least upper bound property using Dedekind cuts. The elements of the field are certain subsets of  $\mathbb{Q}$  called cuts. A cut is a set  $\alpha \subseteq \mathbb{Q}$  that satisfies:

- a)  $\emptyset \neq \alpha \neq \mathbb{Q}$
- b) If  $q \in \alpha$  and  $p \in \mathbb{Q}$  s.t.  $p < q$  then  $p \in \alpha$ .
- c) For every  $q \in \alpha$  there exists  $r \in \alpha$  s.t.  $r > q$  ( $\alpha$  has no maximum)

**Intuitively**, we think of a cut as  $\mathbb{Q} \cap (\infty, a)$ . Of course, at this point we haven't yet constructed  $\mathbb{R}$ ...

Note that if  $\mathbb{Q} \ni q \notin \alpha$  then  $q > p \forall p \in \alpha$ . Indeed, otherwise, if  $\exists p_0 \in \alpha$  s.t.  $q \leq p_0$  then by ii) we would have  $q \in \alpha$ . Contradiction.

We define

$$F = \{\alpha : \alpha \text{ is a cut}\}$$

We will show  $F$  is an ordered field with the least upper bound property.

Order: For  $\alpha, \beta \in F$  we write  $\alpha < \beta$  if  $\alpha$  is a proper subset of  $\beta$ , that is,  $\alpha \subsetneq \beta$

- Transitivity: If  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \in F$  s.t.  $\alpha < \beta$  and  $\beta < \gamma$  then  $\alpha \subsetneq \beta \subsetneq \gamma \implies \alpha \subsetneq \gamma \implies \alpha < \gamma$ .
- Trichotomy: First note that at most one of the following hold

$$\alpha < \beta, \quad \alpha = \beta, \quad \beta < \alpha$$

To prove trichotomy, it thus suffices to show that at least one of the following holds:  $\alpha < \beta, \alpha = \beta, \beta < \alpha$ . We show this by contradiction: Assume  $\alpha < \beta, \alpha = \beta, \beta < \alpha$  all fail. Then we have

$$\begin{cases} \alpha \not\subseteq \beta \\ \alpha \neq \beta \\ \beta \not\subseteq \alpha \end{cases} \implies \begin{cases} \exists p \in \alpha \setminus \beta \\ \exists q \in \beta \setminus \alpha \end{cases}$$

Now

$$p \notin \beta \implies p > r \quad \forall r \in \beta \tag{1}$$

$$q \notin \alpha \implies q > s \quad \forall s \in \alpha \tag{2}$$

Take  $r = q$  in (1) and  $s = p$  in (2) to get  $p > q > p$ . Contradiction!

So  $<$  defines an order relation on  $F$ .

Let's show that  $F$  has the least upper bound property. Let  $\emptyset \neq A \subseteq F$  bounded above by  $\beta \in F$ . Define

$$\gamma = \bigcup_{\alpha \in A} \alpha$$

**Claim 8.2.**  $\gamma \in F$ .

- $\gamma \neq \emptyset$  because  $A \neq \emptyset$  and  $\emptyset \neq \alpha \in A$ .
- $\gamma \neq \mathbb{Q}$  because  $\beta$  being an upper bound for  $A$

$$\implies \beta \geq \alpha \forall \alpha \in A \implies \beta \supseteq \alpha \forall \alpha \in A \implies \beta \supseteq \bigcup_{\alpha \in A} \alpha = \gamma$$

As  $\beta \neq \mathbb{Q} \implies \gamma \neq \mathbb{Q}$ .

- Let  $q \in \gamma$  and let  $p \in \mathbb{Q}$  s.t.  $p < q$ . As  $q \in \gamma \implies \exists \alpha \in A$  s.t.  $q \in \alpha$  and  $\mathbb{Q} \ni p < q$ . So  $p \in \alpha \implies p \in \gamma$ .
- Let  $q \in \gamma \implies \exists \alpha \in A$  s.t.  $q \in \alpha \implies \exists r \in \alpha$  s.t.  $q < r$ . Then  $r \in \gamma$  and  $q < r$ .

Collecting all these properties, we deduce  $\gamma \in F$ .

**Claim 8.3.**  $\gamma = \sup A$ .

- Note  $\alpha \subseteq \gamma \forall \alpha \in A \implies \alpha \leq \gamma \forall \alpha \in A$ . So  $\gamma$  is an upper bound for  $A$ .
- Let  $\delta$  be an upper bound for  $A \implies \delta \geq \alpha \forall \alpha \in A \implies \delta \supseteq \alpha \forall \alpha \in A$ . So  $\delta \supseteq \bigcup_{\alpha \in A} \alpha = \gamma \implies \delta \geq \gamma$ .

Addition: If  $\alpha, \beta \in F$  we define

$$\alpha + \beta = \{p + q : p \in \alpha \text{ and } q \in \beta\}$$

Let's check A1, namely,  $\alpha + \beta \in F$ .

- Note  $\alpha + \beta \neq \emptyset$  because  $\alpha \neq \emptyset \implies \exists p \in \alpha$  and  $\beta \neq \emptyset \implies \exists q \in \beta$  which implies  $p + q \in \alpha + \beta$ .
- Note  $\alpha + \beta \neq \mathbb{Q}$ . Indeed  $\alpha \neq \mathbb{Q} \implies \exists r \in \mathbb{Q} \setminus \alpha \implies r > p \forall p \in \alpha$  and  $\beta \neq \mathbb{Q} \implies \exists s \in \mathbb{Q} \setminus \beta \implies s > q \forall q \in \beta$  which implies  $r + s > p + q \forall p \in \alpha$  and  $q \in \beta \implies r + s \notin \alpha + \beta$ .
- Let  $r \in \alpha + \beta$  and  $s \in \mathbb{Q}$  s.t.  $s < r$

$$\begin{aligned} r \in \alpha + \beta &\implies r = p + q \text{ for some } p \in \alpha \text{ and some } q \in \beta \\ s < r &\implies s < p + q \implies \underbrace{s - p}_{\in \mathbb{Q}} < \underbrace{q}_{\in \beta} \implies s - p \in \beta \end{aligned}$$

So  $s = p + (s - p) \in \alpha + \beta$ .

- Let  $r \in \alpha + \beta \implies r = p + q$  for some  $p \in \alpha$  and some  $q \in \beta$

$$\begin{cases} \alpha \in F \implies \exists p' \in \alpha \ni p' > p \\ \beta \in F \implies \exists q' \in \beta \ni q' > q \end{cases} \implies p' + q' > p + q = r$$

So  $p' + q' \in \alpha + \beta$  s.t.  $p' + q' > r$ .

□

## §9 | Lec 9: Jan 25, 2021

### §9.1 Construction of the Reals (Cont'd)

Recall: A cut is set  $\alpha \subseteq \mathbb{Q}$  such that

- i)  $\emptyset \neq \alpha \neq \mathbb{Q}$
- ii) If  $q \in \alpha$  and  $p \in \mathbb{Q}$  with  $p < q$  then  $p \in \alpha$
- iii)  $\forall q \in \alpha \quad \exists r \in \alpha$  s.t.  $r > q$ .

We defined

$$F = \{\alpha : \alpha \text{ is a cut}\}$$

We defined an order relation on  $F$ : for  $\alpha, \beta \in F$  we write  $\alpha < \beta \iff \alpha \subsetneq \beta$ . We showed that  $F$  has the least upper bound property with respect to this order relation.

We defined an addition operation on  $F$ : for  $\alpha, \beta \in F$

$$\alpha + \beta = \{p + q : p \in \alpha \text{ and } q \in \beta\}$$

We checked A1. Let's check A2: for  $\alpha, \beta \in F$

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha + \beta &= \{p + q : p \in \alpha, q \in \beta\} \\ &= \{q + p : q \in \beta, p \in \alpha\} \quad (\text{since addition in } \mathbb{Q} \text{ satisfies A2}) \\ &= \beta + \alpha \end{aligned}$$

Let's check A3: for  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \in F$

$$\begin{aligned} (\alpha + \beta) + \gamma &= \{s + r : s \in \alpha + \beta, r \in \gamma\} \\ &= \{(p + q) + r : p \in \alpha, q \in \beta, r \in \gamma\} \\ &= \{p + (q + r) : p \in \alpha, q \in \beta, r \in \gamma\} \quad (\text{since addition in } \mathbb{Q} \text{ satisfies A3}) \\ &= \{p + t : p \in \alpha, t \in \beta + \gamma\} \\ &= \alpha + (\beta + \gamma) \end{aligned}$$

Let's check A4: Let  $0^* = \{q \in \mathbb{Q} : q < 0\}$ .

**Claim 9.1.**  $0^* \in F$

- Note  $0^* \neq \emptyset$  since  $-1 \in 0^*$
- Note  $0^* \neq \mathbb{Q}$  since  $2 \notin 0^*$
- Let  $q \in 0^*$  and let  $p \in \mathbb{Q}$  and  $p < q$

$$\begin{cases} q \in 0^* \\ p < q \end{cases} \implies q < 0 \implies p < 0$$

So  $p \in 0^*$ .

- Let  $q \in 0^* \implies q < 0 \implies \exists r \in \mathbb{Q}$  s.t.  $q < r < 0$ . So  $r \in 0^*$  and  $r > q$ .



Collecting all these properties we got  $0^* \in F$ .

**Claim 9.2.**  $\alpha + 0^* = \alpha \quad \forall \alpha \in F$ .

- Let's check  $\alpha + 0^* \subseteq \alpha$ .

Let  $r \in \alpha + 0^* \implies r = p + q$  for some  $p \in \alpha$  and some  $q \in 0^*$ .  $q \in 0^* \implies q < 0$ . So

$$\begin{cases} \mathbb{Q} \ni r = p + q < p \\ p \in \alpha \in F \end{cases} \implies r \in \alpha$$

As  $r$  was arbitrary in  $\alpha + 0^*$  we find  $\alpha + 0^* \subseteq \alpha$ .

- Let's check  $\alpha \subseteq \alpha + 0^*$ . Let  $p \in \alpha \implies \exists r \in \alpha$  s.t.  $r > p$ . We write

$$p = \underbrace{r}_{\in \alpha} + \underbrace{(p - r)}_{\in 0^*} \in \alpha + 0^*$$

As  $p \in \alpha$  was arbitrary, this shows  $\alpha \subseteq \alpha + 0^*$

Collecting everything, we get  $\alpha + 0^* = \alpha$ .

Let's check A5: Fix  $\alpha \in F$ . Define

$$\beta = \{q \in \mathbb{Q} : \exists r \in \mathbb{Q} \text{ with } r > 0 \ni -q - r \notin \alpha\}$$

**Claim 9.3.**  $\beta \in F$ .

- Note that  $\beta \neq \emptyset$ .

As  $\alpha \neq \mathbb{Q} \implies \exists p \in \mathbb{Q} \setminus \alpha$ . Then  $-(p+1) \in \beta$  because  $-[-(p+1)] - 1 = (p+1) - 1 = p \notin \alpha$ .

- Note that  $\beta \neq \mathbb{Q}$ .

As  $\alpha \neq \emptyset \implies \exists p \in \alpha$ . Then  $-p \notin \beta$  because  $\forall r \in \mathbb{Q}, r > 0$  we have

$$\begin{cases} -(-p) - r = p - r < p \\ p \in \alpha \in F \end{cases} \implies p - r \in \alpha$$

So  $-p \notin \beta$ .

- Let  $q \in \beta$  and let  $p \in \mathbb{Q}$  s.t.  $p < q$

$$q \in \beta \implies \exists r \in \mathbb{Q}, r > 0 \ni -q - r \notin \alpha \implies -q - r > s \forall s \in \alpha$$

So  $-p - r > -q - r > s \forall s \in \alpha \implies -p - r \notin \alpha \implies p \in \beta$ .

- Let  $q \in \beta$ . Want to find  $s \in \beta$  s.t.  $s > q$ .

$$\begin{aligned} q \in \beta &\implies \exists r \in \mathbb{Q} \ni r > 0 \text{ and } -q - r \notin \alpha \\ &\implies -\left(2 + \frac{r}{2}\right) - \frac{r}{2} = -q - r \notin \alpha \\ &\implies q + \frac{r}{2} \in \beta \end{aligned}$$

Let  $s = q + \frac{r}{2}$ .

Collecting all the properties, we get  $\beta \in F$ .

**Claim 9.4.**  $\alpha + \beta = 0^*$ .

- Let's check that  $\alpha + \beta \subseteq 0^*$ .

Let  $s \in \alpha + \beta \implies s = p + q$  with  $p \in \alpha$  and  $q \in \beta$ . Since  $q \in \beta \implies \exists r \in \mathbb{Q}, r > 0 \ni -q - r \notin \alpha \implies -q - r > p$ . So  $\underbrace{p + q}_{\in \mathbb{Q}} < -r < 0$ . So  $s = p + q \in 0^*$ . Thus

$$\alpha + \beta \subseteq 0^*.$$

- Let's check  $0^* \subseteq \alpha + \beta$ . Let  $r \in 0^* \implies r \in \mathbb{Q}, r < 0$ .

**Claim 9.5.**  $\exists N \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $N \cdot \left(-\frac{r}{2}\right) \in \alpha$  but  $(N+1) \cdot \left(-\frac{r}{2}\right) \notin \alpha$ .

Let's prove this by contradiction. Assume

$$\left\{n \cdot \left(-\frac{r}{2}\right) : n \in \mathbb{N}\right\} \subseteq \alpha$$

We will show that in this case  $\mathbb{Q} \subseteq \alpha$  thus reaching a contradiction.

Fix  $q \in \mathbb{Q}$ . By the Archimedean property for  $\mathbb{Q}$ ,  $\exists n \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $n > \underbrace{q \cdot \left(-\frac{2}{r}\right)}_{\in \mathbb{Q}}$ . So

$$\begin{cases} n \cdot \left(-\frac{r}{2}\right) > q \\ n \cdot \left(-\frac{r}{2}\right) \in \alpha \in F \end{cases} \implies q \in \alpha$$

As  $q \in \mathbb{Q}$  was arbitrary, this shows  $\mathbb{Q} \subseteq \alpha$ . Contradiction!

Write  $r = \underbrace{N \cdot \left(-\frac{r}{2}\right)}_{\in \alpha} + (N+2) \cdot \frac{r}{2}$  and note that  $(N+2) \cdot \frac{r}{2} \in \beta$  since

$$-(N+2) \cdot \frac{r}{2} - \frac{r}{2} = (N+1) \cdot \left(-\frac{r}{2}\right) \notin \alpha$$

As  $r \in 0^*$  was arbitrary, this shows  $0^* \subseteq \alpha + \beta$ . Thus,  $\alpha + \beta = 0^*$ .

Let's check 01: if  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \in F$  s.t.  $\alpha < \beta \implies \alpha \subsetneq \beta$  then  $\alpha + \gamma \subsetneq \beta + \gamma \implies \alpha + \gamma < \beta + \gamma$ .

WE define multiplication on  $F$  as follows: for  $\alpha < \beta \in F$  with  $\alpha > 0, \beta > 0$  we define

$$\alpha \cdot \beta = \{q \in \mathbb{Q} : q < r \cdot s \text{ for some } 0 < r \in \alpha \text{ and some } 0 < s \in \beta\}$$

For  $\alpha \in F$  we define  $\alpha \cdot 0^* = 0^*$ . We define

$$\alpha \cdot \beta = \begin{cases} (-\alpha) \cdot (-\beta), & \text{if } \alpha < 0, \beta < 0 \\ -[(-\alpha) \cdot \beta], & \text{if } \alpha < 0, \beta > 0 \\ -[\alpha \cdot (-\beta)], & \text{if } \alpha > 0, \beta < 0 \end{cases}$$

You checked M1 through M5 for positive cuts. This extends readily to all cuts.

**Homework 9.1.** Check (D) and (02).

We identify a rational number  $r \in \mathbb{Q}$  with the cut

$$r^* = \{q \in \mathbb{Q} : q < r\}$$

One can check that

$$r^* + s^* = (r + s)^*$$

$$r^* \cdot s^* = (r \cdot s)^*$$

$$r < s \iff r^* < s^*$$

## §10 | Lec 10: Jan 27, 2021

### §10.1 Sequences

**Definition 10.1 (Sequence)** — A sequence of real number is a function  $f : \{n \in \mathbb{Z} : n \geq m\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  where  $m$  is a fixed integer ( $m$  is usually 0 or 1). We write the sequence as  $f(m), f(m+1), f(m+2), \dots$  or as  $\{f(n)\}_{n \geq m}$  or as  $\{f_n\}_{n \geq m}$ .

**Example 10.2**

1.  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  with  $a_n = 3 - \frac{1}{n}$  bounded, strictly increasing.
2.  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  with  $a_n = (-1)^n$  bounded, not monotone.
3.  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 0}$  with  $a_n = n^2$  bounded below, strictly increasing.
4.  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 0}$  with  $a_n = \cos\left(\frac{n\pi}{3}\right)$  bounded, not monotone.

**Definition 10.3 (Boundedness of Sequence)** — We say that a sequence  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  of real numbers is bounded below/bounded above/bounded if the set  $\{a_n : n \geq 1\}$  is bounded below/bounded above/bounded.

We say that the sequence  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  is

- increasing if  $a_n \leq a_{n+1} \quad \forall n \geq 1$
- strictly increasing if  $a_n < a_{n+1} \quad \forall n \geq 1$
- decreasing if  $a_n \geq a_{n+1} \quad \forall n \geq 1$
- strictly decreasing if  $a_n > a_{n+1} \quad \forall n \geq 1$ .
- monotone if it's either increasing or decreasing

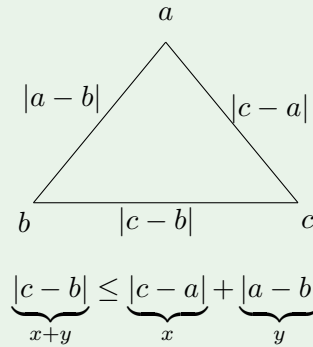
To define the notion of convergence of a sequence, we need a notion of distance between two real numbers.

**Definition 10.4 (Absolute Value)** — For  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ , the absolute value of  $x$  is

$$|x| = \begin{cases} x, & x \geq 0 \\ -x, & x < 0 \end{cases}$$

This function satisfies the following:

1.  $|x| \geq 0 \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}$
2.  $|x| = 0 \iff x = 0$
3.  $|x + y| \leq |x| + |y| \quad \forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}$  (the triangle inequality)



4.  $|x \cdot y| = |x| \cdot |y| \quad \forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}$

**Homework 10.1.**  $||x| - |y|| \leq |x - y| \quad \forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}.$

We think of  $|x - y|$  as the distance between  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ .

**Definition 10.5 (Convergent Sequence)** — We say that a sequence  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  of real numbers converges if

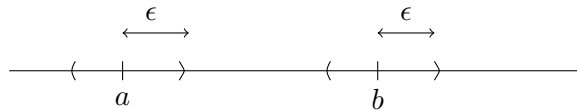
$$\exists a \in \mathbb{R} \ni \forall \epsilon > 0 \exists n_\epsilon \in \mathbb{N} \ni |a_n - a| < \epsilon \forall n \geq n_\epsilon$$

We say that  $a$  is the limit of  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  and we write  $a = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$  or  $\xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} a$

### Lemma 10.6

The limit of a convergent sequence is unique.

*Proof.* We argue by contradiction. Assume that  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  is a convergent sequence and assume that there exist  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$   $a \neq b$  and  $a = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$  and  $b = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$ .



Let  $0 < \epsilon < \frac{|b-a|}{2}$  (we can choose such an  $\epsilon$  because  $\mathbb{Q}$  is dense in  $\mathbb{R}$ )

$$a = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n \implies \exists n_1(\epsilon) \in \mathbb{N} \ni |a_n - a| < \epsilon \forall n \geq n_1(\epsilon)$$

$$b = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n \implies \exists n_2(\epsilon) \in \mathbb{N} \ni |a_n - b| < \epsilon \forall n \geq n_2(\epsilon)$$

Set  $n_\epsilon = \max\{n_1(\epsilon), n_2(\epsilon)\}$ . Then for  $n \geq n_\epsilon$  we have

$$|b - a| = |b - a_n + a_n - a| \leq \underbrace{|b - a_n|}_{< \epsilon} + \underbrace{|a_n - a|}_{< \epsilon} < 2\epsilon < |b - a|$$

Contradiction! □

**Exercise 10.1.** Show that the sequence given by  $a_n = \frac{1}{n} \forall n \geq 1$  converges to 0.

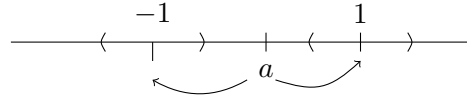
*Proof.* Let  $\epsilon > 0$ . By the Archimedean Property,  $\exists n_\epsilon \in \mathbb{N} \ni n_\epsilon > \frac{1}{\epsilon}$ . Then for  $n \geq n_\epsilon$  we have

$$\left| 0 - \frac{1}{n} \right| = \frac{1}{n} \leq \frac{1}{n_\epsilon} < \epsilon$$

By definition,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} = 0$ . □

**Exercise 10.2.** Show that the sequence given by  $a_n = (-1)^n \forall n \geq 1$  does not converge.

*Proof.* We argue by contradiction.



Assume  $\exists a \in \mathbb{R}$  s.t.  $a = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (-1)^n$ .

Let  $0 < \epsilon < 1$ . Then  $\exists n_\epsilon \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.

$$|a - (-1)^n| < \epsilon \quad \forall n \geq n_\epsilon$$

Taking  $n = 2n_\epsilon$  we get  $|a - 1| < \epsilon$  and  $n = 2n_\epsilon + 1$  we get  $|a + 1| < \epsilon$ . By the triangle inequality,

$$2 = |1 + 1| = |1 - a + a + 1| \leq |1 - a| + |a + 1| < 2\epsilon < 2$$

Contradiction! □

### Lemma 10.7

A convergent sequence is bounded.

*Proof.* Let  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  be a convergent sequence and let  $a = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$ .

$$\exists n_1 \in \mathbb{N} \ni |a - a_n| < 1 \quad \forall n \geq n_1$$

So  $|a_n| \leq |a_n - a| + |a| < 1 + |a| \quad \forall n \geq n_1$ . Let

$$M = \max\{1 + |a|, |a_1|, |a_2|, \dots, |a_{n_1} - 1|\}$$

Clearly,  $|a_n| \leq M \quad \forall n \geq 1$  so  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  is bounded. □

**Theorem 10.8**

Let  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  be a convergent sequence and let  $a = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$ . Then for any  $k \in \mathbb{R}$ , the sequence  $\{ka_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  converges and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} ka_n = ka$ .

*Proof.* If  $k = 0$  then  $ka_n = 0 \quad \forall n \geq 1$ . So  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} ka_n = 0 = k \cdot a$

Assume  $k \neq 0$ . Let  $\epsilon > 0$ .

Aside: want to find  $n_\epsilon \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $\forall n \geq n_\epsilon$

$$|ka_n - ka| < \epsilon \iff |a_n - a| < \frac{\epsilon}{|k|}$$

As  $a = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$ ,  $\exists n_{\epsilon,k} \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.

$$|a_n - a| < \frac{\epsilon}{|k|} \quad \forall n \geq n_{\epsilon,k}$$

So  $|ka_n - ka| = |k| \cdot |a_n - a| < |k| \cdot \frac{\epsilon}{|k|} = \epsilon$ . □

# §11 | Lec 11: Jan 29, 2021

## §11.1 Convergent and Divergent Sequences

### Theorem 11.1 (Properties of Convergent Sequences)

Let  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  and  $\{b_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  be two convergent sequences of real numbers and let  $a = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$  and  $b = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n$ . Then

1. the sequence  $\{a_n + b_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  converges and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (a_n + b_n) = a + b$ ,
2. the sequence  $\{a_n \cdot b_n\}$  converges and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (a_n b_n) = a \cdot b$ ,
3. if  $a \neq 0$  and  $a_n \neq 0 \forall n \geq 1$  then  $\left\{\frac{1}{a_n}\right\}_{n \geq 1}$  converges and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{a_n} = \frac{1}{a}$ ,
4. if  $a \neq 0$  and  $a_n \neq 0 \forall n \geq 1$ , then  $\left\{\frac{b_n}{a_n}\right\}_{n \geq 1}$  converges and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{b_n}{a_n} = \frac{b}{a}$ .
5. for any  $k \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\{ka_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  converges and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} ka_n = ka$  (from theorem 10.8)

*Proof.* 1. Let  $\epsilon > 0$ .

Aside(Goal): Want to find  $n_\epsilon \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $\forall n \geq n_\epsilon$

$$\begin{aligned} |(a+b) - (a_n + b_n)| &< \epsilon \\ |(a+b) - (a_n + b_n)| &\leq \underbrace{|a - a_n|}_{< \frac{\epsilon}{2}} + \underbrace{|b - b_n|}_{< \frac{\epsilon}{2}} < \epsilon \end{aligned}$$

Now back to the main proof, as  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = a$ ,  $\exists n_1(\epsilon) \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.

$$|a - a_n| < \frac{\epsilon}{2} \quad \forall n \geq n_1(\epsilon)$$

As  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n = b$ ,  $\exists n_2(\epsilon) \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.

$$|b - b_n| < \frac{\epsilon}{2} \quad \forall n \geq n_2(\epsilon)$$

Let  $n_\epsilon = \max\{n_1(\epsilon), n_2(\epsilon)\}$ . Then for  $n \geq n_\epsilon$  we have  $|(a+b) - (a_n + b_n)| \leq |a - a_n| + |b - b_n| < \frac{\epsilon}{2} + \frac{\epsilon}{2} = \epsilon$ . By definition,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (a_n + b_n) = a + b$ .

2. Let  $\epsilon > 0$ .

Aside(Goal): Want to find  $n_\epsilon \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $\forall n \geq n_\epsilon$

$$\begin{aligned} |ab - a_n b_n| &< \epsilon \\ |ab - a_n b_n| &= |(a - a_n)b + a_n(b - b_n)| \\ &\leq \underbrace{|a - a_n| \cdot |b|}_{< \frac{\epsilon}{2}} + \underbrace{|a_n| |b - b_n|}_{< \frac{\epsilon}{2}} < \epsilon \end{aligned}$$

Take  $|a - a_n| < \frac{\epsilon}{2(|b|+1)}$ . Take  $M > 0$  s.t.  $|a_n| \leq M \forall n \geq 1$

$$|b - b_n| < \frac{\epsilon}{2M}$$



Now, back to the main proof, as  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  converges, it is bounded. Let  $M > 0$  such that  $|a_n| \leq M \forall n \geq 1$ . As  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = a, \exists n_1(\epsilon) \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.

$$|a - a_n| < \frac{\epsilon}{2(|b| + 1)} \quad \forall n \geq n_1(\epsilon)$$

As  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n = b, \exists n_2(\epsilon) \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.

$$|b - b_n| < \frac{\epsilon}{2M} \quad \forall n \geq n_2(\epsilon)$$

Set  $n_\epsilon = \max \{n_1(\epsilon), n_2(\epsilon)\}$ . For  $n \geq n_\epsilon$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} |ab - a_n b_n| &= |(a - a_n)b + a_n(b - b_n)| \\ &\leq |a - a_n| |b| + |a_n| |b - b_n| \\ &< \frac{\epsilon}{2(|b| + 1)} \cdot |b| + M \cdot \frac{\epsilon}{2M} < \frac{\epsilon}{2} + \frac{\epsilon}{2} = \epsilon \end{aligned}$$

By definition,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (a_n b_n) = ab$ .

3. Let  $\epsilon > 0$ .

Aside(Goal): Want to find  $n_\epsilon \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $\forall n \geq n_\epsilon$

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \frac{1}{a} - \frac{1}{a_n} \right| &< \epsilon \\ \left| \frac{1}{a} - \frac{1}{a_n} \right| &= \frac{|a_n - a|}{|a| \cdot |a_n|} < \epsilon \\ |a_n - a| &< \epsilon |a| \cdot |a_n| \quad (!!! - \text{NONONO}) \end{aligned}$$

Now, back to the proof, as  $a = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n, \exists n_1(a) \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.

$$|a - a_n| < \frac{|a|}{2} \quad \forall n \geq n_1$$

Then, for all  $n \geq n_1$  we have

$$|a_n| \geq |a| - |a - a_n| > |a| - \frac{|a|}{2} = \frac{|a|}{2}$$

As  $a = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n, \exists n_2(\epsilon, a)$  s.t.

$$|a - a_n| < \frac{\epsilon |a|^2}{2} \quad \forall n \geq n_2(\epsilon, a)$$

Let  $n_\epsilon = \max \{n_1(a), n_2(\epsilon, a)\}$ . For  $n \geq n_\epsilon$  we have

$$\left| \frac{1}{a} - \frac{1}{a_n} \right| = \frac{|a - a_n|}{|a| \cdot |a_n|} < \frac{\epsilon |a|^2}{2|a|} \cdot \frac{2}{|a|} = \epsilon$$

By definition,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{a_n} = \frac{1}{a}$ .

□

**Example 11.2**

Find the limit of

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^3 + 5n + 8}{3n^3 + 2n^2 + 7}$$

which can be rewritten as

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1 + \frac{5}{n^2} + \frac{8}{n^3}}{3 + \frac{2}{n} + \frac{7}{n^3}} = \frac{1 + 5 \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n^2} + 8 \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n^3}}{3 + 2 \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} + 7 \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n^3}}$$

which is equivalent to

$$= \frac{1 + 5 \cdot 0 + 8 \cdot 0}{3 + 2 \cdot 0 + 7 \cdot 0} = \frac{1}{3}$$

**Theorem 11.3 (Monotone Convergence)**

Every bounded monotone sequence converges.

*Proof.* We'll show that an increasing sequence bounded above converges. A similar argument can be used to show that a decreasing sequence bounded below converges. Let  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  be a sequence of real numbers that is bounded above and  $a_{n+1} \geq a_n \quad \forall n \geq 1$ .

As  $\emptyset \neq \{a_n : n \geq 1\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  is bounded above and  $\mathbb{R}$  has the least upper bound property,  $\exists a \in \mathbb{R}$  s.t.  $a = \sup \{a_n : n \geq 1\}$ .

**Claim 11.1.**  $a = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$ .

Let  $\epsilon > 0$ . Then  $a - \epsilon$  is not an upper bound for  $\{a_n : n \geq 1\} \implies \exists n_\epsilon \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $a - \epsilon < a_{n_\epsilon}$ . Then for  $n \geq n_\epsilon$  we have

$$a - \epsilon < a_{n_\epsilon} \leq a_n \leq a < a + \epsilon \iff |a_n - a| < \epsilon$$

This proves the claim. □

**Homework 11.1.** Prove for the decreasing sequence.

**Definition 11.4 (Divergent Sequence)** — Let  $\{a_n\}$  be a sequence of real numbers. We write  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = \infty$  and say that  $a_n$  diverges to  $+\infty$  if  $\forall M > 0, \exists n_M \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $a_n > M \quad \forall n \geq n_M$ .  
We write  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = -\infty$  and say that  $a_n$  diverges to  $-\infty$  if  $\forall M < 0 \exists n_M \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $a_n < M \quad \forall n \geq n_M$ .

**Homework 11.2.** 1. Show that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (\sqrt[3]{n} + 1) = \infty$ .

2. Show that the sequence given by  $a_n = (-1)^n n \quad \forall n \geq 1$  does not diverge to  $\infty$  or to  $-\infty$ .

3. Let  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  be a sequence of positive real numbers. Show that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 0 \iff \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{a_n} = \infty$$

## §12 | Lec 12: Feb 1, 2021

### Example 12.1

Show that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^2+1}{n+3} = \infty$ .

Aside: Want to find  $n_M \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $\forall n \geq n_M$  we have

$$\frac{n^2+1}{n+3} > M$$

So

$$\frac{n^2+1}{n+3} > \frac{n^2}{n+3} > \frac{n^2}{4n} = \frac{n}{4} > M$$

Now, back to the main proof, let  $M > 0$ . By the Archimedean property there exists  $n_M \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.

$$n_M > 4M$$

Then for  $n \geq n_M$  we have

$$\frac{n^2+1}{n+3} > \frac{n^2}{n+3} > \frac{n^2}{4n} = \frac{n}{4} \geq \frac{n_M}{4} > M$$

By the definition,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^2+1}{n+3} = \infty$ .

## §12.1 Cauchy Sequences

**Definition 12.2 (Cauchy Sequence)** — We say that a sequence of real numbers  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  is a Cauchy sequence if

$$\forall \epsilon > 0 \quad \exists n_\epsilon \in \mathbb{N} \quad \text{s.t.} \quad |a_n - a_m| < \epsilon \quad \forall n, m \geq n_\epsilon$$

### Theorem 12.3 (Cauchy Criterion)

A sequence of real numbers is Cauchy if and only if it converges.

We will split the proof of this theorem into various lemmas and propositions.

### Proposition 12.4

Any convergent sequence is a Cauchy sequence.

*Proof.* Let  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  be a convergent sequence and let  $a = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$ . Let  $\epsilon > 0$ . As  $a_n \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} a$ ,  $\exists n_\epsilon \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.

$$|a - a_n| < \frac{\epsilon}{2} \quad \forall n \geq n_\epsilon$$

Then for  $n, m \geq n_\epsilon$ , we have

$$|a_n - a_m| \leq |a_n - a| + |a - a_m| < \frac{\epsilon}{2} + \frac{\epsilon}{2} = \epsilon$$

□

**Lemma 12.5**

A Cauchy sequence is bounded.

*Proof.* Let  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  be a Cauchy sequence. Then  $\exists n_1 \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $|a_n - a_m| < 1 \quad \forall n, m \geq n_1$ . So, taking  $m = n_1$ , we get

$$|a_n| \leq |a_{n_1}| + |a_n - a_{n_1}| < |a_{n_1}| + 1 \quad \forall n \geq n_1$$

Let  $M = \max\{|a_1|, |a_2|, \dots, |a_{n_1-1}|, |a_{n_1}| + 1\}$ . Clearly,  $|a_n| \leq M \quad \forall n \geq 1$ .  $\square$

**Definition 12.6 (Subsequence)** — Let  $\{k_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  be a sequence of natural numbers s.t.  $k_1 \geq 1$  and  $k_{n+1} > k_n \quad \forall n \geq 1$ . Using induction, it's easy to see that  $k_n \geq n \quad \forall n \geq 1$ . If  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  is a sequence, we say that  $\{a_{k_n}\}_{n \geq 1}$  is a subsequence of  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ .

**Example 12.7**

The following are subsequences of  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  :

$$\{a_{2n}\}_{n \geq 1}, \{a_{2n-1}\}_{n \geq 1}, \{a_{n^2}\}_{n \geq 1}, \{a_{p_n}\}_{n \geq 1}$$

where  $p_n$  denotes the  $n^{\text{th}}$  prime.

**Theorem 12.8**

Let  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  be a sequence of real numbers. Then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = a \in \mathbb{R} \cup \{\pm\infty\}$  if and only if every subsequence  $\{a_{k_n}\}_{n \geq 1}$  of  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  satisfies  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_{k_n} = a$ .

*Proof.* We will consider  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ . The cases  $a \in \{\pm\infty\}$  can be handled by analogous arguments.

“ $\Leftarrow$ ” Take  $k_n = n \quad \forall n \geq 1$

“ $\Rightarrow$ ” Assume  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = a$  and let  $\{a_{k_n}\}_{n \geq 1}$  be a subsequence of  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ . Let  $\epsilon > 0$ .

As  $a_n \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} a$ ,  $\exists n_\epsilon \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.

$$|a - a_n| < \epsilon \quad \forall n \geq n_\epsilon$$

Recall that  $k_n \geq n \quad \forall n \geq 1$ . So for  $n \geq n_\epsilon$  we have  $k_n \geq n \geq n_\epsilon$  and so

$$|a - a_{k_n}| < \epsilon \quad \forall n \geq n_\epsilon$$

By definition,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_{k_n} = a \quad \square$$

**Proposition 12.9**

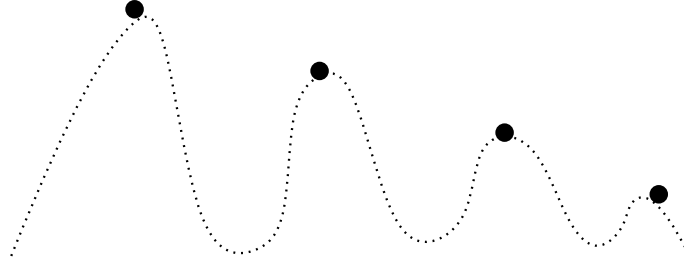
Every sequence of real numbers has a monotone subsequence.

*Proof.* Let  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  be a sequence of real numbers. We say that the  $n^{\text{th}}$  term is dominant if

$$a_n > a_m \quad \forall m > n$$

We distinguished 2 cases:

**Case 1:** There are infinitely many dominant terms:



Then a subsequence formed by these dominant terms is strictly decreasing.

**Case 2:** There are none or finitely many dominant terms. Let  $N$  be larger than the largest index of the dominant terms. So  $\forall n \geq N$   $a_n$  is not dominant. Set  $k_1 = N$ ,  $a_{k_1} = a_N$ .  $a_{k_1}$  is not dominant  $\implies \exists k_2 > k_1$  s.t.  $a_{k_2} \geq a_{k_1}$ ,  $k_2 > k_1 = N \implies a_{k_2}$  is not dominant  $\implies \exists k_3 > k_2$  s.t.  $a_{k_3} \geq a_{k_2}$ . Proceeding inductively we construct a subsequence  $\{a_{k_n}\}_{n \geq 1}$  s.t.

$$a_{k_{n+1}} \geq a_{k_n} \quad \forall n \geq 1 \quad \square$$

### Theorem 12.10 (Bolzano – Weierstrass)

Any bounded sequence has a convergent subsequence.

*Proof.* Let  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  be a bounded sequence. By the previous proposition, there exists  $\{a_{k_n}\}_{n \geq 1}$  monotone subsequence of  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ . As  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  is bounded, so is  $\{a_{k_n}\}_{n \geq 1}$ . As bounded monotone sequences converge,  $\{a_{k_n}\}_{n \geq 1}$  converges.  $\square$

### Corollary 12.11

Every Cauchy sequence has a convergent subsequence.

### Lemma 12.12

A Cauchy sequence with a convergent subsequence converges.

*Proof.* Let  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  be a Cauchy sequence s.t.  $\{a_{k_n}\}_{n \geq 1}$  is a convergent subsequence. Let  $a = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_{k_n}$ . Let  $\epsilon > 0$ . As  $a_{k_n} \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} a$ ,  $\exists n_1(\epsilon)$  s.t.  $|a - a_{k_n}| < \frac{\epsilon}{2} \forall n \geq n_1(\epsilon)$ . As  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  is Cauchy,  $\exists n_2(\epsilon)$  s.t.  $|a_n - a_m| < \frac{\epsilon}{2} \forall n, m \geq n_2(\epsilon)$ . Let  $n_\epsilon = \max\{n_1(\epsilon), n_2(\epsilon)\}$ . Then for  $n \geq n_\epsilon$  we have

$$|a - a_n| \leq |a - a_{k_n}| + |a_{k_n} - a_n| < \frac{\epsilon}{2} + \frac{\epsilon}{2} = \epsilon$$

for  $k_n \geq n \geq n_\epsilon$ . By definition,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = a$$

Combining the last two results, we see that a Cauchy sequence of real numbers converges.  $\square$

## §13 | Lec 13: Feb 3, 2021

### §13.1 Limsup and Liminf

Let  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  be a bounded sequence of real numbers (convergent or not). The asymptotic behavior of  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  depends on sets of the form  $\{a_n : n \geq N\}$  for  $N \in \mathbb{N}$ .

As  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ , the set  $\{a_n : n \geq N\}$  (where  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  is fixed) is a non-empty bounded subset of  $\mathbb{R}$ .

As  $\mathbb{R}$  has the least upper bound property (and so also the greatest lower bound property), the set  $\{a_n : n \geq N\}$  has an infimum and a supremum in  $\mathbb{R}$ .

For  $N \geq 1$ , let  $u_N = \inf \{a_n : n \geq N\}$  and  $v_N = \sup \{a_n : n \geq N\}$ . Clearly,  $u_N \leq v_N \quad \forall N \geq 1$ . For  $N \geq 1$ ,  $\{a_n : n \geq N\} \supseteq \{a_n : n \geq N+1\}$

$$\implies \begin{cases} \inf \{a_n : n \geq N\} \leq \inf \{a_n : n \geq N+1\} \\ \sup \{a_n : n \geq N\} \geq \sup \{a_n : n \geq N+1\} \end{cases}$$

So  $u_N \leq u_{N+1}$  and  $v_{N+1} \leq v_N \quad \forall N \geq 1$ . Thus  $\{u_N\}_{N \geq 1}$  is increasing and  $\{v_N\}_{N \geq 1}$  is decreasing. Moreover,  $\forall N \geq 1$  we have

$$u_1 \leq u_2 \leq \dots \leq u_N \leq v_N \leq \dots \leq v_2 \leq v_1$$

So the sequences  $\{u_N\}_{N \geq 1}$  and  $\{v_N\}_{N \geq 1}$  are bounded. As monotone bounded sequence converges,  $\{u_N\}_{N \geq 1}$  and  $\{v_N\}_{N \geq 1}$  must converge.

Let

$$\begin{aligned} u &= \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} u_N = \sup \{u_N : N \geq 1\} := \sup_N u_N \\ v &= \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} v_N = \inf \{v_N : N \geq 1\} := \inf_N v_N \end{aligned}$$

From (\*), we see that

$$\begin{aligned} u_M &\leq v_N \quad \forall M, N \geq 1 \\ \implies \lim_{M \rightarrow \infty} u_M &\leq v_N \quad \forall N \geq 1 \\ \implies u &\leq v_N \quad \forall N \geq 1 \\ \implies u &\leq \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} v_N \\ \implies u &\leq v \end{aligned}$$

Moreover, if  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$  exists, then for all  $N \geq 1$ , we have

$$u_N = \inf \{a_n : n \geq N\} \leq a_n \leq \sup \{a_n : n \geq N\} = v_N \quad \forall n \geq N$$

So

$$\begin{aligned} \implies u_N &\leq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n \leq v_N \\ \implies u &= \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} u_N \leq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n \leq \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} v_N = V \end{aligned}$$

**Definition 13.1** (lim sup and lim inf) — Let  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  be a sequence of real numbers. We define

$$\begin{aligned}\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n &= \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \{a_n : n \geq N\} = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} v_N = \inf_N v_N = \inf_N \sup_{n \geq N} a_n \\ \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n &= \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \inf \{a_n : n \geq N\} = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} u_N = \sup_N u_N = \sup_N \inf_{n \geq N} a_n\end{aligned}$$

with the convention that if  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  is unbounded above then

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = \infty$$

and if  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  is unbounded below then

$$\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = -\infty$$

**Remark 13.2.**

$$\inf \{a_n : n \geq 1\} \leq \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n \leq \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n \leq \sup \{a_n : n \geq 1\}$$

where  $\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$  is the smallest value that infinitely many  $a_n$  get close to and  $\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$  is the largest value that infinitely many  $a_n$  get close to.

**Example 13.3**

$$a_n = 3 + \frac{(-1)^n}{n} \implies \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 3 \implies \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 3$$

$$\inf \{a_n : n \geq 1\} = 2 \neq 3$$

$$\sup \{a_n : n \geq 1\} = \frac{7}{2} \neq 3$$

**Theorem 13.4** (lim, lim sup, and lim inf)

Let  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  be a sequence of real numbers.

1. If  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$  exists in  $\mathbb{R} \cup \{\pm\infty\}$ , then  $\liminf a_n = \limsup a_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$ .
2. If  $\liminf a_n = \limsup a_n \in \mathbb{R} \cup \{\pm\infty\}$ , then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$  exists and

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$$

*Proof.* 1. We distinguish three cases.

**Case i)**  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = -\infty$ . It's enough to show  $\limsup a_n = -\infty$  since  $\liminf a_n \leq \limsup a_n$ . Fix  $M < 0$ . As  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = -\infty$ ,  $\exists n_M \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $a_n < M \quad \forall n \geq n_M$ . Then for  $N \geq n_M$ , we have  $v_N = \sup \{a_n : n \geq N\} \leq M$ . Note that when taking  $\sup(\inf), <$  can become  $\leq$ ; e.g.  $a_n = 3 - \frac{1}{n}$  where  $a_n < 3 \quad \forall n \geq 1$  but  $\sup_{n \geq 1} a_n = 3$ .



By definition,  $\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} v_N = -\infty$ .

**Case ii)**  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = \infty$

Exercise

**Case iii)**  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = a \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Fix  $\epsilon > 0$ . Then  $\exists n_\epsilon \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $|a - a_n| < \epsilon \quad \forall n \geq n_\epsilon$ . So

$$a - \epsilon < a_n < a + \epsilon \quad \forall n \geq n_\epsilon$$

Thus for  $N \geq n_\epsilon$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} a - \epsilon &\leq \inf \{a_n : n \geq N\} \leq \sup \{a_n : n \geq N\} \leq a + \epsilon \\ a - \epsilon &\leq u_N \leq v_N \leq a + \epsilon \end{aligned}$$

So

$$\forall N \geq n_\epsilon \begin{cases} |u_N - a| \leq \frac{\epsilon}{2} < \epsilon \\ |v_N - a| \leq \frac{\epsilon}{2} < \epsilon \end{cases}$$

By definition,

$$\begin{cases} \liminf a_n = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} u_N = a \\ \limsup a_n = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} v_N = a \end{cases}$$

2. We distinguish three cases.

**Case i)**  $\liminf a_n = \limsup a_n = -\infty$ .

We will use  $\limsup a_n = -\infty$ . Fix  $M < 0$ . Then since  $\limsup a_n = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} v_N = -\infty$ ,  $\exists N_M \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $v_N < M \quad \forall N \geq N_M$ . In particular,  $v_{N_M} = \sup \{a_n : n \geq N_M\} < M$

$$\implies a_n < M \quad \forall n \geq N_M$$

By definition,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = -\infty$ .

**Case ii)**  $\liminf a_n = \limsup a_n = \infty$

exercise

**Case iii)**  $\liminf a_n = \limsup a_n = a \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Fix  $\epsilon > 0$ .

$$a = \liminf a_n = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} u_N \implies \exists N_1(\epsilon) \in \mathbb{N} \ni |u_N - a| < \epsilon \quad \forall N \geq N_1$$

So  $a - \epsilon < u_{N_1} = \inf \{a_n : n \geq N_1\} < a + \epsilon$

$$\implies a - \epsilon < a_n \quad \forall n \geq N_1$$

And

$$a = \limsup a_n = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} v_N \implies \exists N_2(\epsilon) \in \mathbb{N} \ni |v_N - a| < \epsilon \quad \forall N \geq N_2$$

So  $a - \epsilon < v_{N_2} = \sup \{a_n : n \geq N_2\} < a + \epsilon$ .

$$\implies a_n < a + \epsilon \quad \forall n \geq N_2$$

Thus for  $n \geq \max \{N_1, N_2\}$  we have

$$a - \epsilon < a_n < a + \epsilon \iff |a_n - a| < \epsilon$$

By definition,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = a$ .

□

# §14 | Lec 14: Feb 5, 2021

## §14.1 Limsup and Liminf (Cont'd)

Recall: For a sequence  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  of real numbers, we define

$$\liminf a_n = \sup_N \inf_{n \geq N} a_n = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} u_N \text{ where } u_N = \inf \{a_n : n \geq N\}$$

$$\limsup a_n = \inf_N \sup_{n \geq N} a_n = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} v_N \text{ where } v_N = \sup \{a_n : n \geq N\}$$

Last time, we proved that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n \text{ exists in } \mathbb{R} \cup \{\pm\infty\} \iff \liminf a_n = \limsup a_n$$

### Theorem 14.1 (Existence of Monotonic Subsequence)

Let  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  be a sequence of real numbers. Then there exists a monotonic subsequence of  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  whose limit is  $\limsup a_n$ . Also, there exists a monotonic subsequence of  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  whose limit is  $\liminf a_n$ .

*Proof.* We will prove the statement about  $\limsup a_n$ . Similar arguments can be used to prove the statement about  $\liminf a_n$ .

HW!

Note that it suffices to find a subsequence of  $\{a_{k_n}\}_{n \geq 1}$  of  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  s.t.

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_{k_n} = \limsup a_n$$

As every sequence has a monotone subsequence,  $\{a_{k_n}\}_{n \geq 1}$  has a monotone subsequence  $\{a_{p_{k_n}}\}_{n \geq 1}$ . Then as  $\lim a_{k_n}$  exists,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_{p_{k_n}}$  exists and

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_{p_{k_n}} = \lim a_{k_n} = \limsup a_n$$

Finally, note that  $\{a_{p_{k_n}}\}_{n \geq 1}$  is a subsequence of  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ .

Let's find a subsequence of  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  whose limit is  $\limsup a_n$ .

**Case 1:**  $\limsup a_n = -\infty$ .

We showed that in this case,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = -\infty$ . Choose  $\{a_{k_n}\}_{n \geq 1}$  to be  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ .

**Case 2:**  $\limsup a_n = a \in \mathbb{R}$ .

$$a = \limsup a_n = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} v_N$$

Then  $\exists N_1 \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $|a - v_N| < 1 \quad \forall N \geq N_1$ . In particular,

$$\begin{aligned} & a - 1 < v_{N_1} < a + 1 \\ \implies & a - 1 < \sup \{a_n : n \geq N_1\} \\ \implies & \exists k_1 \geq N_1 \quad \ni \quad a - 1 < a_{k_1} \\ \implies & a - 1 < a_{k_1} < v_{N_1} < a + 1 \end{aligned}$$

So  $|a - a_{k_1}| < 1$ .

As  $a = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} v_N$ ,  $\exists N_2 \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $|a - v_N| < \frac{1}{2} \quad \forall N \geq N_2$ .

Let  $\tilde{N}_2 = \max \{N_2, k_1 + 1\}$

In particular,

$$\begin{cases} a - \frac{1}{2} < v_{\tilde{N}_2} < a + \frac{1}{2} \\ a - \frac{1}{2} < \sup \{a_n : n \geq \tilde{N}_2\} \\ \exists k_2 \geq \tilde{N}_2 \text{ s.t. } a - \frac{1}{2} < a_{k_2} \end{cases} \implies a - \frac{1}{2} < a_{k_2} \leq v_{N_2} < a + \frac{1}{2}$$

So,  $|a - a_{k_2}| < \frac{1}{2}$ . To construct our subsequence we proceed inductively. Assume we have found  $k_1 < k_2 < \dots < k_n$  and  $a_{k_1}, \dots, a_{k_n}$  s.t.

$$|a - a_{k_j}| < \frac{1}{j} \quad \forall 1 \leq j \leq n$$

As  $a = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} v_N \implies \exists N_{n+1} \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $|a - v_N| < \frac{1}{n+1} \quad \forall N \geq N_{n+1}$ . Let  $\tilde{N}_{n+1} = \max \{N_{n+1}, k_n + 1\}$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} & a - \frac{1}{n+1} < v_{\tilde{N}_{n+1}} < a + \frac{1}{n+1} \\ \implies & a - \frac{1}{n+1} < \sup \{a_n : n \geq \tilde{N}_{n+1}\} \\ \implies & \exists k_{n+1} \geq \tilde{N}_{n+1} > k_n \text{ s.t. } a - \frac{1}{n+1} < a_{k_{n+1}} \\ \implies & a - \frac{1}{n+1} < a_{k_{n+1}} \leq v_{\tilde{N}_{n+1}} < a + \frac{1}{n+1} \\ \implies & |a_{k_{n+1}} - a| < \frac{1}{n+1} \end{aligned}$$

**Case 3:**  $\limsup a_n = \infty$ .

□

HW!

**Definition 14.2 (Subsequential Limit)** — Let  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  be a sequence of real numbers. A subsequential limit of  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  is any  $a \in \mathbb{R} \cup \{\pm\infty\}$  that is the limit of a subsequence of  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ .

**Example 14.3** 1.  $a_n = n(1 + (-1)^n)$

The subsequential limits are

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_{2n+1} \\ \infty &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_{2n} \end{aligned}$$

2.  $a_n = \cos\left(\frac{n\pi}{3}\right)$

The subsequential limits are

$$\begin{aligned} 1 &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_{6n} \\ \frac{1}{2} &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_{6n+1} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_{6n+5} \\ -\frac{1}{2} &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_{6n+2} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_{6n+4} \\ -1 &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_{6n+3} \end{aligned}$$

**Theorem 14.4** (Properties of the Set of Subsequential Limit)

Let  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  be a sequence of real numbers and let  $A$  denote its set of subsequential limits:

$$A = \left\{ a \in \mathbb{R} \cup \{\pm\infty\} : \exists \{a_{k_n}\}_{n \geq 1} \text{ subsequence of } \{a_n\}_{n \geq 1} \text{ s.t. } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_{k_n} = a \right\}$$

Then:

1.  $A \neq \emptyset$ .
2.  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$  exists (in  $\mathbb{R} \cup \{\pm\infty\}$ )  $\iff A$  has exactly one element.
3.  $\inf A = \liminf a_n$  and  $\sup A = \limsup a_n$ .

*Proof.* 1. By the previous theorem,  $\liminf a_n, \limsup a_n \in A$ . So  $A \neq \emptyset$ .

2. “ $\implies$ ” Assume  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$  exists. Then if  $\{a_{k_n}\}_{n \geq 1}$  is a subsequence of  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ , we have

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_{k_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$$

So  $A = \{\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n\}$ .

“ $\impliedby$ ” If  $A$  has a single element,  $\liminf a_n = \limsup a_n$  and so  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$  exists.

3. We will prove

**Claim 14.1.**  $\liminf a_n \leq a \leq \limsup a_n \quad \forall a \in A$ .

Assuming the claim, let's see how to finish the proof. The claim implies

- $\liminf a_n$  is a lower bound for  $A \implies \liminf a_n \leq \inf A$ . On the other hand,  $\liminf a_n \in A \implies \liminf a_n \geq \inf A$ . Thus,  $\liminf a_n = \inf A$ .
- $\limsup a_n$  is an upper bound for  $A \implies \limsup a_n \geq \sup A$ . But  $\limsup a_n \in A \implies \limsup a_n \leq \sup A$ . Thus,  $\limsup a_n = \sup A$ .

Let's prove the claim. Fix  $a \in A \implies \exists \{a_{k_n}\}_{n \geq 1}$  subsequence of  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  s.t.  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_{k_n} = a$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
& \{a_n : n \geq N\} \supset \{a_{k_n} : n \geq N\} \\
& \implies \underbrace{\inf \{a_n : n \geq N\}}_{\text{increasing seq}} \leq \underbrace{\inf \{a_{k_n} : n \geq N\}}_{\text{increasing seq}} \leq \underbrace{\sup \{a_{k_n} : n \geq N\}}_{\text{decreasing seq}} \leq \underbrace{\sup \{a_n : n \geq N\}}_{\text{decreasing seq}} \\
& \implies \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \inf \{a_n : n \geq N\} \leq \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \inf \{a_{k_n} : n \geq N\} \leq \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \sup \{a_{k_n} : n \geq N\} \\
& \qquad \qquad \qquad \leq \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \sup \{a_n : n \geq N\} \\
& \implies \liminf a_n \leq \underbrace{\liminf a_{k_n}}_{=\lim a_{k_n}=a} \leq \underbrace{\limsup a_{k_n}}_{=\lim a_{k_n}=a} \leq \limsup a_n \quad \square
\end{aligned}$$

## §15 | Dis 1: Jan 7, 2021

### §15.1 Logical Statements

#### Example 15.1

Negate the following statements:

- a) If there is a job worth doing, then it is worth doing well.

$\text{not}(\text{If } A \text{ then } B) = A \text{ and } (\text{not } B)$

“There is a job worth doing, and it is not worth doing well.”

- b) Every cloud has a silver lining.

$\text{not } (\forall A, B \text{ is true}) = \exists A \text{ s.t. } B \text{ is false}$

“There is a cloud without a silver lining.”

#### Example 15.2

Let  $P, Q, R$  be statements about elements  $x \in X$ . Negate the following:

- a) For every  $x \in X$ ,  $P(x)$  is true or  $(Q(x) \implies R(x))$ .

$\text{not } (\forall x \in X, (P(x) \text{ or } (Q(x) \implies R(x))))$  which is equivalent to  $\exists x \in X$  s.t.  $(\text{not } P(x))$  and  $(Q(x))$  and  $(\text{not } R(x))$ .

There exists  $x \in X$  s.t.  $P(x)$  is false,  $Q(x)$  is true, and  $R(x)$  is false.

- b) There is  $x \in X$  such that for every  $y \in X$  not equal to  $x$ ,  $P(y)$ ,  $Q(y)$ , and  $R(y)$  are true. Use similar approach, we have

For every  $x \in X$ , there is  $y \in X$  not equal to  $x$  such that  $P(y)$ ,  $Q(y)$  or  $R(y)$  is false.

#### Example 15.3

Suppose  $X, Y, Z$  are statements and we know  $X \implies Y$  and  $X \implies Z$ . Can we conclude the following:  $(X \text{ and } (\text{not } Y)) \implies Z$ .

X	Y	Z	$X \implies Y$	$X \implies Z$	$X \text{ and not } Y$	the above
T	T	T	T	T	F	T
T	T	F	T	F		
T	F	T	F			
T	F	F	F			
F	T	T	T	T	F	T
F	T	F	T	T	F	T
F	F	T	T	T	F	T
F	F	F	T	T	F	T

So this statement is true.

## §15.2 Induction

### Example 15.4

Prove that  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}, n^3 + 2n$  is divisible by 3.

- Base case:  $n = 1 - n^3 + 2n = 3$  which is divisible by 3.
- Inductive step: Assume  $n^3 + 2n$  is divisible by 3. Want to show  $(n+1)^3 + 2(n+1)$  is divisible by 3.

$$\begin{aligned}(n+1)^3 + 2(n+1) &= n^3 + 3n^2 + 3n + 1 + 2n + 2 \\&= \underbrace{(n^3 + 2n)}_{=3k \text{ for some } k} + 3n^2 + 3n + 3 \\&= 3 \underbrace{(k + n^2 + n + 1)}_{\text{an integer}}\end{aligned}$$

which is divisible by 3. By induction, statement is true  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ . □

## §16 | Dis 2: Jan 14, 2021

### §16.1 Induction (Cont'd)

#### Example 16.1

Find and prove a formula for

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{\sqrt{k} + \sqrt{k+1}}$$

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{k} + \sqrt{k+1}} = \frac{\sqrt{k+1} - \sqrt{k}}{(\sqrt{k+1} + \sqrt{k})(\sqrt{k+1} - \sqrt{k})}$$

$$= \frac{\sqrt{k+1} - \sqrt{k}}{\sqrt{k+1} - \sqrt{k}}$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{\sqrt{k} + \sqrt{k+1}} = \sqrt{n+1} - \sqrt{1} \quad (*)$$

**Claim 16.1.**  $\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{\sqrt{k} + \sqrt{k+1}} = \sqrt{n+1} - \sqrt{1} \quad \forall n \geq 1 \quad (P(n))$

*Proof.* We'll use induction

- Base case:  $n = 1$

$$\sum_{k=1}^1 \frac{1}{\sqrt{k} + \sqrt{k+1}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1} + \sqrt{2}} \stackrel{(*)}{=} \sqrt{2} - \sqrt{1}$$

So  $P(1)$  is true.

- Inductive step: Assume  $P(n)$  true. Want to show  $P(n+1)$  is true

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=1}^{n+1} \frac{1}{\sqrt{k} + \sqrt{k+1}} &= \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{\sqrt{k} + \sqrt{k+1}} + \frac{1}{\underbrace{\sqrt{n+1} + \sqrt{n+2}}_{=\sqrt{n+2} - \sqrt{n+1}}} \\ &= \sqrt{n+2} - \sqrt{n+1} + \sqrt{n+1} - \sqrt{1} \\ &= \sqrt{n+2} - \sqrt{1} \end{aligned}$$

This is  $P(n+1)$

Together, we conclude  $P(n)$  is true  $\forall n \geq 1$  by induction.  $\square$



**Example 16.2**

Define the sequence

$$a_1 = 3, a_2 = 5, \text{ and } a_n = 3a_{n-1} - 2a_{n-2} \text{ for } n \geq 3$$

Prove that  $a_n = 2^n + 1$ .

*Proof.* Let  $P(n)$  be the statement  $a_n = 2^n + 1$ . We'll use induction

- Inductive step: Assume  $P(n)$  and  $P(n-1)$  are true. Want  $P(n+1)$  true:

$$\begin{aligned} a_{n+1} &= 3a_n - 2a_{n-1} = 3(2^n + 1) - 2(2^{n-1} + 1) \\ &= 3 \cdot 2^n + 3 - 2^n - 2 = 2^{n+1} + 1 \end{aligned}$$

This is  $P(n+1)$ .

- Base case:

$$\begin{aligned} n = 1 : a_1 &= 3, 2^1 + 1 = 3, & P(1) \text{ true} \\ n = 2 : a_2 &= 5, 2^2 + 1 = 5, & P(2) \text{ true} \end{aligned}$$

Together, we conclude  $P(n)$  is true  $\forall n \geq 1$  by induction. □

**Remark 16.3.** We can formulate this as regular induction for  $Q(n) = (P(n) \text{ and } P(n-1))$ .

## §16.2 Fields

**Example 16.4**

Let  $F = \{0, 1, \alpha\}$  with the operations

$+$	0	1	$\alpha$
0	0	1	$\alpha$
1	1	$\alpha$	0
$\alpha$	$\alpha$	0	1

$\cdot$	0	1	$\alpha$
0	0	0	0
1	0	1	$\alpha$
$\alpha$	0	$\alpha$	1

a) Show that  $(F, +, \cdot)$  is a field.

Addition:

- $a, b \in F \implies a + b \in F$ : True, since entries of the  $+$  table are elements of  $F$ .
- $a, b \in F \implies a + b = b + a$ : True, since entries above diagonal are same as below the diagonal.
- $a, b, c \in F \implies (a + b) + c = a + (b + c)$ : Check  $3^3 = 27$  cases individually. For this example, they're all true.
- $a + 0 = a = 0 + a \forall a \in F$ : True, since column and row for 0 are unaltered.
- $\forall a \in F \exists (-a) \in F$  s.t.  $a + (-a) = 0 = (-a) + a$

Multiplication:

- $a, b \in F \implies a \cdot b \in F$ : True, since entries of  $\cdot$  table are elements of  $F$ .
- $a, b \in F \implies a \cdot b = b \cdot a$ : True, since table is symmetric across the diagonal.
- $a, b, c \in F \implies (a \cdot b) \cdot c = a \cdot (b \cdot c)$ : Check 27 cases. All true.
- $a \cdot 1 = a = 1 \cdot a \forall a \in F$ : True, since column and row for 1 are unaltered.
- $\forall a \in F \setminus \{0\} \exists a^{-1}$  s.t.  $a \cdot a^{-1} = 1 = a^{-1} \cdot a$ : True, since every nonzero column and row contain a 1.

Distributivity:  $a, b, c \in F \implies (a + b) \cdot c = a \cdot c + b \cdot c$ . We'll check all cases. Let  $a, b, c \in F$

1. Case  $c = 0$ . From table

$$(a + b) \cdot 0 = 0, \quad a \cdot 0 + b \cdot 0 = 0 + 0 = 0$$

2. Case  $c = 1$

$$(a + b) \cdot 1 = a + b, \quad a \cdot 1 + b \cdot 1 = a + b$$

**Example 16.5** (Cont'd (from above)) 3. Case  $c = \alpha$  choices for  $a, b \in F$  :

$a$	$b$	$(a + b) \cdot \alpha$	$a \cdot \alpha + b \cdot \alpha$	Equal?
0	0	$0 \cdot \alpha = 0$	$0 + 0 = 0$	✓
0	1	$1 \cdot \alpha = \alpha$	$0 + \alpha = \alpha$	✓
0	$\alpha$	$\alpha \cdot \alpha = 1$	$0 + 1 = 1$	✓
1	0	$1 \cdot \alpha = \alpha$	$\alpha + 0 = \alpha$	✓
1	1	$\alpha \cdot \alpha = 1$	$\alpha + \alpha = 1$	✓
1	$\alpha$	$0 \cdot \alpha = 0$	$\alpha + 1 = 0$	✓
$\alpha$	0	$\alpha \cdot \alpha = 1$	$1 + 0 = 1$	✓
$\alpha$	1	$0 \cdot \alpha = 0$	$1 + \alpha = 0$	✓
$\alpha$	$\alpha$	$1 \cdot \alpha = \alpha$	$1 + 1 = \alpha$	✓

b) Show that there is not order relation on  $F$  that makes  $F$  an ordered field.  
 Idea:  $1 + 1 + \dots + 1$  is eventually on the “other side” of 1.

*Proof.* Suppose  $(F, +, \cdot, <)$  is an ordered field. By trichotomy, either  $0 < 1, 0 = 1, 0 > 1$ .

- Case  $0 = 1$  : Impossible, since they are different elements of  $F$ .
- Case  $0 < 1$ : Apply  $(a < b \implies a + c < b + c)$  with  $c = 1$  :

$$0 < 1 \xrightarrow{+1} 1 < \alpha \xrightarrow{+1} \alpha < 0$$

By transitivity,  $1 < \alpha$  and  $\alpha < 0 \implies 1 < 0$ . This contradicts  $0 < 1$ .

- Case  $0 > 1$  : Replace “ $>$ ” by “ $<$ ” above, get  $1 > 0$  at the end. A contradiction.

All three cases are impossible, so no “ $<$ ” exists. □

## §17 | Dis 3: Jan 21, 2021

### §17.1 Upper and Lower Bounds

#### Example 17.1

Suppose  $A, B \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  are non-empty s.t.  $x \leq y \quad \forall x \in A, \forall y \in B$ .

a) Show that  $\sup A \leq y \forall y \in B$ .

Suppose not.  $\exists b \in B$  s.t.  $\sup A > b$ .

**Claim 17.1.** If  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  nonempty and  $b < \sup A$ , then  $\exists a \in A$  s.t.  $b < a$ .

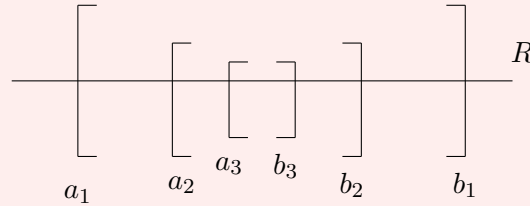
Suppose not. Then  $\forall a \in A, b \geq a \implies b$  is an upper bound for  $a \implies b \geq \sup A$ , contradicting  $b < \sup A$ .  $\square$

By the claim,  $\exists a \in A$  s.t.  $b < a \leq \sup A$ . But  $a \leq b$  by given since  $a \in A, b \in B$ , which is a contradiction.

b) Show  $\sup A \leq \inf B$ .

Part a)  $\implies \sup A$  is a lower bound for  $B \implies \sup A \leq \inf B$  since  $B \neq \emptyset$  and  $\mathbb{R}$  has greatest lower bound property.  $\square$

**Example 17.2** a) Suppose  $I_n = [a_n, b_n] \neq \emptyset$  for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $a_n \leq a_{n+1}$  and  $b_{n+1} \leq b_n \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Prove  $\exists x \in \mathbb{R}$  s.t.  $x \in I_n \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ .



Let  $x := \sup \{a_n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ . We will show  $x \in I_n \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Note that  $a_n \leq x \forall n$  since  $x$  is an upper bound for the  $a_n$ 's.

**Claim 17.2.**  $x \leq b_n \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Suppose not. Then  $\exists n_1 \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $b_{n_1} < x$ . Since  $x$  is the least upper bound,  $\exists n_2 \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $b_{n_1} < a_{n_2} \leq x$  by claim 17.1.

Then  $I_{n_1} \cap I_{n_2} \neq \emptyset$ . But  $n_1 \geq n_2$  or  $n_1 \leq n_2$ , so  $I_{n_1} \subseteq I_{n_2}$  or  $I_{n_2} \subseteq I_{n_1}$  and hence  $\emptyset = I_{n_1} \cap I_{n_2} = I_{\max\{n_1, n_2\}}$  – a contradiction.

Altogether,  $a_n \leq x \leq b_n \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ , so  $x \in I_n \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ .  $\square$

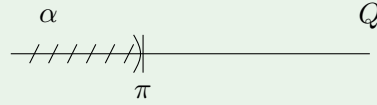
b) Show that the conclusion is false if the  $I_n$  are open intervals.

Let  $I_n = (0, \frac{1}{n})$  for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Suppose  $\exists x \in I_n \forall n$ . Then  $x \in I_1$ , so  $x > 0$ . By the Archimedean Property,  $\exists N \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $\frac{1}{N} < x$ . Then  $x \notin I_n \forall n \geq N$ .  $\square$

## §17.2 Dedekind Cuts

**Definition 17.3** (Dedekind Cuts) —  $\alpha \subseteq \mathbb{Q}$  is a cut if

- (I)  $\alpha \neq \emptyset, \mathbb{Q}$
- (II)  $p \in \alpha, q \in \mathbb{Q}, q < p \implies q \in \alpha$ .
- (III)  $p \in \alpha \implies \exists r \in \alpha$  s.t.  $p < r$ .



### Example 17.4

Let  $R := \{\alpha \subseteq \mathbb{Q} : \alpha \text{ is a cut}\}$  and for  $\alpha, \beta \in R$  define

$$\alpha + \beta = \{r + s : r \in \alpha \text{ and } s \in \beta\}$$

Show that this satisfies A1-A5.

A1)  $\alpha, \beta \in R \implies \alpha + \beta \in R$ . Note  $\alpha + \beta \subseteq \mathbb{Q}$  since  $r + s \in \mathbb{Q}$  for  $r, s \in \mathbb{Q}$ .

- (I)  $\alpha + \beta \neq \emptyset$  since  $\alpha, \beta \neq \emptyset$ . Since  $\alpha, \beta \neq \mathbb{Q}, \exists a \in \mathbb{Q} \setminus \alpha$  and  $b \in \mathbb{Q} \setminus \beta$ . For any  $r \in \alpha, s \in \beta \implies r < a, s < b$  by (II)  $\implies r + s < a + b \implies a + b \notin \alpha + \beta$  by (II).  $\implies \alpha + \beta \neq \mathbb{Q}$ .
- (II) Let  $r + s \in \alpha + \beta$  and  $q \in \mathbb{Q}$  s.t.  $q < r + s \implies q - s < r \implies q - s \in \alpha$  by (II)  $\implies q = (q - s) + s \in \alpha + \beta$ .
- (III) Let  $r + s \in \alpha + \beta \implies r \in \alpha \implies \exists t \in \alpha$  s.t.  $r < t \implies t + s \in \alpha + \beta$  and  $r + s < t + s$ .

A2)  $\alpha, \beta \in R \implies \alpha + \beta = \beta + \alpha$ .

$\alpha + \beta = \{r + s : r \in \alpha \text{ and } s \in \beta\}$ . Since  $+$  is commutative on  $\mathbb{Q}, r + s = s + r$ . So

$$\alpha + \beta = \{s + r : s \in \beta \text{ and } r \in \alpha\} = \beta + \alpha$$

A3)  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \in R \implies (\alpha + \beta) + \gamma = \alpha + (\beta + \gamma)$

$$\begin{aligned} (\alpha + \beta) + \gamma &= \{p + t : p \in \alpha + \beta \text{ and } t \in \gamma\} \\ &= \{(r + s) + t : r \in \alpha \text{ and } s \in \beta \text{ and } t \in \gamma\} \\ &= \{r + (s + t) : r \in \alpha \text{ and } s \in \beta \text{ and } t \in \gamma\} \\ &= \{r + q : r \in \alpha \text{ and } q \in \beta + \gamma\} = \alpha + (\beta + \gamma) \end{aligned}$$

## §18 | Dis 4: Jan 28, 2021

### §18.1 Upper Bound and Lower Bound

Know  $x, x^2, x^3, \dots, x^{-1}, x^{-2}$  exist. What about radical?

**Example 18.1**

If  $x > 0$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , then  $\exists$  a unique  $y > 0$  s.t.  $y^n = x$ . We define  $y := x^{\frac{1}{n}}$ .

**Claim 18.1.**  $0 < y_1 < y_2 \implies 0 < y_1^n < y_2^n (*)$

Base case:  $0 < y_1 < y_2$ .

Inductive step: Assume  $0 < y_1^k < y_2^k$ , then

$$0 = 0 \cdot y_1^k < y_1 \cdot y_1^k < y_2 \cdot y_1^k < y_2 \cdot y_2^k$$

So  $0 < y_1^{k+1} < y_2^{k+1}$ . The claim follows by induction.

Uniqueness: Suppose  $y_1, y_2 > 0$  s.t.  $y_1^n = y_2^n$  and  $y_1 \neq y_2$ . After relabeling we may assume  $0 < y_1 < y_2$ . But by the claim above,  $0 < y_1^n < y_2^n$ , a contradiction.

Let  $Y = \{t \in \mathbb{R} : t > 0, t^n < x\}$ . We will show  $\sup Y$  exists and is the  $y$  we're looking for.

$Y \neq \emptyset$ : Consider  $t = \frac{x}{x+1}$ . Then  $0 < x < x+1 \implies 0 < t < 1 \implies 0 < t^{n-1} < 1^{n-1}$  by the claim,  $0 < t^n < t$  since  $t > 0$ . But  $0 < x < x + x^2 = x(x+1) \implies 0 < t < x \implies t^n < t < x \implies t \in Y$ .

$Y$  bounded above: Consider  $t > 1 + x$ . Then  $t > 1 > 0 \implies t^{n-1} > 1^{n-1}$  by the claim.

So  $t^n > t$  since  $t > 0$ . But  $t > x$ , so  $t^n > x \implies t \notin Y$ . So  $t \leq 1 + x \forall t \in Y$ .

Let  $y := \sup Y \in \mathbb{R}$ . Note that  $y > 0$  since  $\exists t \in Y$  and hence  $y \geq t > 0$ . Remains to show  $y^n = x$ .

$y^n \not< x$ : Suppose  $y^n < x$ . We claim that  $\exists h > 0$  s.t.  $(y+h)^n < x$ , which contradicts that  $y$  is an upper bound.

$$\begin{aligned} (y+h)^n - y^n &= \underbrace{(y+h) - y}_{=h} ((y+h)^{n-1} + (y+h)^{n-2}y + \dots + y^{n-1}) \\ &< h \cdot n(y+h)^{n-1} \\ &< h \cdot n(y+1)^{n-1} \quad \text{if we pick } h < 1, \text{ by } (*) \\ &\leq x - y^n \text{ if we pick } h \leq \frac{x - y^n}{n(y+1)^{n-1}} \end{aligned}$$

Pick  $h = \min \left\{ \frac{x - y^n}{n(y+1)^{n-1}}, \frac{1}{2} \right\}$ . Conclude  $(y+h)^n - y^n < x - y^n \implies (y+h)^n < x$ . So  $y+h \in Y$ , and  $y$  is not an upper bound.

$y^n \not> x$ : Suppose  $y^n > x$ . We claim  $\exists k > 0$  s.t.  $y-k$  is an upper bound, contradicting the minimality of  $y$ . For  $t \geq y-k$ , by claim,

$$\begin{aligned} y^n - t^n &\leq y^n - (y-k)^n \\ (y - (y-k)) (y^{n-1} + y^{n-2}(y-k) + \dots + (y-k)^{n-1}) &< k \cdot ny^{n-1} \end{aligned}$$

$y^n - x$  if we pick  $k = \frac{y^n - x}{ny^{n-1}} > 0$ . So  $t^n > x$  for  $t \geq y-k$ , and thus  $t \notin Y \forall t \geq y-k$ .  $\square$

**Example 18.2**

Fix  $b > 1$ .

- a) If  $m, n, p, q \in \mathbb{Z} \ni n, q > 0$  and  $\frac{m}{n} = \frac{p}{q}$  show  $(b^m)^{\frac{1}{n}} = (b^p)^{\frac{1}{q}}$ . We define  $b^{\frac{m}{n}} := (b^m)^{\frac{1}{n}}$  for  $\frac{m}{n} \in \mathbb{Q}$ .

*Proof.* By previous example, we know  $\exists a := (b^m)^{\frac{1}{n}} > 0$  s.t.  $a^n = b^m$ . Want to show  $a^q = b^p$ , and then we'll get  $a = (b^p)^{\frac{1}{q}}$  by uniqueness. We compute:

$$\begin{aligned} (a^q)^m &= a^{mq} = a^{nq} = (a^n)^p = (b^m)^p = b^{mp} \\ a^q &= (b^{mp})^{\frac{1}{m}} \text{ by previous ex} \\ a^q &= b^p \text{ by uniqueness, since } (b^p)^m = b^{mp} \end{aligned}$$

□

- b) Show that  $b^{r+s} = b^r \cdot b^s \forall r, s \in \mathbb{Q}$ .

*Proof.* Let  $r = \frac{m}{n}, s = \frac{p}{q}$  for  $m, n, p, q \in \mathbb{Z}, n, q > 0$ . Then  $r + s = \frac{mq+np}{nq}$ , so  $b^{r+s} = (b^{mq+np})^{\frac{1}{nq}}$ . We want to show  $(b^r b^s)^{nq} = b^{mq+np}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} (b^r b^s)^{nq} &= (b^r)^{nq} \cdot (b^s)^{nq} \\ &= (b^m)^q \cdot (b^p)^n = b^{mq+np} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{So } b^r \cdot b^s = (b^{mq+np})^{\frac{1}{nq}} = b^{r+s}$$

□

- c) For  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  let  $B(x) = \{b^t : t \in \mathbb{Q}, t < x\}$ . Show that  $b^r = \sup B(r)$  for  $r \in \mathbb{Q}$ . We define  $b^x = \sup B(x) \forall x \in \mathbb{R}$ .

*Proof.* We have the following claim:

**Claim 18.2.**  $r, s \in \mathbb{Q}, r < s \implies b^r < b^s (**)$

$$b^s = b^{r+(s-r)} \underbrace{=}_{(b)} b^r \cdot b^{s-r} > b^r \cdot 1$$

if we can show  $b^{s-r} > 1$ . Let  $s - r = \frac{m}{n}, m, n \in \mathbb{Z}, n > 0$ . Since  $s - r > 0$ , then  $m > 0$ . So  $b^{s-r} = (b^m)^{\frac{1}{n}}$ . Since  $b > 1$ , then  $b^m > 1^m > 1$  by (\*). Now  $a := (b^m)^{\frac{1}{n}}$  is unique pos. real s.t.  $a^n = b^m$ .

- Case  $a < 1$  :  $\implies a^n < 1^n = 1$  by (\*),  $\implies a^n < 1 < b^m$ , which is not possible.
- Case  $a = 1$   $\implies a^n = 1^n = 1 \implies a^n = 1 < b^m$ .
- Case  $a > 1$  : So  $1 < a = (b^m)^{\frac{1}{n}} = b^{s-r}$

□



**Example 18.3** (Cont'd from above)

Fix  $r \in \mathbb{Q}$ . We need to show  $\sup B(r)$  exists and equals  $b^r$ .  $B(r) \neq \emptyset : r - 1 \in \mathbb{Q}$ , so  $b^{r-1} \in B(r)$ .

$b^r$  is an upper bound for  $B(r)$  : Let  $t \in \mathbb{Q}, t < r$ . Then  $b^t < b^r$  by (\*\*). Together, we conclude  $\sup B(r)$  exists and  $\sup B(r) \leq b^r$ . (for reverse inequality we need to know  $t \approx r$  yields  $b^t \approx b^r$  – this is quantitative. First we'll show that  $b^{(\text{big})}$  is big).

**Claim 18.3.**  $a > 1 \implies a^n - 1 \geq n(a - 1) \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Base case:  $a - 1 \geq a - 1$ . Inductive step: suppose  $a^n - 1 \geq n(a - 1)$  ; then

$$\begin{aligned} a^{n+1} - 1 &= a^{n+1} - a + a - 1 = a(a^n - 1) + (a - 1) \\ &\geq (n + 1)(a - 1) \end{aligned}$$

The claim follows by induction.

$$b^r \leq \sup B(r)$$

(we could use a proof by contradiction, but rephrasing it in terms of the wiggle room  $\epsilon > 0$  yields a direct proof.) It suffices to show  $b^r - \epsilon \leq \sup B(r) \forall \epsilon > 0$ . Fix  $\epsilon > 0$ . We may assume  $\epsilon < b^r$  (e.g., replace  $\epsilon$  by  $\min\{\epsilon, \frac{1}{2}b^r\}$ ). We will show  $\exists n \in \mathbb{N}$  large enough s.t.  $b^r - \epsilon \leq b^{r-\frac{1}{n}}$  (which is  $\leq \sup B(r)$  since  $r - \frac{1}{n} \in B(r)$ ). We know  $b^{\frac{1}{n}} > 1$  by (\*\*) since  $b > 1$ . Applying the previous claim to  $b^{\frac{1}{n}}$ , get  $b - 1 \geq n(b^{\frac{1}{n}} - 1) \implies b^{\frac{1}{n}} \leq \frac{b-1}{n} + 1 \implies \exists n \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $b^{\frac{1}{n}} \leq \frac{1}{1-\epsilon b^{-r}}$  by the Archimedean property.

$$\begin{aligned} &\implies 1 - \epsilon b^{-r} \leq b^{-\frac{1}{n}} \\ &\implies b^r - \epsilon \leq b^r \cdot b^{-\frac{1}{n}} \stackrel{(b)}{=} b^{r-\frac{1}{n}} \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

d) Show that  $b^{x+y} = b^x \cdot b^y \quad \forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Sketch: (not a complete proof)

- It suffices to show  $B(x+y) = B(x) \cdot B(y)$ , since then

$$b^{x+y} = \sup B(x+y) = \sup B(x) \cdot \sup B(y) = b^x b^y, a > 0 \forall a \in B(x)$$

- $B(x+y) \supseteq B(x) \cdot B(y)$  : easy, since we know  $b^s \cdot b^t = b^{s+t}$  by b).
- $B(x+y) \subseteq B(x) \cdot B(y)$  : fix  $r < x+y$ , use density to find  $s, t \in \mathbb{Q}$  s.t.  $b^r = b^s \cdot b^t$  with  $s < x, t < y$ .

# §19 | Dis 5: Feb 4, 2021

## §19.1 Sequences

### Example 19.1

Let  $a > 0$ . Show that the seq.  $a_n = n \left( \sqrt{a + \frac{1}{n}} - \sqrt{a} \right)$  converges and find its limit.

*Proof.*

$$a_n = \frac{n \left[ \left( a + \frac{1}{n} \right) - a \right]}{\sqrt{a + \frac{1}{n}} + \sqrt{a}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{a + \frac{1}{n}} + \sqrt{a}} \rightarrow \frac{1}{2\sqrt{a}}$$

**Claim 19.1.**  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{a + \frac{1}{n}} = \sqrt{a}$ .

Fix  $\epsilon > 0$ . Want:  $\exists n_\epsilon \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $\left| \sqrt{a + \frac{1}{n}} - \sqrt{a} \right| < \epsilon \quad \forall n \geq n_\epsilon$ .

$$\left| \sqrt{a + \frac{1}{n}} - \sqrt{a} \right| = \frac{1}{n} \frac{1}{\left| \sqrt{a + \frac{1}{n}} + \sqrt{a} \right|} \leq \frac{1}{n} \frac{1}{2\sqrt{a}}$$

By Archimedean Property,  $\exists n_\epsilon \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $n_\epsilon > \frac{1}{2\sqrt{a}\epsilon}$ . Then

$$\left| \sqrt{a + \frac{1}{n}} - \sqrt{a} \right| \leq \frac{1}{n} \cdot \frac{1}{2\sqrt{a}} \leq \frac{1}{n_\epsilon} \cdot \frac{1}{2\sqrt{a}} < \epsilon$$

Note that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{a} = \sqrt{a}$  trivially.

By claim:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \sqrt{a + \frac{1}{n}} + \sqrt{a} \right) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{a + \frac{1}{n}} + \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{a} = 2\sqrt{a} \neq 0$$

So  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = \frac{1}{\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \sqrt{a + \frac{1}{n}} + \sqrt{a} \right)} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{a}}$  □

**Example 19.2**

Let  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}, \{b_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  be convergent sequences of real numbers. Show that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \max \{a_n, b_n\} = \max \left\{ \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n, \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n \right\}$$

*Proof.* Let  $a = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n, b = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n$ . We may assume  $a \geq b$  after swapping names if necessary. Therefore,  $\max \{a, b\} = a$ .

Fix  $\epsilon > 0$ . Want:  $\exists n_\epsilon \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.

$$|\max \{a_n, b_n\} - a| < \epsilon \quad \forall n \geq n_\epsilon$$

Since  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = a$ ,  $\exists N_1$  s.t.  $|a_n - a| < \epsilon \quad \forall n \geq N_1$ . Since  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n = b$ ,  $\exists N_2$  s.t.  $|b_n - b| < \epsilon \quad \forall n \geq N_2$ . Let  $n_\epsilon = \max \{N_1, N_2\}$ . Then

$$|a_n - a| < \epsilon, |b_n - b| < \epsilon \quad \forall n \geq n_\epsilon$$

Therefore,

$$\max \{a_n, b_n\} - a \geq a_n - a > -\epsilon \quad \forall n \geq n_\epsilon$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} a_n - a &< \epsilon \quad \forall n \geq n_\epsilon \\ b_n - a &= (b_n - b) + \underbrace{(b - a)}_{\leq 0} \leq b_n - b < \epsilon \quad \forall n \geq n_\epsilon \end{aligned}$$

So,  $\max \{a_n, b_n\} - a < \epsilon \quad \forall n \geq n_\epsilon$ . Together, we conclude

$$|\max \{a_n, b_n\} - a| < \epsilon \quad \forall n \geq n_\epsilon$$

□

**Example 19.3**

Consider the seq:  $a_1 = \sqrt{2}, a_{n+1} = \sqrt{2^{a_n}}$ .

- a) Informally (i.e. not a proof), show if  $a = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$  exists then  $a = 2$ .

$$a = \sqrt{2}^{\sqrt{2}^{\sqrt{2}^{\sqrt{2}^{\dots}}}} \implies \sqrt{2^a} = a$$

Note  $a = 2, 4$  are solution to  $\sqrt{2^a} = a$ . These are the only solution to  $\sqrt{2^a} = a$ .

$$a \log \sqrt{2} = \log a$$

$$\log \sqrt{2} = \frac{\log a}{a}$$

2 is possible:  $a_1 < 2, a_n < 2 \implies a_{n+1} = \sqrt{2^{a_n}} < \sqrt{2^2} = 2$ . On the other hand, 4 is impossible:  $a_1 < 2, a_{n+1} = \sqrt{2^{a_n}} > \sqrt{2^2} = 2 \implies a_n > 2$ . So we can't have crossed  $a = 2$ .

- b) Show that  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  is bounded above.

*Proof.* Recall from discussion 4 that for  $b > 1$  we have:

$$(i) \ b^{x+y} = b^x b^y \quad \forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$(ii) \ x, y \in \mathbb{R}, x < y \implies b^x < b^y$$

We proved (ii) for  $\mathbb{Q}$ , but it follows easily for  $\mathbb{R}$  using (i)

**Claim 19.2.**  $a_n < 2 \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Base case:  $a_1 = \sqrt{2}^1 < \sqrt{2}^2 = 2$  by (ii).

Inductive step: Assume  $a_n < 2$ , want to show  $a_{n+1} < 2$

$$a_{n+1} = \sqrt{2^{a_n}} < \sqrt{2^2} = 2 \text{ by (ii)}$$

The claim follows by induction. □

- c) Show that  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  is increasing.

**Claim 19.3.**  $a_n < a_{n+1} \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$

Base case:  $a_2 = \sqrt{2^{a_1}} = \sqrt{2^{\sqrt{2}}} > \sqrt{2}^1 = a_1$  by (ii).

Inductive step: Assume  $a_n < a_{n+1}$ , want  $a_{n+1} < a_{n+2}$  :

$$a_{n+2} = \sqrt{2^{a_{n+1}}} > \sqrt{2^{a_n}} = a_{n+1}$$

The claim follows by induction. □

**Example 19.4** (Cont'd from above) d) Conclude  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 2$ .

*Proof.* Since  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  is bounded and monotone, we know  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$  exists and we call it  $a$ .

**Claim 19.4.**  $\sqrt{2}^{a_n} \rightarrow \sqrt{2}^a$ .

Assuming the claim,

$$\sqrt{2}^a = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{2}^{a_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_{n+1} = a$$

Know  $a \leq 2$  by b). If  $a < 2$ , then  $\sqrt{2}^a < \sqrt{2}^2 = 2$  – contradiction. So  $a = 2$ .  $\square$