

### 2.4.1

2.4.6 (a) Suppose  $(a_n)$  is a bounded sequence. Prove that the sequence  $y_n = \sup\{a_k : k \geq n\}$  converges.

Proof: We claim that  $(y_n)$  is a decreasing and bounded sequence.

- We claim that  $(y_n)$  is decreasing. Suppose  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . We must show that  $y_n \geq y_{n+1}$ . We have two cases,  $y_n = a_n, y_n \neq a_n$ .
  - Suppose  $a_n = y_n$ . Therefore for all other elements in the sequence after  $a_n$ ,  $a_n \geq a_k$  where  $k > n$ . Therefore  $a_n$  is an upper bound on  $\{a_k : k \geq n+1\}$ . Since  $y_{n+1}$  is the supremum of the set mentioned before, and we have established that  $a_n$  is an upper bound, then by definition  $y_n = a_n \geq y_{n+1}$ .
  - Suppose  $a_n \neq y_n$ . Since  $a_n$  is already not a supremum of the set  $\{a_k : k \geq n\}$  then computing the supremum of the set excluding  $a_n$ ,  $\{a_k : k \geq n+1\}$  should not change the supremum value. Therefore  $y_n = y_{n+1}, y_n \geq y_{n+1}$ .

Therefore  $(y_n)$  is a decreasing sequence.

- We claim that  $(y_n)$  is bounded. Since  $(y_n)$  is decreasing we simply need to show that there is a quantity larger than  $y_1$ . Since  $y_1 = \sup\{a_k : k \geq 1\}$  then  $y_1$  is the supremum for  $(a_n)$ . Since  $(a_n)$  is bounded, suppose for some quantity  $M \in \mathbb{R}$ , then by definition of supremum  $y_1 \leq M$ . Therefore  $(y_n)$  is bounded

Therefore by the monotone convergences theorem  $(y_n)$  converges.

(b) Let  $z_n = \inf\{a_k : k \geq n\}$ . Then  $\lim z_n = \liminf a_n$ . This should converge since  $(z_n)$  can easily be proved to be increasing and bounded.

(c) • Prove that  $\liminf a_n \leq \limsup a_n$

Proof: Suppose  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . For an arbitrary element  $e \in \{a_k : k \geq n\}$ ,  $e \leq y_n, e \geq z_n$  by the respective definitions of supremum and infimum. Therefore for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}, z_n \leq y_n$ . Since we know that  $\liminf a_n, \limsup a_n$  exists, then by the algebraic order theorem  $\liminf a_n \leq \limsup a_n$ .

- An example of a strict inequality between  $\liminf a_n$  and  $\limsup a_n$  is the sequence  $a_n = \frac{1}{n} + (-1)^{n+1}$ . This is because  $\liminf a_n = \lim \frac{1}{n} - 1 = -1 < 1 = \lim \frac{1}{n} + 1 = \limsup a_n$

(d) We must prove that  $\liminf a_n = \limsup a_n$  if and only if  $\lim a_n$  exists

$\Rightarrow$

$\Leftarrow$  Suppose  $\lim a_n$  exists and suppose for contradiction that  $\liminf a_n \neq \limsup a_n$ . Since  $\liminf a_n \leq \limsup a_n$  then  $\liminf a_n < \limsup a_n$ . Therefore  $0 < \limsup a_n - \liminf a_n$