

1. Say  $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  is a set of real numbers, with the property that  $\forall s \in S, \exists t \in S, s < t$ .  
Can  $S$  be bounded above?
2. Say  $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  is a set of real numbers, with the property that  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}, \exists t \in S, n < t$ .  
Can  $S$  be bounded above?
3. (a) Let  $A, B \subset \mathbb{R}$  be subsets of  $\mathbb{R}$  which are bounded above. Assume:

$$\forall a \in A, \exists b \in B \text{ such that } a \leq b.$$

Prove  $\sup A \leq \sup B$ .

- (b) Let  $A, B \subset \mathbb{R}$  be subsets of  $\mathbb{R}$  which are bounded above.

Prove that if  $A \subseteq B \subset \mathbb{R}$  then  $\sup A \leq \sup B$ .

- (c) Let  $A, B \subset \mathbb{R}$  be subsets of  $\mathbb{R}$  which are bounded below. Assume:

$$\forall a \in A, \exists b \in B \text{ such that } a \geq b.$$

Prove  $\inf A \geq \inf B$ .

- (d) Let  $A, B \subset \mathbb{R}$  be subsets of  $\mathbb{R}$  which are bounded below.

Prove that if  $A \subseteq B \subset \mathbb{R}$  then  $\inf A \geq \inf B$ .

4. Say we have a sequence of real numbers  $a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots$ . Assume:

$$\exists M \in \mathbb{R} \text{ such that } \forall n \in \mathbb{N} : a_n < M$$

$$\exists m \in \mathbb{R} \text{ such that } \forall N \in \mathbb{N}, \exists n > N : m < a_n$$

Now let's define some sets  $S_1, S_2, S_3, \dots$  by

$$S_n = \{ a_{n+1}, a_{n+2}, a_{n+3}, \dots \}.$$

- (a) Prove that for all  $n \geq 1$ , there exists some  $b_n \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $b_n = \sup(S_n)$ .

- (b) Prove there exists some  $l \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $l = \inf \{ b_1, b_2, b_3, \dots \}$ .

*Such  $l$  is called the limsup of the sequence  $(a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots)$*

- (c) Find the limsup of the following sequence and prove your findings.

- i.  $1, 1, 1, \dots$

- ii.  $0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 1, \dots$

- iii.  $\frac{1}{1}, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{4}, \dots$

- iv.  $-\frac{1}{1}, -\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{3}, -\frac{1}{4}, \dots$

- (d) Prove:

$$\inf \{ a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots \} \leq \limsup(a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots) \leq \sup \{ a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots \}.$$

- (e) Let  $X = \mathbb{Q} \cap (0, 1)$  and let  $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow X$  be a bijection. For every  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ , let  $a_i = f(i)$ . Prove  $\limsup(a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots) = 1$ .<sup>1</sup>
- (f) If you like, then guess the definition of *liminf* and compute it for the examples above.

Which of these sequences converges? (we will see a rigorous definition of this notion next week, but perhaps you know what it means).

Can you tell just from looking at the limsup and liminf?

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<sup>1</sup>Hint for (d): To prove  $b_n = 1$ , show that for every  $c < 1$ ,  $X \cap (c, 1)$  is infinite, therefore  $S_n \cap (c, 1)$  is infinite.