

Problem 1

1. $A = \{-1, 5.2, 1, 3.7\}$

Upper bounds: 5.2, 6

$\forall a \in A, a \leq 5.2$. Thus, 5.2 is an upper bound for A .

A is a finite set with 4 elements. Thus, the maximum element must also be the $LUB(A)$. There cannot be another least upper bound because any number n less than the maximum element, 5.2 would mean that $\exists a \in A, a > n$, where that a is 5.2.

2. $B = [2, 3) = \{x \in \mathbb{R} : 2 \leq x < 3\}$

Upper bounds: 3, 4

$\forall b \in B, b < 3$ because B approaches 3 but does not actually contain 3. Thus, 3 is an upper bound for B .

There is no $LUB(B) < 3$ because the elements of the set B approach 3 infinitely close. Thus, $\forall b \in B, b + \epsilon < 3$ meaning that there is always an element of B that is more than another element but still less than 3. Thus, 3 must be the $lub(B)$.

3. $C = (-\infty, 4.2]$

Upper bounds: 4.2, 5

$\forall c \in C, c \leq 4.2$. Thus, 4.2 is an upper bound for C .

C is an infinite set with a defined maximum element. Thus, the maximum element must also be the $LUB(C)$. There cannot be another least upper bound because any number n less than the maximum element, 4.2 would mean that $\exists c \in C, c > n$, where that c is 4.2.

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

Upper bounds: $\frac{1}{2}$, 1

$\forall d \in D, d \leq \frac{1}{2}$. Thus, $\frac{1}{2}$ is an upper bound for D .

We know $\frac{1}{2} \in D$ because when $n = 2, \frac{(-1)^2}{2} = \frac{1}{2}$. Let's assume there exists another least upper bound $e = LUB(D)$ defined as $\frac{1}{2} - \epsilon$. By definition, $\frac{1}{2} - \epsilon$ must be greater than all elements in D , but we know $\frac{1}{2}$ is an element and greater than $\frac{1}{2} - \epsilon$. Thus, e contradicts our assumption and $\frac{1}{2}$ is the $LUB(D)$.

5. $E = \left\{-\frac{1}{n} : n \in \mathbb{N}\right\}$

Upper bounds: 0, 1

$\forall e \in E, e < 0$. Thus, 0 is an upper bound for E .

Let's choose another upper bound f . Assume $f < 0$. Find a $k \in \mathbb{N}$ so that $-\frac{1}{k} < f$. Then $\frac{1}{k} > f$. Since $\frac{1}{k} \in E$, f cannot be a $LUB(E)$. Then, f is an upper bound and $f \geq 0$. Thus, 0 is the $LUB(E)$.

6. $F = \left\{\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{k} : n \in \mathbb{N}\right\}$

Upper bounds: DNE

F is an infinite set with no upper bound. Since it is not bounded above, it cannot have a LUB .

7. $G = \{\cos(n) : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$

Upper bounds: 1, 2

$\forall g \in G, d < 1$. Thus, 1 is an upper bound for G .

The finite range of the cosine function is defined as $[-1, 1]$. The maximum element must also be the $LUB(G)$ because $\forall g \in G$, such that $g < 1$, g is not even an upper bound of G and therefore cannot be a $LUB(G)$.

8. $H = \{100n - n^2 : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$

Upper bounds: 2500, 2501

$\forall h \in H, h < 2500$. The $\frac{d}{dn}100n - n^2$ shows us that there is a maxima at $n = 50$. When $n = 50$, the function takes the value 2500. Thus, 1 is an upper bound for H .

We know 2500 is the maximum element in the defined range of the function $100n - n^2 : n \in \mathbb{N}$. The maximum element must also be the $LUB(H)$ because $\forall h \in H$, such that $h < 2500$, h is not even an upper bound of H and therefore cannot be a $LUB(H)$.

Problem 2

If $S \subset \mathbb{R}$ has a *least upper bound*, then it is unique.

Proof

Let S be a subset of \mathbb{R} and assume that $p = LUB(S)$ and therefore an upper bound for S as well. Let's also assume that there exists a number $q \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $q = LUB(S)$ and therefore an upper bound for S as well. We know that $p \leq q$ since p is a $LUB(S)$. Likewise, we know that $q \leq p$ since q is a $LUB(S)$. Because both $p \leq q$ and $q \leq p$, $b = c$ must be true. Therefore, the $LUB(S)$ must be unique.

Problem 3

Suppose that $\lambda = lub(A)$. Let $B = \{ka | a \in A\}$, where $k > 0$.

a) Show that $k\lambda$ is an upper bound for the set B .

If λ is $lub(A)$, then $\forall a \in A, a \leq \lambda$. If $k > 0$ and $a \leq \lambda$, we know $ka \leq k\lambda$. Thus $k\lambda$ is an upper bound of B .

b) Show that $k\lambda$ is the least upper bound for B .

Let's assume there is another element $\gamma \in B$ such that $\gamma < k\lambda$. Then,

$$\begin{aligned} ka &\leq \gamma < k\lambda \\ a &\leq \gamma/k < \lambda \\ \gamma/k &< \lambda \end{aligned}$$

We end up with γ/k as greater than $a \in A$ and smaller than λ . However, we defined λ as $lub(A)$. No such element γ can exist, and we end up with a contradiction. Thus, $k\lambda = lub(B)$.

c) What can happen if $k < 0$?

If $k < 0$, then $a \leq \lambda$ means that $ka \geq k\lambda$. In that case, the proof above does **not** hold.

Problem 4

Prove the following facts about real numbers, stating explicitly which field axioms/theorems you are using at each stage.

a) $\forall a, x \in \mathbb{R}$ if $a \neq 0$ and $ax = a$ then $x = 1$.

By A10, we know we can get x alone on the left hand side of the equation ax because the existence of a multiplicative inverse defined by $a^{-1} = 1/a$. So, we have

$$\begin{aligned} a^{-1} \cdot ax &= a^{-1} \cdot a \\ \frac{1}{a} \cdot \frac{a}{1}x &= \frac{1}{a} \cdot \frac{a}{1} \\ \frac{a}{a} \cdot x &= \frac{a}{a} \\ 1 \cdot x &= 1 \\ x &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

We know see that after multiplying both sides by the multiplicative inverse of a becomes $\frac{a}{a}$, which reduces to 1. We are left with $x = 1$, which is what we were trying to find.

b) $\forall a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ if $ab = 0$ then $a = 0$ or $b = 0$.

Again, by A10, we know we can utilize the existence of a multiplicative inverse to separate the variables a and b defined as $a^{-1} = \frac{1}{a}$ and $b^{-1} = \frac{1}{b}$, respectively.

$$\begin{array}{llll} a^{-1}ab = 0 & b^{-1}ab = 0 & & \\ \frac{1}{a} \cdot ab = 0 & b^{-1}ba = 0 & \text{By A7} & \\ \frac{1}{a} \cdot \frac{a}{1}b = 0 & \frac{1}{b} \frac{b}{1}a = 0 & & \\ \frac{a}{a} \cdot b = 0 & \frac{b}{b} \cdot a = 0 & & \\ 1 \cdot b = 0 & 1 \cdot a = 0 & & \\ \text{By A9} & b = 0 & a = 0 & \text{By A9} \end{array}$$

We know see that regardless of whether we multiply $ab = 0$ by the multiplicative inverse of a then b , the resulting variable is equal to 0.

c) $\forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ if $x^2 = y^2$ then $x = y$ or $x = -y$.

Let's assume that $x \neq y$ and $x \neq -y$. Then, by definition of the square of a number a , we get $a \cdot a = a^2$.

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{In the case of } x = y, & x \cdot x \neq y \cdot y \\ & x^2 \neq y^2 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{ll} \text{In the case of } x = -y, & x \cdot x \neq (-y)(-y) \\ & x^2 \neq (-1)(y)(-1)(y) \\ & x^2 \neq (-1)(-1)(y)(y) \\ & x^2 \neq (y)(y) \\ & x^2 \neq y \cdot y \\ & x^2 \neq y^2 \end{array}$$

According to our assumption, we see that in either case, we get $x^2 \neq y^2$. However, that contradicts the original hypothesis. Thus, $x = y$ or $x = -y$.