

## Chapter 8: Proving IVT, Max value theorems.

A set  $A$  of real #s is called  
bounded above

if there exists some #  $x$  such that  
 $x \geq a$  for every  $a \in A$ .

Weaken:  $x$

weakly bounded above if there are only finitely many  
values  $a \in A$  such that  $x \geq a$ .

Uses: I dunno.

Definition: Least upper bound.

Motivation: consider the set  $\{x \mid 0 \leq x < 1\}$ . Obviously, 1 is  
an upper bound for this set, so it is bounded above.  
We say that 1 is the least upper bound for this set.

Definition: A number  $x$  is a least upper bound of  $A$  if

(1)  $x$  is an upper bound of  $A$ .

(2) if  $y$  is an upper bound of  $A$ , then  $x \leq y$ .

bounded above.

Say we have a set of numbers (a box full of numbers).

If we can find a number  $x$  such that no matter what number is in the set of numbers, then  $x$  is greater than or equal to that number, then

this set is bounded above and  $x$  is called an upper bound of this set.

least upper bound.

There is a set of least upper bounds for a set  $A$ .

~~the~~ A "smallest" (least) upper bound would be smaller than or equal to any possible upper bound of  $A$ .

The least upper bound is unique. If we have two least upper bounds  $x$  and  $y$  of a set  $A$ , then

$$x \leq y \text{ and } y \leq x \Rightarrow x = y.$$



Uniqueness means we can refer to the least upper bound (much like groups). Often we use the term supremum.

The supremum of  $A$ ,  $\sup A$ , is the least upper bound of  $A$ .

We can define also a greatest lower bound of  $A$ , termed  $\inf A$ , the infimum of  $A$ .

So which sets have a least upper bound?

There's an axiom for that!

(P13) If  $A$  is a set of real numbers such that  $A \neq \{\}$ , and  $A$  is bounded above, then  $A$  has a least upper bound.

~~This~~ This is an important property defining the reals.

Note that in  $\mathbb{Q}$ ,  $x^2 < 2$  has no least upper bound.

(IVT)

Hypothesis:  $f$  is continuous on  $[a, b]$   
 $f(a) < 0 < f(b)$ .

Conclusion:  $\exists x \in [a, b]$  s.t.  $f(x) = 0$ .

Proof: If  $f(x) < 0$  and  $x$  is continuous on  $a$ ,  
there is some  $\delta$  such that on  $(a, a+\delta)$   
 $f(x) < 0$  for all  $x$ .

~~Similarly,~~

Define

$A = \{x \mid a \leq x \leq b \text{ and } f \text{ is negative on } [a, x]\}$ .

~~Let~~  $A \neq \{\}$  since  $a$  is in  $A$ .  
 $b$  is an upper bound of  $A$  since  $f(b) > 0$

By theorem (PIB)

There exists a number  $\alpha$  such that  $\alpha = \sup A$ .

Then  $f(\alpha) = 0$ .

Suppose not. Then either  $f(\alpha) < 0$ , or  $f(\alpha) > 0$ .

If  $f(\alpha) < 0$  there will be an interval  $(\alpha - \delta, \alpha + \delta)$

where  $f(x) < 0$  as well, this implies that for  $\alpha + \delta > A$  and  
 $\alpha + \delta > a$  contradiction.

If  $f(\alpha) > 0$  use  $\uparrow$  theorem similarly. Hence  $f(\alpha) = 0$  and.



Proving the max value theorems:

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Lemma 1:

Hypothesis:  $f$  is continuous at  $a$ .

Conclusion: there exists some  $\delta$  such that  
 $f$  is bounded above on  $(a-\delta, a+\delta)$ .

Hypothesis  $\rightarrow$

$\forall \epsilon > 0 \quad \exists \delta > 0$  st

if  $|x-a| < \delta$  then  $|f(x) - f(a)| < \epsilon$ .

Define  $A = \{f(x) \mid x \in (a-\delta, a+\delta)\}$ . Then

$f(x) \in (f(a) - \epsilon, f(a) + \epsilon)$  and

thus has a least upper bound.

If  $f$  is continuous on  $[a, b]$ , then  $f$  is bounded above on  $[a, b]$ .