

Chapter 6. The Completeness Property

So far we learned essentially the two methods for finding (or proving) the limit of a sequence:

- 1st one: **Squeeze Principle**: can be applied to sequences whose good upper & lower sequences are expected
- 2nd one: **Completeness Property**: can be applied to sequences that are monotone (or monotone for $n \gg 1$)
한 비성 (수열에 대한)

Goal of this chapter is to give some new methods that can be used to construct or prove the existence of a limit.

More precisely, we will give “NIT (= Nested Intervals Theorem)” and “Cauchy criterion for convergence”;
한 비성 과 동치

(each is equivalent to the completeness of \mathbb{R} ; well-known to experts)

Main tools for describing those two methods: “LLT” & “the notion of convergence”

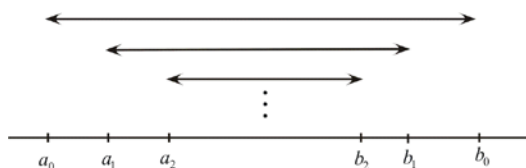
Limit Location Theorem

6.1 Nested intervals

Def. If a sequence $\left([a_n, b_n]\right)_{n=0}^{\infty}$ of closed intervals has the property that

$$[a_0, b_0] \supset [a_1, b_1] \supset [a_2, b_2] \supset \cdots \supset [a_n, b_n] \supset \cdots,$$

we say that the sequence $\left([a_n, b_n]\right)_{n=0}^{\infty}$ is nested.
점점 작아짐



Theorem (The Nested Intervals Theorem (for short NIT): 축소 (폐)구간열 정리)

Suppose sequence $\left([a_n, b_n]\right)_{n=0}^{\infty}$ is a sequence of nested intervals & $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (b_n - a_n) = 0$.

Then $\bigcap_{n=0}^{\infty} [a_n, b_n]$ consists of exactly one point.

Moreover, \exists a real number L such that $\bigcap_{n=0}^{\infty} [a_n, b_n] = \{L\}$ & $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = L = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n$

Pf. $\left([a_n, b_n]\right)_{n=0}^{\infty}$ is nested: $[a_0, b_0] \supset [a_1, b_1] \supset [a_2, b_2] \supset \cdots \supset [a_n, b_n] \supset \cdots$

\Rightarrow picture:

Hence it is clear that (a_n) is \uparrow & bounded above by b_0 . \sim satisfies the completeness property

By the Completeness Property, $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n (= L)$ exists.

Since (a_n) is \uparrow , we get $a_n \leq L$ for all n ----- (*)

On the other hand, for any fixed n

$$a_k \leq b_k \leq b_n \quad \text{if } k \geq n \quad (\leftarrow b_n \downarrow)$$

&

$$a_k \leq a_n \leq b_n \quad \text{if } k \leq n \quad (\leftarrow a_n \uparrow)$$

Thus we have $a_k \leq b_n$ for all k .

So by LLT, $L = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} a_k \leq b_n$ ----- (**)

(*) & (**) implies $a_n \leq L \leq b_n$ for all n

$$\therefore \bigcap_{n=0}^{\infty} [a_n, b_n] \ni L$$

Claim: $\bigcap_{n=0}^{\infty} [a_n, b_n] = \{L\}$

Pf of Claim: If $M \in \bigcap_{n=0}^{\infty} [a_n, b_n]$, then $a_n \leq M$, $L \leq b_n$ for all n .

$$\Rightarrow |L - M| \leq (b_n - a_n) \text{ for all } n, \text{ } L, M \text{ 은 항상 } b_n, a_n \text{ 사이에 있으니까}$$

$$\Rightarrow |L - M| \leq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (b_n - a_n) = 0 \text{ (by LLT)}$$

$$\therefore M = L$$

Remains to show $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n = L$; but it is obvious since

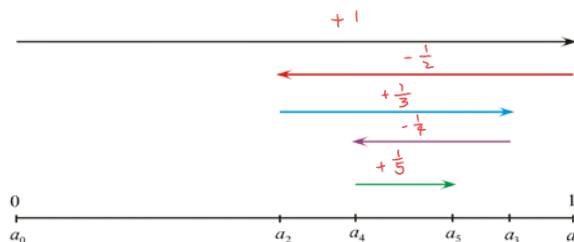
$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (b_n - a_n + a_n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (b_n - a_n) + \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 0 + L = L$$

Exa. (An application of NIT)

Let $\begin{cases} a_n = 1 - \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} - \dots + (-1)^{n-1} \frac{1}{n} & \text{for } n \geq 1 \\ a_0 = 0 \end{cases}$. Show that (a_n) converges.

[We have already proved that (a_n) converges to $\ln 2$ by using error-term analysis. Only give an elementary pf of just its convergence]

Sol.



From the picture, we see that

$$[a_0, a_1], [a_2, a_3], [a_4, a_5], \dots [a_{2k}, a_{2k+1}], [a_{2k+2}, a_{2k+3}], \dots$$

is a sequence of nested intervals.

It is also clear that

$$|a_{2k+1} - a_{2k}| = \frac{1}{2k+1} \rightarrow 0$$

Thus by NIT, \exists a real number L such that

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} a_{2k} = L = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} a_{2k+1}$$

\star if $a_{2k} \rightarrow L$, $a_{2k+1} \rightarrow L$, then $a_n \rightarrow L$

Moreover, $a_{2k} \leq L \leq a_{2k+1}$ for all k

It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} |a_n - L| &= \begin{cases} L - a_{2k} & \text{if } n = \text{even} = 2k \\ a_{2k+1} - L & \text{if } n = \text{odd} = 2k+1 \end{cases} \\ &\leq a_{2k+1} - a_{2k} = \frac{1}{2k+1} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{So, } |a_{2k} - L| \leq \frac{1}{2k+1} < \frac{1}{2k} \quad \& \quad |a_{2k+1} - L| \leq \frac{1}{2k+1}$$

Consequently, $|a_n - L| \leq \frac{1}{n}$ regardless of whether n is even or odd

$$\therefore \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = L$$

Ex. (A modification of NIT; it is also called the NIT)

Let $I_n = [a_n, b_n]$ for $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$.

If $I_0 \supset I_1 \supset I_2 \supset \dots$ (i.e., $(I_n)_1^\infty$ is nested), then

$$\bigcap_{n=0}^\infty I_n = [L, M], \text{ where } L = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n \quad \& \quad M = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n \quad (\& \quad L \leq M)$$

⊙ Archimedian Property (for short, AP)

$$0 < \underbrace{a}_{\text{small}} < \underbrace{b}_{\text{big}} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \exists \text{ a natural number } n_0 \text{ such that } n_0 a > b$$

아무리 작은 수 a 라도 특정번 n , 만큼 곱하면
아무리 큰 수 b 보다 커진다.

Pf. Suppose the conclusion were false; i.e., suppose $an \leq b$ for every $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

Then the sequence

$a, 2a, 3a, \dots, na, \dots$ is strictly \uparrow & bounded above (by b)

Completeness Property $\Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} na$ exists, call it L .

So, for given $\varepsilon > 0$, $|na - L| < \varepsilon$ for $n \gg 1$ (say, for $n \geq N$)

In particular, $|(N+1)a - L| < \varepsilon \quad \& \quad |Na - L| < \varepsilon$

$$\therefore |(N+1)a - Na| < 2\varepsilon$$

i.e., $|a| < 2\varepsilon$ for any $\varepsilon > 0 \quad \therefore a = 0$; contradiction to $a > 0$

Key idea: $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} na = L$ [assume] $\Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (n+1)a = L$

$$\Rightarrow 0 = L - L = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (n+1)a - \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} na = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} ((n+1)a - na) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a = a : \text{contradicts } a > 0$$

Note.

★ (1) Let $I_n = (0, 1/n)$ for $n = 1, 2, \dots$. Then it is clear that

$$I_1 \supset I_2 \supset I_3 \supset \dots \quad \text{and} \quad \ell(I_n) = 1/n \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as} \quad n \rightarrow \infty;$$

$$\text{but } \bigcap_{n=1}^\infty I_n = \emptyset$$

Pf. If $x > 0$, then by AP

$$\exists n_0 \in \mathbb{N} \text{ such that } 0 < 1/n_0 < x$$

So $x \notin I_{n_0} = (0, 1/n_0)$, and thus $x \notin \bigcap_{n=1}^\infty I_n$

$$\therefore \bigcap_{n=1}^\infty I_n = \emptyset$$

★ (2) Let $I_n = [n, \infty)$ for $n = 1, 2, \dots$. Then it is clear that

$$I_1 \supset I_2 \supset I_3 \supset \dots;$$

$$\text{but } \bigcap_{n=1}^\infty I_n = \emptyset$$

Pf. If $x > 0$, then by AP

$$\exists n_0 \in \mathbb{N} \text{ such that } n_0 > x$$

So $x \notin I_{n_0} = [n_0, \infty)$, and thus $x \notin \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} I_n \quad \therefore \quad \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} I_n = \emptyset$

(3) Let $I_n = (-1/n, 1/n)$ for $n = 1, 2, \dots$. Then it is clear that

$$I_1 \supset I_2 \supset I_3 \supset \dots \quad \text{and} \quad \ell(I_n) = 2/n \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } n \rightarrow \infty;$$

$$\text{but } \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} I_n = \{0\}$$

Pf.

$$I'_n \equiv [-1/2n, 1/2n] \subset I_n = (-1/n, 1/n) \subset I''_n \equiv [-1/n, 1/n]$$

Each of $(I'_n)_{n=1}^{\infty}$ & $(I''_n)_{n=1}^{\infty}$ is nested, and

$$\ell(I'_n) = 1/n \rightarrow 0 \quad \& \quad \ell(I''_n) = 2/n \rightarrow 0$$

Thus by NIT

$$\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} I'_n \quad \& \quad \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} I''_n \quad \text{consists of a single point, respectively}$$

Since $0 \in \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} I'_n \quad \& \quad 0 \in \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} I''_n$, we get

$$\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} I'_n = \{0\} = \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} I''_n$$

$$\therefore \quad \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} I_n = \{0\}.$$

6.2 Cluster points of sequences

Def. K is called a **cluster point** (집적점) of the sequence (a_n) if $k+\varepsilon$

given $\varepsilon > 0$, $a_n \approx_{\varepsilon} K$ for infinitely many n .



Recall L is the limit of the sequence (a_n) if

given $\varepsilon > 0$, $a_n \approx_{\varepsilon} L$ for $n \gg 1$ (i.e., for all but finitely many n).

Trivial fact:

If L is the limit of the seq (a_n) , then

L is (automatically) a cluster point.

But there are cluster points which are not limits

Exa A.

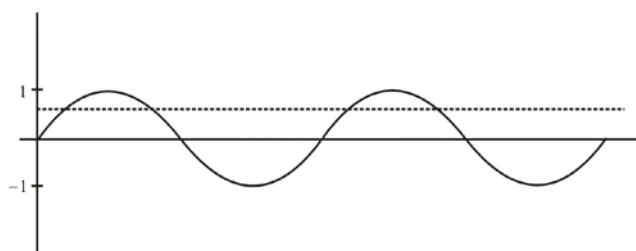
(a) $1, 1, 2, 1, 2, 3, 1, 2, 3, 4, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, \dots$

Every positive integer is a cluster point, but the sequence has no limit.

(b) $1, \frac{1}{2}, 1, \frac{1}{3}, 1, \frac{1}{4}, \dots$

1 & 0 are cluster points, but the sequence has no limit.

(c) $\sin 1, \sin 2, \sin 3, \dots, \sin n, \dots$



Every real number in $[-1, 1]$ is a cluster point of this sequence

(Its proof is very difficult)

But the sequence has no limit (already proved)

(d) $1, 2, 3, 4, \dots$ has no cluster point.

Note: Other names for cluster point are “**accumulation point**” or “**limit point**”

Caution: **limit point** \neq **limit**

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accumulation point = Limit point = cluster point

* cluster point is not necessarily unique

※ **Theorem (Cluster point theorem)**

K is a cluster point of the sequence (a_n)

$\Leftrightarrow K$ is the limit of some subsequence (a_{n_i})

Pf. \Leftarrow (easy): given $\varepsilon > 0$, $a_{n_i} \approx_\varepsilon K$ for $i \gg 1$, say, for all $i \geq I$

$$K = \lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} a_{n_i}$$

So, $a_{n_I}, a_{n_{I+1}}, a_{n_{I+2}}, \dots \approx_\varepsilon K$

$\therefore a_n \approx_\varepsilon K$ for infinitely many n

$\therefore K$ is a cluster point of (a_n)

\Rightarrow : By hypo, we can choose a_{n_1} so that

$$a_{n_1} \approx_1 K$$

By hypo again, we can choose a_{n_2} so that

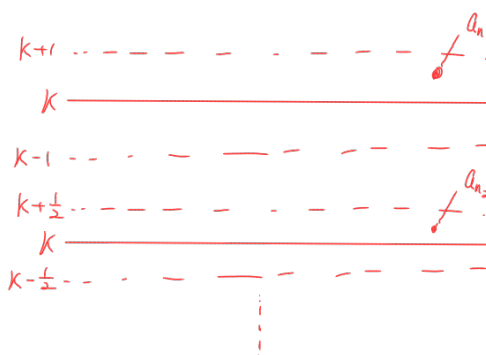
$$a_{n_2} \approx_{\frac{1}{2}} K \quad \text{and} \quad n_2 > n_1$$

By the same way, we can choose a_{n_3} so that

$$a_{n_3} \approx_{\frac{1}{3}} K \quad \text{and} \quad n_3 > n_2$$

\vdots

$$a_{n_i} \approx_{1/i} K \quad (\forall i) \quad \text{and} \quad n_i > n_{i-1}$$



Since $n_i > n_{i-1}$, (a_{n_i}) forms a subsequence of (a_n) .

Moreover,

$$\text{given } \varepsilon > 0, \quad a_{n_i} \approx_{\varepsilon} K \quad \text{for } \frac{1}{i} < \varepsilon, \quad \text{i.e., for } i > \frac{1}{\varepsilon} = I$$

$$\therefore K = \lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} a_{n_i} \quad \text{i.e., } K \text{ is the limit of the subsequence } (a_{n_i})$$

Exa B. Let $a_n = \frac{1}{n} + (-1)^n$. Show (a_n) has -1 & 1 as cluster points, but no limit

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Pf.} \quad a_{2k+1} &= \frac{1}{2k+1} - 1 \rightarrow -1 \quad \text{as } k \rightarrow \infty \\ a_{2k} &= \frac{1}{2k} + 1 \rightarrow 1 \quad \text{as } k \rightarrow \infty \end{aligned}$$

i) $\therefore -1$ & 1 are cluster points (by the Cluster point theorem)

ii) Since $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} a_{2k+1} \neq \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} a_{2k}$, $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$ does not exist.

Exa1. Find the cluster points of $\left(\sin \frac{n\pi}{2}\right)_0^\infty$.

$$\text{Sol.} \quad \left(\sin \frac{n\pi}{2}\right)_0^\infty : 0, 1, 0, -1; 0, 1, 0, -1; \dots$$

\therefore the cluster points are $0, 1, -1$

Exa2. Prove that if a sequence is convergent, it has only one cluster point.

Pf. Say $a_n \rightarrow L$. Then L is a cluster point.

If K is also a cluster point, then by the **Cluster point theorem**, \exists a subsequence (a_{n_i}) such that

$$\lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} a_{n_i} = K.$$

But since $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = L$, we have $\lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} a_{n_i} = L$ by the **Subsequence Theorem**.

Hence $K = L$

Exa3. Find a sequence that having only one cluster point, yet not convergent.

$$\text{Sol.} \quad 1, 2, 1, 3, 1, 4, \dots$$

Its cluster point is 1 , but clearly it has no limit.

6.3 The Bolzano-Weierstrass theorem

ex) $1, -1, 1, -1, 1, \dots$

Sequences in general do not converge, but they often have subsequences which converge.

Question: What kind of sequence has a convergent subsequence?

※※ Theorem (Bolzano-Weierstrass Theorem: **BWT** for short)

If (x_n) is a **bounded sequence**, then it has a convergent **subsequence**.

Pf. **key idea**: the Method of Bisection plus NIT

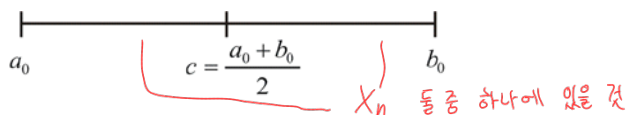
By the Cluster point theorem, it suffices to show that the bounded sequence (x_n) has a cluster point.

Since (x_n) is bounded, there are points a_0 and b_0 such that

$$a_0 \leq x_n \leq b_0 \quad \text{for all } n \quad x_n = [a_n, b_n]$$

We set $\text{length}[a_0, b_0] = d$

We can assume $d > 0$, otherwise, (x_n) is constant (\Rightarrow OK)



At least one of the half-intervals $[a_0, c]$ & $[c, b_0]$ contains infinitely many x_n .

Call this half-interval $[a_1, b_1]$ (; if both do, use the left-hand one)

We then have

$$[a_0, b_0] \supset [a_1, b_1], \quad \text{length}[a_1, b_1] = \frac{d}{2}$$

$[a_1, b_1]$ contains infinitely many x_n

Similarly, by dividing $[a_1, b_1]$ in half, we get an $[a_2, b_2]$ such that

$$[a_1, b_1] \supset [a_2, b_2], \quad \text{length}[a_2, b_2] = \frac{d}{2^2}$$

$[a_2, b_2]$ contains infinitely many x_n

Continuing, we get a sequence of nested intervals such that

$$[a_0, b_0] \supset [a_1, b_1] \supset [a_2, b_2] \supset \dots \supset [a_n, b_n] \supset \dots$$

$$\text{length}[a_n, b_n] = \frac{d}{2^n}$$

$[a_n, b_n]$ contains infinitely many x_n

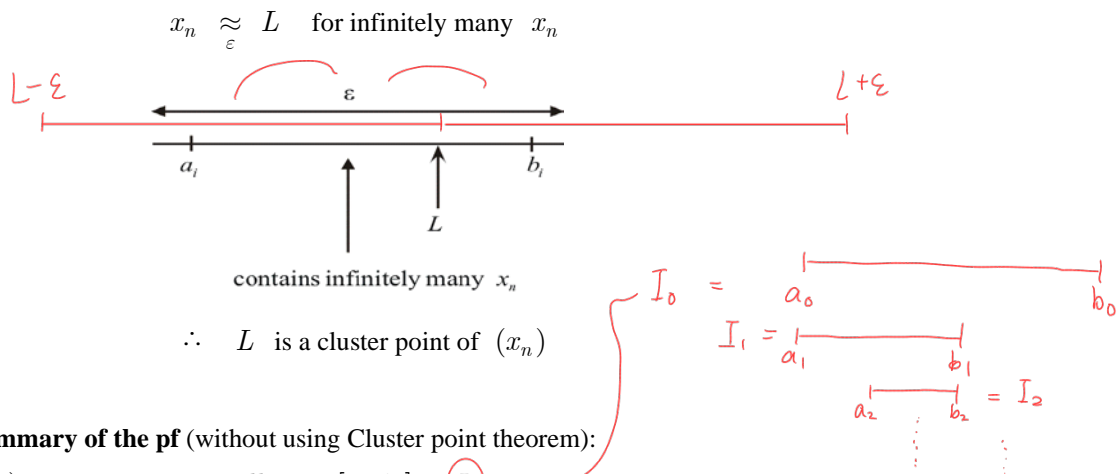
Since $\frac{d}{2^n} \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$, by NIT

\exists a unique point L such that $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} [a_n, b_n] = \{L\}$

Claim: L is a cluster point of (x_n)

Pf of claim: Given $\varepsilon > 0$, choose an i so that $\text{length}[a_i, b_i] = \frac{d}{2^i} < \varepsilon$

Since $[a_i, b_i]$ contains an infinitely many x_n & $a_i \leq L \leq b_i$, we get



Summary of the pf (without using Cluster point theorem):

(x_n) is bounded \Rightarrow all $x_n \in [a_0, b_0] =: I_0$

Bisect I_0 into two equal halves.

Choose I_1 to be one of the two equal halves of I_0 containing infinitely many number of terms of x_n ; and take $x_{n_1} \in I_1$.

Choose I_2 to be one of the two equal halves of I_1 containing infinitely many number of terms of x_n ; and take $x_{n_2} \in I_2$ with $n_2 > n_1$.

Continuing in this fashion, we obtain, for every index $i \in \mathbb{N}$,

an interval $I_i = [a_i, b_i]$ & a point $x_{n_i} \in I_i$ with $n_i > n_{i-1}$ and $I_{i-1} \supset I_i$

Note that $\text{length}(I_i) = b_i - a_i = \frac{\ell(I_0)}{2^i} = \frac{b_0 - a_0}{2^i} \rightarrow 0$ as $i \rightarrow \infty$.

Thus by NIT, \exists a unique point L such that $\bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} I_i = \{L\}$

Notice that L & $x_{n_i} \in I_i$. It follows that

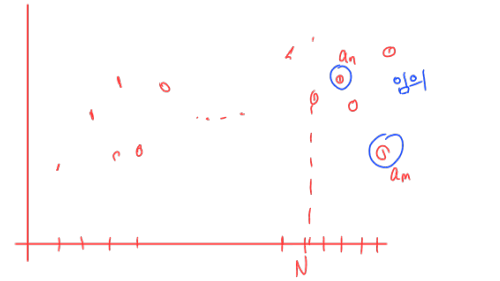
$$|x_{n_i} - L| \leq b_i - a_i \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } i \rightarrow \infty$$

$$\therefore \lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} x_{n_i} = L \text{ (i.e., } (x_{n_i}) \text{ is a convergent subsequence of } (x_n))$$

Exa. Let $(a_n)_{n=0}^{\infty} = \{\sin(n^2 + n + 1)\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$; $(b_n)_{n=0}^{\infty} = \{e^{\sin n}\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$.

Then it is clear that (a_n) & (b_n) are bounded sequences.

$\therefore \xRightarrow{\text{BWT}}$ each has a convergent subsequence.



6.4 Cauchy sequences

Def. We say that the sequence (a_n) is a Cauchy sequence if,

given $\varepsilon > 0$, $a_m \approx_{\varepsilon \text{ or } K\varepsilon} a_n$ for $m, n \gg 1$ (or for $m > n \gg 1$)

i.e., given $\varepsilon > 0$, \exists a number $N(=N(\varepsilon))$ such that

$a_m \approx_{\varepsilon \text{ or } K\varepsilon} a_n$ for all $m, n \geq N$ (or for all $m > n \geq N$)

Exa. $a_n = \frac{3n+1}{n+2}$ Show (a_n) is Cauchy.

Pf. Let $\varepsilon > 0$ be given. Then

$$\begin{aligned} |a_m - a_n| &= \left| \frac{3m+1}{m+2} - \frac{3n+1}{n+2} \right| = \left| \frac{5(m-n)}{(m+2)(n+2)} \right| \\ &\leq \frac{5m}{(m+2)(n+2)} + \frac{5n}{(m+2)(n+2)} \leq \frac{5m}{m(n+2)} + \frac{5n}{n(m+2)} \\ &\leq \frac{5}{n+2} + \frac{5}{m+2} < \varepsilon/2 + \varepsilon/2 = \varepsilon \quad \text{if } n+2 > \frac{10}{\varepsilon} \text{ \& } m+2 > \frac{10}{\varepsilon} \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$|a_m - a_n| < \varepsilon \quad \text{if } m, n > \frac{10}{\varepsilon} - 2 = N(\varepsilon)$$

So $a_m \approx_{\varepsilon} a_n$ for $m, n \gg 1$ $\therefore (a_n)$ is Cauchy

⊙ Fact (easy): (a_n) is convergent $\Rightarrow (a_n)$ is a Cauchy sequence

Pf. Suppose $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = L$. Then

given $\varepsilon > 0$, $a_n \approx_{\varepsilon} L$ for $n \gg 1$

So, $a_m \approx_{\varepsilon} L$ & $a_n \approx_{\varepsilon} L$ for $m, n \gg 1$

Thus

$a_m \approx_{2\varepsilon} a_n$ for $m, n \gg 1$

$\therefore (a_n)$ is a Cauchy sequence

Question: What about the converse?

Ans is yes (Next theorem)

Theorem (The Cauchy criterion for convergence)

If (a_n) is a Cauchy sequence, then (a_n) converges.

Pf. Let (a_n) be a Cauchy sequence.

1st step: (a_n) is bounded

To prove this, take $\varepsilon = 1$. Then by the def of Cauchy sequence \exists an N such that

$$a_n \approx_1 a_m \quad \text{for all } n, m \geq N$$

In particular,

$$a_n \approx_1 a_N \quad \text{for all } n \geq N \quad \text{i.e.,} \quad a_N - 1 < a_n < a_N + 1 \quad \text{for all } n \geq N$$

This says (a_n) is bounded for $n \gg 1$

This gives (a_n) is bounded for all n

2nd step: (a_n) has a convergent subsequence (a_{n_i})

$\llbracket \because$ proved (a_n) is bounded (\leftarrow 1st step)

BWT

$\Rightarrow (a_n)$ has a convergent subsequence; call it $(a_{n_i}) \rrbracket$

3rd step: Claim: Write $L = \lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} a_{n_i}$ Then $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = L$

To prove the Claim, let $\varepsilon > 0$ be given.

Since (a_n) is Cauchy, $\exists N \in \mathbb{N}$ such that

$$n, m \geq N \Rightarrow |a_n - a_m| < \varepsilon \quad \text{--- A}$$

Since $L = \lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} a_{n_i}$, $\exists I \in \mathbb{N}$ such that

$$i \geq I \Rightarrow |a_{n_i} - L| < \varepsilon. \quad \text{--- B}$$

Now take an integer $i_0 \geq I$ so that $n_{i_0} \geq N$. Then

$$n \geq N \Rightarrow |a_n - L| < |a_n - a_{n_{i_0}}| + |a_{n_{i_0}} - L| < \varepsilon + \varepsilon = 2\varepsilon$$

$\therefore \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = L$ by K - ε principle

Question: If a sequence (a_n) satisfies;

$$\text{given } \varepsilon > 0, \quad a_{n+1} \approx_{\varepsilon} a_n \quad \text{for } n \gg 1,$$

is (a_n) convergent?

Ans: No

For example, the sequence $a_n = 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \dots + \frac{1}{n}$ satisfies;

$$\text{given } \varepsilon > 0, \quad |a_{n+1} - a_n| = \frac{1}{n+1} < \frac{1}{n} < \varepsilon \quad \text{if } n > \frac{1}{\varepsilon}$$

So, given $\varepsilon > 0$, $a_{n+1} \approx_{\varepsilon} a_n$ for $n \gg 1$.

However, we have already seen that (a_n) is divergent.

m, n must be random

⊙ Typical examples of Cauchy sequences.

Type1.

$$|a_m - a_n| \leq c_n \text{ for every } m, n \in \mathbb{N} \text{ (or } m, n \gg 1) \quad \& \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} c_n = 0$$

$\Rightarrow (a_n)$ is Cauchy

Pf. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} c_n = 0 \Rightarrow$ given $\varepsilon > 0$, $|c_n| < \varepsilon$ for $n \gg 1$

So $|a_m - a_n| \leq |c_n| < \varepsilon$ for $m, n \gg 1$

i.e., given $\varepsilon > 0$, $a_m \approx_\varepsilon a_n$ for $m, n \gg 1$.

Exa. If $|a_m - a_n| \leq \frac{1}{m+n}$, then show that (a_n) is Cauchy

Pf. For every $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$,

$$|a_m - a_n| \leq \frac{1}{m+n} < \frac{1}{n} \quad \& \quad \frac{1}{n} \rightarrow 0$$

※ Type2. Let (a_n) be a sequence.

If \exists constants $C > 0$ and K , with $0 < K < 1$, such that

$$|a_{n+1} - a_n| \leq CK^n \text{ for every } n \text{ (or } n \gg 1),$$

then (a_n) is a Cauchy sequence

Pf. Let $m > n$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} |a_m - a_n| &\leq |a_n - a_{n+1}| + |a_{n+1} - a_{n+2}| + \cdots + |a_{m-1} - a_m| \\ &\leq CK^n + CK^{n+1} + \cdots + CK^{m-1} \\ &< CK^n (1 + K + K^2 + \cdots) = \frac{CK^n}{1-K} \equiv c_n; \quad c_n \rightarrow 0 \text{ since } 0 < K < 1 \end{aligned}$$

Thus (a_n) is a sequence of Type1

$\therefore (a_n)$ is Cauchy

Exa. If (a_n) satisfies $|a_{n+1} - a_n| \leq (1/2)^n$ for every n (or $n \gg 1$), then (a_n) is Cauchy.

Def. A sequence (a_n) is said to be **contractive** if \exists a constant K with $0 < K < 1$, such that

$$|a_{n+2} - a_{n+1}| \leq K |a_{n+1} - a_n| \text{ for all } n$$

Type3. If (a_n) is a contractive sequence, then (a_n) is Cauchy.

Pf. By hypo, we have for every n $0 < K < 1$

$$|a_{n+2} - a_{n+1}| \leq K |a_{n+1} - a_n| \leq K^2 |a_n - a_{n-1}| \leq \cdots \leq K^n |a_2 - a_1|$$

$\therefore (a_n)$ is a sequence of Type2 $\therefore (a_n)$ is Cauchy

Exa. Recall the sequence of Fibonacci fractions is defined by

$$a_1 = 1, \quad a_{n+1} = \frac{1}{a_n + 1} \text{ for } n \geq 1.$$

Using Cauchy criterion for convergence, prove that (a_n) converges, and determine its limit.

Remark. We already proved that (a_n) converges, by using an error-term analysis.

Pf. To prove (a_n) is convergent, it suffices to show (a_n) is a Cauchy sequence.

$$|a_{n+2} - a_{n+1}| = \left| \frac{1}{a_{n+1}+1} - \frac{1}{a_n+1} \right| = \frac{|a_{n+1} - a_n|}{(a_{n+1}+1)(a_n+1)}$$

$$\stackrel{?}{\leq} \frac{1}{(1/2+1)(1/2+1)} |a_{n+1} - a_n| = \frac{2}{3} \cdot \frac{2}{3} |a_{n+1} - a_n| = \frac{4}{9} |a_{n+1} - a_n|$$

$\underbrace{\quad}_{\text{K}}$

[[\therefore

$$a_1 = 1 \Rightarrow a_2 = \frac{1}{1+a_1} = \frac{1}{2} \Rightarrow 1 \leq 1+a_2 \leq 3/2$$

$$\Rightarrow 2/3 \leq a_3 = \frac{1}{1+a_2} \leq 1$$

$$\Rightarrow 1/2 \leq a_3 \leq 1$$

Expect: $1/2 \leq a_n \leq 1$ for all n

Suppose $1/2 \leq a_n \leq 1$ for all n . Then

$$3/2 \leq a_n + 1 \leq 2$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{2} \leq \frac{1}{a_n+1} \leq \frac{2}{3}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{2} \leq \frac{1}{a_n+1} = a_{n+1} \leq 1$$

Thus by Math. Induction, $1/2 \leq a_n \leq 1$ for all n .]]

Alternative easy way: It is clear that $a_n \leq 1$ for $\forall n \geq 1$;

thus we see also that $a_n \geq 1/2$ for $\forall n \geq 1$ because $a_{n+1} = \frac{1}{a_n+1}$ for $n \geq 1$

$\therefore (a_n)$ is contractive So (a_n) is Cauchy $\therefore (a_n)$ is convergent

Writing $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = L$, and taking limits on the relation $a_{n+1} = \frac{1}{a_n+1}$ give

$$L = \frac{1}{L+1} \quad \text{i.e., } L^2 + L - 1 = 0 \quad \therefore L = \frac{-1 + \sqrt{5}}{2} \quad (\because L > 0)$$

Remark. Another way of expecting that $1/2 \leq a_n \leq 1$ for all n :

$$\text{Draw the graph } y = \frac{1}{x+1}$$

Exa. Assume $x_0 = a$, $x_1 = b$ with $0 < a < b$ &

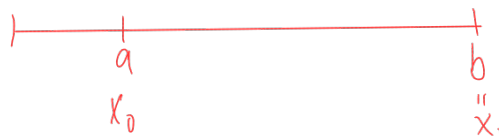
$$x_{n+1} = \frac{x_n + 3x_{n-1}}{4} \quad \text{for } n \geq 1$$

Show that (x_n) converges, and determine its limit.

Sol.
$$x_{n+1} = \frac{4x_n - 3x_n + 3x_{n-1}}{4}$$

$$\therefore x_{n+1} - x_n = -\frac{3}{4}(x_n - x_{n-1})$$

$$\therefore |x_{n+1} - x_n| = \frac{3}{4} |x_n - x_{n-1}|$$



$\therefore (x_n)$ is a contractive sequence. So (x_n) is convergent.

Writing $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = L$, and taking limits on both sides of the given relation $x_{n+1} = \frac{x_n + 3x_{n-1}}{4}$ give

$$L = \frac{L + 3L}{4} \quad \text{i.e., } L = L \quad (\text{give no conclusion})$$

Thus we need new idea.

$$\text{Back to the relation: } x_{n+1} - x_n = -\frac{3}{4}(x_n - x_{n-1})$$

From this, we get

$$x_2 - x_1 = -\frac{3}{4}(x_1 - x_0) = -\frac{3}{4}(b - a)$$

$$x_3 - x_2 = -\frac{3}{4}(x_2 - x_1) = \left(-\frac{3}{4}\right)^2 (x_1 - x_0) = \left(-\frac{3}{4}\right)^2 (b - a)$$

\vdots

$$\boxed{x_n - x_{n-1} = \left(-\frac{3}{4}\right)^{n-1} (b - a)}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore x_n &= x_1 + (b - a) \left[-\frac{3}{4} + \left(-\frac{3}{4}\right)^2 + \cdots + \left(-\frac{3}{4}\right)^{n-1} \right] \\ &= b + (b - a) \frac{-\frac{3}{4} \left(1 - \left(-\frac{3}{4}\right)^{n-1} \right)}{1 + \frac{3}{4}} \rightarrow b + (b - a) \frac{-\frac{3}{4}}{\frac{7}{4}} = \frac{3}{7}a + \frac{4}{7}b \end{aligned}$$

Def. A function $f: \overset{\text{an interval}}{\widehat{I}} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is said to be contractive if \exists a constant $K > 0$, with $0 < K < 1$, such that

$$|f(x) - f(y)| \leq K|x - y| \quad \text{for all } x, y \in I$$

Exa. Suppose $f: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a contractive function on I , and define

$$a_{n+1} = f(a_n) \quad \text{for } n \geq 1.$$

Then show that (a_n) is a Cauchy sequence.

Pf. $|a_{n+2} - a_{n+1}| = |f(a_{n+1}) - f(a_n)| \leq K|a_{n+1} - a_n|$ (for some $0 < K < 1$) $\forall n \geq 1$

$\therefore (a_n)$ is contractive So (a_n) is a Cauchy sequence.

Ex. Let $f: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be differentiable on I .

If \exists a constant $K > 0$, with $0 < K < 1$, such that

$$|f'(x)| \leq K \quad \text{for all } x \in I,$$

then show that f is contractive

Pf. $x, y \in I \Rightarrow f(x) - f(y) \stackrel{\text{MVT}}{=} f'(c)(x - y)$ for some $c \in (x, y)$ or $c \in (y, x)$

$$\therefore |f(x) - f(y)| \stackrel{\text{MVT}}{=} |f'(c)||x - y| \leq K|x - y| \quad \text{for all } x, y \in I$$

6.5 The Completeness Property for sets

So far we discussed the “Completeness Property for sequences of numbers”.

We now discuss the “Completeness Property for a set of numbers”

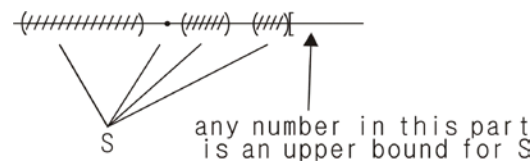
* a sequence of numbers : (a countable set) \therefore the numbers are **ordered in a list**

* a set of numbers (for example, the set of irrational numbers): an **unordered** collection

Def. Let S be a set of real numbers (i.e., $S \subset \mathbb{R}$).

If a number b has the property that $x \leq b$ for all $x \in S$, then b is called an *upper bound* for S .

A set S is said to be *bounded above* if S has an upper bound.



A number m is called the maximum of S if

- (i) m is an upper bound for S , and (ii) $m \in S$
- (i.e., $x \leq m$ for every $x \in S$, and $m \in S$)

Notation: $m = \max S$

Ex. $S = [0,1]$: bounded above (by 1) & $\max S = 1$

Ex. $S = (0,1)$: bounded above (by 1), but it has no maximum

(\because if m is an upper bound for S , then $m \geq 1$. But such $m \notin S$)

Def. Let $S \subset \mathbb{R}$. The supremum of S is a number \bar{m} satisfying:

sup-1: \bar{m} is an upper bound for S (i.e., $x \leq \bar{m}$ for all $x \in S$)

sup-2: $\bar{m} \leq$ any upper bound of S (i.e., \bar{m} is the least upper bound for S)

i.e., $x \leq b$ for all $x \in S \Rightarrow \bar{m} \leq b$

(In other words, b is any upper bound for $S \Rightarrow \bar{m} \leq b$)

Equivalently(대우), if $b < \bar{m}$, then b is not an upper bound for S

That is, $b < \bar{m} \Rightarrow \exists x \in S$ such that $b < x$

Or, for any $\varepsilon > 0$, $\exists x \in S$ such that $\bar{m} - \varepsilon < x \leq \bar{m}$



Notation: $\bar{m} = \sup S$ (\leftarrow supremum: Latin language) = $\text{lub } S$ (\leftarrow least upper bound)

Caution: $\sup S \in S$ is false in general [즉, 일반적으로 $\sup S \in S$ 라는 보장은 없음]

◎ Simple fact: $\sup S$ is unique, if it exists

Pf. Let $\bar{m}_1 = \sup S$ and $\bar{m}_2 = \sup S$

Since \bar{m}_1 is an upper bound for S & \bar{m}_2 is a least upper bound for S ,

$$\bar{m}_2 \leq \bar{m}_1$$

Interchanging the role of \bar{m}_1 and \bar{m}_2 , we have

$$\bar{m}_1 \leq \bar{m}_2$$

$$\therefore \bar{m}_1 = \bar{m}_2$$

Exa. $S = \left\{1 - \frac{1}{n} : n = 1, 2, 3, \dots\right\}$ Find $\sup S$ and $\max S$

Sol. Any $b \geq 1$ is an upper bound.

If $b < 1$, then $1 - b > 0$

Thus by AP, \exists a natural number n_0 such that $\frac{1}{n_0} < 1 - b$

That is, $b < 1 - \frac{1}{n_0}$ (& $\text{RHS} \in S$)

So b is not an upper bound for S

$$\therefore \sup S = 1$$

Since any upper bound of S *can not* belong to S , $\max S$ does not exist.

Exa. $S = \left\{1 + \frac{1}{n} : n = 1, 2, 3, \dots\right\}$ Find $\sup S$ and $\max S$

Sol. Any $b \geq 2$ is an upper bound.

If $b < 2$, b is not an upper bound for S

$$\therefore \sup S = 2$$

Since $2 \in S$, $\max S = 2$

Proposition

If $\max S$ exists, then $\sup S$ exists and $\sup S = \max S$

Pf. Let $m = \max S$. Then by the def of maximum

$$m \in S \text{ and } x \leq m \text{ for all } x \in S$$

So m is an upper bound for S --- (i)

On the other hand,

$$\text{if } x \leq b \text{ for all } x \in S, \text{ then } m \leq b \text{ (since } m \in S \text{)} \text{ --- (ii)}$$

From (i) and (ii), we conclude that $m = \sup S$ (that is, $\max S = \sup S$)

※ Theorem (Completeness Property for sets)

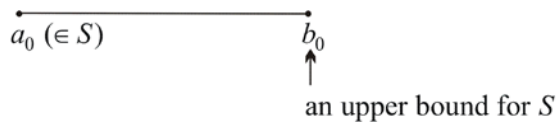
If $S (\subset \mathbb{R}) \neq \emptyset$ and bounded above, then $\sup S$ exists.

(that is, **if a nonempty set in \mathbb{R} has an upper bound, it has a least upper bound**)

Pf. Let b_0 be an upper bound for S

We can choose $a_0 \in S$ since $S \neq \emptyset$

$$\therefore a_0 \leq b_0$$



Bisect the interval $[a_0, b_0]$ with its midpoint $c \left(= \frac{a_0 + b_0}{2} \right)$.

Choose the half-interval $[a_0, c]$ if c is an upper bound for S .

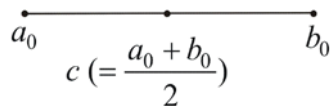
Otherwise, choose $[c, b_0]$. Call this half-interval $[a_1, b_1]$. Then

b_1 (= the right endpoint) is an upper bound for S

&

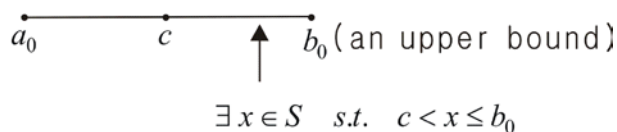
$[a_1, b_1]$ contains a point of S .

□. If $c \left(= \frac{a_0 + b_0}{2} \right)$ is an upper bound for S , then



$[a_0, c]$ contains a_0 & $a_0 \in S$.

Otherwise (i.e., if c is not an upper bound for S), we have



$\therefore [c, b_0]$ contains x & $x \in S$ □

Repeat this halving process with $[a_1, b_1]$ and continue. Then

we can get a sequence of nested intervals

$$[a_0, b_0] \supset [a_1, b_1] \supset [a_2, b_2] \supset \cdots \supset [a_n, b_n] \supset \cdots$$

such that

b_n is an upper bound for S & $[a_n, b_n]$ contains a point of S , and also

$$\text{length } [a_n, b_n] \rightarrow 0$$

By NIT, $\exists \bar{m} \in \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} [a_n, b_n]$ with $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = \bar{m}$ & $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n = \bar{m}$ (notice that $b_n \downarrow \bar{m}$)

We now show that $\bar{m} = \sup S$ (it is expected from the fact that $b_n \downarrow \bar{m}$)

(i) **sup-1:** \bar{m} is an upper bound for S

$$\left[\because x \in S \Rightarrow x \leq b_n \text{ for all } n, \text{ since each } b_n \text{ is an upper bound for } S \right.$$

$$\Rightarrow x \leq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n = \bar{m}, \text{ by LLT}$$

$$\therefore \bar{m} \text{ is an upper bound for } S \quad _$$

(ii) **sup-2:** $\bar{m} \leq$ any upper bound of S

$$\left[\because \text{Let } x \leq b \text{ for all } x \in S \text{ (i.e., let } b \text{ be an upper bound for } S) \right.$$

$$\Rightarrow a_n \leq b \text{ for all } n, \text{ since each } [a_n, b_n] \text{ contains a point of } S$$

$$(\text{that is, } a_n \leq x_n \text{ for some } x_n \in S)$$

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n (= \bar{m}) \leq b, \text{ by LLT} \quad _$$

Exa. Let $S = \{r : r \text{ is an irrational number s.t. } r < 1\}$. $\sup S = ?$

Sol. Any $b \geq 1$ is an upper bound.

If $b < 1$, then (by the density of rational numbers)

$$\exists \text{ a rational number } \frac{m}{n} \text{ such that } b < \frac{m}{n} < 1$$

We can choose a sufficiently small $\varepsilon > 0$ so that

$$b < \frac{m}{n} < \underbrace{\varepsilon\sqrt{2} + \frac{m}{n}}_{\text{irrational number}} < 1;$$

which shows any b ($b < 1$) is not an upper bound for the set S .

Therefore, $\sup S = 1$.

Ex. Let $S = \{r : r \text{ is a rational number s.t. } r < 1\}$. Determine $\sup S$.

Ex. Let $S = \{r : r \text{ is a rational number s.t. } r < \sqrt{2}\}$. Determine $\sup S$

Theorem (easy to expect) [Remember the conclusion]

(i) (a_n) is \uparrow & bounded above $\Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$ exists & $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = \sup\{a_n : n \in N\}$

(ii) (a_n) is \downarrow & bounded below $\Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$ exists & $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = \inf\{a_n : n \in N\}$

Pf. (i) $S = \{a_n : n \in N\}$

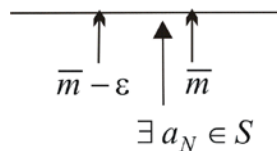
$\Rightarrow S \neq \emptyset$ and bdd above

Completeness Property $\Rightarrow \sup S (= \bar{m})$ exists

Suffices to show: $\bar{m} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$

For this, let $\varepsilon > 0$ be given. Then

$\stackrel{\text{sup-(2)}}{\Rightarrow} \exists a_N \in S \text{ s.t. } \bar{m} - \varepsilon < a_N \leq \bar{m}$



Since (a_n) is \uparrow , it follows that

$\bar{m} - \varepsilon < a_N \leq a_n \leq \bar{m}$ for every $n \geq N$

\Downarrow (clearly)

$\bar{m} - \varepsilon < a_n < \bar{m} + \varepsilon$ for every $n \geq N$

i.e., $a_n \approx_{\varepsilon} \bar{m}$ for every $n \geq N$

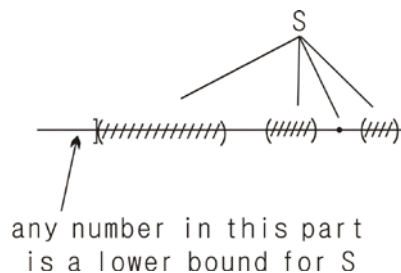
$\therefore \bar{m} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$

(ii) The proof is similar to that of (i)

Def. Let $S \subset \mathbb{R}$. If a number b has the property that $x \geq b$ for all $x \in S$, then

b is called a *lower bound* for S .

A set S is said to be *bounded below* if S has a lower bound.



A number m is called the minimum of S if

- (i) m is a lower bound for S , and (ii) $m \in S$
 (i.e., $x \geq m$ for every $x \in S$, and $m \in S$)

Notation: $m = \min S$

Def. Let $S \subset \mathbb{R}$. The infimum of S is a number \underline{m} satisfying:

inf-1: \underline{m} is a lower bound for S (i.e., $x \geq \underline{m}$ for all $x \in S$)

inf-2: $\underline{m} \geq$ any lower bound of S (i.e., \underline{m} is the greatest lower bound for S)

$$\text{i.e., } x \geq b \text{ for all } x \in S \Rightarrow \underline{m} \geq b$$

(In other words, b is any lower bound for $S \Rightarrow \underline{m} \geq b$)

Equivalently(대우), if $b > \underline{m}$, then b is not a lower bound for S

That is, $b > \underline{m} \Rightarrow \exists x \in S \text{ such that } x < b$

Or, $\text{for any } \varepsilon > 0, \exists x \in S \text{ such that } \underline{m} \leq x < \underline{m} + \varepsilon$



Notation: $\underline{m} = \inf S$ (\leftarrow infimum) = $\text{glb } S$ (\leftarrow greatest lower bound)

$$\text{Ex. } S = \left\{ 1 - \frac{1}{n} : n = 1, 2, 3, \dots \right\} \Rightarrow \inf S = 0 \text{ and } \min S = 0$$

$$\text{Ex. } S = \left\{ 1 + \frac{1}{n} : n = 1, 2, 3, \dots \right\} \Rightarrow \inf S = 1 \text{ and } \min S \text{ does not exist}$$

Proposition

If $\min S$ exists, then $\inf S$ exists and $\inf S = \min S$

Pf. Exercise

Theorem

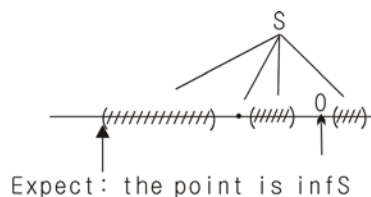
If $S(\subset \mathbb{R}) \neq \emptyset$ and bounded below, then $\inf S$ exists.

Pf.

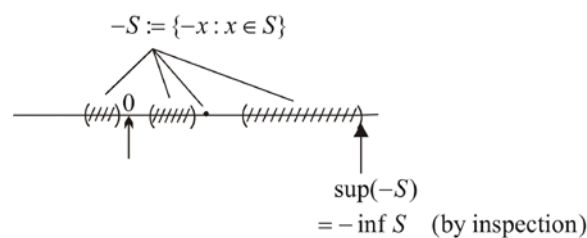
M1. This can be proved by using the same argument seen before

M2. Let $S (\neq \emptyset)$ be bounded below. Then

\exists a number b s.t. $x \geq b \quad \forall x \in S$ --- (*)



How can we prove the existence of $\inf S$



(*) $\Leftrightarrow \exists$ a number b s.t. $-x \leq -b \quad \forall x \in S$

$\therefore -S \neq \emptyset$ and it is bounded above by $-b$

Completeness Property
 $\Rightarrow \sup(-S)$ exists

We shall show: $\sup(-S) = -\inf S$

(If this is proved, $\inf S = -\sup(-S)$, so that $\inf S$ exists)

$\therefore \sup(-S) \stackrel{\text{let}}{=} \alpha$. Then

- (i) α is an upper bound for $-S$
 (i.e., $-x \leq \alpha$ for any $x \in S$)
- (ii) if b is an upper bound for $-S$, then $\alpha \leq b$
 (i.e., $-x \leq b$ for any $x \in S \Rightarrow \alpha \leq b$)

Note that

- (i) $\Leftrightarrow x \geq -\alpha$ for any $x \in S$
 (i.e., $-\alpha$ is a lower bound for S)
- (ii) \Leftrightarrow if $x \geq -b$ for any $x \in S$, then $-\alpha \geq -b$
 (i.e., $-\alpha \geq$ any lower bound of S)

Therefore

$$-\alpha = \inf S$$

i.e., $(\sup(-S) =) \alpha = -\inf S \quad \square$

Ex. Let $S = \{r : r \text{ is a rational number s.t. } r > \sqrt{2}\}$. Determine $\inf S$