

## Useful Reformulations of Completeness axiom

$(A, B)$  Dedekind cut

- (1)  $A \neq \emptyset \neq B$
- (2)  $\mathbb{R} = A \cup B$
- (3)  $a \in A, b \in B \Rightarrow a < b$

Completeness axiom: if  $(A, B)$  is a Dedekind cut of  $\mathbb{R}$ , either

$A$  has a greatest element or  $(-\infty, c] \cup (c, \infty)$   
 $B$  has a least element.  $(-\infty, c) \cup [c, \infty)$

## Least upper bound property

If a nonempty set is bounded above, then it has a least upper bound.

- $x$  is an upper bound for  $S$  if,  $\forall s \in S, s \leq x$ .
- $S$  is bounded above if it has at least one upper bound.
- $x$  is the least upper bound if
  - (a)  $x$  is an upper bound for  $S$
  - (b)  $\forall y < x, y$  is not an upper bound for  $S$
$$\Leftrightarrow \exists s \in S \ni s > y$$

Remark: If  $S$  has an upper bound  $x$  and  $x \in S$ , then  $x$  is the maximal element of  $S$ .

However, often the least upper bound of  $S$  is not an element of  $S$ .

Ex: Let  $S = \{n \mid 2 \leq n \leq \sqrt{2}\}$

$$\{1, 2, 3, 4, \dots\} = \left\{ \frac{1}{n} : n \in \mathbb{N} \right\}$$

1 is the least upper bound, but 1 is not in S.

$$\frac{n-1}{n} = 1 - \frac{1}{n} < 1 \quad \text{so } 1 \text{ is an upper bound.}$$

1 is the least upper bound for S; suppose that  $y < 1$

Pick  $n$  so that  $\frac{1}{n} < 1 - y$ . Then  $y < 1 - \frac{1}{n} = \frac{n-1}{n}$   
positive

so  $y$  is not an upper bound.

Supremum := least upper bound.

Notation: least upper bound of S is  $\sup S$  or  $\text{lub } S$

Completeness axiom  $\iff$  Least upper bound property

$\Rightarrow$  Suppose S is nonempty and bounded above.

Let  $B$  = set of all upper bounds for S.  $= \{x : x \geq s \quad \forall s \in S\}$

$$A = \mathbb{R} \setminus B = \{y : y \text{ is not an upper bound for } S\} = \{y : y < s \text{ for some } s \in S\}$$

$(A, B)$  is a Dedekind cut

(1) B nonempty since S bounded above

A nonempty since  $s \in S \Rightarrow s-1 \in A$

(2)  $\mathbb{R} = A \cup B$  since  $A = \mathbb{R} \setminus B$

(3) if  $a \in A$  and  $b \in B$ , then  $a$  is not an upper bound for S and  $b$  is an upper bound for S, so, for some  $s \in S$   
 $a < s \leq b$  so  $a < b$ .

by the completeness axiom, either A has a maximal element

or  $B$  has a minimal element (which is the least upper bound)

$A$  has no maximal element  $c \in A$ . Since  $c \in A$ , we can find  $s \in S$  s.t.  $c < s$ . Then,  $c < \frac{s+c}{2} < s$  so  $\frac{s+c}{2} \in A$  and  $c$  is not the maximal element.

So  $B$  has a least element - the least upper bound.  
 $B = [c, \infty)$ ,  $\sup S = c$ .

Let  $(A, B)$  be a Dedekind cut of  $\mathbb{R}$ .

We'll show that  $c = \sup A$  is a cut point of  $(A, B)$ .

If  $c \in B$ , then it has to be the least element of  $B$  (because every  $b \in B$  is an upper bound to  $A$ ).

If  $c \in A$ , then it has to be the greatest element of  $A$  (because if  $c = \sup A$  and  $c \in A$  then  $c$  is the max element of  $A$ ).

So either  $A = (-\infty, c]$ ,  $B = (c, \infty)$   
or  $A = (-\infty, c)$ ,  $B = [c, \infty)$

Greatest lower bound Property:

If  $S \neq \emptyset$  is bounded below, then  $S$  has a <sup>Infimum</sup> greatest lower bound (called  $\inf S$  (or  $\text{glb } S$ )).

If  $\inf S \in S$  then  $\inf S$  is the minimal element of  $S$ .

CA  $\Leftrightarrow$  GLBP  $\Leftrightarrow$  LUBP

Proof: GLBP  $\Leftrightarrow$  LUBP

$\inf S = -\sup(-S)$  where  $-S = \{-x : x \in S\}$

NIP: nested intervals property.

Suppose  $I_n = [a_n, b_n]$  and

(i)  $I_1 \supseteq I_2 \supseteq I_3 \supseteq \dots$

(ii)  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} [\text{length}(I_n)] = 0 \iff \forall \epsilon > 0, \exists N$  so that  $b_n - a_n < \epsilon$  for all  $n > N$

$$n \rightarrow \infty$$

Then  $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} I_n = \{c\}$  for some  $c \in \mathbb{R}$

Moreover,  $\forall \delta > 0, \exists N$  so that  $I_n = [a_n, b_n] \subseteq (c - \delta, c + \delta) \quad \forall n > N$

$CA \Leftrightarrow \mathbb{R}$  satisfies NIP and has no infinitesimals.