

# MATH 350-2 Advanced Calculus

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# Outline

- 1 Real Analysis Lecture 3
  - Suprema and Infima

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- $\pi$  is the supremum of

$$\{3, 3.1, 3.14, 3.141, 3.1415, 3.14159, 3.141592, \dots\}.$$

# Challenge

## Problem

Prove that if  $A$  is a set of integers that is bounded above, then  $A$  has a maximum.

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Therefore  $k \leq 0$  and  $a' \leq a$ .

It follows that  $a$  is an upper bound of  $A$ , and since  $a \in A$  it is a maximum.

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In other words

an infimum is a **greatest lower bound**

# Properties of Suprema

The first property of suprema is that they must be arbitrarily close to elements of the set.

## Theorem (Approximation Property)

*Let  $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  be bounded above, and let  $b = \sup(S)$ . Then for all  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exists  $a \in S$  with*

$$b - \epsilon < a \leq b.$$

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Therefore there must exist  $a \in S$  with  $a > b - \epsilon$ . □

# Important example: The number $e$

For each  $n$ , let  $s_n$  denote the sum

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For every  $n$ ,

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so  $S$  is bounded above by 3. Therefore  $S$  has a supremum,  $\sup(S)$ .

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We've just shown that  $e^1 = e$  exists.

# Properties of Suprema

Also, suprema play nicely with addition.

## Theorem (Additive Property)

*Let  $A, B \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  be bounded above set*

$$C = \{x + y : x \in A, y \in B\}.$$

*Then  $C$  is bounded above and*

$$\sup(C) = \sup(A) + \sup(B).$$



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This means there exists  $n \in \mathbb{Z}_+$  with  $b - 1 < n$ .

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**Hint:** assume it is and consider  $\sup(\mathbb{Z}_+) - 1$

## Solution

Assume it is.

The completeness axiom implies that  $b = \sup(\mathbb{Z}_+)$  exists

The number  $b$  is an upper bound and if  $b' < b$ , then  $b'$  is not.

Then  $b - 1 < b$  by Axiom 7, so  $b - 1$  cannot be an upper bound.

This means there exists  $n \in \mathbb{Z}_+$  with  $b - 1 < n$ .

It follows from Axiom 7 that  $b < n + 1$ .

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It follows from Axiom 7 that  $b < n + 1$ .

However,  $n + 1 \in \mathbb{Z}$ , so this contradicts  $b$  being an upper bound.

# Archimedian property

Theorem (Apostol Theorem 1.18)

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Replace  $x$  with  $y/x$  in the previous theorem. □