

## MATH3283W LECTURE NOTES: WEEK 3

2/1/2010

**Proof without words: picture depicts**

What is being proved from Fig.3.1?

- 1 Adding more and more dots gives bigger and bigger squares.  
→ It is too vague and it is not actually a math statement.
- 2 Each consecutive line has two more dots than the previous line.  
→ Nothing to prove.
- 3 The sum of consecutive odd numbers gives a square number .  
It can be proved by induction:

Observation:  $P(n) : 1 + 3 + \dots + (2n + 1) = ?$

$n = 1, 1 + (1 + 2) = 1 + (1 + 2 \cdot 1) = 4 = 2^2$

$n = 2, 1 + (1 + 2) + (1 + 4) = 1 + (1 + 2 \cdot 1) + (1 + 2 \cdot 2) = 9 = 3^2$

So we guess that  $P(n)$  is  $1 + 3 + \dots + (2n + 1) = (n + 1)^2$  and prove it by induction.

$n = 0$ , OK.

Assume  $P(n)$  is true, we want to show that  $P(n + 1)$  is true.

$$\begin{aligned} & 1 + 3 + 5 + \dots + (2n + 1) + (2(n + 1) + 1) \\ \stackrel{P(n)}{=} & (n + 1)^2 + 2n + 3 \\ = & n^2 + 2n + 1 + 2n + 3 \\ = & n^2 + 4n + 4 \\ = & (n + 2)^2 \\ = & ((n + 1) + 1)^2 \end{aligned}$$

So  $P(n + 1)$  is true.

### Upper and lower bounds

Suppose  $A(\neq \emptyset) \subset \mathbb{R}$  has an upper bound (bounded above). Let

$$B = \{r \in \mathbb{R} | r : \text{upper bound for } A\} \neq \emptyset$$

Suppose  $B$  has a smallest element  $w$ . Then  $w$  is called the **least upper bound** of  $A$ , or the **supremum** of  $A$ , write  $w = \text{lub}A$  or  $w = \sup A$ . Thus  $w = \sup A$  if

- (1)  $w$  is an upper bound for  $A$  and
- (2) if  $r$  is an upper bound for  $A$ , then  $r \geq w$ .

Another form of (2), using contrapositive:

$$(2') \forall r \in \mathbb{R}(r < w \Rightarrow \exists a \in A, r < a)$$

Note that any  $r < w$  is not an upper bound.

### Facts

- If  $r > w = \sup A$ , then  $r \in B$ .  
Since  $w$  is also an upper bound,  $B$  is a ray  $[w, \infty)$ .
- Let  $\varepsilon > 0$ , then  $w - \varepsilon < w$  and by (2'),  $\exists a \in A, w - \varepsilon < a$ , so we also have an equivalent condition:  
(2'')  $\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists a \in A, w - \varepsilon < a$ .

Similar for lower bounds:

Suppose  $A (\neq \emptyset) \subset \mathbb{R}$  is bounded below and  $w$  is the **greatest lower bound** for  $A$ , write  $w = \text{glb}A$  or  $w = \inf A$  (**infimum** of  $A$ ). Thus  $w = \inf A$  if

- (1)  $w$  is a lower bound for  $A$  and
- (2) if  $s$  is a lower bound for  $A$ , then  $w \geq s$ .

Again, using contrapositive of (2)

$$(2') \forall r \in \mathbb{R}(r > w \Rightarrow \exists a \in A, a < r)$$

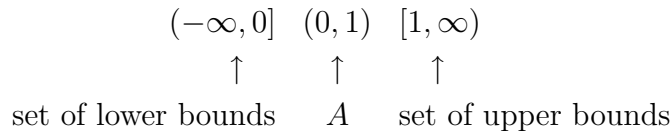
### Facts

- If  $s < w = \inf A$ , then  $S$  is a lower bound and  
 $s \in C$  : set of lower bounds of  $A$  ( $C$  is the ray  $(-\infty, w]$ )
- We also have  
(2'')  $\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists a \in A, a < w + \varepsilon$ .

**Note:** If  $A \neq \emptyset$  has a maximal value  $w$ , then  $w = \sup A$ . If  $A \neq \emptyset$  has a minimum value  $s$ , then  $s = \inf A$ .  $\sup$ 's and  $\inf$ 's generalize  $\max/\min$  values.

### Examples:

- (1)  $A = (0, 1)$ . Then  $\sup(0, 1) = 1$  and  $\inf(0, 1) = 0$ .  
 (Observe: 1 is an upper bound. If  $r < 1$ , we have to show that  $r$  is not an upper bound. Or we want to find  $s \in (0, 1)$  such that  $r < s < 1$ . Choose average  $\frac{1+r}{2}$ , then  $r < \frac{1+r}{2} = s < 1$ .)  
 $A' = [0, 1]$  also has  $\sup[0, 1] = 1$  and  $\inf[0, 1] = 0$ . So  $\sup A$  and  $\inf A$  may or may not be an element of  $A$ .



- (2)

$$A = \{1, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{3}, \dots\} = \{\frac{1}{n} | n \in \mathbb{N}\}$$

Since  $\frac{1}{n}$  is decreasing, 1 is the largest element of  $A$  and  $\sup(A) = 1$ .

calculus:  $\frac{1}{x} \rightarrow 0$  as  $x \rightarrow +\infty$

replacing  $x$  by  $n$  (integer values):  $\frac{1}{n} \rightarrow 0$

So  $\inf(A) = 0$ . This means:

$\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists n \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $\frac{1}{n} < \varepsilon$ .

- (3)

$$A = \{\frac{1}{2}, \frac{2}{3}, \frac{3}{4}, \dots, \frac{n}{n+1}, \dots\}$$

$A$  is bounded above by 1. What is  $\sup(A)$ ? Note that

$$\frac{n}{n+1} = \frac{n+1-1}{n+1} = 1 - \frac{1}{n+1}$$

Let  $\varepsilon > 0, \exists n \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $\frac{1}{n+1} < \varepsilon$ . Then

$$1 - \varepsilon < 1 - \frac{1}{n+1} = \frac{n}{n+1}$$

By (2''),  $1 = \sup A$ .

- (4) Let

$$A = \{x | x^3 < 4\}$$

Now  $[x > 0 \text{ and } x^3 < 4]$  iff  $0 < x < 4^{\frac{1}{3}}$ . If  $x < 0$ , then  $x^3 < 0$  and so  $x^3 < 4$ . Hence  $A = (-\infty, 4^{\frac{1}{3}})$ .

$\sup A = 4^{\frac{1}{3}}$  and  $\inf A$  **DOES NOT** exist.

- (5)

$$A = \{x \cos x | 0 \leq x \leq \pi\}$$

Observe:  $f(0) = 0$ ,  $f(\frac{\pi}{2}) = 0$ ,  $f(\pi) = -\pi$ . The graph may look like Fig.3.2. By calculus,  $f$  has a max and min value on  $[0, \pi]$ .

$$f'(x) = x \sin x + \cos x = 0 \Rightarrow \cos x = -x \sin x, \tan x = \frac{1}{x}$$

Then  $x \approx .87$  and  $x \cos x \approx .56$ . So  $\sup A = .56$  (check by graph),  $f(\pi) = -\pi$  is the minimum value and  $\inf A = -\pi$ .

(6)

$$A = \{x | x^2 + x - 6 < 0\}$$

$$x^2 + x - 6 = (x + 3)(x - 2) = 0 \text{ when } x = -3 \text{ or } x = 2.$$

For  $x = 0$ , we can get  $x^2 + x - 6 = -6 < 0$ . So  $A = (-3, 2)$  and

$$\sup A = 2, \inf A = -3$$

**2/3/2010**

Q: Is  $2^{2^k} + 1$  prime for any  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ ?

A: No!

$$k = 5, 2^{2^5} + 1 = 2^{32} + 1 = 4294967297 = 641 \cdot 6700417$$

**Examples:**

(1) Let  $A \subset \mathbb{R}$  and suppose  $\sup A = \inf A$ . What can we say about  $A$ ?

Let  $w = \sup A = \inf A$ . If  $a \in A$ , then

$$w = \sup A \Rightarrow w \geq a$$

$$w = \inf A \Rightarrow w \leq a$$

So  $w = a$  and  $A = \{w\}$ .

(2) Let  $A \subset \mathbb{R}$  and  $B \subset A$ . What can we say about  $\sup A$  and  $\sup B$ ?

Assuming both  $A$  and  $B$  are bounded. Let  $w = \sup A$ , then  $w$  is an upper bound for  $A$ . Since  $B \subset A$ ,  $w$  is also an upper bound for  $B$ . Hence  $w \geq \sup B$ .

**Exercise:** What can you prove about  $\inf A$  and  $\inf B$ ?

(3)

$$A = \left\{ \frac{1}{3}, \frac{2}{4}, \frac{3}{5}, \frac{4}{6}, \dots \right\}$$

$$a_n = \frac{n}{n+2} = \frac{1}{1+\frac{2}{n}} \rightarrow 1 \left( \frac{2}{n} \rightarrow 0 \text{ when } n \rightarrow \infty \right)$$

$$\text{or } \frac{n}{n+2} = \frac{n+2-2}{n+2} = 1 - \frac{2}{n+2} \rightarrow 1.$$

So  $\sup A = 1$  and  $\inf A = \frac{1}{3}$ . Note that  $\sup A$  is not an element of  $A$  but  $\inf A \in A$ .

(4)

$$B = \{1, -\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{3}, -\frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{5}, -\frac{1}{6}, \dots\}$$

$$\sup A = 1 \text{ and } \inf A = -\frac{1}{2}.$$

(5)

$$A = \{x \in \mathbb{R} | x^2 + x > 0, x > 0\}$$

$$x^2 + x = 0 = x(x + 1), x = 0, -1.$$

$$x = -\frac{1}{2}, (-\frac{1}{2})^2 + (-\frac{1}{2}) = \frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{2} = -\frac{1}{2} < 0$$

So  $A = (0, +\infty)$ . No  $\sup A$  and  $\inf A = 0$ .

(6)

$$B = \{1, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{9}, \frac{1}{27}, \dots, \frac{1}{3^n}, \dots\}$$

$\sup A = 1, \inf A = 0$  because  $\frac{1}{3^n} \rightarrow 0$ .

In order to prove  $\inf A = 0$ , we need to show that  $\forall \varepsilon > 0, 0 + \varepsilon = \varepsilon$  is not a lower bound. So we "need to find" some  $n$  such that  $\frac{1}{3^n} < \varepsilon$  or  $\frac{1}{\varepsilon} < 3^n$ .

Take logs:  $\ln(\frac{1}{\varepsilon}) < n \ln(3), -\ln(\varepsilon) < n \ln(3), n > -\frac{\ln 3}{\ln \varepsilon}$ .

The existence of such integer is given by the next topic.

### The Least upper bound axiom

Math statement that the reals  $\mathbb{R}$  have no "holes". Equivalently, if we approach a number as a l.u.b, then that number exists.

#### Least upper bound/complete axiom

Every non-empty set of real numbers that is bounded above has a least upper bound.

From this, we get a version of the well-ordering theorem for the reals.

**Theorem 0.1.** *Let  $A \neq \emptyset, A \subset \mathbb{R}$  and  $A$  bounded below. Then  $glb A$  exists.*

*Proof.* Consider  $B = \{-a | a \in A\}$ . Since  $A$  is bounded below,  $\exists x \in \mathbb{R}, \forall a \in A, a \geq x$ . Then  $\forall a \in A, -a \leq -x$  and  $-x$  is an upper bound for  $B$ . By LUB axiom,  $B$  has a l.u.b., say  $y = lub(B)$ .

Claim:  $-y = glb(A)$ .

First, we want to show that  $-y$  is a lower bound.

$$\forall a \in A, -a \leq y \Rightarrow \forall a \in A, a \geq -y$$

and  $-y$  is a lower bound.

Second, we have to show that  $-y$  is the greatest one. Suppose  $-y < r$ , then  $y > -r$ . Since  $y = lub(B), \exists a \in A, y > -a > -r$ . Then  $a < r$  and  $r$  is not a lower bound for  $A$ . So  $-y = glb(A)$ .  $\square$

An important consequence is:

The natural numbers  $\mathbb{N}$  and in fact the set  $A_r = \{nr | n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  for any positive real  $r$  are unbounded above.

**Theorem 0.2** (Archimedean Property of Reals). *Let  $a, b$  be positive real numbers, then  $\exists n \in \mathbb{N}, na > b$ .*

*Proof.* By contradiction. Suppose  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}, na \leq b$ . Then  $A = \{na | n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  is bounded above. Let  $b^* = \text{lub}(A)$ . Since  $a > 0$ ,  $b^* - a$  is not an upper bound. So  $\exists m \in \mathbb{N}, b^* - a < ma$ . This implies

$$b = (b^* - a) + a < ma + a = (m + 1)a$$

contradicts that  $b^*$  is an upper bound for  $A$ . So  $\exists n \in \mathbb{N}, na > b$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 0.3.** (1)  $\mathbb{N}$  is unbounded above.

(2)  $\text{glb}\{\frac{1}{n} | n \in \mathbb{N}\} = 0$

*Proof.* (1)  $\mathbb{N} = \{n \cdot 1 | n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  is unbounded by A.P. ( $a = 1$ ).

(2) For any  $r > 0$ , we want to show  $\exists n, \frac{1}{n} < r$ . Since

$$\frac{1}{n} < r \Leftrightarrow 1 < nr$$

This follows from A.P. ( $b = 1, a = r$ ). So 0 is the greatest lower bound.  $\square$

### Exercises

(1) Let  $a > 0$ . Then

$$\text{glb}\{\frac{a}{n} | n \in \mathbb{N}\} = 0$$

(2) Prove the following variant of A.P.:

$$\text{Let } a, b > 0, \text{ then } \exists n \in \mathbb{N}, -na < -b$$

This means  $\{-na | n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  and  $\{-n | n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  are unbounded in **NEG SENSE** (goes to  $-\infty$ ).

(3) Prove: If  $a > 0$ , then  $\text{lub}\{-\frac{a}{n} | n \in \mathbb{N}\} = 0$

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**Theorem 0.4.** *There is a real number  $x$  such that  $x^2 = 2$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $S = \{s \in \mathbb{R} | s > 0 \text{ and } s^2 < 2\}$ .

Since  $1 \in S$ ,  $S$  is not empty. Moreover, 2 is an upper bound. This can be proved by contrapositive:

If  $r \geq 2$ , then  $r^2 \geq 2^2 = 4 > 2 \Rightarrow r$  is not in  $S$ .

By LUB axiom,  $\sup S$  exists. Let  $x = \sup S > 1$ .

Claim:  $x^2 \geq 2$  and  $x^2 \leq 2$ , which says  $x^2 = 2$ .

Suppose  $x^2 < 2$ , then  $b = 2 - x^2 > 0$ . Set  $a = 2x + 1$ . By exercise (1),

$\exists n \in \mathbb{N}, \frac{a}{n} < b$  i.e.  $\frac{1}{n}(2x + 1) < 2 - x^2$

$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{n}(2x + \frac{1}{n}) \leq \frac{1}{n}(2x + 1) < 2 - x^2$

$\Rightarrow x^2 + \frac{2}{n} + (\frac{1}{n})^2 < 2, (x + \frac{1}{n})^2 < 2$  and  $x + \frac{1}{n} \in S$ .

This contradicts to the fact that  $x = \sup S$ , so  $x^2 \geq 2$ .

A similar argument shows that if  $x^2 > 2$ , we can find  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $(x - \frac{1}{n})^2 > 2$ , contradicting that  $x$  is the smallest upper bound. So we also have  $2 \leq x^2$  and hence  $x^2 = 2$ .  $\square$

Now we want to show that there are rational numbers everywhere.

**Theorem 0.5.** *Let  $a, b$  be real numbers with  $0 < a < b < 1$ , then  $\exists r \in \mathbb{Q}$  with  $a < r < b$ .*

*Proof.* Since  $b > a, b - a > 0$ . Since  $\text{glb}\{\frac{1}{n} | n \in \mathbb{N}\} = 0$ , we have  $n_1, n_2 \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $\frac{1}{n_1} < b - a$  and  $\frac{1}{n_2} < a$ . Let  $n = n_1 n_2$ , then  $\frac{1}{n} < b - a$

and  $\frac{1}{n} < a$  (see Fig.3.3). Let  $B = \{\frac{j}{n} | 1 \leq j \leq n \text{ and } \frac{j}{n} \leq a\}$

$B \neq \emptyset$  since  $\frac{1}{n} \in B$  and bound above by 1. By LUB axiom,  $B$  has a max element  $\frac{j_0}{n}$ . (since  $B$  is finite,  $\text{lub}(B) \in B$ ). Then  $\frac{j_0+1}{n} > a$ . Also  $\frac{j_0+1}{n} = \frac{j_0}{n} + \frac{1}{n} < a + (b - a) = b$ . So we can choose  $r = \frac{j_0+1}{n}$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 0.6** ( $n^{\text{th}}$  roots of positive numbers). *Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $y > 0$ . Then  $\exists x > 0$  such that  $x^n = y$  i.e.  $x = y^{\frac{1}{n}} = \sqrt[n]{y}$ .*

**Examples:** find lub and glb if they exist:

(1)

$$A = \{x | x^2 < 4\} = \{x | |x| < 2\} = (-2, 2)$$

$$\text{lub}(A) = 2, \text{glb}(A) = -2.$$

(2)

$$B = \{x | x^5 > 9\}$$

( $x$  negative  $\Rightarrow x^5$  negative)  $\Rightarrow x > 0$

If  $9 \leq x^5$ , then  $9^{\frac{1}{5}} \leq (x^5)^{\frac{1}{5}} = x$  (Why? Check it). So

$$B = \{x | x > 9^{\frac{1}{5}}\} = [9^{\frac{1}{5}}, +\infty)$$

No lub,  $\text{glb}(B) = 9^{\frac{1}{5}} \in B$ .

(3)  $C = \{2\frac{1}{2}, 2\frac{1}{3}, 2\frac{1}{4}, \dots\} = \{2 + \frac{1}{n} | n \geq 2\}$

$$\text{lub}(C) = 2\frac{1}{2} \in C.$$

$$\text{glb}(C) = 2 + \text{glb}\{\frac{1}{n} | n \geq 2\} = 2 + 0 = 2 \text{ not in } C.$$

(4)  $D = \{x | x > 0 \text{ and } \ln x < 1\}$ .

$$\ln x = 1 \Rightarrow x = e.$$

$$\text{So } D = (0, e), \text{glb}(D) = 0, \text{lub}(D) = e.$$

(5)

$$A = \left\{ \frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{2}, \frac{2}{3}, -\frac{1}{3}, \frac{3}{4}, -\frac{1}{4}, \dots \right\}$$

$$\sup(A) = 1, \inf(A) = -\frac{1}{2}$$

(6)

$$A = \left\{ 0, \frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{4}, -\frac{1}{4}, \frac{7}{8}, -\frac{1}{8}, \frac{15}{16}, -\frac{1}{16}, \dots, \frac{2^n - 1}{2^n}, -\frac{1}{2^n}, \dots \right\}$$

$$\sup(A) = 1, \inf(A) = -\frac{1}{2}.$$

Find  $a \in A$  with  $a > .99$ :

$$n = 7, \frac{2^7 - 1}{2^7} = 1 - \frac{1}{128} > 1 - \frac{1}{100} = .99$$

Find  $a \in A$  with  $a > .999$ :

$$n = 10, \frac{2^{10} - 1}{2^{10}} = 1 - \frac{1}{1024} > 1 - \frac{1}{1000} = .999$$

(7)

$$A = \{x | x^3 + x > 0\} = \{x | x > 0\}$$

$$x^3 + x = x(x^2 + 1) = 0 \Rightarrow x = 0$$

No  $\sup B, \inf B = 0$  (see Fig.3.4).

(8)

$$B = \{x | x^3 - x > 0\}$$

$$x^3 - x = 0 = x(x - 1)(x + 1)$$

$$B = \{x | x > 1 \text{ or } -1 < x < 0\} = (-1, 0) \cup (1, +\infty)$$

No  $\sup B, \inf B = -1$  (see Fig.3.5).