

## Warm up: suprema and infima

Find the supremum, infimum, maximum, and minimum of the following sets (if they exist):

1 
$$A = [-1, 5)$$
  
2  $B = (-\infty, \pi)$   
3  $C = \{\sqrt{2}, e, \pi\}$   
4  $D = \mathbb{N}$   
5  $E = \left\{\frac{1}{n} : n \in \mathbb{Z}, n > 0\right\}$   
6  $F = \left\{\frac{(-1)^n}{n} : n \in \mathbb{Z}, n > 0\right\}$   
7  $G = \{2^n : n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$   
8  $H = (0, 1] \cap \mathbb{Q}$ 

# Unicity of the supremum

Prove the following fact:

#### Theorem

If a subset  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  admits a supremum, then it is unique.

#### Recall:

Let  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ . Let  $S \in \mathbb{R}$ .

- *S* is an **upper bound** of *A* means  $\forall x \in A, x \leq S$ .
- S is the least upper bound (or supremum) of A means
  - S is an upper bound of A, and,
  - for all upper bounds T of A,  $S \leq T$ .

The same result holds for the infimum.

### Empty set

- **1** Does  $\emptyset$  have an upper bound ?
- **2** Does  $\emptyset$  have a supremum?
- O Does Ø have a maximum?
- **4** Is  $\emptyset$  bounded from above?

#### Recall:

Let  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ . Let  $S \in \mathbb{R}$ .

- *S* is an **upper bound** of *A* means  $\forall x \in A, x \leq S$ .
- *S* is the **least upper bound** (or **supremum**) of *A* means
  - *S* is an upper bound of *A*, and
  - for all upper bounds T of A,  $S \leq T$ .

The assumption that the set is non-empty is very important in the least upper bound principle!

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### Infima and suprema exercises

Let  $A, B \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ .

Which of the following statements are true or false? If true, prove it. If false, find a counterexample.

- 1 If  $B \subseteq A$  and A is bounded from above, then B is bounded from above.
- 2 If  $B \subseteq A$  and B is bounded from above, then A is bounded from above.
- **3** If *A* and *B* each have a supremum and  $B \subseteq A$ , then  $\sup B \leq \sup A$ .
- ④ If *A* and *B* each have a supremum and sup  $B \le \sup A$ , then  $B \subseteq A$ .
- **6** If *A* and *B* each have a supremum, then  $A \cup B$  has a supremum and  $\sup(A \cup B) = \max\{\sup A, \sup B\}$ .
- If A and B each have a supremum then A ∩ B has a supremum and sup(A ∩ B) = min{sup A, sup B}.
  What if moreover A ∩ B ≠ Ø? Fix the statement in this case.

### Equivalent definition of the supremum

For  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  and  $S \in \mathbb{R}$ , recall:

#### Definition

We say that *S* is the supremum of *A*, denoted by  $S = \sup(A)$ , if it is the least upper bound of *A*.

Write a formal definition using quantifiers.

Hint 1: how many properties must satisfy the supremum of A?

Hint 2:

$$A \xrightarrow{\varepsilon} S \xrightarrow{\varepsilon} \mathbb{R}$$

Beware: the above drawing is quite helpful, but keep in mind that there are subsets of  $\mathbb{R}$  that are not intervals (there may be some "holes")!

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## False statements

Let  $a \leq b$  and  $f, g : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be two bounded functions.

For each of the following statements, find a counter-example and then fix the statement:

**1** Let f and g be bounded functions on [a, b]. Then

$$\sup_{\substack{\text{on } [a,b]}} \inf_{a,b} (f+g) = \sup_{\substack{\text{on } [a,b]}} \inf_{a,b} (f+g) + \inf_{a,b} (f+g)$$

**2** Let *f* be a bounded function on [a, b]. Let  $c \in \mathbb{R}$ . Then:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \sup \ \mathrm{of} \ (cf) \\ \mathrm{on} \ [a,b] \end{array} \ = \ c \ \left( \begin{array}{l} \sup \ \mathrm{of} \ f \\ \mathrm{on} \ [a,b] \end{array} \right)$$

Let  $f(x) = \cos x$ .

Consider the partition  $P = \{0, 1, 2, 4\}$  of [0, 4].

Compute the lower and upper Darboux sums of f with respect to P, i.e.  $L_P(f)$  and  $U_P(f)$ .

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