

Every number which we have written down is positive so we combine the inequalities to see

(3)

$$ab < (a + \epsilon_1)(b + \epsilon_2)$$

We finish the argument by making  $\epsilon_1$  and  $\epsilon_2$  small enough to force  $(a + \epsilon_1)(b + \epsilon_2) < \gamma$

Well

$$(a + \epsilon_1)(b + \epsilon_2) = ab + \epsilon_1 b + \epsilon_2 a + \epsilon_1 \epsilon_2$$

I know that  $ab < \gamma$  so I'll just make

$$\epsilon_1 b < \frac{\gamma - ab}{3} \quad \text{and} \quad \epsilon_2 a < \frac{\gamma - ab}{3} \quad \text{and} \quad \epsilon_1 \epsilon_2 < \frac{\gamma - ab}{3}. \quad (\star)$$

Here is how I'll do that:

Notice that  $\frac{\gamma - ab}{3} \frac{1}{b}$ ,  $\frac{\gamma - ab}{3} \frac{1}{a}$ , and  $\frac{\gamma - ab}{3}$

are all positive numbers so I'll just pick

$\epsilon_1 = \epsilon_2$  positive but less than all of them. Now  $(\star)$

holds so

$$ab < (a + \epsilon_1)(b + \epsilon_2) = ab + \epsilon_1 b + \epsilon_2 a + \epsilon_1 \epsilon_2 < ab + 3 \frac{\gamma - ab}{3} = \gamma$$

Thus  $\gamma$  is not a lower bound for  $A \cdot B$  for any  $\gamma$  with  $ab < \gamma$ . We conclude that  $ab = \inf(A \cdot B)$