

Solutions - HW-3. Math 554

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*1). Prove the equivalence statement for "greatest lower bounds". If l is the greatest lower bound for a set A , then

1). l is a lower bound for A

2). If $\epsilon > 0$, then there exist a in A such that $a < l + \epsilon$

Proof:

① From the definition of g.l.b. l is clearly a lower bound for A .

② If (2) not. Then $\exists \epsilon_0 > 0$ for $\forall a \in A$ s.t. $a \geq l + \epsilon_0$. So $l + \epsilon_0$ is a lower bound for A and $l + \epsilon_0 > l$. This contradicts with the definition of "greatest lower bound". So 2) is right.

*2). Prove that if L_1 and L_2 are both least upper bounds for a set A , then $L_1 = L_2$.

Proof: Since L_1 is the least upper bound for A , then it is certainly the upper bound for A , and L_2 is the least upper bound for A , therefore $L_2 \leq L_1$.

Similarly, we can prove $L_2 \geq L_1$.
So $L_1 = L_2$.

*3). Using the property that the real numbers satisfy the completeness axiom, prove that \mathbb{R} satisfies the property that each nonempty set B which is bounded from below must have a greatest lower bound.

Suppose $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ is nonempty and that M is a lower bound for A , then A has a greatest lower bound l .

Proof: Let $B = \{b \mid b = -a, \text{ for some } a \in A\}$. Let $L = -m$, then L is an upper bound for B . If $b \in B$, then $\exists a \in A$ s.t. $b = -a$. But $m \geq a$, so $-a \leq -m = L$. $B \neq \emptyset$ since $A \neq \emptyset$. Therefore B has a least upper bound, call it γ . Let $\lambda = -\gamma$. then λ is a lower bound for A . Since γ is an upper bound for B ($b \leq \gamma, \forall b \in B$) $\Leftrightarrow (\lambda \leq a, \forall a \in A)$. If M is any lower bound for A , then $-M$ is an upper bound for B . γ is the least upper bound $\Rightarrow \gamma \leq -M$. But, $M \leq -\gamma = \lambda$. Therefore λ is the largest lower bound.

*4) Using induction, prove that $1+r+r^2+\dots+r^n = (1-r^{n+1})/(1-r)$ if r is not equal to 1.

Proof: If $n=0$: $r^0 = \frac{1-r^{0+1}}{1-r} = \frac{1-1}{1-r} = 0$ holds for $n=0$

Assume $n=k \geq 0$ and the formula holds for k .

Let $n=k+1$

$$1+r+r^2+\dots+r^k+r^{k+1} = \frac{1-r^{k+1}}{1-r} + r^{k+1} \text{ by induction}$$

$$= \frac{1-r^{k+1} + r^{k+1}(1-r)}{1-r}$$

$$= \frac{1-r^{k+2}}{1-r}$$

holds for $n=k+1$.

*5) Using the properties of " $<$ " prove that the interval $(a, b) = \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid (x-c) < r\}$ where $c = (a+b)/2$ and $r = (b-a)/2$.

Proof: $|x-c| < r \Leftrightarrow x-c < r$ and

$$x - \frac{a+b}{2} < \frac{b-a}{2}$$

$$x - \frac{a+b}{2} + \frac{a+b}{2} < \frac{b-a}{2} + \frac{a+b}{2}$$

$$x < \frac{b-a+a+b}{2}$$

$$x < \frac{2b}{2}$$

$$x < b$$

$$-x+c < r$$

$$-x + \frac{a+b}{2} < \frac{b-a}{2}$$

$$-x + \frac{a+b}{2} - \frac{a+b}{2} < \frac{b-a}{2} - \frac{a+b}{2}$$

$$-x < \frac{b-a-a-b}{2}$$

$$-x < -a$$

$$x > a$$

$\therefore a < x < b \Leftrightarrow |x-c| < r$