

Let V again be either $\mathbb{Q}$ or $\mathbb{R}$.

Def: An $M \in V$ is an upper bound for $S \subset V$ if $s \leq M$ for every $s \in S$

Def: An $m \in V$ is a lower bound for $S \subset V$ if $s \geq m$ for every $s \in S$

Note: An upper bound is not unique - if M is an upper bound, then any $\#$ larger than M is an upper bound. Similar for lower bounds.

Examples: (1) $V = \mathbb{R}$, $S = \{1, 2, 3\}$ - $3, 4, \pi$ - examples of upper bounds; $-101, 0, 1$ - examples of lower bounds.

(2) $V = \mathbb{R}$, $S = (0, 1]$ - $1, 2, 1012$ - examples of upper bounds; $0, -0.1, -53$ - examples of lower bounds.

(3) $V = \mathbb{R}$, $S = \{x \in \mathbb{R} : 0 \leq x^2 < 2\}$ - any number that is $\geq \sqrt{2}$ is an upper bound; any number ≤ 0 is a lower bound.

(4) $V = \mathbb{Q}$, $S = \{x \in \mathbb{Q} : 0 \leq x^2 < 2\}$ - any rational $\#$ square of which is > 2 is an upper bound ($\sqrt{2}$ is not an upper bound because $\sqrt{2}$ is not in $\mathbb{Q}$!); any rational number ≤ 0 is a lower bound

(5) $V = \mathbb{Q}$, $S = \mathbb{N}$: any rational $\# \leq 1$ is a lower bound; no upper bound.

Def: A set $S \subset V$ is bounded from above if it has an upper bound.

Def: A set $S \subset V$ is bounded from below if it has a lower bound.

Def: A set $S \subset V$ is bounded if it is bounded both from above and below.

Examples: (1) $V = \mathbb{R}$, $S = \{1, 2, 3\}$ - bounded from above and below $\Rightarrow S$ is bounded.

(2) $V = \mathbb{R}$, $S = (0, 1]$ - bounded

(3) $V = \mathbb{R}$, $S = \{x \in \mathbb{R} : 0 \leq x^2 < 2\}$ - bounded

(4) $V = \mathbb{Q}$, $S = \{x \in \mathbb{Q} : 0 \leq x^2 < 2\}$ - bounded

(5) $V = \mathbb{Q}$, $S = \mathbb{N}$ - not bounded, bounded from below.

Def: Suppose that $S \subset V$. The element $s \in S$ is a maximum of S if s is also an upper bound for S . Notation: $\max S$

Def: Suppose that $S \subset V$. The element $s \in S$ is a minimum of S if s is also a lower bound for S . Notation: $\min S$

Examples: (1) $V = \mathbb{R}$, $S = \{1, 2, 3\}$: $\min S = 1$, $\max S = 3$

Note: any set of finitely many $\#^1$ has both a maximum and a minimum.

(2) $V = \mathbb{R}$, $S = (0, 1]$ - no $\min$, $\max S = 1$.

(3) $V = \mathbb{R}$, $S = \{x \in \mathbb{R} : 0 \leq x^2 < 2\}$ - no $\max S$,
 $\min S = 0$.

(4) $V = \mathbb{Q}$, $S = \{x \in \mathbb{Q} : 0 \leq x^2 < 2\}$ - no $\max S$,
 $\min S = 0$.

(5) $V = \mathbb{Q}$, $S = \mathbb{N}$ - no $\max S$,
 $\min S = 1$

(6) $V = \mathbb{Q}$, $S = \{x \in \mathbb{Q} : 0 < x^2 \leq 2\}$ - no $\min S$;
no $\max S$.

Def: The least upper bound for S (if exists) is called the supremum of S and is denoted by $\sup S$.

Def: The greatest lower bound for S (if exists) is called the infimum of S and is denoted by $\inf S$.

$$(1) V = \mathbb{R}, S = \{1, 2, 3\} \Rightarrow \sup S = 3 \\ \inf S = 1$$

$$(2) V = \mathbb{R}, S = (0, 1] \quad \sup S = 1; \inf S = 0$$

$$(3) V = \mathbb{R}, S = \{x \in \mathbb{R} : 0 \leq x^2 < 2\} - \inf S = 0 \\ \sup S = \sqrt{2}$$

$$(4) V = \mathbb{Q}, S = \{x \in \mathbb{Q} : 0 \leq x^2 < 2\} - \inf S = 0 \\ \sup S - \text{does not exist.}$$

$$(5) V = \mathbb{Q}, S = \mathbb{N} : \inf S = 1; \sup S - \text{does not exist.}$$

Suppose that $s_0 = \sup S \Leftrightarrow$ (1) s_0 is an upper bound on S ; (2) s_0 is the least upper bound on $S \Leftrightarrow$ (1) $s \leq s_0$ for every $s \in S$; (2) Consider any $t < s_0$, then t is not an upper bound S , i.e., for any $t < s_0$, there exists an $s \in S$ s.t. $s > t$.

$\Rightarrow$ To test whether $s_0 = \sup S$ check:

(1) $s \leq s_0$ for all $s \in S$

(2) For any $t < s_0$, there exists an $s \in S$
s.t. $s > t$.

To test whether $s_0 = \inf S$ check:

(1) $s \geq s_0$ for all $s \in S$

(2) For any $t > s_0$, there exists an $s \in S$
s.t. $s < t$.

Example: Show that, if $V = \mathbb{R}$ and

$S = \{x \in \mathbb{R} : 0 \leq x^2 < 2\}$, then $\sup S = \sqrt{2}$

Proof: (1) From the definition of S , if

$x \in S \Rightarrow x^2 < 2 \Rightarrow x < \sqrt{2} \therefore \sqrt{2}$

is an upper bound on S

(2) Choose any $t < \sqrt{2} \Rightarrow t + \sqrt{2} < \sqrt{2} + \sqrt{2}$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{2}(t + \sqrt{2}) < \frac{1}{2}(\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{2}) = \frac{1}{2} \cdot 2\sqrt{2} = \sqrt{2}$$

Go back to $t < \sqrt{2} \Rightarrow t + t < \sqrt{2} + t$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{2}(t + t) < \frac{1}{2}(\sqrt{2} + t) \Rightarrow$$

$$t < \frac{1}{2}(t + \sqrt{2})$$

$$\therefore t < \frac{1}{2}(t + \sqrt{2}) < \sqrt{2} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{2}(t + \sqrt{2}) \in S$$

$t > 0$

$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{2}(t + \sqrt{2})$ is an element of S that is larger than t . $\square$