

# Practice Midterm 2 Solutions

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①

First, we show  $\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n$  is an upper bound for  $A$ .

Fix  $a \in A$ . Then  $\exists N_a$  s.t.  $n \geq N_a$  ensures

$s_n \geq a$ . Thus, for  $N > N_b$ ,  $\inf \{s_n : n > N\} \geq a$ .

By the contrapositive of HW4, Q6(a), this gives

$$\begin{aligned} \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n &= \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \inf \{s_n : n > N\} \\ &\geq a \end{aligned}$$

Our argument above shows that  $\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n \geq \sup(A)$ .

Suppose, for the sake of contradiction, that

$\sup(A) < \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n$ . Then  $\exists r \in \mathbb{R}$  s.t.

$\sup(A) < r < \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n$ . Since  $r \notin A$ ,  $|\{n \in \mathbb{N} : s_n < r\}|$

is infinite. Thus,  $\inf \{s_n : n > N\} \leq r \forall N \in \mathbb{N}$ .

This implies  $\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n \leq r$ , which is a contradiction.

②  $\sup \emptyset = -\infty$

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(2) (a) We proceed by induction.  
For the base case, note that  $s_1 = 1, s_2 = 2, s_3 = \frac{3}{2}, s_4 = \frac{5}{3}$ . Suppose  $s_{2k} \geq s_{2k+1}$  and  $s_{2k-1} \leq s_{2k+1}$ .  
Then  $s_{2(k+2)} = 1 + \frac{1}{s_{2k+1}} \leq 1 + \frac{1}{s_{2k-1}} = s_{2k}$ ,  
so  $s_{2k+3} = 1 + \frac{1}{s_{2(k+2)}} \geq 1 + \frac{1}{s_{2k}} = s_{2k+1}$ .

(b) Since  $s_{2n}$  is decreasing and  $s_2 = 2$ , we have  $s_{2n} \leq 2 \forall n$ . Since  $s_{2n-1}$  is increasing and  $s_1 = 1$ , we have  $s_{2n-1} \geq 1 \forall n$ . Furthermore,  
$$s_{2n} = 1 + \frac{1}{s_{2n-1}} \stackrel{s_{2n-1} > 0}{\geq} 1 \forall n$$
 and  
$$s_{2n+1} = 1 + \frac{1}{s_{2n}} \stackrel{s_{2n} \geq 1}{\leq} 2. \text{ This shows}$$

(c) Since  $1 \leq s_n \leq 2 \forall n$ , the subsequence of even terms and the subsequence of odd terms are both bounded and monotone. Hence, they both converge. Let  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} s_{2k} = s_{\text{even}}$  and  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} s_{2k-1} = s_{\text{odd}}$ .

Note that:

$$S_{2k+1} = 1 + \frac{1}{S_{2k}} = 1 + \frac{1}{1 + \frac{1}{S_{2k-1}}}$$

Since  $S_{2k-1} \geq 1$ ,  $S_{\text{odd}} \geq 1$ . Thus, applying the limit theorems (quotient, sum), we have  $S_{\text{odd}} = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} S_{2k+1} = 1 + \frac{1}{1 + \frac{1}{S_{\text{odd}}}}$ .

Thus,  $S_{\text{odd}}$  solves  $(S_{\text{odd}} - 1) = (1 + \frac{1}{S_{\text{odd}}})^{-1}$   
 $\Leftrightarrow (S_{\text{odd}} - 1)(1 + \frac{1}{S_{\text{odd}}}) = 1 \Leftrightarrow S_{\text{odd}} + 1 - 1 + \frac{1}{S_{\text{odd}}} = 1$   
 $\Leftrightarrow S_{\text{odd}}^2 - S_{\text{odd}} - 1 = 0$ . By the quadratic formula and the fact that  $S_{\text{odd}} \in [1, 2]$ , we obtain  $S_{\text{odd}} = \varphi$ .

Finally,

$$S_{2k} = 1 + \frac{1}{S_{2k-1}}$$

Again, applying the limit theorems, we obtain  $S_{\text{even}} = 1 + \frac{1}{S_{\text{odd}}} \Rightarrow S_{\text{even}} = \varphi$ .

(d) Fix  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Choose  $N_{\text{even}}$  so  $k > N_{\text{even}}$  ensures  $|S_{2k} - \varphi| < \varepsilon$  and  $N_{\text{odd}}$  so  $k > N_{\text{odd}}$  ensures  $|S_{2k-1} - \varphi| < \varepsilon$ .  
Let  $N = 2 \cdot \max\{N_{\text{even}}, N_{\text{odd}}\}$ . Then

$n > N$  ensures that either  $n = 2k$  and  $k > N_{\text{even}}$  or  $n = 2k - 1$  and  $k > N_{\text{odd}}$ . In either case  $|s_n - \varphi| < \varepsilon$ .

③

$$\text{a) } \limsup_{n \rightarrow +\infty} s_n = \lim_{N \rightarrow +\infty} \sup\{s_n : n > N\}$$

b) Suppose  $\limsup_{n \rightarrow +\infty} |s_n| = 0$ . Since  $|s_n| \geq 0$ ,  $\liminf_{n \rightarrow +\infty} |s_n| = 0$ . Thus  $\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} |s_n| = 0$  and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} -|s_n| = 0$ . Since  $-|s_n| \leq s_n \leq |s_n|$ , the squeeze lemma ensures  $\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} s_n = 0$ .

c) Suppose  $\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} s_n = 0$ . As shown on Midterm 1,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} |s_n| = |\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} s_n| = |0| = 0$ . Thus  $\limsup_{n \rightarrow +\infty} |s_n| = 0$ .

4)

1.

(a)

(b)

2.

(i) True

(ii) False - consider  $s_n = (-1)^n$

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① (a)  $\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 1$ ,  $\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = -1$

(b) No, No

② (a) True

(b) False