

## Practice Midterm 1 Solutions

CS 117, S25

© Katy Craig, 2025

①

a

Pf: For all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\sup(A) - \frac{1}{n} < \sup(A)$ . Since  $\sup(A)$  is the least upper bound of  $A$ ,  $\sup(A) - \frac{1}{n}$  cannot be an upper bound for  $A$ . That is,  $\exists a_n \in A$  s.t.  $\sup(A) - \frac{1}{n} \leq a_n$ . Since  $a_n \in A$ , for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , we have

$$\sup A - \frac{1}{n} \leq a_n \leq \sup A.$$

②

Fix  $\varepsilon > 0$ . By the Archimedean theorem,  $\exists N \in \mathbb{R}$  s.t.  $\frac{1}{N} < \varepsilon$ . Thus,  $n > N$  ensured  $\frac{1}{n} < \frac{1}{N} < \varepsilon$ , so

$$\sup A - \varepsilon < \sup A - \frac{1}{n} \leq a_n \leq \sup A$$

and  $|a_n - \sup A| < \varepsilon$ . This shows  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = \sup A$ .

c) Fix  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Since  $A$  is not bounded above,  $n$  is not an upper bound for  $A$ , so there exists  $a_n \in A$  s.t.  $a_n > n$ .

In this way, we know there exists a sequence  $a_n$  with  $a_n \in A$  and  $a_n > n$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

d) Fix  $m > 0$ . Let  $N = m$ . Then for all  $n > N$ ,  $a_n > n > N = m$ . Thus  $a_n$  diverges to  $+\infty$ . This shows  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = \sup A$

Thus, by definition of the greatest lower bound,  $\frac{1}{m} \leq \inf S$ . Thus,  $\frac{1}{\inf S} \leq m$ . This shows that  $\frac{1}{\inf S}$  is the least upper bound of  $S'$ .  
Thus  $\frac{1}{\inf S} = \sup S'$ .

(d) By definition of what  $\sup S' = +\infty$  means, it suffices to show  $S'$  is not bounded above.

Suppose, for the sake of contradiction, that  $m$  were an upper bound for  $S'$ . Again, since  $S' \subseteq (0, +\infty)$  is nonempty, we have  $m > 0$ . By part (b),  $\frac{1}{m} > 0$  is a lower bound for  $S$ . This contradicts that  $\inf S = 0$  is the greatest lower bound.

Thus,  $S'$  is not bounded above.

② (a) First, suppose  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n = s$  for  $s < a$ . If we define  $\varepsilon = a - s$ , then  $\varepsilon > 0$ . By definition of convergence, there exists  $N \in \mathbb{R}$  s.t.  $n > N$  ensured  $|s_n - s| < \varepsilon \Leftrightarrow s - \varepsilon < s_n < s + \varepsilon$

Thus  $n > N$  ensured  $s_n < s + \varepsilon = a$ . Hence  $\{n \in \mathbb{N} : s_n \geq a\} \subseteq \{1, 2, \dots, \lfloor N \rfloor\}$ . Thus,  $\{n \in \mathbb{N} : s_n \geq a\}$  is a finite set.

Next, suppose  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n = -\infty$ . Let  $m = \min\{-1, a\}$ . Then  $\exists N$  s.t.  $s_n < m \leq a$  for all  $n > N$ . Thus,  $\{n \in \mathbb{N} : s_n \geq a\}$  is a finite set.

(b) First, suppose  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} t_n = t > 0$ . Then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} t_n > \frac{t}{2}$ . Applying part (a) with  $s_n = -t_n$  and  $a = -\frac{t}{2}$ , we obtain that  $\{n \in \mathbb{N} : s_n \geq a\} = \{n \in \mathbb{N} : -t_n \geq -\frac{t}{2}\} = \{n \in \mathbb{N} : t_n \leq \frac{t}{2}\} \supseteq \{n \in \mathbb{N} : t_n < \frac{t}{2}\}$  are all finite sets. This shows the result for  $b = \frac{t}{2}$ .

Now, suppose  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} t_n = +\infty$ . Then  $\exists$   $N$  s.t.  $\forall n > N, t_n > 1$ . Thus,  $\{n \in \mathbb{N} : t_n \leq 1\} \supseteq \{n \in \mathbb{N} : t_n < 1\}$  is finite. This shows the result for  $b=1$ .

③

Fix  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Since  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_{2n} = a = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_{2n+1}$ ,

$\exists N_\varepsilon, N_0 \in \mathbb{R}$  s.t.

$$n > N_\varepsilon \Rightarrow |a_{2n} - a| < \varepsilon$$

$$n > N_0 \Rightarrow |a_{2n+1} - a| < \varepsilon.$$

Define  $N = 2 \cdot \max\{N_\varepsilon, N_0\}$ . Suppose

$n > N$ . If  $n$  is even,  $n = 2m$  for

$m \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $n > N \geq 2N_\varepsilon \Rightarrow 2m \geq 2N_\varepsilon \Rightarrow m \geq N_\varepsilon$ , so  $|a_n - a| = |a_{2m} - a| < \varepsilon$ .

OTOH, if  $n$  is odd,  $n = 2m-1$  for  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ , and  $n > N \geq 2N_0 - 1 \Rightarrow 2m-1 \geq 2N_0 - 1 \Rightarrow m \geq N_0$ ,

so  $|a_n - a| = |a_{2m-1} - a| < \varepsilon$ . Thus, in both cases,  $n > N$  ensures  $|a_n - a| < \varepsilon$ . This shows  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = a$ .

④

We begin by showing  $s_{2n}$  is decreasing and  $s_{2n-1}$  is increasing.

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  $s_{2k+3} = 1 + \frac{1}{s_{2(k+2)}} \geq 1 + \frac{1}{s_{2k}} = s_{2k+1}$ .

Now, we show  $1 \leq s_n \leq 2 \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Since  $s_{2n}$  is decreasing and  $s_2 = 2$ , we have  $s_{2n} \leq 2 \quad \forall n$ . Since  $s_{2n-1}$  is increasing and  $s_1 = 1$ , we have

$s_{2n-1} \geq 1 \quad \forall n$ . Furthermore,

$s_{2n} = 1 + \frac{1}{s_{2n-1}} \stackrel{s_{2n-1} \geq 1}{\geq} 1 \quad \forall n$  and

$s_{2n+1} = 1 + \frac{1}{s_{2n}} \stackrel{s_{2n} \leq 2}{\leq} 2$ . This shows

$1 \leq s_n \leq 2 \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Since  $1 \leq s_n \leq 2$  for all  $n$ , 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  $(s_{\text{odd}} - 1) = \left(1 + \frac{1}{s_{\text{odd}}}\right)^{-1}$   
 $\Leftrightarrow (s_{\text{odd}} - 1)\left(1 + \frac{1}{s_{\text{odd}}}\right) = 1 \Leftrightarrow s_{\text{odd}} + 1 - 1 + \frac{1}{s_{\text{odd}}} = 1$   
 $\Leftrightarrow s_{\text{odd}}^2 - s_{\text{odd}} - 1 = 0$ . 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  $\text{Seven} = 1 + \frac{1}{\text{Sodd}} \Rightarrow \text{Seven} = 0$ .

The result then follows by question 3.

⑤ We will show  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 0$ . Since  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} = 0$ ,  $\exists N_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $n > N_0$  ensures  $|\frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n}| < \frac{1}{2} \Rightarrow \underbrace{|a_{n+1}| < \frac{1}{2} |a_n|}_{\star}$ .

We claim that,  $\forall N, m \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $N > N_0$ ,  $\underbrace{|a_{N+m}|}_{\star\star} < (\frac{1}{2})^m |a_N|$ . We have just shown the base case  $m=1$ .

Suppose  $|a_{N+m}| < (\frac{1}{2})^m |a_N|$ . By  $(\star)$ ,  $|a_{N+m+1}| < \frac{1}{2} |a_{N+m}| < (\frac{1}{2})^{m+1} |a_N|$ .  $\cup$

This proves the claim.

Since  $\frac{1}{2} \in (0, 1)$ , by HWB Q5,  $\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} (\frac{1}{2})^m = 0$ , so  $\forall N \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $N > N_0$ ,  $\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} (\frac{1}{2})^m |a_N| = 0$ , by the theorem that the limit of the product is the product of the limits.

Fix  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Then  $\exists m$  s.t.  $m > M$   
ensured  $(\frac{1}{2})^m |a_{N_0+1}| < \varepsilon$ . Thus  
for  $n > N_0 + M + 2$ , we may express  
 $n = N + m$  for  $N > N_0 + 1$  and  $m > M$ ,  
so ~~so~~ ensured  $|a_n| = |a_{N+m}| < (\frac{1}{2})^m |a_{N_0+1}| < \varepsilon$ .  
Therefore,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 0$ .

⑥

(a)  $S$  is bounded below if there exists  $m_0 \in \mathbb{R}$  s.t.  $m_0 \leq s$  for all  $s \in S$ .

(b) Suppose  $a > 0$  is a lower bound for  $S$ . Then  $a \leq s \quad \forall s \in S$ , which is equivalent to  $\frac{1}{s} \leq \frac{1}{a} \quad \forall s \in S$ . Furthermore, this is equivalent to  $t \leq \frac{1}{a} \quad \forall t \in S'$ . Finally, we recognize this is equivalent to  $\frac{1}{a}$  being an upper bound for  $S'$ .

(c) If  $\inf S > 0$ , then by part (b), we use the fact that  $\inf S$  is a lower bound for  $S$  to conclude that  $\frac{1}{\inf S}$  is an upper bound for  $S'$ .

Suppose  $M$  is an upper bound for  $S'$ . Since  $S' \subseteq (0, +\infty)$  is nonempty,  $M$  must be strictly positive. By part (b),  $\frac{1}{M}$  is a lower bound for  $S$ .

Thus, by definition of the greatest lower bound,  $\frac{1}{m} \leq \inf S$ . Thus,  $\frac{1}{\inf S} \leq m$ . This shows that  $\frac{1}{\inf S}$  is the least upper bound of  $S'$ .  
Thus  $\frac{1}{\inf S} = \sup S'$ .

(d) By definition of what  $\sup S' = +\infty$  means, it suffices to show  $S'$  is not bounded above.

Suppose, for the sake of contradiction, that  $m$  were an upper bound for  $S'$ . Again, since  $S' \subseteq (0, +\infty)$  is nonempty, we have  $m > 0$ . By part (b),  $\frac{1}{m} > 0$  is a lower bound for  $S$ . This contradicts that  $\inf S = 0$  is the greatest lower bound.

Thus,  $S'$  is not bounded above.

⑦ The correct definition is ②.

① Consider  $s_n = (1, -1, 1, -1, \dots)$ ,  $s = 0$ .

Then for  $\varepsilon = 2$  and all  $N \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $n > N$  ensures  $|s_n - s| < \varepsilon$ .

② Consider  $s_n = \frac{1}{n}$ ,  $s = 0$ . For  $\varepsilon = 0$  there is no  $N \in \mathbb{R}$  so that  $n > N$  ensures  $|s_n - 0| < \varepsilon$ .

③ Consider  $s_n = \frac{1}{n}$ ,  $s = 0$ . For  $\varepsilon = \frac{1}{4}$ ,  $|s_n - s| < \varepsilon$  is not true for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .



















