

Lecture 2

CS 117, S26 © Katy Craig, 2026

Office Hours: Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 11:15am-12:15pm, SH 6507

Homework typically due Thursdays at 11:59pm

Homework 1 due **Monday**, April 6th at 11:59pm

This week: extra office hours **tomorrow** (Thursday) 11:15am-12:15pm

Numbers!

Natural numbers

$$\mathbb{N} = \{1, 2, 3, 4, \dots\}$$

Integers

$$\mathbb{Z} = \{\dots, -2, -1, 0, 1, \dots\}$$

Rational numbers

$$\mathbb{Q} = \left\{ \frac{m}{n} : m, n \in \mathbb{Z}, n \neq 0 \right\}$$

Real numbers

$$\mathbb{R} = ?$$

Def: A binary operation on a set X is a function from $X \times X$ to X .

Def: A set F is a field if it has two binary operations (addition and multiplication) that satisfy the following properties (for all $a, b, c \in F$)

$$(A1) \quad a + (b + c) = (a + b) + c$$

$$(A2) \quad a + b = b + a$$

(A3) $\exists!$ element $0 \in F$ s.t.

$$\forall a \in F, a + 0 = a$$

(A4) for each $a \in F$, $\exists!$ $b \in F$ s.t. $a + b = 0$; denote $-a := b$

$$(M1) \quad a(bc) = (ab)c$$

$$(M2) \quad ab = ba$$

(M3) $\exists!$ element $1 \in F \setminus \{0\}$ s.t.

$$\forall a \in F, a \cdot 1 = a$$

(M4) for each $a \in F \setminus \{0\}$, $\exists!$
 $b \in F$ s.t. $ab=1$;
denote $\frac{1}{a} = a^{-1} := b$.

$$(D2) a(b+c) = ab+ac$$

Thm: \mathbb{Q} is a field

Thm: If F is a field, then
 $\forall a, b, c \in F$,
(i) if $a+c = b+c$, then $a=b$
(ii) $a \cdot 0 = 0$

Def: A field F is an ordered field if it has an ordering relation \leq so that, $\forall a, b, c \in F$

(01) either $a \leq b$ or $b \leq a$ *totality*

(02) if $a \leq b$ and $b \leq a$, then $a = b$
antisymmetry

(03) if $a \leq b$ and $b \leq c$, then $a \leq c$
transitivity

(04) if $a \leq b$, then $a + c \leq b + c$

(05) if $a \leq b$ and $c \geq 0$, then $ac \leq bc$

Def: Given an ordered field F and $a, b \in F$, if $a \leq b$ and $a \neq b$, then write $a < b$.

Thm: Suppose F is an ordered field. Then $\forall a, b, c \in F$,

- (i) $a \leq b \Rightarrow -b \leq -a$
- (ii) $a \leq b$ and $c \leq 0 \Rightarrow ac \geq bc$
- (iii) $a \geq 0, b \geq 0 \Rightarrow ab \geq 0$
- (iv) $0 \leq a^2$, where $a^2 = a \cdot a$
- (v) $0 < a \Rightarrow 0 < \frac{1}{a}$

Rmk: For any ordered field,
 $0 < 1$.

Thm: \mathbb{Q} is an ordered field

Thm: Suppose F is an ordered field. Then $\forall p, q \in F$ with $p < q$, $\exists r \in F$ s.t. $p < r < q$.

Def: For any $a \in F$, $|a| := \begin{cases} a & \text{if } a \geq 0 \\ -a & \text{if } a < 0 \end{cases}$

Thm: (basic properties of $|\cdot|$)

For all $a, b \in F$,

(i) $|a| \geq 0$

(ii) $|ab| = |a||b|$

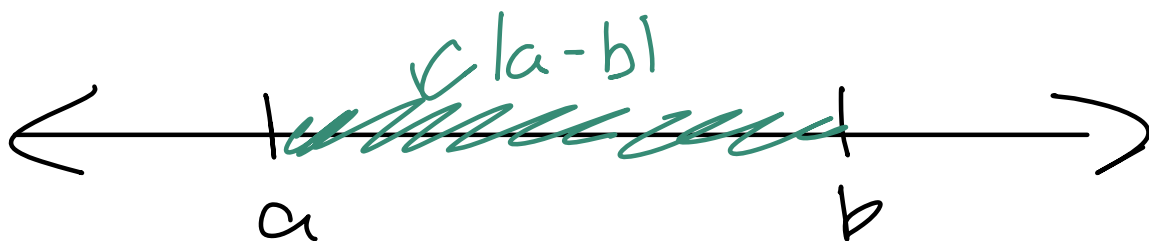
(iii) $|a| \geq a$ and $|a| \geq -a$

(iv) $|a+b| \leq |a| + |b|$ \uparrow

triangle inequality

Def: (distance) For any $a, b \in F$,

$$\text{dist}(a, b) = |a - b|.$$



On any ordered field, we can define a notion of maximum and minimum.

Def (maximum/minimum)

Suppose $S \subseteq F$, where F is an ordered field.

• If there exists $s_0 \in S$ s.t. $s_0 \geq s \forall s \in S$, then s_0 is the maximum of S and write $s_0 = \max(S)$. \cup

" s_0 is the largest element in S "

• If there exists $s_0 \in S$ s.t. $s_0 \leq s \forall s \in S$, then s_0 is the minimum of S and write $s_0 = \min(S)$. \cup

" s_0 is the smallest elt in S "

Ex: Given an ordered field F ,
then any finite set

$$\{s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n\} =: S \subseteq F,$$

has a maximum and
a minimum.

Ex: $F = \mathbb{Q}$,

$$S = (0, 1) \cap \mathbb{Q}$$

$$= \{x \in \mathbb{Q} \cdot 0 < x < 1\}$$

"does not exist"

Claim: $\max(S)$ D.N.E.

Pf of Claim: Assume, for the
sake of contradiction that
 $s_0 = \max(S)$ exists. Since $s_0 \in S$,
 $0 < s_0 < 1$, so by ~~the~~ previous theorem

$\exists r \in \mathbb{Q} \quad 0 < s_0 < r < 1.$

Thus $r \in S$, but $r > \max(S)$, which is a contradiction.

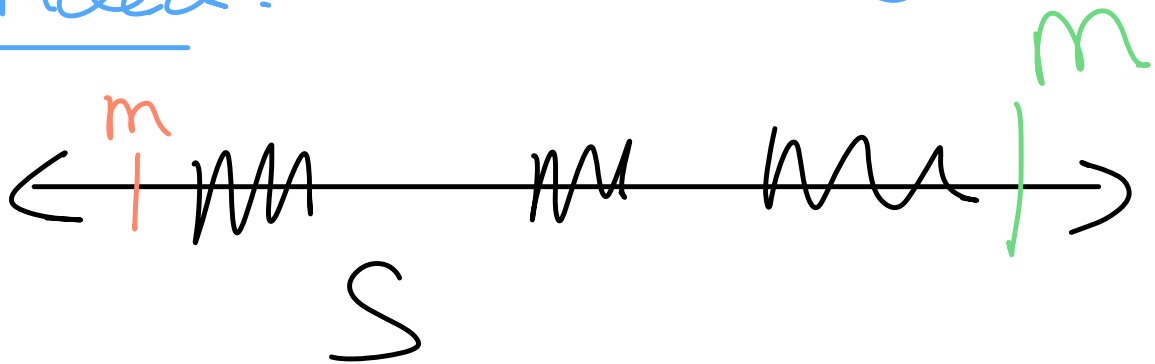
Def (bounded above/below):

Suppose $S \subseteq F$, for an ordered field F ,

• If there exists $M \in F$ s.t. $s \leq M \quad \forall s \in S$, then S is bounded above and M is an upper bound of S .

• If there exists $m \in F$ s.t. $m \leq s \quad \forall s \in S$, then S is bounded below and m is a lower bound of S .

If S is bounded above and below, we say S is bounded.



Ex: $(0, 1) \cap \mathbb{Q}$ is bounded
 \mathbb{N} is not bounded

What about when a set "almost" has a maximum?

Def: (supremum / infimum):
Consider an ordered field F .

- If $S \subseteq F$ is bounded above and there exists $M_0 \in F$ satisfying

- (a) m_0 is an upper bound of S
(b) if m is an upper bound of S , then $m_0 \leq m$,

We say m_0 is the supremum of S and write $m_0 = \sup(S)$.
" m_0 is the least upper bound of S "

- If $S \subseteq F$ is bounded below and there exists m_0 satisfying
(a) m_0 is a lower bound of S
(b) if m is a lower bound of S , $m \leq m_0$,

We say m_0 is the infimum of S and write $m_0 = \inf(S)$.
" m_0 is the greatest lower bound"

Thm: Given $S \subseteq F$, F Ordered field,

- if $\max(S)$ exists, $\sup(S) = \max(S)$
- if $\min(S)$ exists, $\inf(S) = \min(S)$

Pf: HW

Ex: $F = \mathbb{Q}$, $S = (a) \cap \mathbb{Q}$.

Claim: $\sup(S) = 1$

Pf of Claim: By defn of S ,
 $s \leq 1 \quad \forall s \in S$, so 1 is
an upper bound of S .

Assume, for the sake of contradiction, $\exists m < 1$
which is an upper bound
Note that $m > 0$.

of S . By prev thm,
 $\exists r \in \mathbb{Q} \cup S$ s.t. $0 < m < r < 1$.
Thus $r \in S$, contradicting
that m is an upper bound
"the least upper bound
property of \mathbb{R} " \square

Def: (real numbers): The real numbers is the ordered field containing \mathbb{Q} with the property that every nonempty subset $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ that is bounded above has a supremum ^(in \mathbb{R}).

Thm: The real numbers exist and are unique.

Pf: Spivak, Calculus, last chapter.

$$\text{Ex: } S := \{q \in \mathbb{Q} : q^2 < 2\} \subseteq \mathbb{Q}$$

On the homework you will show that S is bounded above but does not have a supremum (in \mathbb{Q}).

How does \mathbb{R} relate to other numbers?

$$\mathbb{N} \subsetneq \mathbb{Z} \subsetneq \mathbb{Q} \subsetneq \mathbb{R}$$

$$A \subsetneq B$$



$$A \subseteq B$$

$$A \neq B$$

Previous course: $\sqrt{2} \notin \mathbb{Q}$

Homework: $\sqrt{2} \in \mathbb{R}$

Quick Review: Induction

Inductive characterization of \mathbb{N}

If a subset $S \subseteq \mathbb{N}$ satisfies

(i) $1 \in S$

(ii) if $n \in S$, then $n+1 \in S$

then $S = \mathbb{N}$.

mental picture:



This is the basis for proof by induction.

Suppose $\{P_1, P_2, P_3, \dots\}$
 $= \{P_k : k \in \mathbb{N}\}$
is a list of statements.

$P_k = k \cdot 3$ is even

$P_k = \text{Katy wants } k \text{ cookies}$

Suppose you can prove that

(a) P_1 is true] base case

(b) For all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, if P_n is true, then P_{n+1} is true] inductive step

inductive hypothesis

Then $S = \{k \in \mathbb{N} : P_k \text{ is true}\}$

satisfies (i) and (ii),

so $S = \mathbb{N}$ and P_k is

true for all $k \in \mathbb{N}$.

We will now study two major theorems for \mathbb{R} :

Thm (Archimedean Property)
If $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ satisfy $a > 0$ and $b > 0$, $\exists n \in \mathbb{N}$ s.t.
 $na > b$. ← bathtub
↑ spoon

"even with a very small spoon, you can fill a large bathtub"

Pl: Let's assume, for the sake of contradiction, that $na \leq b$ $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}$.

Define $S := \{na : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$.
Then S is bounded above.

Let $s_0 := \sup(S)$. Since $a > 0$,
 $s_0 - a < s_0$ and $s_0 - a$ is not
an upper bound.

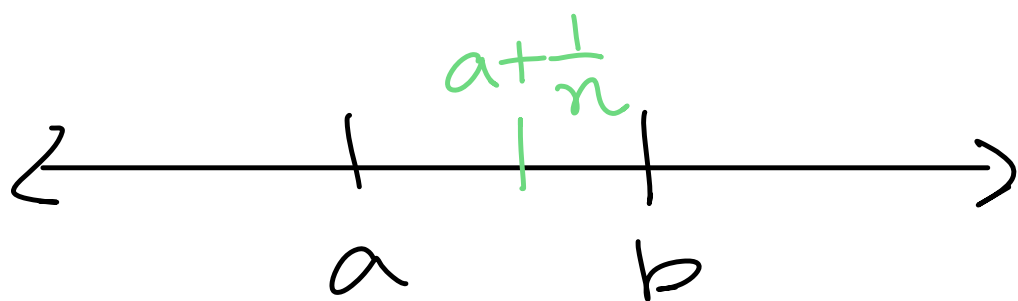
Thus $\exists n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$ s.t.
 $n_0 a > s_0 - a \Rightarrow (n_0 + 1)a > s_0$.
This contradicts that s_0
is an upper bound. \square

As a consequence of A.P.,
we obtain a few useful
lemmas...

Lemma: For any $x \in \mathbb{R}$,
 $\exists n \in \mathbb{N}$ s.t. $x \in \mathbb{I}_n$.

Pf: $\ddot{\smile}$

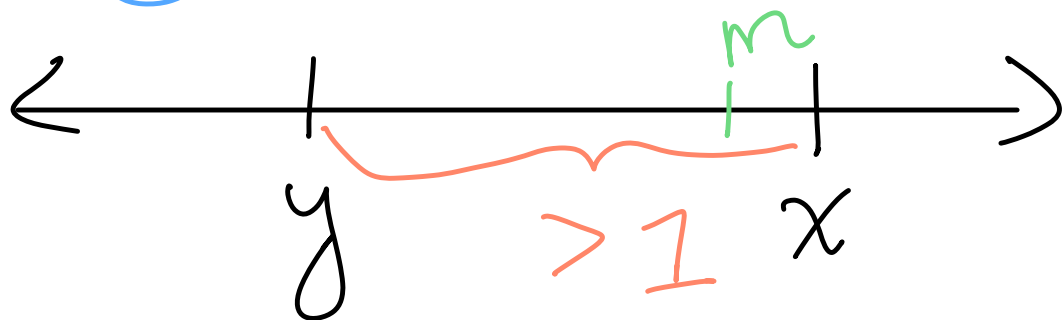
Lemma: For $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$, $a < b$,
 $\exists n \in \mathbb{N}$ s.t. $a + \frac{1}{n} < b$.



Proof: $\Leftrightarrow 1 < n(b-a)$

Pf: $\ddot{\smile}$

Lemma: If $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ satisfy
 $1 < x - y$, then $\exists m \in \mathbb{Z}$
s.t. $y < m < x$.



Pf: $\exists n \in \mathbb{Z}$ + time $\ddot{\smile}$