

**Exercise 5b**

1. Prove that the infimum of a set is unique.
2. Prove proposition (5.6).
3. Let  $S = \{x \mid a \leq x \leq b \text{ and } x \in \mathbb{R}\}$ . Prove that  $\inf(S) = a$ .
4. A real number  $L$  of a non-empty subset,  $S$ , of  $\mathbb{R}$  is the infimum of  $S \Leftrightarrow$ 
  - (i) For all  $s \in S$ ,  $s \geq L$
  - (ii) If  $m > L$  then there exists  $y \in S$  such that  $m > y$ .
5. Let  $S$  and  $T$  be non-empty subsets of  $\mathbb{R}$  that are bounded below by real numbers. Let the set  $S + T$  be defined as

$$S + T = \{s + t \mid s \in S \text{ and } t \in T\}$$

Prove that  $\inf(S + T) = \inf(S) + \inf(T)$ .

6. Let  $S$  be a non-empty subset of  $\mathbb{R}$  which is bounded above and let  $k \in \mathbb{R}$ . We define the set

$$k + S = \{k + s \mid s \in S\}$$

Show that  $\sup(k + S) = k + \sup(S)$ .

7. Let  $S$  be a non-empty subset of  $\mathbb{R}$  which is bounded above. Show that  $u \in \mathbb{R}$  is an upper bound of  $S$  if and only if  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $t > u \Rightarrow t \notin S$ .
8. Let  $S$  be a non-empty bounded set of real numbers and  $k \in \mathbb{R}$ . We define the set

$$kS = \{ks \mid s \in S\}$$

Prove the following results:

- (a) If  $k > 0$  then
    - (i)  $\sup(kS) = k \sup(S)$
    - (ii)  $\inf(kS) = k \inf(S)$
  - (b) If  $k < 0$  then
    - (i)  $\sup(kS) = k \inf(S)$
    - (ii)  $\inf(kS) = k \sup(S)$
9. Let  $A$  and  $B$  be non-empty subsets of  $\mathbb{R}$  bounded above and below respectively. Prove that if for all  $a \in A$  and  $b \in B$

$$a \leq b$$

then  $\sup(A) \leq \inf(B)$ .

10. Let  $S$  and  $T$  be sets of positive numbers bounded above. Let the set  $ST$  be defined by

$$ST = \{st \mid s \in S \text{ and } t \in T\}$$

Prove that  $\sup(ST) = \sup(S)\sup(T)$ .

11. Let  $S$  and  $T$  be non-empty subsets of  $\mathbb{R}$  bounded above. Let the set  $ST$  be defined by

$$ST = \{st \mid s \in S \text{ and } t \in T\}$$

Show that in general  $\sup(ST) \neq \sup(S)\sup(T)$ .

**Solutions 5b**

1. Similar to the proof of (5.4) (i). Assume there are two  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  and show that they are equal,  $L_1 = L_2$ .
2. Similar to the proof of (5.5).
3. Similar to the proof of proposition (5.8). Suppose  $\inf(S) > a$  and  $\inf(S) < a$  and then arrive at a contradiction.
4. Apply proposition (5.6) with  $m = L + \varepsilon$  and an appropriate  $\varepsilon > 0$ .
5. Similar to the proof of proposition (5.9).
6. Use proof by contradiction with the supposition  $\sup(k + S) < k + \sup(S)$  and then use proposition (5.7) to produce the contradiction.
7. This is an if and only if proof so you need to go both ways,  $\Rightarrow$  and  $\Leftarrow$ .
8. Use proof by contradiction in each case. Apply proposition (5.7) or the proposition in Question ?? to produce the contradiction.
9. *Proof.* Suppose  $\sup(A) > \inf(B)$ . By the proposition in Question ??,  $\exists b \in B$  such that  $\sup(A) > b$ . Since  $b < \sup(A)$ , by proposition (5.7)  $\exists a \in A$  such that  $b < a$ . This contradicts  $a \leq b$ . Hence  $\sup(A) \leq \inf(B)$ .
10. Again use proof by contradiction and proposition (5.7).
11. Consider the sets:

$$S = \{s \mid s < -1 \text{ and } s \in \mathbb{R}\}$$

$$T = \{t \mid t < -2 \text{ and } t \in \mathbb{R}\}$$

Then  $ST = \{st \mid st > 2\}$ . Hence the set  $ST$  is **not** bounded above and so **cannot** have a supremum.