

2.3.5 Let  $S$  be a non-empty subset of  $\mathbb{R}$  which is bounded below. Prove that  $\inf S = -\sup \{-s : s \in S\}$ .

Proof: By the Completeness Axiom, ~~the set~~  $S$  has an infimum. Let  $w = \inf S$ . We want to prove that  $-w = \sup T$ , where  $T = \{-s : s \in S\}$ .

(i) (1) Let  $x \in T$  (i.e. the following statements are true for all  $x \in T$ )

(2) Then  $\exists s \in S$ ,  $x = -s$  [def of  $T$ ]

(3)  $-x = s$  [(3)]

(4)  $-x \in S$  [(2), (3)]

(5)  $-x \geq w$  [def of infimum]

(6)  $x \leq -w$  [(5)]

(7)  $-w$  is an upper bound of  $T$  [(1)  $\Rightarrow$  (6)]

(ii) (1) Let  $v$  be an upper bound of  $T$  (the following statements are true for all upper bounds  $v$  of  $T$ )

(2) Let  $s \in S$  (the following statements are true for all  $s \in S$ )

(3)  $-s \in T$  [def of  $T$ ]

(6) (4)  $-s \leq v$  [(1)]

(5)  $s \geq -v$  [(4)]

(6)  $-v$  is a lower bound of  $S$  [(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (5)]

(7)  $-v \leq w$  [def of infimum]

(8)  $v \geq -w$  [(7)]

(9) for every upper bound  $v$  of  $T$ ,  $v \geq -w$  [(1)  $\Rightarrow$  (8)].

2.4.6. Let  $A$  and  $B$  be bounded non-empty subsets of  $\mathbb{R}$ ,  
and let  $A+B = \{a+b : a \in A, b \in B\}$

Prove that  $\sup(A+B) = \sup A + \sup B$   
and  $\inf(A+B) = \inf A + \inf B$ .

Proof that  $\sup(A+B) = \sup A + \sup B$ .

Let  $u = \sup A + \sup B$ . We need to prove two things:

(i)  $u$  is an upper bound for  $A+B$ .

(ii) For every upper bound  $v$  of  $A+B$ ,  $u \geq v$ .

(i): (1) Let  $x \in A+B$ . ~~Then~~ <sup>(2)</sup>  $x = a+b$  for some  $a \in A$ ,  $b \in B$ . [def of  $A+B$ ]

(4) (3) Since  $a \in A$ , Then  $a \leq \sup A$  [def of supremum]

(4) Since  $b \in B$ , Then  $b \leq \sup B$  [def of supremum]

(5)  $a+b \leq \sup A + \sup B$  [add (3) and (4)]

(6)  $a+b \leq u$  [def of  $u$ ]

(7)  $x \leq u$  (2)

(8)  $u$  is an upper bound of  $A+B$  [since (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (7)]

[Ferran +

Hanzi (almost) did this. My way was less elegant (introducing extra variables, etc.)

$\hookrightarrow$  (ii) (1) Let  $v$  be an upper bound of  $A+B$

(2) Let  $a \in A$ .

(5) (3) Let  $b \in B$

(4)  $a+b \in A+B$  [def of  $A+B$ ]

(5)  $a+b \leq v$  [~~def of  $v$~~  (1), (4)]

(6)  $b \leq v - a$  [~~also~~ subtract  $a$  from (5)]

(7)  $v - a$  is an upper bound of  $B$  [since (3)  $\Rightarrow$  (6)]

(8)  $v - a \geq \sup B$  [def of supremum]

(9)  $v - \sup B \geq a$  [add  $a$  and subtract  $\sup B$  from (7)]

(10)  $v - \sup B$  is an upper bound of  $A$  [since (2)  $\Rightarrow$  (9)]

(11)  $v - \sup B \geq \sup A$  [def of supremum] (over)

$$(12) \quad U \geq \sup A + \sup B$$

[add  $\sup B$  to (11)]

$$(13) \quad U \geq u$$

[def of  $u$ ]

$$(14) \quad \text{for every upper bound } u \text{ of } A+B, \quad U \geq u \quad [(1) \Rightarrow (3)]$$

Proof that  $\inf(A+B) = \inf A + \inf B$

(1) We could repeat the above proof with inequalities reversed and "sup" replaced by "inf" throughout.  
Or, we could write:

~~Let  $A, B \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ .~~

For  $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ , define  $-S = \{-s : s \in S\}$ , <sup>so that  $s \in S \iff -s \in -S$ .</sup> From 2.3.5, we know that if  $S$  is <sup>not empty</sup> bounded then  $\inf S = -\sup(-S)$ .

$$\text{Note that } -(A+B) = (-A) + (-B)$$

Hence (because  $x \in -(A+B) \iff -x \in A+B \iff (-x = a+b$   
for some  $a \in A, b \in B) \iff x = -a + -b \quad \exists a \in A \exists b \in B$   
 $\iff x = y + z \quad \exists y \in -A \exists z \in -B$   
 $\iff x \in -A + -B$ ).

So by 2.3.5,

$$\inf A+B = \underbrace{-\sup(-(A+B))}_{(2.3.5)} = \underbrace{-\sup((-A)+(-B))}_{\text{Lemma}} = \underbrace{-[\sup(-A) + \sup(-B)]}_{\substack{\text{The part of 2.4.6} \\ \text{which we've already} \\ \text{proved}}}$$

$$= -\sup(-A) + -\sup(-B)$$

$$= \inf A + \inf B$$

[by 2.3.5]