

Unit-1

Sets and functions

Assignment

Q1) Determine which of the following sets are finite, countably infinite or countable. Give reasons.

(a)  $\{ \frac{1}{n} : n \in \mathbb{Z} \setminus \{0\} \}$

(b)  $\{ x \in \mathbb{N} : |x-20| > |x| \}$

(c) The set of all polynomials with integer coefficients.

(d)  $\{ 1, 4, 9, 16, \dots \}$

(e)  $\{ m \in \mathbb{Z} \mid m \equiv 2 \pmod{3} \}$

(f)  $\{ n \in \mathbb{Z} : n \geq 5 \}$

Q2) State whether the following are true or false. Give reasons

(a) If a set  $A$  is denumerable, then it is <sup>always</sup> infinite.

(b) If a set  $A$  is countable, then it is always infinite.

(c) Every subset of a denumerable set is denumerable.

(d) Every subset of a countable set is countable.

(e) Every superset of a finite set is finite.

(f) Union of every countable collection of finite sets is finite.

# The Algebraic and Order Properties of Real Numbers

## Assignment

Attempt questions (1)-(4) using the Order Properties of Real Numbers

- Q1) If  $0 < a < b$ , show that  $a < \sqrt{ab} < b$
- Q2) Let  $a > 0$  and  $b > 0$ , then show that  $\sqrt{ab} \leq \frac{1}{2}(a+b)$  with equality occurring if and only if  $a = b$
- Q3) Let  $S = \{a + b\sqrt{5} : a, b \in \mathbb{Q}\}$ . Show that  $S$  satisfies the following:
- (a) If  $x_1, x_2 \in S$ , then  $x_1 + x_2 \in S$  and  $x_1 x_2 \in S$
- (b) If  $x \neq 0$  and  $x \in S$ , then  $\frac{1}{x} \in S$
- Q4) Find all real numbers  $x$  which satisfy the following inequalities:
- (a)  $2x + 3 \leq 6$       (b)  $x^2 + x > 2$       (c)  $\frac{2x+1}{x+2} < 1$

## The Order Properties of $\mathbb{R}$

There is a non-empty subset  $P$  of  $\mathbb{R}$ , called the set of positive real numbers, that satisfies the following properties:

- (i) If  $a, b \in P$ , then  $a + b \in P$
- (ii) If  $a, b \in P$ , then  $a \cdot b \in P$
- (iii) If  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ , then exactly one of the following holds:  
 $a \in P$ ,  $a = 0$ ,  $-a \in P$

The property (iii) is called the Trichotomy property. From this it follows that the set of real numbers can be written as a union of three disjoint sets

$$\text{ie } \mathbb{R} = P \cup \{0\} \cup \{-a : a \in P\}$$

This further classifies  $\mathbb{R}$  into numbers that are positive (ie when  $a \in P$ ), non-negative (when  $a \in P \cup \{0\}$ ), negative (when  $-a \in P$ ) and non-positive (when  $-a \in P \cup \{0\}$ )

## Absolute Value

The absolute value of a real number  $a$ , denoted by  $|a|$ , is defined by

$$|a| = \begin{cases} a, & \text{if } a > 0 \\ 0, & \text{if } a = 0 \\ -a, & \text{if } a < 0 \end{cases}$$

### Theorem

(a)  $|ab| = |a||b| \quad \forall a, b \in \mathbb{R}$       (b)  $|a|^2 = a^2 \quad \forall a \in \mathbb{R}$

(c) If  $c > 0$ , then  $|a| \leq c$  iff  $-c \leq a \leq c$

(d)  $-|a| \leq a \leq |a| \quad \forall a \in \mathbb{R}$

### Triangular Inequality

$$|a+b| \leq |a| + |b| \quad \forall a, b \in \mathbb{R}$$

### Corollary

(a)  $||a| - |b|| \leq |a - b| \quad \forall a, b \in \mathbb{R}$       (b)  $|a - b| \leq |a| + |b| \quad \forall a, b \in \mathbb{R}$

(c)  $|a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + \dots + a_n| \leq |a_1| + |a_2| + \dots + |a_n| \quad \forall a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \in \mathbb{R}$

Find all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  that satisfy the following inequalities:

Q1)  $|4x - 5| \leq 13$

Solution:

Using theorem (c), we have  $|4x - 5| \leq 13$

$$\Leftrightarrow -13 \leq 4x - 5 \leq 13$$

$$\Leftrightarrow -8 \leq 4x \leq 18$$

$$\Leftrightarrow -2 \leq x \leq 9/2 \quad [\text{Dividing by 4}]$$

$$\text{Hence } x \in A = \{x \in \mathbb{R} : -2 \leq x \leq 9/2\}$$

Q2)  $4 \leq |x+2| + |x-1| < 5$

Solution Consider the following cases:

(i)  $x < -2$

Here  $|x+2| = -(x+2)$  and  $|x-1| = -(x-1)$

$\therefore$  The inequality reduces to

$$4 < -(x+2) - (x-1) < 5$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 4 < -2x - 1 < 5 \Leftrightarrow 5 < -2x < 6 \quad (3)$$



Hence  $-3 < x < -5/2$

(ii)  $-2 \leq x < 1$

Here  $|x+2| = x+2$  and  $|x-1| = -(x-1)$

Thus the inequality becomes

$$4 < (x+2) - (x-1) < 5$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 4 < 3 < 5$$

which is not true

Hence there is no  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $-2 \leq x < 1$  and  $x$  satisfies the inequality.

(iii)  $x \geq 1$

Here  $|x+2| = x+2$  and  $|x-1| = x-1$

Thus the inequality becomes

$$4 < (x+2) + (x-1) < 5$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 4 < 2x+1 < 5$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 3 < 2x < 4$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 3/2 < x < 2$$

Combining (i), (ii) and (iii), the values of  $x$  which satisfy the inequality belong to the set  $A = \left\{ x \in \mathbb{R} : -3 < x < -5/2 \right.$   
or  
 $\left. 3/2 < x < 2 \right\}$

Q3)  $|2x-3| < 5$  and  $|x+1| > 2$  simultaneously

Q4)  $|x+1| + |x-2| = 7$

Q5) Show that if  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$  then

(a)  $\max\{a, b\} = \frac{1}{2}(a+b+|a-b|)$

(b)  $\min\{a, b\} = \frac{1}{2}(a+b-|a-b|)$

# Suprema and Infima

## Definitions:

Let  $S$  be a non-empty subset of  $\mathbb{R}$

### 1) Bounded above set

The set  $S$  is said to be a bounded above set if  $\exists u \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $x \leq u \quad \forall x \in S$ .

The number  $u$  is called an upper bound of  $S$

### 2) Bounded below set

The set  $S$  is said to be a bounded below set if  $\exists l \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $l \leq x \quad \forall x \in S$ .

The number  $l$  is called a lower bound of  $S$

### 3) Bounded set

The set  $S$  is said to be bounded if it is both bounded above and bounded below.

A set that is not bounded is said to be an unbounded set.

### 4) Supremum

If  $S$  is bounded above, then a number  $u$  is said to be a supremum (or a least upper bound) of  $S$  if it satisfies the following conditions:

(i)  $u$  is an upper bound of  $S$ , and

(ii) If  $v$  is any upper bound of  $S$ , then  $u \leq v$

### 5) Infimum

If  $S$  is bounded below, then a number  $l$  is said to be an infimum (or a greatest lower bound) of  $S$  if it satisfies the following conditions:

(i)  $l$  is a lower bound of  $S$ , and

(ii) If  $w$  is any lower bound of  $S$ , then  $w \leq l$

Note: If the supremum and infimum of a set  $S$  exist, they are unique and are denoted by  $\sup S$  and  $\inf S$

(5)

## The Completeness Property of $\mathbb{R}$

Every nonempty subset  $S$  of  $\mathbb{R}$  which is bound above has a supremum in  $\mathbb{R}$ .

The analogous property for infima states that every nonempty subset  $S$  of  $\mathbb{R}$  that is bounded below has an infimum in  $\mathbb{R}$ .

## The Archimedean Property

If  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ , then  $\exists n_x \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $x < n_x$

Find  $\inf S$  and  $\sup S$  for the following:

$$Q1) S = \left\{ \frac{4n+3}{n} : n \in \mathbb{N} \right\}$$

### Solution

Clearly the set  $S$  is non-empty.

The set  $S$  can be written as

$$S = \left\{ 4 + \frac{3}{n} : n \in \mathbb{N} \right\} = \left\{ 7, \frac{11}{2}, 5, \frac{19}{4}, \dots \right\}$$

(a) Upper bound and Supremum.

$$\text{Obviously, } 4 + \frac{3}{n} \leq 7 \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$$

Hence 7 is an upper bound of  $S$

By Order Completeness property of  $\mathbb{R}$ ,  $S$  has a Supremum in  $\mathbb{R}$ .

Claim:  $\sup S = 7$

Since 7 is an upper bound of  $S$ , hence by definition

$$\sup S \leq 7$$

$$\text{Also } \because 7 \in S \quad \therefore 7 \leq \sup S$$

$$\text{Hence } \sup S = 7$$

(b) Lower bound and Infimum

$$\text{Obviously } 4 \leq 4 + \frac{3}{n} \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$$

Hence 4 is a lower bound of  $S$

By the Order Completeness property of  $\mathbb{R}$ ,  $S$  has an infimum in  $\mathbb{R}$ .

Claim:  $\text{Inf } S = 4$

Let us assume to the contrary, i.e., 4 is not the greatest lower bound.

Hence  $\exists v \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $v$  is a lower bound of  $S$  and

$$v > 4$$

$$\Rightarrow v - 4 > 0$$

Hence by the Archimedean Property for  $x = \frac{3}{v-4} \in \mathbb{R}$ ,

$\exists n_x \in \mathbb{N}$  such that

$$n_x > \frac{3}{v-4}$$

$$\Rightarrow v > 4 + \frac{3}{n_x}$$

This contradicts the fact that  $v$  is a lower bound of  $S$

Hence  $\text{Inf } S = 4$

$$\text{Q2) } S = \left\{ -2, -\frac{3}{2}, -\frac{4}{3}, -\frac{5}{4}, \dots, -\frac{(n+1)}{n}, \dots \right\}$$

$$\text{Q3) } S = \left\{ 1 - \frac{1}{n} : n \in \mathbb{N} \right\}$$