

**Sample outline for problem set 01**  
**Math 131A**

**Definitions:** The definitions you should copy from the text are: (Sec. 3, starting Defn. 3.3) absolute value, distance between  $a$  and  $b$ . (Sec. 4) maximum, minimum, closed interval, open interval, half-open interval, upper bound, bounded above, lower bound, bounded below, bounded, supremum, infimum. Note that you do not need to copy theorems from the text for the outline; in fact, I prefer that you don't, though I won't take off points for it.

Below: **A** = Assume, **C** = Conclude, **ABC** = Assume By way of Contradiction.

**1. A.**  $a, b, c \in \mathbf{R}$ .

**A.**  $a \leq b$  and  $b < c$  (i.e.,  $b \leq c$  and  $b \neq c$ ).  
(stuff)

**C.**  $a < c$  (i.e.,  $a \leq c$  and  $a \neq c$ ).

**2. A.** For all  $x < a$ , we have  $x \leq b$ .

**ABC.**  $b < a$ .

(stuff)

Contradiction.

**3.** Goal: For each of sets (e), (h), (k), (l) (the letter  $\ell$ ), (v), from Ex. 4.1, list 3 different upper bounds and the sup of the set, or write NOT BOUNDED ABOVE.

**4.** Guess:  $\sup S = ??$  (say  $U$ )

*Part 1: WTS  $U$  is an upper bound for  $S$ .*

**A.**  $x \in S$ .

(stuff)

**C.**  $x \leq U$ .

*Part 2: WTS  $U$  is the least upper bound of  $S$ . I.e., we WTS that if  $v < U$ , then  $v$  is not an upper bound for  $S$ .*

**A.**  $v < U$ .

(stuff)

So there exists some  $x \in S$  such that  $x > v$ .

**C.**  $v$  is not an upper bound for  $S$ .

**5.** Guess:  $\inf S = ??$  (say  $L$ )

*Part 1: WTS  $L$  is a lower bound for  $S$ .*

**A.**  $x \in S$ .

(stuff)

**C.**  $x \geq L$ .

*Part 2: WTS  $L$  is the greatest lower bound of  $S$ . I.e., we WTS that if  $L < \ell$ , then  $\ell$  is not a lower bound for  $S$ .*

**A.**  $L < \ell$ .

(stuff)

So there exists some  $x \in S$  such that  $x < \ell$ .

**C.**  $\ell$  is not a lower bound for  $S$ .

**6.** Guess:  $\sup S = ??$  (say  $U$ )

*Part 1: WTS  $U$  is an upper bound for  $S$ .*

**A.**  $x \in S$ .

(stuff)

**C.**  $x \leq U$ .

*Part 2: WTS  $U$  is the least upper bound of  $S$ .* I.e., we WTS that if  $v < U$ , then  $v$  is not an upper bound for  $S$ .

**A.**  $v < U$ .

(stuff)

So there exists some  $x \in S$  such that  $x > v$ .

**C.**  $v$  is not an upper bound for  $S$ .

(Note that the outlines for 4 and 6 are basically the same.)

**7.** Negations are:

• There exists  $\epsilon > 0$ , such that for every  $s \in S$ , we have  $u - s \geq \epsilon$ .

•  $u \neq \sup S$ .

**A.** There exists  $\epsilon > 0$ , such that for every  $s \in S$ , we have  $u - s \geq \epsilon$ .

(stuff)

**C.**  $u \neq \sup S$ .

Converse switches **A.** and **C.**