

Math 401/501, Fall 2018  
Assignment 4, due Wednesday, September 19

**Exercises to hand in:**

1. Ross, Exercise 1.6.
2. Ross, Exercise 1.8. Hint for 8b: First prove that if  $n \geq 4$ , then  $n + 1 = (1 + \frac{1}{n})n \leq 2n < n^2$ .
3. Ross, Exercise 3.6.
4. Let  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$  be such that for all  $\epsilon > 0$ ,  $x \leq y + \epsilon$ . Show that  $x \leq y$ . Is this different from Exercise 3.8 in Ross?  
Hint: A proof by contrapositive is effective here.
5. Ross, Exercise 4.16.
6. (a) Suppose  $x \in \mathbb{Q}$  with  $x \neq 0$  and  $y \in \mathbb{R} - \mathbb{Q}$ . Show that their product  $xy$  is irrational.  
(b) Prove the density of  $\mathbb{R} - \mathbb{Q}$ : Show that given  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $a < b$ , then there exists  $s \in \mathbb{R} - \mathbb{Q}$  such that  $a < s < b$ .  
Hint: Apply the density of rationals to  $a/\sqrt{2}$  and  $b/\sqrt{2}$ .
7. Let  $S \subset \mathbb{R}$  be a nonempty bounded subset. Given  $k \in \mathbb{R}$  define  $kS = \{ks : s \in S\}$ . Prove the following:
  - (a) If  $k \geq 0$ , then  $\sup(kS) = k \cdot \sup S$ .
  - (b) If  $k < 0$ , then  $\sup(kS) = k \cdot \inf S$ .

**On your own:**

- Ross, Exercises 1.1, 1.3, 1.5, 1.9, 1.11, 2.1, 2.3, 3.5, 3.7, 4.1, 4.3, 4.7, 4.15, 5.1.
- Complement Exercise 7 above by showing that in addition to the identities there,  $\inf(kS) = k \cdot \inf S$  if  $k \geq 0$  and  $\inf(kS) = k \cdot \sup S$  if  $k < 0$ . Achieving this by appealing directly to the definitions will be more insightful, while appealing to the reflection principle  $-\sup(-S) = \inf S$  in Corollary 4.5 will be easier.
- Complement Exercise 6a by showing that
  1. The product of two rational numbers is rational.
  2. There exist two irrational numbers whose product is rational.
  3. If  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $xy \in \mathbb{Q} - \{0\}$ , then either both  $x, y$  are rational or they are both irrational. (This actually follows easily from Exercise 6a.)

**Reading:** Ross Chapter 1.