ON STEADY

## The Bright Side of Mathematics





<u>Definition</u>: For a subset  $M \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ :  $L \in \mathbb{R}$  is called <u>an upper bound for M</u> if  $\forall x \in M : x \leq b$ 

 $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$  is called a lower bound for M if  $\forall x \in M : x \ge \alpha$ 

If b is an upper bound for M and b  $\in$  M, then b is called a maximal element of M. If a is a lower bound for M and a  $\in$  M, then a is called a minimal element of M. min M

Example: 
$$M = [1,3]$$
, max  $M = 3$  min  $M = 1$   
•  $M = (1,3)$ , max  $M$ , min  $M$  do not exist  $\longrightarrow$  sup  $M$ , inf  $M$   
lowest upper bound  $= \sup M$   
 $( \underbrace{s \in V}_{1} \underbrace{s \in V}_{1} \underbrace{s \in W}_{1} \underbrace{$ 

For a subset  $M \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ :  $l \in \mathbb{R}$  is called <u>infimum of M</u> if •  $\forall x \in \mathbb{M}$ :  $x \ge l$  (lower bound for M) •  $\forall \varepsilon > 0 \exists \tilde{x} \in \mathbb{M}$ :  $l + \varepsilon > \tilde{x}$  ( $l + \varepsilon$  is no lower bound for M)

Then write:  $\inf M := 1$  or  $\inf M := -\infty$  if M is not bounded from below or  $\inf \emptyset := \infty$