

Theorem 8 - "Every non-empty bounded below subset of  $\mathbb{R}$  has an infimum in  $\mathbb{R}$ ."

Proof  $\rightarrow$  let  $S$  be a non-empty bounded below subset of  $\mathbb{R}$ ,

Then,  $\exists$  a real number ' $k$ ' s.t. —  
 $x \geq k \quad \forall x \in S$  — (1)

let us define a subset  $T$  of  $\mathbb{R}$  by —  
 $T = \{y : y = -x, x \in S\}$

Since  $S$  is non-empty, so is the set  $T$

Further from eq (1), we can say

$$-x \leq -k$$

$$y \leq -k \quad \forall y \in T$$

Thus,  $T$  is bounded above by  $-k$ .

Hence, by completeness axiom,  $T$  has a supremum in  $\mathbb{R}$ .

$$\text{Let } \alpha = \sup T$$

Since,  $\alpha$  is an upper bound of  $T$

$\Rightarrow -\alpha$  is a lower bound of  $S$ .

We need to show that  $-\alpha$  is the  $\inf S$ .

Let  $d$  be any lower bound of  $S$ .

Then  $-d$  is an upper bound of  $T$ .

Since  $\sup T = \alpha$

$$\Rightarrow \alpha \leq -d$$

$$\Rightarrow -\alpha \geq d$$

Hence,  $-\alpha$  is the infimum of  $S$ .

Proved