

Thm. 1.3 The field axioms imply the following stmts.  
for any  $x, y, z \in F$ .

- (a)  $0x = 0$
- (b) If  $x \neq 0$  &  $y \neq 0$ , then  $xy \neq 0$ .
- (c)  $(-x)y = -(xy) = x(-y)$
- (d)  $(-x)(-y) = xy$

Proof: (a)  $0x + 0x = (0+0)x = 0x$ . By Thm. 1.2(b),  
 $0x = 0$ .

(b) Assume  $x \neq 0, y \neq 0$ , but  $xy = 0$ . Then

$$1 = \left(\frac{1}{y} \cdot y\right) \left(\frac{1}{x} \cdot x\right) = \left(\frac{1}{y}\right) \left(\frac{1}{x}\right) \cdot (xy) = \left(\frac{1}{y}\right) \left(\frac{1}{x}\right) \cdot 0 = 0,$$

(c) a contradiction.

$$\begin{aligned} (-x)y + xy &= (-x+x)y = 0 \cdot y = 0 \\ \Rightarrow (-x)y &= -(xy). \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, the second part.

(d) Now by (c) and Thm. 1.2 (d),

$$(-x)(-y) = -(x(-y)) = -(-xy) = xy.$$

### ORDERED FIELD

An ordered field is a field  $F$  which is also an ordered set s.t.

- (i)  $x+y < x+z$ , if  $x, y, z \in F$  and  $y < z$ .
- (ii)  $xy > 0$  if  $x \in F, y \in F, x > 0, y > 0$ .

e.g.  $\mathbb{Q}$  is an ordered field.

Thm. 1.4 The following stmts. are true in every ordered field

- (a) If  $x > 0$ , then  $-x < 0$ , and vice-versa
- (b) If  $x > 0$  and  $y < z$ , then  $xy < xz$
- (c) If  $x < 0$  and  $y < z$ , then  $xy > xz$ .
- (d) If  $x \neq 0$ , then  $x^2 > 0$ . In particular,  $1 > 0$ .
- (e) If  $0 < x < y$ , then  $0 < \frac{1}{y} < \frac{1}{x}$ .

Proof: (a) If  $x > 0$ , then  $0 = -x + x > -x + 0 = -x$ .  
 $\Rightarrow -x < 0$

If  $x < 0$ , then  $0 = -x + x < -x + 0 = -x \Rightarrow -x > 0$ .

(b) Since  $z > y$ ,  $z - y > y - y = 0 \Rightarrow x(z - y) > 0$   
 $\Rightarrow xz = x(z - y) + xy > 0 + xy = xy$ .

(c) By (a), (b) and Thm. 1.3 (c),  
 $-(x(z - y)) = (-x)(z - y) > 0$   
 $\Rightarrow x(z - y) < 0 \Rightarrow xz < xy$ .

(d) If  $x > 0$ , then  $x^2 > 0$ . If  $x < 0$ , then  $-x < 0 \Rightarrow (-x)^2 > 0$ .  
But  $x^2 = (-x)^2$  by Thm. 1.3 (d). Hence  $x^2 > 0$  for  $x \neq 0$ .  
(as  $x = 0 \Rightarrow x^2 = 0$ ).

Since  $1^2 > 0$  &  $1 = 1^2$ , we have  $1 > 0$ .

(e) If  $y > 0$  and  $v \leq 0$ , then  $yv \leq 0$ .

So  $\frac{1}{y} > 0$ , as  $y \cdot (\frac{1}{y}) = 1 > 0$ .

Similarly,  $\frac{1}{x} > 0$ . Now if  $x < y$  implies

$$\left(\frac{1}{x}\right)\left(\frac{1}{y}\right) \cdot x < \left(\frac{1}{x}\right)\left(\frac{1}{y}\right) \cdot y \Rightarrow \frac{1}{y} < \frac{1}{x} \quad \square$$

# THE REAL FIELD

Thm. \* There exists an ordered field  $\mathbb{R}$  which has the least-upper-bound property.

Moreover,  $\mathbb{R}$  contains  $\mathbb{Q}$  as a subfield;  $\mathbb{Q} \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ .

↓  
(known as the set of real numbers)

Thm. 1.5

(a) ARCHIMEDEAN PROPERTY

If  $x \in \mathbb{R}, y \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $x > 0$ ,  $\exists n \in \mathbb{N} \ni nx > y$ .

(b) If  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $x < y$ ,  $\exists p \in \mathbb{Q} \ni x < p < y$ .

(This implies  $\mathbb{Q}$  is dense in  $\mathbb{R}$ )

Proof: (a) (by contradiction)

Suppose  $\nexists n \in \mathbb{N} \ni nx > y$ . Then  $nx \leq y \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Hence if  $A = \{nx : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ , then  $y$  is an upper bound of  $A$ . (Note that  $x \in A$ , hence  $A \neq \emptyset$ .)

By the lub property,  $A$  has the least upper bound in  $\mathbb{R}$ , say  $\alpha$ .

Now since  $x > 0$ ,  $\alpha - x < \alpha$ , and then  $\alpha - x$  is not an upper bound of  $A$ .

$\Rightarrow \exists m \in \mathbb{N} \ni \alpha - x < mx$ .

$\Rightarrow \alpha < (m+1)x$ .

This contradicts the fact that  $\alpha$  is an upper bound of  $A$ . This establishes the claim.  $\square$

(b) Since  $x < y$ ,  $y - x > 0$ ; hence by Archimedean property,  $\exists n \in \mathbb{N} \ni n(y - x) > 1$ . ——— (1)

Again, by (a),  $\exists m_1, m_2 \in \mathbb{N} \ni m_1 > nx$  &  $m_2 > -nx$ .

$$\Rightarrow -m_2 < nx < m_1$$

Hence  $\exists m \in \mathbb{Z}$  with  $-m_2 \leq m \leq m_1$  s.t.

$$m - 1 \leq nx < m \quad \text{————— (2)}$$

From (1) & (2),

$$nx < m \leq nx + 1 < ny$$

Since  $n > 0$ ,

$$x < \frac{m}{n} < y$$

$\Rightarrow$  the rational number  $\frac{m}{n}$  lies between  $x$  &  $y$ .  $\square$

### EXISTENCE OF $n^{\text{TH}}$ ROOTS OF POSITIVE REALS

Thm 1.6 For every real  $x > 0$  & every integer  $n > 0$ ,

$\exists!$  real  $y > 0 \ni y^n = x$ .

(<sup>there exists</sup> a unique) (This number  $y$  is written as  $x^{1/n}$  or  $\sqrt[n]{x}$ .)

Proof: The uniqueness is clear, for, if  $0 < y_1 < y_2$  with  $y_1^n = y_2^n = x$ , we have  $y_1^n < y_2^n$ , which is absurd.

Let  $E = \{t \in \mathbb{R}^+ : t^n < x\}$ .

We first show that  $E$  is non-empty & bdd. above.

Note that if  $t = \frac{x}{1+x}$ , then  $0 < t < 1$  ( $\because x > 0$ ).

Hence,  $t^n < t < x \Rightarrow \frac{x}{1+x} \in E$ , so  $E \neq \emptyset$ .

Moreover, if  $t' > 1+x$ , then  $t'^n > t' > x$ , so  $t' \notin E$ .

By contraposition, if  $t' \in E$ , then  $t' \leq 1+x$ .

$\Rightarrow 1+x$  is an upper bound of  $E$ .

By lub property,  $E$  has the least upper bound in  $\mathbb{R}$ , say  $y = \sup(E)$ .

Claim:  $y^n = x$ .

This is done by showing  $y^n \neq x$  and  $y^n \neq x$ .

Note first that for  $0 < a < b$ ,

$$b^n - a^n = (b-a)(b^{n-1} + b^{n-2}a + \dots + ba^{n-2} + a^{n-1}) < (b-a)nb^{n-1}. \quad \text{--- } (*)$$

Assume  $y^n < x$ . Choose  $h \ni 0 < h < 1$  &  $h < \frac{x - y^n}{n(y+1)^{n-1}}$

Let  $a = y$ ,  $b = y+h$  in  $(*)$ . Then

$$(y+h)^n - y^n < hn(y+h)^{n-1} < hn(y+1)^{n-1} < x - y^n \\ \Rightarrow (y+h)^n < x \text{ and so } y+h \in E$$

But  $y+h > y = \sup(E)$ . This contradicts the fact that  $y$  is an upper bound of  $E$ .  $\Rightarrow y^n \neq x$ .

Now assume  $y^n > x$ . Let  $k = \frac{y^n - x}{ny^{n-1}}$ .

Note that  $x > 0 \Rightarrow -x < 0 \Rightarrow y^n - x < y^n \leq ny^n$   
Since  $y > 0$ ,  $\frac{y^n - x}{ny^{n-1}} \leq y$ , i.e.,  $k < y$ .

So  $0 < k < y$ . If  $t \geq y - k$ , then

$$y^n - t^n \leq y^n - (y-k)^n < kny^{n-1} = y^n - x.$$

$\Rightarrow t^n > x$  and so  $t \notin E$ .

Hence  $y-k$  is an upper bound of  $E$ . But  $y-k < y$  ( $\because k > 0$ ). This contradicts the fact that  $y$  is the least upper bound of  $E$ .

Hence  $y^n \neq x$ . Thus, we conclude that  $y^n = x$ .  $\square$