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## Archimedean semigroup

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Related topic ArchimedeanProperty

Defines divides

Defines Archimedean

Let S be a commutative semigroup. We say an element x divides an element y, written  $x \mid y$ , if there is an element z such that xz = y.

An Archimedean semigroup S is a commutative semigroup with the property that for all  $x, y \in S$  there is a natural number n such that  $x \mid y^n$ .

This is related to the Archimedean property of positive real numbers  $\mathbb{R}^+$ : if x, y > 0 then there is a natural number n such that x < ny. Except that the notation is additive rather than multiplicative, this is the same as saying that  $(\mathbb{R}^+, +)$  is an Archimedean semigroup.