

# I. Number Systems

## A. The Natural Numbers, $\mathbb{N}$

Mathematics has to start somewhere.

We will begin by assuming that we understand basic set theory, and by carefully describing the natural numbers.

Larger goal: We want to describe all of our familiar number systems:

$\mathbb{Z}$  = integers

$\mathbb{Q}$  = rationals

$\mathbb{R}$  = reals, and

$\mathbb{C}$  = complex numbers

in terms of  $\mathbb{N}$ . That is, we'll construct these systems from something well understood.

Basic set theory: A set is a collection of mathematical objects.

We can form unions  $A \cup B$



and intersection  $A \cap B$



We can ask whether an object is a

member of a set (whether  $x \in A$ )

and form subsets of a known set ( $A \subseteq B$ )

or ordered pairs of elements from existing sets.

We describe  $\mathbb{N}$  with the following axioms ("rules"):

## Peano axioms for $\mathbb{N}$

1. There is an element  $0 \in \mathbb{N}$ .
2. There is a function  $\sigma: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0\}$ , called the successor function.
3. If  $n, m \in \mathbb{N}$  satisfy  $\sigma(n) = \sigma(m)$ , then  $n = m$ .  
[That is,  $\sigma$  is injective or one-to-one.]
4. If  $S$  is a subset of  $\mathbb{N}$  such that
  - a)  $0 \in S$ , and
  - b) whenever  $n \in S$ , also  $\sigma(n) \in S$
 then  $S = \mathbb{N}$ ,  
(the induction axiom)

Notation: With the Peano axioms, we have

$$\mathbb{N} = \{0, \sigma(0), \sigma(\sigma(0)), \sigma(\sigma(\sigma(0))), \dots\}$$

but we'll usually write 1 for  $\sigma(0)$ , 2 for  $\sigma(\sigma(0))$ ,

and so forth. With this notation, we can write

$$\mathbb{N} = \{0, 1, 2, 3, \dots\}$$

Let's look at these Axioms more carefully. Axiom (1) is self-explanatory. Axioms (2) and (3) say that every element of  $\mathbb{N}$  has a unique successor, and that every element except for 0 has a unique predecessor (or preimage of  $\sigma$ ).

Axiom (4) may require more thought. Consider the following:

Anti-example:  $\{2, 3, 4, \dots\}$  fails to contain 0 (and is  $\neq \mathbb{N}$ )

Antirexample:  $S = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, \dots\}$  has  $3 \in S$ ,  
but fails to have  $\sigma(3) = 4$  in  $S$ . (and  $S \neq \mathbb{N}$ ).

The crucial property of  $\mathbb{N}$  is a consequence of Axiom (4) and gives a powerful method to prove statements involving  $\mathbb{N}$ .

### Theorem (Principle of Mathematical Induction)

Let  $P_0, P_1, P_2, P_3, \dots$  be a list of statements which may be true or false.

Suppose that i)  $P_0$  is true, and

ii) Whenever  $P_n$  is true, also  $P_{n+1}$  is true.

Then all of the statements  $P_0, P_1, P_2, P_3, \dots$  are true.

Proof: (From Axiom (4))

Let  $S := \{ n : P_n \text{ is true} \}$

be the set of all  $n$  such that  $P_n$  is true.

Then  $S \subseteq \mathbb{N}$  (since we numbered the statements w/  $\mathbb{N}$ )

and (i) says that  $0 \in S$ , while

(ii) says that whenever  $n \in S$ , also  $n+1 \in S$ .

Now Peano's Axiom (4) says that  $S = \mathbb{N}$ .

So all the statements are true, as was to be proved.  $\blacksquare$

Mathematical induction is a useful proof technique!

To demonstrate, let's assume for a moment that we know how to do arithmetic in  $\mathbb{N}$ . (We'll return to arithmetic later.)

Example 1: Show that  $1+2+3+\dots+n = \frac{n \cdot (n+1)}{2}$  for all positive natural numbers  $n$ .

Solution: (Expanded version, for 1st time induct-ors)

First, we identify our list of statements.  $P_n$  is the statement

" $1+2+3+\dots+n = \frac{n \cdot (n+1)}{2}$ ", or  $n=0$ ."

So  $P_1$  means " $1 = \frac{1 \cdot 2}{2}$ ",  $P_2$  means " $1+2 = \frac{2 \cdot 3}{2}$ ",

and so forth.

Notice that  $P_1$  is obviously true, and  $P_0$  is immediate.

These ( $P_0$  and  $P_1$ ) form the base case for our induction.

(The base case corresponds to (i), and in this case " $P_0 \Rightarrow P_1$ " in the Principle of Mathematical Induction.)

Now we show that  $P_n \Rightarrow P_{n+1}$  for  $n \geq 1$ : (the inductive step, (ii) in P<sub>0</sub>MI.)

Inductive step  $P_n \Rightarrow P_{n+1}$  { If  $P_n$  is true, then  
 $1+2+\dots+n = \frac{n \cdot (n+1)}{2}$   
Now add  $n+1$  to both sides of the equation:  
 $1+2+\dots+n+(n+1) = \frac{n \cdot (n+1)}{2} + (n+1)$   
 $= (\frac{n}{2} + 1) \cdot (n+1)$   
 $= \frac{(n+2) \cdot (n+1)}{2}$   
and we conclude that  $P_{n+1}$  is also true.

By the Principle of Mathematical Induction,  $P_n$  is true for all  $n$ . ■

There are three important parts in the above solution to • Example 1:

We say how we're using induction, (easy)

prove a base case, ( P<sub>0</sub>MI (i) ) (easy)

and show an inductive step ( P<sub>0</sub>MI (ii) ) (less easy).

After a little more experience, you'll write the same solution more shortly:

Solution to Example 1: (Short version, for experts)

We proceed by induction on  $n$ .

Base case:  $n=1$ :  $1 = \frac{1 \cdot (1+1)}{2}$  holds. ✓

Inductive step:  $P_n \Rightarrow P_{n+1}$ :

Since (by inductive assumption of  $P_n$ )

$$1+2+\dots+n = \frac{n \cdot (n+1)}{2}$$

also

$$1+2+\dots+n+(n+1) = \frac{n \cdot (n+1)}{2} + (n+1) \\ = (\frac{n}{2} + 1) (n+1) = \frac{(n+2)}{2} \cdot (n+1). \quad \checkmark \blacksquare$$

Example 2: Show that  $5^n - 4n - 1$  is a natural number multiple of 16 for any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Solution: (Short form only)

We proceed by induction on  $n$ .

Base case  $n=0$ :  $5^0 - 4 \cdot 0 - 1 = 1 - 0 - 1 = 0 = 0 \cdot 16 \checkmark$


Inductive step:

We can assume by induction that, for some  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$5^n - 4n - 1 = 16 \cdot k \quad ("P_n")$$

Then we break down the " $P_{n+1}$ " into something related to " $P_n$ ":

$$\begin{aligned} 5^{n+1} - 4(n+1) - 1 &= 5 \cdot 5^n - 4n - 4 - 1 \\ &= 5 \cdot (5^n - 4n - 1) + 16n \\ &= 5 \cdot 16 \cdot k + 16n \\ &= 16 \cdot (5k + n) \end{aligned}$$

and since  $k, n \in \mathbb{N}$ , also  $5k + n \in \mathbb{N}$ .  $\checkmark$  

Ordering  $\mathbb{N}$ :

Two elements of  $\mathbb{N}$  are equal if they are obtained from 0 by the same number of applications of  $\sigma_0$  (that is, if they are identical).

Write  $n=m$  if  $n$  and  $m$  are equal.

Also, write  $n < m$  if  $m$  is some successor of  $n$   
and  $n \leq m$  if  $n < m$  or  $n = m$ .

Eg:  $2 < 4$ , since  $4 = \sigma(\sigma(\sigma(\sigma(0))))$   
and  $2 = \sigma(\sigma(0))$   
so that  $4 = \sigma(\sigma(2))$ .

The relation  $\leq$  on  $\mathbb{N}$  is an example of a "partial order" and moreover of a "linear order", as some of you will see in DM-I. There are many examples of linear orders.

An unusual property of  $\leq$  on  $\mathbb{N}$  is the following:

Theorem Every nonempty subset of  $\mathbb{N}$  has a least element w.r.t  $\leq$ .

Remark A linear order with the above property — that every nonempty subset has a least element — is called a well-ordering. So this theorem could be stated as " $\mathbb{N}$  is well-ordered by  $\leq$ ."

Proof (of Theorem) Suppose that  $A \subseteq \mathbb{N}$  is a subset having no least element. We'll show that  $A$  is empty.

Define  $B = \mathbb{N} \setminus A$ . Showing  $A$  empty is the same as showing  $B = \mathbb{N}$ .

Now we notice:

- i)  $0 \in B$ , as 0 would certainly be least in  $A$ .
- ii) If  $0, 1, 2, \dots, n \in B$ , then also  $n+1 \in B$   
(as otherwise  $n+1$  would be least in  $A$ .)

By the Principle of Mathematical Induction, we see  $B = \mathbb{N}$ , so  $A = \emptyset$ . ■

### Arithmetic in $\mathbb{N}$ :

Definitions:  $+$  : For  $n, m \in \mathbb{N}$ , define  $n+m := \underbrace{\sigma(\sigma(\dots\sigma(n)\dots))}_{m \text{ times}}$   
 $\cdot$  : For  $n, m \in \mathbb{N}$ , define

$$n \cdot m := \underbrace{n+n+\dots+n}_{m \text{ times}}$$

Similarly, define exponentiation

$$\text{via } n^m := \underbrace{n \cdot n \cdot \dots \cdot n}_{m \text{ times}}$$

Properties of Arithmetic on  $\mathbb{N}$ : For  $n, m, l \in \mathbb{N}$

- i)  $n+m \in \mathbb{N}, \quad n \cdot m \in \mathbb{N}$  (closure)
- ii)  $n+m = m+n, \quad n \cdot m = m \cdot n$  (commutativity)
- iii)  $(n+m)+l = n+(m+l), \quad (n \cdot m) \cdot l = n \cdot (m \cdot l)$  (associativity)
- iv)  $n+0 = 0+n = n,$  and (additive identity)  
 $n \cdot 1 = 1 \cdot n = n$  (multiplicative identity)
- v)  $n \cdot (m+l) = nm + nl$  (distributivity)

The  $+$  operation gives a nice alternative way to write  $\sigma$ ,  
 as  $n+1 = \sigma(n)$ .

The operations  $+$  and  $\cdot$  have limited inverses in  $\mathbb{N}$ ,  
 which we write with  $-$  and  $\div$ .

An inverse of  $+$  is an operation that "undoes"  $+$ ,  
 and limited means that sometimes the inverse operation  
 is well-defined (e.g.  $5-2$ )  
 while sometimes it is not (e.g.  $2-5$ ).

Define  $n-m$  to be the  $m$ th predecessor of  $n$  if  $m \leq n$   
 (otherwise, leave it to be undefined).

Eg:  $5-2=3$ , since  $\sigma(\sigma(3))=3+2=5$ .

Similarly, define  $n/m$  to be the value  $x$  s.t.  $x \cdot m = n$   
 if a unique such  $x \in \mathbb{N}$  exists.

(and otherwise leave it undefined).

Alternative notation  $n \div m$ . (Less common).

Eg:  $6/3=2$ , but  $5/3$  and  $6/0$  are undefined here.

Our next step will be to complete  $\mathbb{N}$  to its closure under  $-$ .  
 That is, we'll extend  $\mathbb{N}$  to a larger number system  
 so that  $-$  is always defined.

(Later, we'll do a similar completion with respect to  $\div$ .)

## B. The Integers, $\mathbb{Z}$

We noticed that  $\mathbb{N}$  is closed under  $+$  and  $\cdot$ .

(i.e., that  $n+m \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $n \cdot m \in \mathbb{N}$  whenever  $n, m \in \mathbb{N}$ )

but not under  $-$ . (E.g.,  $2-5$  is undefined over  $\mathbb{N}$ .)

The smallest set containing  $\mathbb{N}$  and closed under  $-$  is that of the integers  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

We construct  $\mathbb{Z}$  from  $\mathbb{N}$  by the "Method of Ordered Pairs".

We consider the set of all ordered pairs of natural numbers

$(n, m)$ . ( $\leftarrow$  think of as " $n-m$ ")

and identify all pairs of  $n, m \in \mathbb{N}$  of the form

$(n+k, n)$  for a fixed  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , or  
 $(n, n+k)$   $\dots \dots \dots$

E.g.:  $(2, 0) = (3, 1) = (4, 2) = \dots$  will be the object we call  $2$   
 and  $(0, 2) = (1, 3) = (2, 4) = \dots$  will be the object we call  $-2$ .

More generally, for  $n, k \in \mathbb{N}$ , we have the correspondences

- 1)  $(n+k, n) \longleftrightarrow k$  (embedding  $\mathbb{N}$  in  $\mathbb{Z}$ )
- 2)  $(n, n+k) \longleftrightarrow -k$ .

We order  $\mathbb{Z}$  by

$(n_1, m_1) < (n_2, m_2)$  when  $n_1 + m_2 < n_2 + m_1$   $\nwarrow \in \mathbb{N}$

(You should convince yourself that this yields the usual order on  $\mathbb{Z}$ .)

As usual,  $x \leq y$  means " $x < y$  or  $x = y$ ".

Remark: The identification of many ordered pairs to a common element of  $\mathbb{Z}$  is an example of "quotienting by an equivalence relation", which is a framework for checking that the identification makes sense!



Notice that  $\leq$  on  $\mathbb{Z}$  is not a well-ordering.

E.g.,  $\mathbb{Z}$  itself has no least element.

### Arithmetic in $\mathbb{Z}$ :

Definition: For  $x_1 = (n_1, m_1)$  and  $x_2 = (n_2, m_2) \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  
define  $x_1 + x_2 = (n_1, m_1) + (n_2, m_2) := (n_1 + n_2, m_1 + m_2)$

(entry-wise)

and  $x_1 \cdot x_2 = (n_1, m_1) \cdot (n_2, m_2) := (n_1 n_2 + m_1 m_2, n_1 m_2 + n_2 m_1)$

Remember that we identify  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $(n, 0) \in \mathbb{Z}$

and notice that arithmetic in  $\mathbb{N}$  is compatible with that in  $\mathbb{Z}$ :

$$(n, 0) + (m, 0) = (n + m, 0)$$

$$(n, 0) \cdot (m, 0) = (n \cdot m + 0, 0 + 0).$$

The following properties now follow from the Arithmetic Prop for  $\mathbb{N}$ . (Exercise: Check these!)

### Properties of $\langle \mathbb{Z}, +, \cdot \rangle$ :

- i)  $\mathbb{Z}$  is closed under  $+$ ,  $\cdot$  (and  $-$ ).
- ii)  $+$  and  $\cdot$  are commutative (but  $-$  is not commutative).
- iii)  $+$  and  $\cdot$  are associative.
- iv) there is a multiplicative identity 1  
and an additive identity  $0 \neq 1$ .
- v) For every  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , there is some  $n^* \in \mathbb{Z}$   
so that  $n + n^* = n^* + n = 0 \in \mathbb{Z}$  (additive inverses)
- vi)  $\mathbb{Z}$  is distributive.

(See p7 for meanings of commutative, associative, identity, distributive.)

Sets with operations satisfying similar properties are common in mathematics, and we pause to introduce a name:

A set  $G$  with a binary operation  $\oplus$  is a group if

i)  $G$  is closed under  $\oplus$

ii)  $\oplus$  is associative

iii)  $G$  has an identity  $0$  for  $\oplus$

(so, for any  $g \in G$ , we get  $0 \oplus g = g \oplus 0 = g$ .)

iv) Every  $g \in G$  has an inverse  $g^* \in G$  under  $\oplus$

(so,  $g \oplus g^* = g^* \oplus g = 0$ ).

Thus,  $\langle \mathbb{Z}, + \rangle$  is a group.

But notice that  $\langle \mathbb{Z}, \cdot \rangle$  is not a group. Why not?

Summary: We have just embedded  $\mathbb{N}$  in a larger structure  $\mathbb{Z}$  in which subtraction is always defined.

Our next step will be to do similarly for  $\div$ .

### C. The Rationals, $\mathbb{Q}$ :

We construct  $\mathbb{Q}$  from  $\mathbb{N}$  in two steps, both using the "Method of Ordered Pairs".

First, we construct  $\mathbb{Q}^{\geq 0}$ , the set of non-negative rationals.

We consider the set of all ordered pairs

$(n, m)$  such that  $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $m > 0$ .

We'd like to think of such an ordered pair as " $\frac{n}{m}$ ",

so ~~for each fixed  $m$ , we identify pairs~~

$(n_1, m_1)$  and  $(n_2, m_2)$

when  $n_1 m_2 = n_2 m_1$ .

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Eg:  $(1,2) = (2,4) = (3,6) = \dots$  will be the object we call  $\frac{1}{2}$   
 $(2,3) = (4,6) = (6,9) = \dots$  will be the object we call  $\frac{2}{3}$   
 and so forth.

Compare with our procedure to construct  $\mathbb{Z}$ !

We order  $\mathbb{Q}^{\geq 0}$  by  $(n_1, m_1) < (n_2, m_2)$  when  $n_1 m_2 < n_2 m_1$   <sup>$\in \mathbb{N}$</sup>   
 and extend to  $\leq$  as usual. (" $<$  or  $=$ ").

We define Arithmetic in  $\mathbb{Q}^{\geq 0}$  by  
 $(n_1, m_1) + (n_2, m_2) := (n_1 m_2 + n_2 m_1, m_1 m_2)$   
 and  $(n_1, m_1) \cdot (n_2, m_2) := (n_1 n_2, m_1 m_2)$

We embed  $\mathbb{N}$  in  $\mathbb{Q}^{\geq 0}$  by associating  $n \in \mathbb{N}$   
 with  $(n, 1) \in \mathbb{Q}^{\geq 0}$

All of this is entirely similar to the extension from  $\mathbb{N}$  to  $\mathbb{Z}$ .  
 You should verify that our construction of  $\mathbb{Q}^{\geq 0}$  agrees w/  
 your previous experiences in the non-negative rationals.

Finally, we extend from  $\mathbb{Q}^{\geq 0}$  to  $\mathbb{Q}$   
 by another application of the Method of Ordered Pairs,  
 exactly as we did for  $\mathbb{N}$  to  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

(Take ordered pairs  $(a, b)$  where  $a, b \in \mathbb{Q}^{\geq 0}$   
 identify pairs w/ the same difference,  
 define order and arithmetic).

Since the details are very similar to the construction of  $\mathbb{Z}$ ,  
 we omit them.

### Properties of $\langle \mathbb{Q}, +, \cdot \rangle$

A)  $\langle \mathbb{Q}, + \rangle$  is a group.

B)  $\langle \mathbb{Q} \setminus \{0\}, \cdot \rangle$  is a group.

(But 0 has no multiplicative inverse)

and

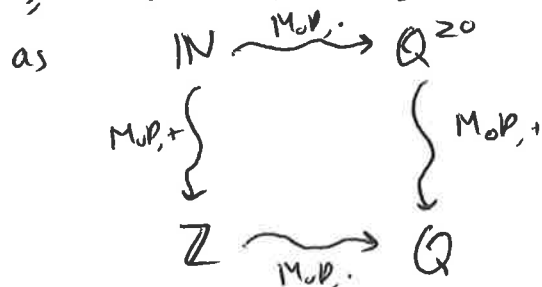
i)  $+$ ,  $\cdot$  are commutative

ii)  $\langle \mathbb{Q}, +, \cdot \rangle$  is distributive.

These can be verified from properties of  $\mathbb{N}$  with a little work  
(going through 2 applications of MoP.)

Remark: We could have also constructed  $\mathbb{Q}$  directly from  $\mathbb{Z}$ ,  
As that still uses 2 instances of MoP,  
though, it's not really simpler, and the signs  
are inconvenient when defining  $<$  on  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

That is, our constructions so far may be diagrammed



### D. The Real Numbers, $\mathbb{R}$

Although the rational numbers  $\mathbb{Q}$  are "dense"  
and closed under  $+$ ,  $\cdot$  and their inverses  
they still are not complete in an important sense  
- there are "holes", or missing numbers.

Example (Pythagoreans ~ 500 BCE)

The equation  $x^2 = 2$  has no solution in  $\mathbb{Q}$  (or in  $\mathbb{Q}^{20}$ )

Proof Suppose that  $\frac{n^2}{m^2} = 2$  for some  $n, m \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $m > 0$ .

That is,  $n^2 = 2 \cdot m^2$ .

Without loss of generality (wlog), we can

assume that  $n, m$  share no common factor  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ .

(Otherwise, divide both by  $k$ ).

If  $n$  is a multiple of 2, then  $n^2$  is a multiple of 4,  
so  $m^2$  is a multiple of 2.

As 2 is not divisible by any integer  $> 1$ ,

$m$  is a multiple of 2.

But this violates our no-common-factor assumption!  $\#$

So  $n$  is not a multiple of 2.

But then  $n^2$  is not a multiple of 2, either.

But  $2m^2$  is a multiple of 2.  $\#$

As  $n$  is either a multiple of 2, or not, the

original supposition that  $\frac{n^2}{m^2} = 2$  must be false.  $\square$

This means you can't "walk" from 1 to 2 in  $\mathbb{Q}$ ,

since you'd have to pass through  $\sqrt{2} = 1.414\dots$

$\mathbb{Q}$  has a "hole" where  $\sqrt{2}$  should be.

Of course, we can find rational numbers whose square is  
arbitrarily close to 2:

Consider 1.4, 1.41, 1.414, 1.4142, ...

This last observation leads to a method for completing  $\mathbb{Q}$  to  $\mathbb{R}$ ,

(an idea of Dedekind, from 1858).

It's more convenient to first construct  $\mathbb{R}^{\geq 0}$ , the set of all nonnegative reals.

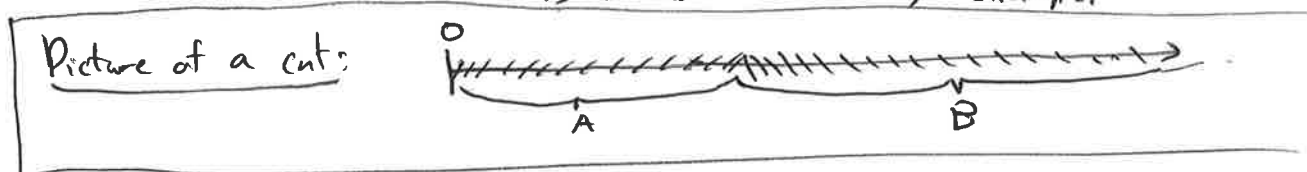
Definition A (Dedekind) cut for  $\mathbb{Q}^{\geq 0}$  is an ordered pair  $(A, B)$  of subsets of  $\mathbb{Q}^{\geq 0}$ , such that

- i)  $A \cup B = \mathbb{Q}^{\geq 0}$  (cover)
- ii) If  $a \in A$  and  $b \in B$ , then  $a < b$
- iii)  $A$  contains no largest element, and  $B$  is nonempty.

Eg 1 •  $([0, 3), [3, \infty))$  is an (uninteresting) cut for  $\mathbb{Q}^{\geq 0}$

•  $(\{x \in \mathbb{Q}^{\geq 0} : x^2 < 2\}, \{x \in \mathbb{Q}^{\geq 0} : x^2 \geq 2\})$

is a more interesting example.



We'll use the notation  $A|B$  for a cut,  
and will sometimes use a letter like  $\alpha = A|B$ .

We now define  $\mathbb{R}^{\geq 0}$  to be the set of all cuts for  $\mathbb{Q}^{\geq 0}$ .

Now,  $\mathbb{Q}^{\geq 0}$  embeds into  $\mathbb{R}^{\geq 0}$  by the association

$$\frac{n}{m} \longleftrightarrow [0, \frac{n}{m}) \mid [\frac{n}{m}, \infty).$$

Notice that cuts of this form have a least element for  $B$ .  
Moreover, if  $B$  has a least element, then this least element is a rational  $\frac{n}{m}$ , and then  $A|B$  is the cut associated with  $\frac{n}{m}$ .

Cuts  $A|B$  where  $B$  has no least element produce a new construct, conceptually filling a hole at the "missing" least element.

Example: 2, considered as a number in  $\mathbb{R}^{\geq 0}$ , corresponds to the Dedekind cut  $[0, 2) \mid [2, \infty)$ .

ie, as the set of all nonnegative rational numbers  $< 2$  together with " " " " " "  $\geq 2$ .

Remark: Writing this Dedekind cut as  $[0, 2) \mid [2, \infty)$  is a bit imprecise, as  $[0, 2)$  usually refers to the real numbers between 0 and 2, while DC's involve 'intervals' of positive rationals.

More precise, but longer notation, would be

$$[0, 2) \cap \mathbb{Q}^{\geq 0} \mid [2, \infty) \cap \mathbb{Q}^{\geq 0}, \text{ or better yet } \{x \in \mathbb{Q}^{\geq 0} : x < 2\} \mid \{x \in \mathbb{Q}^{\geq 0} : x \geq 2\}.$$

Let's use the short notation, but remember that we're looking at rational numbers (and sets thereof).

Example: Similarly,  $\sqrt{2}$  as a nonnegative real "is" the Dedekind cut  $[0, \sqrt{2}) \mid [\sqrt{2}, \infty)$

↑  
rational intervals.

Example: Define

$$A_{\sqrt{2}} := \{x \in \mathbb{Q}^{\geq 0} : x^2 < 2\}$$

$$B_{\sqrt{2}} := \{x \in \mathbb{Q}^{\geq 0} : x^2 \geq 2\}$$

as the sets of <sup>nonnegative</sup> rational numbers that have square  $< 2$  (for  $A_{\sqrt{2}}$ ) or  $\geq 2$  (for  $B_{\sqrt{2}}$ ).

- Then
- i)  $A_{\sqrt{2}} \cup B_{\sqrt{2}} = \mathbb{Q}^{\geq 0}$  by definition (as either  $x^2 < 2$  or  $x^2 \geq 2$ )
  - ii) if  $a \in A_{\sqrt{2}}$ ,  $b \in B_{\sqrt{2}}$  then  $a < b$  (as  $a^2 < 2 \leq b^2 \Rightarrow a < b$ )
  - iii)  $A_{\sqrt{2}}$  has no largest element (check!)

and  $3 \in B_{\sqrt{2}} \Rightarrow B_{\sqrt{2}} \text{ nonempty}$ .

So  $A_{\sqrt{2}} \mid B_{\sqrt{2}}$  is a Dedekind cut.

As  $B_{\sqrt{2}}$  has no least element, by the Example of the Pythagoreans,  $A_{\sqrt{2}} \mid B_{\sqrt{2}}$  is a "new" element of  $\mathbb{R}^{\geq 0}$ .

## Order and inequalities in $\mathbb{R}^{\geq 0}$

Let  $r \in \mathbb{R}^{\geq 0}$  be the D.C.  $A_r | B_r$ , and  $s \in \mathbb{R}^{\geq 0}$  be  $A_s | B_s$ .

We say that  $r < s$  ( $r$  is less than  $s$ )

when  $A_r \subsetneq A_s$ , that is, when  $A_r$  is a proper subset of  $A_s$ .

Equivalently:  $r < s$  exactly when  $B_r \not\supseteq B_s$ . (Why is this equivalent?)

We extend the  $<$  relation to a  $\leq$  relation as usual.

Example Consider  $\sqrt{2} = A_{\sqrt{2}} | B_{\sqrt{2}}$  as previously defined.

Since  $A_{\sqrt{2}}$  contains all nonnegative rationals w/ square  $< 2$ , we see that if  $r^2 < 2$ , then  $A_r \subsetneq A_{\sqrt{2}}$  (for any  $r \in \mathbb{Q}^{\geq 0}$ ).

Similarly, if  $s^2 > 2$ , then  $A_{\sqrt{2}} \subsetneq A_s$ , so  $s > \sqrt{2}$ .

This helps justify the notation  $\sqrt{2}$  for this D.C.!

Of course,  $\mathbb{R}^{\geq 0}$  is not well-ordered by  $\leq$ .

To see this, it suffices to check that the interval  $(0, \infty) \subseteq \mathbb{R}^{\geq 0}$  has no least element. But if  $r = A_r | B_r$  is any element with  $r > 0$ , then we can find a smaller element:

$$\{x \in \mathbb{Q}^{\geq 0} : 2x \in A_r\} \mid \{x \in \mathbb{Q}^{\geq 0} : 2x \in B_r\}. \quad \checkmark$$

## Arithmetic on $\mathbb{R}^{\geq 0}$ :

Let  $r = A_r | B_r$  and  $s = A_s | B_s$  be in  $\mathbb{R}^{\geq 0}$ .

We define arithmetic operations on  $\mathbb{R}^{\geq 0}$ , based on those already defined for  $\mathbb{Q}^{\geq 0}$ .

Notice that the 2nd part of a D.C. is the set complement of the 1st part: that is, for D.C.  $A | B$ ,

$$B = \mathbb{Q}^{\geq 0} \setminus A = \{x \in \mathbb{Q}^{\geq 0} : x \notin A\}.$$



In particular, it is enough to specify the 1st part of a D.C.

### Definition:

#### 1) Addition

Assume  $r, s > 0$ .

Then let  $r+s := A/B$ , where  $A = \{x+y : x \in A_r \text{ and } y \in A_s\}$

That is,  $r+s$  is the cut so that

- $A$  has all the nonnegative rationals that can be written as a sum of numbers in  $A_r, A_s$ , while
- $B$  has all the nonneg. rationals that cannot be written in this form

(As usual, if  $r$  or  $s=0$ , we'll define  $0+s:=s$  and  $r+0:=r$ .)

2) Multiplication Similarly, let  $r \cdot s := A/B$ , where  $A = \{x \cdot y \mid x \in A_r, y \in A_s\}$

Proposition: Addition + ad multiplication • yield set pairs that satisfy the definition of a D.C.

Proof: 1) Addition: (check the properties! If  $r=s=0$ , trivial. Otherwise,

(i) is automatic by the "1st part" specification.

(ii) Follows, as if  $a \in A$  with  $a = x+y$  ( $x \in A_r, y \in A_s$ )  
and  $0 < b < a$ , then either

- $0 \leq b \leq x$ , so  $b \in A_r$ , so  $b = b+0 \in A$  ✓
- or •  $x < b < x+y$ , so  $b = x+w$ , some  $0 < w < y$ ,  
Then  $w \in A_s$ , so  $b \in A$ . ✓


(ii) follows:  $B$  is nonempty as  $z \in B_r, w \in B_s \Rightarrow z+w \in B$

~~(Key bases of inequalities)~~ (since  $\leq$  is compatible w/ + in  $\mathbb{Q}^{\geq 0}$ )  
and  $A$  has no greatest element

since  $A_r, A_s$  do not. (If  $x+y \in A$ ,

then  $x^*+y \in A$

for any  $x^* > x$  in  $A_r$ .) ✓

2) Multiplication: is entirely similar. (Check it!) 

Example: Calculate  $\sqrt{2} \cdot \sqrt{2} = A/B$ . (That is, show  $\sqrt{2} \cdot \sqrt{2} = 2$ .)

We have  $A = \{x \cdot y \in \mathbb{Q}^{20} : x^2 < 2 \text{ and } y^2 < 2 \text{ w/ } x, y \in \mathbb{Q}^{20}\}$ .

We want to show that  $A$  agrees with

$$A_2 = \{z \in \mathbb{Q}^{20} : z < 2\}.$$

It is clear that  $A \subseteq A_2$ , as  $x^2 < 2$  and  $y^2 < 2 \Rightarrow x^2 y^2 < 4$   
 $\Rightarrow xy < 2$ .

For the other way, it is enough to find  $\frac{m}{n} \in \mathbb{Q}^+$  values  
 so that  $(\frac{m}{n})^2$  can be taken arbitrarily close to 2.

The decimal approximations 1.4, 1.41, 1.414, ...  
 will suffice. (Details on how.)

Observe:  $+$  and  $\cdot$  in  $\mathbb{Q}^{20}$  are compatible with the same  
 operations in  $\mathbb{R}^{20}$ .

That is, if  $\frac{m}{n}$  and  $\frac{p}{q}$  are in  $\mathbb{Q}^{20}$   
 then as reals (via the usual embedding)

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{we have for addition} \\ & \left( [0, \frac{m}{n}) \mid [\frac{m}{n}, \infty) \right) + \left( [0, \frac{p}{q}) \mid [\frac{p}{q}, \infty) \right) \\ &= \left\{ x+y : 0 \leq x < \frac{m}{n}, 0 \leq y < \frac{p}{q} \right\} \mid \text{(2nd part)} \\ &= [0, \frac{m}{n} + \frac{p}{q}) \mid [\frac{m}{n} + \frac{p}{q}, \infty) \end{aligned}$$

as the least value not expressed as  $x+y$  w/  $x < \frac{m}{n}$ ,  $y < \frac{p}{q}$   
 is  $\frac{m}{n} + \frac{p}{q}$ . ✓

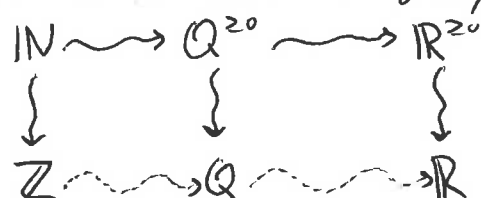
Similarly for multiplication,

So far we've talked only about  $\mathbb{R}^{20}$ .

We extend from  $\mathbb{R}^{20}$  to  $\mathbb{R}$  via the Method of Ordered Pairs  
 in an entirely similar way to the extension  $\mathbb{N}$  to  $\mathbb{Z}$   
 or  $\mathbb{Q}^{20}$  to  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

(so take pairs  $(a, b) \in (\mathbb{R}^{20})^2$ , identify pairs to think of as " $a-b$ ")

I'll summarize with a diagram the constructions we've made:



The dotted arrows are constructions we did not consider, but could have. We took the path that we did, as it simplifies some arguments to only deal w/ positives.

We extend  $\leq, +, \cdot$  from  $\mathbb{R}^{\geq 0}$  to  $\mathbb{R}$  in a manner entirely similar to the extension from  $\mathbb{N}$  to  $\mathbb{Z}$  or  $\mathbb{Q}^{\geq 0}$  to  $\mathbb{Q}$ . (using the Method of Ordered Pairs).

All the nice arithmetic properties of  $\mathbb{Q}$  also hold for  $\mathbb{R}$ .  
(This shouldn't be a surprise - after all, we built  $+, \cdot$  for  $\mathbb{R}$  from that in  $\mathbb{Q}$ )

### Properties of $\langle \mathbb{R}, +, \cdot \rangle$

- A)  $\langle \mathbb{R}, + \rangle$  is a group.
- B)  $\langle \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}, \cdot \rangle$  is a group.
- and i)  $+, \cdot$  are commutative
- ii)  $\langle \mathbb{R}, +, \cdot \rangle$  is distributive.

These are "properties that we'd like" to talk about together (the properties of a "nice" number system), so again, we give the set of properties a name.

Definition: A field is a set  $\mathbb{F}$  with operations  $+, \cdot$ , so that

- A)  $\langle \mathbb{F}, + \rangle$  is a group, w/ identity element 0.
- B)  $\langle \mathbb{F} \setminus \{0\}, \cdot \rangle$  is a group (w/ " " " 1.)
- i)  $+, \cdot$  are each commutative, and
- ii)  $+, \cdot$  satisfy the distributive law.

Remarks: We can always name the additive identity of  $\mathbb{F}$  as 0, even if  $\mathbb{F}$  is unrelated to the reals. Similarly for the multiplicative identity 1.

We can now summarize our lists of properties much more succinctly!  
Properties of  $\mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{R}$ :  $\langle \mathbb{Q}, +, \cdot \rangle$  and  $\langle \mathbb{R}, +, \cdot \rangle$  are both fields.

Example: The following operations on the set  $\mathbb{F}_2 = \{0, 1\}$  yield a field.

a \ b	b	
	0	1
0	0	1
1	1	0

a \ b	b	
	0	1
0	0	0
1	0	1

(Exercise / self-check: Verify that the field axioms hold!)

Notes: the orders on  $\mathbb{Q}$  and  $\mathbb{R}$  are compatible w/ the algebraic/arithmetic structure, in the sense that whenever  $r, s, t \in \mathbb{R}$ ,

- If  $r \leq s$ , then  $r + t \leq s + t$
- If  $r \leq s$  and  $t \geq 0$ , then  $r \cdot t \leq s \cdot t$ .

(Remark: A field with an order  $\leq$  satisfying these additional properties is called an ordered field.)

Thus,  $\mathbb{Q}$  and  $\mathbb{R}$  are ordered fields. )

Completeness:

We constructed  $\mathbb{R}$  to "fill in holes" in  $\mathbb{Q}$  (using D.C.'s). Our next goal will be to give one notion of a "hole".

The crucial property of  $\mathbb{R}$  is that it has no "holes" in this sense.

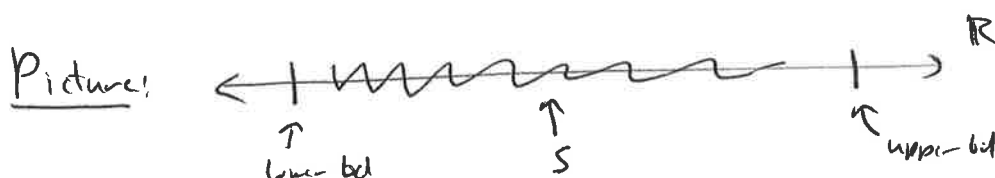
(The general idea of  $\mathbb{R}$  having no "holes" is called "completeness", and is something that we will return to later, using different language.)

### Definition (Bounded Sets):

Let  $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  be a set of real numbers, and let  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ .

We say that  $\alpha$  is an upper bound for  $S$  if for every  $x \in S$ , we have  $x \leq \alpha$ .

Similarly, if  $\forall x \in S$ , have  $x \geq \alpha$ , then we say  $\alpha$  is a lower bound for  $S$ .



Eg:  $\{0, 2, 17\}$  has 18 as an upper-bound.  
(also 17, 20, but not 16.)

Eg:  $(-\infty, 2)$  is an interval with 2, 3,  $\pi$ , ... as u.b.'s.  
In this example, 2 is the least possible upper bound,  
and there is no lower bound.

A set with an upper-bd (of  $\alpha$ ) is bounded from above (by  $\alpha$ ).

Similarly for bounded from below.

If a set is bounded from above (by  $\alpha > 0$ )  
and also " " below (by  $-\alpha$ )

then we call the set bounded.

Eg: The interval  $[0, 2]$  is bounded.

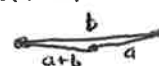
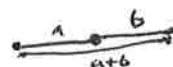
Eg: Which of the above sets  $\{0, 2, 17\}$  and  $(-\infty, 2)$   
are bounded?

### Digression The Triangle Inequality

The following is often useful for showing sets to be bounded,  
Lemma ( $\Delta$  inequality)

If  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ , then  $|a+b| \leq |a| + |b|$ ,  
 (as usual,  $|a|$  is the absolute value of  $a$ .)

Proof ~~Sketch~~: Either  $a, b$  have same sign (so  $|a+b| = |a| + |b|$ )  
 or different sign (and  $|a+b| < |a| + |b|$ ),  $\square$



Example Assuming that you remember trigonometry,  
 let  $S$  be the set  $\{3\sin x + 2\cos 2x : x \in \mathbb{R}\}$ .  
 Show that  $S$  is bounded.

Solution From earlier trig classes, we remember that  
 $|\sin x| \leq 1$  and  $|\cos 2x| \leq 1$ .  
 Thus,  $|3\sin x + 2\cos 2x| \stackrel{\Delta \text{ ineq}}{\leq} |3\sin x| + |2\cos 2x|$   
 $= 3|\sin x| + 2|\cos 2x|$   
 $\leq 3 \cdot 1 + 2 \cdot 1 = 5$   
 so  $S$  is bounded by 5.  $\checkmark$

We return to our main stream of thought, heading towards "Completeness".

Definition (maximum, supremum)

- If a set  $S$  of real numbers has a largest element  $s_{\max}$   
 (so  $s_{\max} \in S$ , and for any  $s \in S$ , have  $s \leq s_{\max}$ )  
 then  $s_{\max}$  is the maximum of  $S$ . Write it as  $\max S$ .

Eg.: Formula from Course Outline for grades!!

- If a nonempty set  $S$  of real numbers has any upper bound,  
 then the least upper bound or supremum for  $S$   
 is a <sup>real</sup> number  $t$  (not necessarily in  $S$ ), such that

- i)  $t$  is an upper bound for  $S$ , and  
 ii) if  $t_*$  is another upper bound for  $S$ ,  
 then  $t \leq t_*$ .

Write  $\sup S$  for the supremum of  $S$ , (when  $S$  has upper bd).

Eg: Consider the following intervals:

- $S = [0, 2]$  has  $\max S = \sup S = 2$ .
- $S = [0, 2)$  has no max, but  $\sup S = 2$ .
- $S = [0, \infty)$  has neither max nor sup. (Nor upper bd!)

It is immediate from definitions that if  $S$  has a maximum, then  $\max S = \sup S$ . (But sets such as  $[0, 2)$  may have supremum without having a maximum.)

Our 1st notion of completeness is stated in terms of sups. We start with a simplified version.

Proposition: (" $\mathbb{R}^{\geq 0}$  completeness")

If a set  $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}^{\geq 0}$  is bounded from above,  
 then  $S$  has a supremum in  $\mathbb{R}^{\geq 0}$ .

Proof: We use Dedekind cuts to translate from real numbers to sets.

For each  $r \in S$ , there is a D.C.  $A_r \mid B_r$ .

Since  $S$  is bounded from above, there is some  $A_* \mid B_*$   
 s.t. for every  $r$ , we have  $A_r \leq A_*$ .

We now build a new D.C. by taking

$$t = A \mid B \quad \text{for} \quad A = \bigcup_{r \in S} A_r, \quad B = \mathbb{Q}^{\geq 0} \setminus A.$$

(Check that  $A \mid B$  is really a D.C.)

(i) is immediate from construction

(ii) is easy; if  $a \in A$ , then  $a \in A_r$  for some  $r$ ,

so any  $b < a$  is in  $A_r$ , so  $b \in A$ .

(iii)  $A$  has no greatest element since the  $A_n$ 's don't.  
 $B$  is nonempty since  $A \subseteq A_*$ , and  $B_* \neq \emptyset$ .

Now  $t$  is an upper bd for  $S$ ,  
 as for all  $r \in S$  we have  $A_r \subseteq A$ .

Also,  $t$  is the least upper bound. It is enough to show  
 that if  $s < t$ , then  $s$  is not an u.b.

But if  $s = C \mid D < t = A \mid B$

then  $C \not\subseteq A$ , so there's some  $\frac{p}{q}$  in  $A$  but not in  $C$ .

Now, by definition of  $A$ , there is some  $r_0$  w/  $\frac{p}{q} \in A_{r_0}$ .

But then  $r_0 \notin S$ !! So  $s$  is not an upper bd.  $\square$

The extension from  $\mathbb{R}^{20}$  to  $\mathbb{R}$  via M.o.P yields no surprises,  
 and we state the general result:

Theorem: (Completeness of  $\mathbb{R}$ , Order version)

If  $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  is bounded from above,  
 then  $S$  has a supremum in  $\mathbb{R}$ .

Similar notions hold from below.

Definition: (minimum, infimum)

- If a set  $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  has a least element  $s_{\min}$ ,  
 then  $s_{\min}$  is the minimum of  $S$ . Write as  $\min S$ .
- If a nonempty set  $S$  has some lower bound,  
 then a greatest lower bound or infimum for  $S$   
 is the greatest number that is a lower bound for  $S$ .  
 Write as  $\inf S$ .

Eg:  $S = (0, 2]$  has  $\inf$  of 0, while  $T = [0, 2]$  has  $\inf T = \min T = 0$ .



Observation: For real numbers  $r, s$ ,  $r < s \iff -r > -s$ .

This observation lets us turn any theorems about upper bounds, maxes, or sups into theorems about lower bds, mins, or infs. Let's examine this technique closely, applied to Completeness.

Theorem: (Completeness of  $\mathbb{R}$ , inf version)

If  $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  is bounded from below,  
then  $S$  has an infimum in  $\mathbb{R}$ .

Proof: Let  $-S := \{-x : x \in S\}$


We use the observation repeatedly to translate:

If  $r$  is a lower bd for  $S$ ,

then  $-r$  is an upper bd for  $-S$

so  $-S$  has a supremum,  $\sup S = -t \in \mathbb{R}$

(by Completeness Thm)

and then  $-(-t) = t$  is an infimum for  $S$ . 

Fact:  $\mathbb{R}$  is the only complete, ordered field "up to isomorphism".

That is, if  $\langle F, +, \cdot \rangle$  is a complete ordered field,

then it can be identified with  $\mathbb{R}$  by relabelling numbers.

Principle of Trichotomy:

It is sometimes useful to notice that

for any  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ , exactly one of the following occurs:

i)  $a < b$ , ii)  $a > b$ , or iii)  $a = b$ .

## E. The Complex Numbers, $\mathbb{C}$

We've seen the real numbers  $\mathbb{R}$  to be complete under sup/inf. However, they are lacking another "completeness" or closure property: there are equations, such as  $x^2 = -1$ , without any solution in  $\mathbb{R}$ .

As a main complaint we had about  $\mathbb{Q}$  was that the equation  $x^2 = 2$  has no solution in  $\mathbb{Q}$ , this is a bit upsetting!

Notice that the difference between  $\sqrt{2}$  and  $\sqrt{-1}$  here is that rationals like 1.41,  $\dots$  are quite close to 2 when squared. But the square of any rational is positive or 0, so differs by at least 1 with  $-1$ .

Definition Let  $\mathbb{C}$  be the set of all ordered pairs  $\{(a, b) : a, b \in \mathbb{R}\}$

think of as  
"a+bi"

with operations

- $+$ , defined entrywise  $(a, b) + (c, d) := (a+c, b+d)$ , and
- $\cdot$ , defined by  $(a, b) \cdot (c, d) := (ac - bd, ad + bc)$

Remark Unlike previous applications of the MofOP, we make no identifications among ordered pairs!

We can quickly see some behavior that may be familiar:

- the association of  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  to  $(x, 0) \in \mathbb{C}$  gives an embedding of  $\mathbb{R}$  into  $\mathbb{C}$ .

The embedding respects  $+$ ,  $\cdot$ .

(so  $a+b$  in  $\mathbb{R}$  agrees w/  $a+b$  in  $\mathbb{C}$  no matter when we embed.)

- If we write  $i$  for the element  $(0,1)$ ,  
and  $bi$  " " " "  $(0,b)$

then any  $(a,b) \in \mathbb{C}$  can be written as  $a+bi$ .

$$\text{Notice that } i^2 = [(0,1)]^2 = (0 \cdot 0 - 1 \cdot 1, 0 \cdot 1 + 1 \cdot 0) \\ = (-1, 0) = -1,$$

We recover our familiar representation of  $\mathbb{C}$

$$\text{with } (a+bi) \cdot (c+di) = (ac-bd) + (ad+bc)i.$$

### Properties of $\mathbb{C}$ :

For  $z = a+bi \in \mathbb{C}$ ,

write  $\bar{z}$  for the complex conjugate  $a-bi$ .

$$\text{Notice that } z \cdot \bar{z} = (a+bi) \cdot (a-bi) = a^2 + b^2, \text{ a real number.}$$

Using this, we show:

Lemma: If  $z \neq 0$  is a complex number,

then  $z$  has a multiplicative inverse given by

$$z^{-1} = \frac{\bar{z}}{z \cdot \bar{z}} \quad (= \frac{a-bi}{a^2+b^2})$$

$\leftarrow \text{real}$

Proof:

$$z \cdot z^{-1} = \frac{z \cdot \bar{z}}{z \cdot \bar{z}} = \frac{z \cdot \bar{z}}{a^2+b^2} = \frac{a^2+b^2}{a^2+b^2} = 1. \quad \square$$

$$\text{Eg: For } z = 1-2i, \quad z^{-1} = \frac{1+2i}{5} = \frac{1}{5} + \frac{2}{5}i$$

or  $(\frac{1}{5}, \frac{2}{5})$  in ordered pair notation. ✓

With multiplicative inverses calculated, it is straightforward to verify

Proposition:  $\mathbb{C}$  is a field.

Self-check: How would you verify this Proposition?

### Completeness in $\mathbb{C}$ ?

Although  $\mathbb{C}$  is a field, it has no sensible order,  
and is not an ordered field.

Since  $\mathbb{C}$  is not ordered, we can't <sup>even</sup> use our notion  
of completeness with sup/inf in  $\mathbb{C}$ .

Remember that sup/inf depended heavily on order.  
(This might be a reason to look for another idea of  
"completeness", as we later will.)

### Closed-ness of $\mathbb{C}$ :

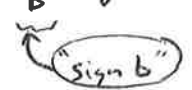
We defined  $\mathbb{C}$  to have a  $\sqrt{-1}$  element.

Much more is true:

- $\mathbb{C}$  is closed under  $\sqrt{\cdot}$ :

You can check by computation that

$$\sqrt{a+bi} = \sqrt{\frac{a + \sqrt{a^2+b^2}}{2}} + i \cdot \frac{|b|}{b} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{-a + \sqrt{a^2+b^2}}{2}}$$



(or there's a geometric interpretation  
w/ polar coordinates.)

It follows that

- $\mathbb{C}$  is closed under taking roots of quadratic equations,  
since the solution of the quadratic equation only  
relies on computing square roots.

If  $u, v, w \in \mathbb{C}$ , then equation  $ux^2 + vx + w = 0$   
has solution(s)  $x \in \mathbb{C}$ ,

such as 
$$\frac{-v + \sqrt{v^2 - 4uw}}{2u}$$