

Chapter 1

The real and complex number systems

In problems 1-19 are the questions in chapter 1 of Principles of mathematical analysis

Problem 1.1. If r is rational ($r \neq 0$) and x is irrational, prove that $r+x$ and rx are irrational.

Problem 1.2. Prove that there is no rational number whose square is 12.

Problem 1.3. Prove that:

- (a) If $x \neq 0$ and $xy=xz$ then $y=z$.
- (b) If $x \neq 0$ and $xy=x$ then $y=1$.
- (c) If $x \neq 0$ and $xy=1$ then $y=1/x$.
- (d) If $x \neq 0$ then $1/(1/x)=x$.

Problem 1.4. Let E be a nonempty subset of an ordered set; suppose α is a lower bound of E and β is an upper bound of E . Prove that $\alpha \leq \beta$.

Problem 1.5. Let A be a nonempty set of real numbers which is bounded below. Let $-A$ be the set of all numbers $-x$, where $x \in A$. Prove that

$$\inf A = -\sup(-A)$$

Problem 1.6. Fix $b > 1$

(a) If m, n, p, q are integers, $n > 0$, $q > 0$, and $r = m/n = p/q$, prove that

$$(b^m)^{1/n} = (b^p)^{1/q}$$

Hence it makes sense to define $b^r = (b^m)^{1/n}$.

(b) Prove that $b^{r+s} = b^r b^s$ if r and s are rational.

(c) If x is real, define $B(x)$ to be the set of all numbers b^t , where t is rational and $t \leq x$. Prove that

$$b^r = \sup B(r)$$

when r is rational. Hence it makes sense to define

$$b^x = \sup B(x)$$

for every real x

(d) Prove that $b^{x+y} = b^x b^y$ for all real x and y .

Problem 1.7. Fix $b > 1, y > 0$, and prove that there is a unique real x such that $b^x = y$, by completing the following outline.

(a) For any positive integer n , $b^n - 1 \leq n(b - 1)$.

(b) Hence $b - 1 \leq n(b^{1/n} - 1)$.

(c) If $t > 1$ and $n > (b-1)/(t-1)$, then $b^{1/n} < t$.

(d) If w is such that $b^w < y$, then $b^{w+1/n} > y$ for sufficiently large n ; to see this, apply part (c) with $t = yB^{-w}$.

(e) If $b^w > y$, then $b^{w-1/n} < y$ for sufficiently large n .

(f) Let A be the set of all w such that $b^w < y$, and show that $x = \sup A$ satisfies $b^x = y$.

(g) Prove that this x is unique.

Problem 1.8. Prove that no order can be defined in the complex field that turns it into an ordered field. Hint: -1 is a square.

Problem 1.9. Suppose $z = a + bi, w = c + di$. Define $z < w$ if $a < c$, and also if $a = c$ but $b < d$. Prove that this turns the set of all complex numbers into an ordered set. (This type of order relation is called a dictionary order, or lexicographic order, for obvious reasons.) Does this ordered set have the least-upper-bound property?

Problem 1.10. Suppose $z = a + bi, w = u + vi$, and

$$a = \left(\frac{|w| + u}{2}\right)^{1/2}, b = \left(\frac{|w| - u}{2}\right)^{1/2}$$

Prove that $z^2 = w$ if $v \geq 0$ and that $(\bar{z})^2 = w$ if $v \leq 0$. Conclude that every complex number (with one exception!) has two complex square roots.

Problem 1.11. If z is a complex number, prove that there exists an $r \geq 0$ and a complex number w with $|w|=1$ such that $z=rw$. Are w and r always uniquely determined by z ?

Problem 1.12. If z_1, \dots, z_n are complex, prove that

$$|z_1 + z_2 + \dots + z_n| \leq |z_1| + |z_2| + \dots + |z_n|.$$

Problem 1.13. If x, y are complex, prove that

$$||x| - |y|| \leq |x - y|.$$

Problem 1.14. If z is a complex number such that $|z|=1$, that is, such that $z\bar{z}=1$, compute

$$|1+z|^2 + |1-z|^2.$$

Problem 1.15. Under what conditions does equality hold in the Schwarz inequality?

Problem 1.16. Suppose $k \geq 3, x, y \in R^k, |x-y|=d>0$, and $r>0$. Prove:

(a) If $2r>d$, there are infinitely many $z \in R^k$ such that

$$|z-x|=|z-y|=r.$$

(b) If $2r=d$, there is exactly one such z .

(c) If $2r<d$, there is no such z .

How must these statements be modified if k is 2 or 1?

Problem 1.17. Prove that

$$|x+y|^2 + |x-y|^2 = 2|x|^2 + 2|y|^2$$

if $x \in R^k$ and $y \in R^k$. Interpret this geometrically, as a statement about parallelograms.

Problem 1.18. If $k \geq 2$ and $x \in R^k$, prove that there exists $y \in R^k$ such that $y \neq 0$ but $xy=0$. Is this also true if $k=1$?

Problem 1.19. Suppose $a \in R^k, b \in R^k$. Find $c \in R^k$ and $r>0$ such that

$$|x-a| = 2|x-b|$$

if and only if $|x-c|=r$.