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1 INTRODUCTION

The rational number system has certain gaps, in spite of the fact that between any two rationals there is another: If $r < s$ then $r < (r + s)/2 < s$. The real number system fills these gaps.

Definition 1 *If A is any set, we write $x \in A$ to indicate that x is a member (or an element) of A .*

If x is not a member of A , we write: $x \notin A$.

If A and B are sets, and if every element of A is an element of B , we say that A is a subset of B , and write $A \subset B$, or $B \supset A$. If in addition there is an element of B which is not in A , then A is said to be proper subset of B .

If $A \subset B$ and $B \subset A$, we write $A=B$. Otherwise $A \neq B$.

2 ORDERED SETS

Definition 2 *Let S be a set. An order on S is a relation, denoted by $<$, with the following two properties:*

(i) If $x \in S$ then one and only one of the statements

$$x < y, \quad x = y, \quad x > y$$

is true.

(ii) If $x, y, z \in S$, if $x < y$ and $y < z$, then $x < z$.

$x \leq y$ is the negation of $x > y$.

Definition 3 *Suppose S is an ordered set, and $E \subset S$. If there exists a $\beta \in S$ such that $x \leq \beta$ for every $x \in E$, we say that E is bounded above, and call β an upper bound of E .*

Definition 4 *Suppose S is an ordered set, $E \subset S$, and E is bounded above. Suppose there exists an $\alpha \in S$ with the following properties:*

- (i) α is an upper bound of E .
- (ii) If $\gamma < \alpha$ then γ is not an upper bound of E .

Then α is called the least upper bound of E or the supremum of E , and we write

$$\alpha = \sup E$$

The greatest lower bound, or infimum, of a set E which is bounded below is defined in the same manner: The statement

$$\alpha = \inf E$$

means that α is a lower bound of E and that no β with $\beta > \alpha$ is a lower bound of E .

Definition 5 *An ordered set S is said to have the least-upper-bound property if the following is true:*

If $E \subset S$, E is not empty, and E is bounded above, then $\sup E$ exists in S .

Every ordered set with the least-upper-bound property also has the greatest-lower-bound property.

\mathbb{Q} (the set of all rational numbers) does not have the least-upper-bound property.

Theorem 1 *Suppose S is an ordered set with the least-upper-bound property, $B \subset S$, B is not empty, and B is bounded below. Let L be the set of all lower bounds of B . Then*

$$\alpha = \sup L$$

exists in S , and $\alpha = \inf B$

In particular, $\inf B$ exists in S .

3 FIELDS

Definition 6 *A field is a set F with two operations, called addition and multiplication, which satisfy the following so-called "field axioms":*

(A) Axioms for addition

- (A1) If $x \in F$ and $y \in F$, then their sum $x+y$ is in F .
- (A2) Addition is commutative: $x+y=y+x$ for all $x, y \in F$.
- (A3) Addition is associative: $(x+y)+z=x+(y+z)$ for all $x, y, z \in F$.
- (A4) F contains an element 0 such that $0+x=x$ for every $x \in F$.
- (A5) To every $x \in F$ corresponds an element $-x \in F$ such that

$$x + (-x) = 0$$

(M) Axioms for multiplication

(M1) If $x \in F$ and $y \in F$, then their product xy is in F .

(M2) Multiplication is commutative: $xy=yx$ for all $x, y \in F$.

(M3) Multiplication is associative: $(xy)z=x(yz)$ for all $x, y, z \in F$.

(M4) F contains an element $1 \neq 0$ such that $1x=x$ for every $x \in F$.

(M5) If $x \in F$ and $x \neq 0$ then there exists an element $1/x \in F$ such that

$$x \cdot (1/x) = 1$$

The distributive law

$$x(y + z) = xy + xz$$

holds for all $x, y, z \in F$.

The field axioms clearly hold in \mathbb{Q} , the set of all rational numbers, if addition and multiplication have their customary meaning. Thus \mathbb{Q} is a field.

Definition 7 *An ordered field is a field F which is also an ordered set, such that:*

(i) $x + y < x + z$ if $x, y, z \in F$ and $y < z$,

(ii) $xy > 0$ if $x \in F, y \in F, x > 0$, and $y > 0$.

If $x > 0$, we call x positive; if $x < 0$, x is negative.

4 THE REAL FIELD

Theorem 2 *There exists an ordered field R which has the least-upper-bound property.*

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

Theorem 3 (a) *If $x \in R, y \in R$, and $x > 0$, then there is a positive integer n such that (Archimedean property)*

$$nx > y$$

(b) *If $x \in R, y \in R$, and $x < y$, then there exists a $p \in \mathbb{Q}$ such that $x < p < y$.*

This means that \mathbb{Q} is dense in R : Between any two real numbers there is a rational number.

Theorem 4 *For every real $x > 0$ and every integer $n > 0$ there is one and only one positive real y such that $y^n = x$.*

This number y is written $\sqrt[n]{x}$ or $x^{1/n}$.

5 The extended real number system

Definition 8 *The extended real number system consists of the real field R and two symbols, $+\infty$ and $-\infty$. We preserve the original order in R , and define*

$$-\infty < x < +\infty$$

for every $x \in R$.

It is then clear that $+\infty$ is an upper bound of every subset of the extended real number system, and that every nonempty subset has a least upper bound.

The extended real number system does not form a field.

6 The complex field

Definition 9 *A complex number is an ordered pair (a,b) of real numbers. "Ordered" means that (a,b) and (b,a) are regarded as distinct if $a \neq b$.*

Let $x=(a,b), y=(c,d)$ be two complex numbers. We write $x=y$ if and only if $a=c$ and $b=d$. We define

$$x + y = (a + c, b + d)$$

$$xy = (ac - bd, ad + bc)$$

Theorem 5 *These definitions of addition and multiplication turns the set of all complex numbers into a field, with $(0,0)$ and $(1,0)$ in the role of 0 and 1.*

Theorem 6 *For any real numbers a and b we have*

$$(a, 0) + (b, 0) = (a + b, 0)$$

$$(a, 0)(b, 0) = (ab, 0)$$

the real field is a subfield of the complex field. The notation (a,b) is equivalent to the more customary $a+bi$;

Definition 10 $i=(0,1)$

Theorem 7 $i^2 = -1$

Theorem 8 *If a and b are real, then $(a,b)=a+bi$*

Definition 11 *If a, b are real and $z=a+bi$, then the complex number $\bar{z} = a - bi$ is called the conjugate of z . The numbers a and b are the real part and the imaginary part of z , respectively.*

We shall occasionally write $a=\text{Re}(z)$, $b=\text{Im}(z)$.

Theorem 9 If z and w are complex, then

$$\overline{z+w} = \overline{z} + \overline{w}$$

$$\overline{zw} = \overline{z} \cdot \overline{w}$$

$$z + \overline{z} = 2\operatorname{Re}(z), z - \overline{z} = 2i\operatorname{Im}(z)$$

$z\overline{z}$ is real and positive (except when $z=0$).

Definition 12 if z is a complex number, its absolute value $|z|$ is the non-negative square root of $z\overline{z}$; that is, $|z| = (z\overline{z})^{1/2}$.

Theorem 10 Let z and w be complex numbers. Then

$$|z| > 0 \text{ unless } z = 0, |0| = 0,$$

$$|\overline{z}| = |z|,$$

$$|zw| = |z||w|,$$

$$|\operatorname{Re} z| \leq |z|,$$

$$|z+w| \leq |z| + |w|.$$

Theorem 11 If a_1, \dots, a_n and b_1, \dots, b_n are complex numbers, then

$$\left| \sum_{j=1}^n a_j \overline{b_j} \right|^2 \leq \sum_{j=1}^n |a_j|^2 \sum_{j=1}^n |b_j|^2$$

7 Euclidean spaces

Definition 13 For each positive integer k , let R^k be the set of all ordered k -tuples

$$\mathbf{x} = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k),$$

where x_1, \dots, x_k are real numbers, called the coordinates of \mathbf{x} . The elements of R^k are called points, or vectors, especially when $k > 1$. If $\mathbf{y} = (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_k)$ and if α is a real number, put

$$\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y} = (x_1 + y_1, \dots, x_k + y_k),$$

$$\alpha \mathbf{x} = (\alpha x_1, \dots, \alpha x_k)$$

The zero element of R^k is the point $\mathbf{0}$, all of whose coordinates are 0.

We also define the so-called "inner product" (or scalar product) of \mathbf{x} and \mathbf{y} by

$$\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{y} = \sum_{i=1}^k x_i y_i$$

and the norm of \mathbf{x} by

$$|\mathbf{x}| = (\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{x})^{1/2} = \left(\sum_{i=1}^k x_i^2 \right)^{1/2}$$

The structure now defined is called euclidean k -space.

Theorem 12 Suppose $x, y, z \in R^k$, and a is real. Then

- (a) $|\mathbf{x}| \geq 0$;
- (b) $|\mathbf{x}| = 0$ if and only if $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$;
- (c) $|\alpha \mathbf{x}| = |\alpha| |\mathbf{x}|$;
- (d) $|\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{y}| \leq |\mathbf{x}| |\mathbf{y}|$;
- (e) $|\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}| \leq |\mathbf{x}| + |\mathbf{y}|$;
- (f) $|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{z}| \leq |\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}| + |\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{z}|$.

Theorem (a), (b), (c) and (f) will allow us to regard R^k as a metric space.

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