

1 Lecture 1 - The Reals

- Definition:* a **field** is the 5-tuple $\langle \mathbb{F}, +, \cdot, e, u \rangle$, where \mathbb{F} is a set containing at least the elements e and u , where $e \neq u$, and satisfies: For any $a, b, c \in \mathbb{F}$,
 - (commutative add) $a + b = b + a$
 - (associative add) $(a + b) + c = a + (b + c)$
 - (additive identity) $a + e = a$
 - (additive inverse) $\forall a, \exists b \in \mathbb{F}$ such that $a + b = e$.
 - (commutative multiply) $a \cdot b = b \cdot a$
 - (associative multiply) $(a \cdot b) \cdot c = a \cdot (b \cdot c)$
 - (multiplicative identity) $a \cdot u = a$
 - (multiplicative inverse) $\forall a, \exists b \in \mathbb{F}$ such that $a \cdot b = u$.
 - (distributive) $\forall a, b, c \in \mathbb{F}, a \cdot (b + c) = a \cdot b + a \cdot c$
- Example:* $\mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{N}, \mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}, \mathbb{R} - \mathbb{Q}$ are fields.
- Definition:* A field \mathbb{F} is **ordered** if $\exists P \subseteq \mathbb{F}$ such that $\forall a, b \in P$,
 - $a + b \in P$
 - $a \cdot b \in P$
 - (trichotomy) either
 - $a \in P$
 - $a = e$, or
 - $-a \in P$
 - $e \notin P$.
- Theorem:* $a \in P \implies -a \notin P$.
- Definition:* if a subset of an ordered field, $A \subseteq \mathbb{F}$ contains an element a such that $\forall x \in \mathbb{F}, a \leq (\geq) x$, then \mathbb{F} is **bounded below (above)**. Such a is called an **lower (upper) bound** of A .
- Definition:* if $\emptyset \neq A \subseteq \mathbb{F}$ is bounded above (below), an element b is the **least upper (greatest lower) bound** if
 - b is an upper(lower) bound of A and
 - $\forall c \in \mathbb{F}$ where c is an upper(lower) bound of A , $b \geq c$ ($b \leq c$)., denoted by $\sup A$ ($\inf A$) respectively.
- Definition:* An ordered field \mathbb{F} is **(order) complete** if it has the **least upper bound property**: $\forall \emptyset \neq A \subseteq \mathbb{F}$, if A is bounded above, A has a least upper bound.
- Example:* \mathbb{R} is order complete, but \mathbb{Q} is not.