

# Lecture 04, Math 447

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# What is $\mathbb{R}$ ?

**A1**  $\mathbb{R}$  is the (unique) totally ordered complete field s.t.  $\mathbb{Q}$  is dense.

**A2** Construction...

$$\mathbb{Q} = G(\mathbb{Q}^+, +, 0)$$

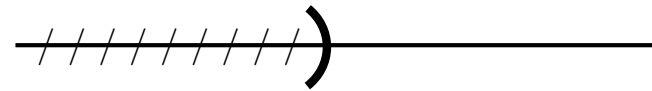
$$\mathbb{Q}^+ = G(\mathbb{N}, \cdot)$$

→ totally ordered field.

**Def** A Dedekind cut is a subset  $A \subseteq \mathbb{Q}$  such that

1)  $a \in A, \quad b \leq a \Rightarrow b \in A$

2)  $\forall a \in A \exists a' > a \quad a' \in A$



"Example":

1) Define  $R = \{D \subset \mathbb{Q} \mid D \text{ Dedekind}\}.$

We have  $\varphi : \mathbb{Q} \rightarrow R$  defined as  $\varphi(q) = \{a \mid a < q\}.$

$\varphi$  is injective.

2)  $A_{\sqrt{2}} = \{x \in \mathbb{Q} \mid x^2 < 2 \text{ or } x \leq 0\}$  is Dedekind.

## Proof of “Example” 2

Trivial for  $x \leq 0$ . Let  $0 < \frac{p}{q} \in A_{\sqrt{2}}$ . Let  $\frac{p'}{q'} < \frac{p}{q}$ .

Claim:  $(\frac{p'}{q'})^2 < 2$ . Monotonicity  $\Rightarrow (\frac{p'}{q'})^2 < (\frac{p}{q})^2 < 2$ . ✓

Claim: let  $\frac{p}{q}$  such that  $(\frac{p}{q})^2 < 2$  ( $\iff p^2 < 2q^2$ ).

then  $\boxed{\exists \frac{p'}{q'} > \frac{p}{q} \quad p'^2 < 2(q')^2.}$

*Intuitively*, we want a number still  $< \sqrt{2}$  just a little bigger than  $\frac{p}{q}$ .

How would we do that? ..... Take decimal expansions. Since  $\frac{p}{q} < \sqrt{2}$ , at some point the expansion must reflect this and you have some room.

$$\frac{p'}{q'} = \frac{p}{q} + \frac{d}{q^m} < \sqrt{2}.$$

$$(\frac{p}{q} + \frac{d}{q^m})^2 < 2.$$

$$\text{Need } (pq^{m-1} + d)^2 < 2(q^{2m}).$$

...find  $d$  and make  $m$  large enough so this works....

## Proof continued

Take  $d = 1$ : 
$$p^2 q^{2(m-1)} + 2pq^{(m-1)} + 1 < 2q^{2m}.$$

$$p^2 + 2pq^{-(m-1)} + \frac{1}{q^{2(m-1)}} < 2q^2.$$

Now,  $\frac{1}{q^{2(m-1)}} < \frac{1}{q^{m-1}}$  so

$$p^2 + 2pq^{-(m-1)} + \frac{1}{q^{2(m-1)}} < p^2 + \frac{2p+1}{q^{m-1}}.$$

Solution: Assume  $q > 1$ , choose  $m$  so that  $\frac{2p+1}{q^{m-1}} < 2q^2 - p^2$ .

Then  $\frac{p'}{q'} = \frac{p}{q} + \frac{1}{q^m}$  works.



Prove for homework: Claim  $\sup D_{\sqrt{2}} = \sqrt{2}$

## $R$ is complete

**Def**  $D_{1,2} \in R$ . Define  $D_1 \leq D_2$  if  $D_1 \subseteq D_2$ .

**Lemma 1**  $R$  is complete.

Proof Let  $S \subseteq R$  and  $D \in R \quad \forall s \in S \quad s \leq D \quad (s \subseteq D)$ .

Define  $\sup S = \bigcup_{s \in S} s$  Note  $\bigcup_{s \leq D} s \subseteq D$ .

$D$  is a D-cut: 1)  $a \in D \quad b \leq a \Rightarrow b' \in D$

2)  $\forall a \in D \exists a' > a \quad a' \in D$ .

Obviously  $\sup S \in R$  (check two cndtns above) and  $\sup S \leq D$ .

**Claim**  $\sup S$  is the smallest upper bound.

Indeed let  $D' \in R$  such that  $\forall s \quad s \leq D'$ .

$\Rightarrow \forall s \quad s \subseteq D' \Rightarrow \bigcup_{s \in S} s \subseteq D' \Rightarrow \sup S \leq D'$ .

*note  
correction.*

## Definition of $\mathbb{R}$ (as a set)

$R$  cannot be the real numbers... just a bit too big:

$\mathbb{Q}$  is a Dedekind cut ( $\in R$ ) that corresponds to  $\infty$  ( $\notin \mathbb{R}$ ).

**Def**  $\mathbb{R} = \{D \subseteq \mathbb{Q} \mid D \neq \mathbb{Q}\}$ .

*If  $D \neq \mathbb{Q}$  take  $q \notin D$ . Then no  $q' > q$  can be in  $D$ , so also*

$$\mathbb{R} = \{D \in R \mid \exists q \in \mathbb{Q} \quad D < \varphi(q)\}.$$

**Claim**  $\mathbb{R}$  is complete.

If  $D \in \mathbb{R}$  then  $\exists q_0$  such that  $D < \varphi(q_0)$ .

$$\implies \sup D < \varphi(q_0) \implies \sup D \neq \infty \implies \sup D \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Rest of proof is the same for  $\mathbb{R}$  as for  $R$ .

# Field operations of $\mathbb{R}$

$$\mathbb{R}^+ = \{D \in \mathbb{R} \mid (-\infty, 0] \subseteq D\}.$$

Define  $D_1 + D_2 = \bigcup \{d_1 + d_2 \mid d_1 \in D_1^+ \ d_2 \in D_2^+\}.$

$$D_1 D_2 = \bigcup \{d_1 d_2 \mid d_1 \in D_1^+ \ d_2 \in D_2^+\}.$$

*Since negative #'s complicate multiplication slightly,  
assume each  $D \in \mathbb{R}^+$  is  $\subset \mathbb{Q}^+$  (they start at 0, not  $-\infty$ ).  
View as  $\mathbb{R}^+ = \{D \subset \mathbb{Q}^+ \mid D \cup (-\infty, 0] \text{ is Dedekind}\}.$*

Properties:  $D_1 + (D_2 + D_3) = (D_1 + D_2) + D_3$

$$D_1(D_2 + D_3) = D_1 D_2 + D_1 D_3$$

etc. (associativity, commutativity...)

$\mathbb{R}^+$  semigroup under  $+$  with cancellation (lacks “ $-$ ”s and 0).

Final answer:  $\mathbb{R} = G(\mathbb{R}^+).$

## $\mathbb{R}$ is totally ordered

$\mathbb{R}^+$  totally ordered:  $D_1$  and  $D_2$  D-cuts  $\implies D_1 \subseteq D_2$  or  $D_2 \subseteq D_1$ .

**Lemma**  $\mathbb{R}$  is totally ordered.

Proof  $D_1$  and  $D_2 \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Case 1:  $D_1 \subseteq D_2$ . Then done.

Case 2:  $D_1 \not\subseteq D_2$ . Then  $\exists d_1 \in D_1 \quad d_1 \notin D_2$

$\implies D_2 < d_1 \implies D_2 \subseteq D_1$ . □

(this is a sketch; stated for  $\mathbb{R}$  but proven for  $\mathbb{R}^+$ .)

**Next time:**

$\mathbb{R}$  uncountable

$\mathbb{Q}$  dense in  $\mathbb{R}$ .