

MA1014 5/10/21

1.3 Ordered Fields

Field Axioms

name:	additive	multiplicative
identity	$\forall x \in F, x + 0 = x$	$x \cdot 1 = x$
inverse	$\forall x \in F, \exists (-x), x + (-x) = 0$	$\exists x^{-1} \quad x \cdot x^{-1} = 1$
associativity	$x + (y + z) = (x + y) + z$	$x(yz) = (xy)z$
commutativity	$x + y = y + x$	$xy = yx$
distributivity	$\forall x, y, z \in F$	$x(y + z) = xy + xz$

e.g. $0x = x0 = 0$

let $y = 0x$

then $y + y = 0x + 0x = x(0 + 0) \quad \text{Dist}$
 $= x \cdot 0 = y$

$$(y + y) + (-y) = y + (y + (-y)) = y + 0$$

$$y + (-y) = 0 \quad \therefore y = 0 \quad \text{Assoc}$$

e.g 1.1 d) $xy=0 \Leftrightarrow x=0 \vee y=0$

\Rightarrow suppose $xy=0$

If $y \neq 0$ then $\exists y^{-1} : y \cdot y^{-1} = 1$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{So } x &= x \cdot 1 = x \cdot (y \cdot y^{-1}) = (xy) \cdot y^{-1} \\ &= 0 \cdot y^{-1} = 0 \text{ by part (c)} \end{aligned}$$

\Leftarrow If $x=0$ or $y=0$ $xy=0$

by part 1.1 (c)

Order Axioms

Total order Either $a < b$, $b < a$ or $a = b$

Transitivity $a < b \wedge b < c$ then $a < c$ or $a < b < c$

Compatibility $a < b \quad a+c < b+c, a < b \quad c > 0 \quad ac < bc$

Consequences of Order Axioms:

Put $a=0 \quad 0 < b, c > 0 \Rightarrow 0 < bc$

So if $a > 0 \quad a^2 = a \cdot a > 0$

$a < 0 \quad a + (-a) < 0 + (-a)$

$0 < -a$

So $-a > 0$ & $a^2 = (-a) \cdot (-a) > 0$

$a \neq 0 \Rightarrow a^2 > 0, \quad a^2 \geq 0 \quad \forall a$