

**Theorem (1.6.14).** *If  $x$  is a rational number and  $x \neq 0$ , then  $\frac{1}{x}$  is rational.*

*Proof.* It is trivial to express  $x$  as  $x = \frac{x}{1}$ . Since  $x$  is rational, by the definition of rational numbers there exist integers  $a$  and  $b$  such that  $\frac{x}{1} = \frac{a}{b}$ . By equivalence we have  $\frac{b}{a} = \frac{1}{x}$ , so  $\frac{1}{x}$  is rational by definition whenever  $x$  is a nonzero rational number. ■