

Problem Set 2

Math 255: Analysis I

Due: Thursday, Feb 1st at 11:59pm EST

Problem 1.

1. Using the Peano axioms and our subsequent definitions of addition and multiplication on \mathbb{N} prove:
Note that by lemma proved in class, we can induct on \mathbb{N}_0 instead of \mathbb{N} for the following proofs.

- (a) Commutativity of addition, $\forall a, b \in \mathbb{N} \quad a + b = b + a$.

Proof. We will prove by induction on a .

Base Case: Consider $a = 0$.

$$\begin{aligned} a + b &= 0 + b \\ &= b && \text{(by definition of addition)} \\ &= b + 0 && \text{(proven earlier through induction in class)} \\ &= b + a \end{aligned}$$

Thus, the base case holds since $a + b = b + a$.

Inductive Step: Assume the statement is true for some natural number a , i.e., $a + b = b + a$. We need to show it holds for $S(a)$.

$$\begin{aligned} S(a) + b &= S(a + b) && \text{(by definition of addition)} \\ &= S(b + a) && \text{(by the inductive hypothesis)} \\ &= b + S(a) && \text{(proven earlier through induction in class)} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the inductive case also holds, completing the proof. □

- (b) Associativity of addition. $\forall a, b, c \in \mathbb{N} \quad (a + b) + c = a + (b + c)$.

Proof. We will prove this by induction on a .

Base Case: Consider $a = 0$.

$$\begin{aligned} (a + b) + c &= (0 + b) + c \\ &= b + c && \text{(by definition of addition)} \\ &= 0 + (b + c) && \text{(by definition of addition)} \\ &= a + (b + c) && \text{(since } a = 0) \end{aligned}$$

Thus, the base case holds.

Inductive Step: Assume the statement is true for some natural number a , i.e., $(a + b) + c = a + (b + c)$. We need to show it holds for $S(a)$. Consider $(S(a) + b) + c$.

$$\begin{aligned} (S(a) + b) + c &= S(a + b) + c && \text{(by the definition of addition)} \\ &= S((a + b) + c) && \text{(by the definition of addition)} \\ &= S(a + (b + c)) && \text{(by the inductive hypothesis)} \\ &= S(a) + (b + c) && \text{(by the definition of addition)} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the inductive step holds, completing the proof. □

- (c) Commutativity of multiplication. $\forall a, b \in \mathbb{N} \quad a \times b = b \times a$.

Proof. We will prove this by induction on a .

Base Case: Consider $a = 0$.

$$\begin{aligned} a \times b &= 0 \times b \\ &= 0 && \text{(by definition of multiplication)} \\ b \times a &= b \times 0 \\ &= 0 && \text{(we will prove this below)} \end{aligned}$$

We will prove $b \times 0 = 0$ by induction on b .

Base Case': Consider $b = 0$.

$$\begin{aligned} b \times 0 &= 0 \times 0 \\ &= 0 && \text{(by definition of multiplication)} \end{aligned}$$

Inductive Step': Assume the statement is true for some natural number b , i.e., $b \times 0 = 0$. We need to show it holds for $S(b)$.

$$\begin{aligned} S(b) \times 0 &= b \times 0 + 0 \\ &= 0 + 0 && \text{(by the inductive hypothesis)} \\ &= 0 && \text{(by definition of addition)} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the base case holds.

Inductive Step: Assume the statement is true for some natural number a , i.e., $a \times b = b \times a$. We need to show it holds for $S(a)$. Consider $S(a) \times b$.

$$\begin{aligned} S(a) \times b &= (a \times b) + b && \text{(by definition of multiplication)} \\ &= (b \times a) + b && \text{(by the inductive hypothesis)} \\ &= b \times S(a) && \text{(we will prove this below)} \end{aligned}$$

We will prove $(b \times a) + b = b \times S(a)$ by induction on b .

Base Case'': Consider $b = 0$.

$$\begin{aligned} (b \times a) + b &= (0 \times a) + 0 \\ &= 0 + 0 && \text{(by definition of multiplication)} \\ &= 0 && \text{(by definition of addition)} \\ &= 0 \times S(a) && \text{(by definition of multiplication)} \\ &= b \times S(a) \end{aligned}$$

Inductive Step'': Assume the statement is true for some natural number b , i.e., $(b \times a) + b = b \times S(a)$. We need to show it holds for $S(b)$.

$$\begin{aligned} (S(b) \times a) + S(b) &= ((b \times a) + a) + S(b) && \text{(by definition of multiplication)} \\ &= S(b) + ((b \times a) + a) && \text{(by commutativity of addition)} \\ &= S(b + ((b \times a) + a)) && \text{(by definition of addition)} \\ &= S((b + (b \times a)) + a) && \text{(by associativity of addition)} \\ &= S(b + (b \times a)) + S(a) && \text{(by definition of addition)} \\ &= S((b \times a) + b) + S(a) && \text{(by commutativity of addition)} \\ &= S(b \times S(a)) + S(a) && \text{(by the inductive hypothesis)} \\ &= S(b) \times S(a) && \text{(by definition of multiplication)} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the inductive step holds, completing the proof.

□

- (d) Associativity of multiplication. $\forall a, b, c \in \mathbb{N}, (a \times b) \times c = a \times (b \times c)$.

Before we prove associativity of multiplication, we will first prove distributivity holds in \mathbb{N} , i.e. that $\forall a, b, c \in \mathbb{N}, (a + b) \times c = (a \times c) + (b \times c)$.

Proof. We will prove this by induction on a .

Base Case: Consider $a = 0$.

$$\begin{aligned} (a + b) \times c &= (0 + b) \times c \\ &= b \times c && \text{(by definition of addition)} \\ &= 0 + (b \times c) && \text{(by definition of addition)} \\ &= (0 \times c) + (b \times c) && \text{(by definition of multiplication)} \end{aligned}$$

Inductive Step: Assume the statement is true for some natural number a , i.e., $(a + b) \times c = (a \times c) + (b \times c)$. We need to show it holds for $S(a)$.

$$\begin{aligned} (S(a) + b) \times c &= S(a + b) \times c && \text{(by definition of addition)} \\ &= ((a + b) \times c) + c && \text{(by definition of multiplication)} \\ &= ((a \times c) + (b \times c)) + c && \text{(by the inductive hypothesis)} \\ &= ((a \times c) + c) + (b \times c) && \text{(by asso. and comm. of addition)} \\ &= (S(a) \times c) + (b \times c) && \text{(by definition of multiplication)} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the inductive step holds, completing the proof. □

No we return to the proof of associativity of multiplication.

Proof. We will prove this by induction on a .

Base Case: Consider $a = 0$.

$$\begin{aligned} (a \times b) \times c &= (0 \times b) \times c \\ &= 0 \times c && \text{(by definition of multiplication)} \\ &= 0 && \text{(by definition of multiplication)} \\ &= 0 \times (b \times c) && \text{(by definition of multiplication)} \\ &= a \times (b \times c) && \text{(since } a = 0) \end{aligned}$$

Inductive Step: Assume the statement is true for some natural number a , i.e., $(a \times b) \times c = a \times (b \times c)$. We need to show it holds for $S(a)$.

$$\begin{aligned} (S(a) \times b) \times c &= ((a \times b) + b) \times c && \text{(by definition of multiplication)} \\ &= ((a \times b) \times c) + (b \times c) && \text{(by distributivity in } \mathbb{N}) \\ &= (a \times (b \times c)) + (b \times c) && \text{(by the inductive hypothesis)} \\ &= S(a) \times (b \times c) && \text{(by definition of multiplication)} \end{aligned}$$

□

Note that we have assumed $\forall a, b \in \mathbb{N}, a \times b \in \mathbb{N}$ in our application of distributivity. We will prove that addition and multiplication are well defined in \mathbb{N} , i.e. $\forall a, b \in \mathbb{N}, a + b \in \mathbb{N}$ and $a \times b \in \mathbb{N}$.

Proof. We will prove that addition and multiplication are well defined in \mathbb{N} by induction on a . First, addition.

Base Case: Consider $a = 0$.

$$\begin{aligned} a + b &= 0 + b \\ &= b && \text{(by definition of addition)} \\ &\in \mathbb{N} && \text{(since } b \in \mathbb{N}) \end{aligned}$$

Inductive Step: Assume the statement is true for some natural number a , i.e., $a + b \in \mathbb{N}$. We need to show it holds for $S(a)$.

$$\begin{aligned} S(a) + b &= S(a + b) && \text{(by definition of addition)} \\ &\in \mathbb{N} && (a + b \in \mathbb{N} \text{ by inductive step and Peano Axiom (II)}) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, addition is well defined in \mathbb{N} .

Now, multiplication.

Base Case: Consider $a = 0$.

$$\begin{aligned} a \times b &= 0 \times b \\ &= 0 && \text{(by definition of multiplication)} \\ &\in \mathbb{N} && \text{(since } 0 \in \mathbb{N}, \text{ in this case } \mathbb{N}_0, \text{ but can treat the same because of lemma in class)} \end{aligned}$$

Inductive Step: Assume the statement is true for some natural number a , i.e., $a \times b \in \mathbb{N}$. We need to show it holds for $S(a)$.

$$\begin{aligned} S(a) \times b &= (a \times b) + b && \text{(by definition of multiplication)} \\ &\in \mathbb{N} && (a \times b \in \mathbb{N} \text{ by inductive step and addition well-defined}) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, multiplication is well defined in \mathbb{N} . □

2. Using our formal construction of \mathbb{Z} from \mathbb{N} and the subsequent definition of addition on \mathbb{Z} - prove the commutativity of addition in \mathbb{Z} .

Proof. We will prove that $\forall [n - m], [k - l] \in \mathbb{Z}, [n - m] + [k - l] = [k - l] + [n - m]$.

$$\begin{aligned} [n - m] + [k - l] &= [(n + k) - (m + l)] && \text{(by definition of addition on } \mathbb{Z}) \\ &= [(k + n) - (l + m)] && \text{(by commutativity of addition in } \mathbb{N}) \\ &= [k - l] + [n - m] && \text{(by definition of addition on } \mathbb{Z}) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the commutativity of addition in \mathbb{Z} holds. □

3. Using our formal construction of \mathbb{Q} from \mathbb{Z} and the subsequent definition of addition on \mathbb{Z} - prove the commutativity of addition in \mathbb{Q} .¹

Proof. Before proving the commutativity of addition in \mathbb{Q} , we will prove the commutativity of multiplication in \mathbb{Z} . We will prove that $\forall [n - m], [k - l] \in \mathbb{Z}, [n - m] \times [k - l] = [k - l] \times [n - m]$.

$$\begin{aligned} [n - m] \times [k - l] &= [(n \times k + m \times l) - (m \times k + n \times l)] && \text{(by definition of multiplication on } \mathbb{Z}) \\ &= [(k \times n + l \times m) - (k \times m + l \times n)] && \text{(by commutativity of multiplication in } \mathbb{N}) \\ &= [(k \times n + l \times m) - (l \times n + k \times m)] && \text{(by commutativity of addition in } \mathbb{N}) \\ &= [k - l] \times [n - m] && \text{(by definition of multiplication on } \mathbb{Z}) \end{aligned}$$

□

Proof. We will prove that $\forall [p//q], [r//s] \in \mathbb{Q}, [p//q] + [r//s] = [r//s] + [p//q]$.

$$\begin{aligned} [p//q] + [r//s] &= [(p \times s + q \times r)//q \times s] && \text{(by definition of addition on } \mathbb{Q}) \\ &= [(r \times q + s \times p)//q \times s] && \text{(by commutativity of addition in } \mathbb{Z}) \\ &= [(r \times q + s \times p)//s \times q] && \text{(by commutativity of multiplication in } \mathbb{Z}) \\ &= [r//s] + [p//q] && \text{(by definition of addition on } \mathbb{Q}) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the commutativity of addition in \mathbb{Q} holds. □

¹Try to convince yourselves that one can indeed prove all the properties of a field on \mathbb{Q} using our constructions.

Problem 2. Using induction on $\mathbb{N}_0 = \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$ and the definition of addition prove the following:

1. Cancellation law: $\forall n, m, k \in \mathbb{N}_0$ if $n + k = n + m$ then $k = m$.

Proof. We will prove this by induction on n .

Base Case: Consider $n = 0$.

$$\begin{aligned} n + k = n + m &\implies 0 + k = 0 + m \\ &\implies k = m \end{aligned} \quad \text{(by definition of addition)}$$

Thus, the base case holds.

Inductive Step: Assume the statement is true for some natural number n , i.e., $n + k = n + m$ implies $k = m$. We need to show it holds for $S(n)$.

$$\begin{aligned} S(n) + k = S(n) + m &\implies S(n + k) = S(n + m) && \text{(by definition of addition)} \\ &\implies S(k) = S(m) && \text{(by the inductive hypothesis)} \\ &\implies k = m && \text{(by Peano Axiom (IV), i.e., } S \text{ is surjective)} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the inductive step holds, completing the proof. \square

2. If $k_1, k_2 \in \mathbb{N}_0$ satisfy $k_1 + k_2 = 0$ then $k_1 = k_2 = 0$.

Proof. We will prove the contrapositive statement: If $k_1 \neq 0$ or $k_2 \neq 0$, then $k_1 + k_2 \neq 0$.

Suppose, for the sake of contradiction, that $k_1 \neq 0$ or $k_2 \neq 0$ and $k_1 + k_2 = 0$. Without loss of generality, assume $k_1 \neq 0$. This means k_1 is a successor of some number in \mathbb{N}_0 , say $k_1 = S(p)$ for some $p \in \mathbb{N}_0$.

By the definition of addition:

$$k_1 + k_2 = S(p) + k_2 = S(p + k_2)$$

Since $S(p)$ is the successor of p , $S(p + k_2)$ cannot be 0 by the properties of natural numbers (specifically, no natural number's successor is 0).

Hence, $k_1 + k_2 = S(p + k_2) \neq 0$, which contradicts our assumption. Therefore, if $k_1 + k_2 = 0$, it must be the case that $k_1 = k_2 = 0$. \square

Problem 3. Recall that for all $n, m \in \mathbb{N}_0$ we defined $n < m$ if and only if $m = n + k$ for some $k \in \mathbb{N}$. Prove that \mathbb{N}_0 with this relation is an ordered set, i.e. prove:

1. Trichotomy: $\forall n, m \in \mathbb{N}_0$ **exactly one** of the following holds

$$n < m \quad \text{or} \quad n = m \quad \text{or} \quad m < n.$$

Proof. We consider the following cases:

- If $n = m$, then neither $n < m$ nor $m < n$ can be true by the definition of $<$ in \mathbb{N}_0 .
- If $n < m$, i.e., $m = n + k$ for some $k \in \mathbb{N}$, then $n \neq m$ and $m \neq n + k'$ for any $k' \in \mathbb{N}$, hence $m < n$ cannot be true.
- Similarly, if $m < n$, then neither $n < m$ nor $n = m$ can be true.

Thus, exactly one of $n < m$, $n = m$, or $m < n$ holds for any $n, m \in \mathbb{N}_0$. □

2. Transitivity: $\forall n, m, k \in \mathbb{N}_0$ if $n \leq m$ and $m \leq k$ then $n \leq k$.

Proof. We consider the following cases:

- If $n = m$ and $m = k$, then clearly $n = k$.
- If $n = m$ and $m < k$, i.e., $k = m + r$ for some $r \in \mathbb{N}$, then $k = n + r$, implying $n < k$.
- If $n < m$ and $m = k$, i.e., $m = n + q$ for some $q \in \mathbb{N}$, then $k = n + q$, implying $n < k$.
- If $n < m$ and $m < k$, i.e., $m = n + q$ and $k = m + r$ for some $q, r \in \mathbb{N}$, then $k = n + q + r$. Since $q + r \in \mathbb{N}$, we have $n < k$.

In all cases, $n \leq k$. □

Problem 4.

1. Prove that $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}) := \{a + b\sqrt{2} : a, b \in \mathbb{Q}\}$, together with the usual addition and multiplication operations, is a field.

Proof. For any two elements $a + b\sqrt{2}, c + d\sqrt{2} \in \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$, we define addition and multiplication as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}(a + b\sqrt{2}) + (c + d\sqrt{2}) &= (a + c) + (b + d)\sqrt{2} \\ (a + b\sqrt{2}) \times (c + d\sqrt{2}) &= (ac + 2(bd)) + (ad + bc)\sqrt{2}\end{aligned}$$

Note: We will use the shorthand for multiplication in \mathbb{Q} , i.e., $a \times b = ab$.

We will prove that $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$ is a field by showing that it satisfies all the properties of a field.

Commutativity of addition: $\forall a + b\sqrt{2}, c + d\sqrt{2} \in \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}(a + b\sqrt{2}) + (c + d\sqrt{2}) &= (a + c) + (b + d)\sqrt{2} && \text{(by definition of addition)} \\ &= (c + a) + (d + b)\sqrt{2} && \text{(by commutativity of addition in } \mathbb{Q} \text{)} \\ &= (c + d\sqrt{2}) + (a + b\sqrt{2}) && \text{(by definition of addition)}\end{aligned}$$

Associativity of addition: $\forall a + b\sqrt{2}, c + d\sqrt{2}, e + f\sqrt{2} \in \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}((a + b\sqrt{2}) + (c + d\sqrt{2})) + (e + f\sqrt{2}) & \\ &= ((a + c) + (b + d)\sqrt{2}) + (e + f\sqrt{2}) && \text{(by def. of add.)} \\ &= ((a + c) + e) + ((b + d) + f)\sqrt{2} && \text{(by def. of add.)} \\ &= (a + (c + e)) + (b + (d + f))\sqrt{2} && \text{(by asso. of addition in } \mathbb{Q} \text{)} \\ &= (a + b\sqrt{2}) + ((c + e) + (d + f)\sqrt{2}) && \text{(by def. of add.)} \\ &= (a + b\sqrt{2}) + ((c + d\sqrt{2}) + (e + f\sqrt{2})) && \text{(by def. of add.)}\end{aligned}$$

Existence of neutral element for addition: $\exists 0 + 0\sqrt{2} \in \mathbb{F} : \forall a + b\sqrt{2} \in \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}(a + b\sqrt{2}) + (0 + 0\sqrt{2}) &= (a + 0) + (b + 0)\sqrt{2} && \text{(by definition of addition)} \\ &= a + b\sqrt{2} && \text{(by } \mathbb{Q} \text{ is field, add. neutral element)}\end{aligned}$$

Existence of additive inverse: $\forall a + b\sqrt{2} \in \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}(a + b\sqrt{2}) + ((-a) + (-b)\sqrt{2}) &= (a + (-a)) + (b + (-b))\sqrt{2} && \text{(by definition of addition)} \\ &= 0 + 0\sqrt{2} && \text{(by } \mathbb{Q} \text{ is field, additive inverse)} \\ &= 0 && \text{(by definition of addition in } \mathbb{Q} \text{)}\end{aligned}$$

Commutativity of multiplication: $\forall a + b\sqrt{2}, c + d\sqrt{2} \in \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}(a + b\sqrt{2}) \times (c + d\sqrt{2}) &= (ac + 2(bd)) + (ad + bc)\sqrt{2} && \text{(by definition of multiplication)} \\ &= (ca + 2(db)) + (da + cb)\sqrt{2} && \text{(by commutativity of multiplication in } \mathbb{Q} \text{)} \\ &= (ca + 2(db)) + (cb + da)\sqrt{2} && \text{(by commutativity of addition in } \mathbb{Q} \text{)} \\ &= (c + d\sqrt{2}) \times (a + b\sqrt{2}) && \text{(by definition of multiplication)}\end{aligned}$$

Associativity of multiplication: $\forall a + b\sqrt{2}, c + d\sqrt{2}, e + f\sqrt{2} \in \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
& ((a + b\sqrt{2}) \times (c + d\sqrt{2})) \times (e + f\sqrt{2}) \\
&= ((ac + 2(bd)) + (ad + bc)\sqrt{2}) \times (e + f\sqrt{2}) && \text{(by def. of multi.)} \\
&= ((ac + 2bd)e + 2(ad + bc)f) + ((ac + 2(bd))f + (ad + bc)e)\sqrt{2} && \text{(by def. of multi.)} \\
&= (ace + 2bde + 2adf + 2bcf) + (acf + 2bdf + ade + bce)\sqrt{2} && \text{(by distr. in } \mathbb{Q}, \text{ field)} \\
&= (ace + 2adf + 2bde + 2bcf) + (acf + ade + bce + 2bdf)\sqrt{2} && \text{(by comm. of add. in } \mathbb{Q}) \\
&= (a(ce + 2(df)) + 2b(cf + de)) + (a(cf + de) + b(ce + 2(df)))\sqrt{2} && \text{(by distr. in } \mathbb{Q}, \text{ field)} \\
&= (a + b\sqrt{2}) \times ((ce + 2(df)) + (cf + de)\sqrt{2}) && \text{(by def. of multi.)} \\
&= (a + b\sqrt{2}) \times ((c + d\sqrt{2}) \times (e + f\sqrt{2})) && \text{(by def. of multi.)}
\end{aligned}$$

Existence of neutral element for multiplication: $\exists 1 + 0\sqrt{2} \in \mathbb{F}: \forall a + b\sqrt{2} \in \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
(a + b\sqrt{2}) \times (1 + 0\sqrt{2}) &= (a \times 1 + 2b \times 0) + (a \times 0 + b \times 1)\sqrt{2} && \text{(by definition of multiplication)} \\
&= a + b\sqrt{2} && \text{(by definition of multiplication in } \mathbb{Q})
\end{aligned}$$

Existence of multiplicative inverse: $\forall a + b\sqrt{2} \in \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
& (a + b\sqrt{2}) \times \left(\frac{a}{a^2 - 2b^2} + \left(-\frac{b}{a^2 - 2b^2} \right) \sqrt{2} \right) \\
&= \left(a \frac{a}{a^2 - 2b^2} + 2 \left(b \left(-\frac{b}{a^2 - 2b^2} \right) \right) \right) + \left(a \left(-\frac{b}{a^2 - 2b^2} \right) + b \frac{a}{a^2 - 2b^2} \right) \sqrt{2} \\
&\text{(by definition of multiplication)} \\
&= \left(\frac{a^2}{a^2 - 2b^2} + \frac{-2b^2}{a^2 - 2b^2} \right) + \left(\frac{-ab}{a^2 - 2b^2} + \frac{ab}{a^2 - 2b^2} \right) \sqrt{2} \\
&\text{(by definition of multiplication in } \mathbb{Q}) \\
&= \frac{a^2 - 2b^2}{a^2 - 2b^2} + 0\sqrt{2} \\
&\text{(by definition of addition in } \mathbb{Q}) \\
&= 1 \\
&\text{(by definition of multiplication in } \mathbb{Q})
\end{aligned}$$

Distributivity of multiplication over addition: $\forall a + b\sqrt{2}, c + d\sqrt{2}, e + f\sqrt{2} \in \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
& (a + b\sqrt{2}) \times ((c + d\sqrt{2}) + (e + f\sqrt{2})) \\
&= (a + b\sqrt{2}) \times ((c + e) + (d + f)\sqrt{2}) && \text{(by definition of addition)} \\
&= (a(c + e) + 2b(d + f)) + (a(d + f) + b(c + e))\sqrt{2} && \text{(by definition of multiplication)} \\
&= (ac + ae + 2bd + 2bf) + (ad + af + bc + be)\sqrt{2} && \text{(by distributivity in } \mathbb{Q}) \\
&= (ac + ae + 2bd + 2bf) + (ad + bc)\sqrt{2} + (bc + be)\sqrt{2} && \text{(by distributivity in } \mathbb{Q}) \\
&= (ac + 2bd) + (ad + bc)\sqrt{2} + (ae + 2bf) + (af + be)\sqrt{2} && \text{(by asso., comm., in } \mathbb{Q}) \\
&= (a + b\sqrt{2}) \times (c + d\sqrt{2}) + (a + b\sqrt{2}) \times (e + f\sqrt{2}) && \text{(by definition of multiplication)}
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$ is a field.

□

2. Verify that in $\mathbb{F}_5 = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4\}$ together with multiplication mod 5, every non-zero element has a multiplicative inverse.²

Proof. Here is the multiplication mod 5 table for \mathbb{F}_5 :

\cdot	0	1	2	3	4
0	0	0	0	0	0
1	0	1	2	3	4
2	0	2	4	1	3
3	0	3	1	4	2
4	0	4	3	2	1

We can see that every non-zero element has a multiplicative inverse, i.e., $1 \cdot 1 = 1$, $2 \cdot 3 = 1$, $3 \cdot 2 = 1$, and $4 \cdot 4 = 1$. \square

²This is indeed a field.

Problem 5.

1. Let \mathbb{F} be any field and let $x, y \in \mathbb{F}$. Prove that if $x \cdot y = 0$ then $x = 0$ or $y = 0$.

Proof. Suppose, towards a contradiction, that both $x \neq 0$ and $y \neq 0$. In a field \mathbb{F} , every non-zero element has a multiplicative inverse. Thus, there exist elements x^{-1} and y^{-1} in \mathbb{F} such that $x \cdot x^{-1} = 1$ and $y \cdot y^{-1} = 1$.

Multiply both sides of the equation $x \cdot y = 0$ by x^{-1} on the left and y^{-1} on the right:

$$x^{-1} \cdot (x \cdot y) \cdot y^{-1} = x^{-1} \cdot 0 \cdot y^{-1}.$$

Using the associativity of multiplication in fields, we have:

$$(x^{-1} \cdot x) \cdot y \cdot y^{-1} = 0.$$

Substituting the identity elements, we get:

$$1 \cdot y \cdot y^{-1} = 0.$$

$$1 \cdot 1 = 0.$$

$$1 = 0.$$

This is a contradiction because in a field, the identity elements for addition and multiplication are distinct. Therefore, either $x = 0$ or $y = 0$. \square

2. Let $\mathbb{F}_m = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, m-1\}$ together with addition and multiplication mod m . Prove that if m is not prime then \mathbb{F}_m is not a field.

Proof. Suppose, towards a contradiction, that \mathbb{F}_m is a field and m not prime. Then there exist $x, y \in \mathbb{F}_m$ such that $x \neq 0$, $y \neq 0$, and $x \cdot y = m \bmod m = 0$. By Problem 5.1, this implies that $x = 0$ or $y = 0$, which is a contradiction. Therefore, \mathbb{F}_m is not a field. \square

Problem 6. Let S be an ordered set and let A and B be two subsets of S . Prove the following:

1. If A has a maximum then it also has a supremum and $\sup A = \max A$.

Proof. Let $\max A = m$ be the maximum element of A . By definition, for all $a \in A$, $a \leq m$. To show m is the supremum of A , we must prove that m is an upper bound of A and that any other upper bound of A is greater than or equal to m .

Since m is the maximum, it is an upper bound of A (no element in A is greater than m). Now suppose there is another upper bound u of A . Since $m \in A$ and u is an upper bound, it must be that $m \leq u$.

Therefore, m is the least upper bound or supremum of A , and hence $\sup A = \max A$. \square

2. Assume there exists a supremum for A in S and a supremum for B in S . If for all $a \in A$ there exists $b \in B$ satisfying $a \leq b$ then $\sup A \leq \sup B$.

Proof. Let $\sup A = s_A$ and $\sup B = s_B$. By assumption, for each $a \in A$, there exists a $b \in B$ such that $a \leq b$. Since s_B is an upper bound of B , it must be that $b \leq s_B$ for all $b \in B$. Combining these inequalities, we have $a \leq b \leq s_B$ for all $a \in A$. (By transitivity of order, shown in problem 3, part 2.)

This means s_B is an upper bound of A . Since s_A is the least upper bound of A , it follows that $s_A \leq s_B$. \square

3. Assume as in (2) that $\sup A, \sup B$ exist and assume further that for all $a \in A$ there exists $b \in B$ satisfying $a < b$. Does this necessarily mean that $\sup A < \sup B$?

Proof. No, consider the following counterexample. Let $A = \{\frac{n}{n+1} : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ and $B = \{\frac{n}{n+1} : n \in \mathbb{N}\} \cup \{1\}$. Then for all $a \in A$, there exists $b \in B$ such that $a < b$, i.e. $1 \in B$. However, $\sup A = \sup B = 1$. \square