



Why

Do the rational numbers correspond (in the sense *Homomorphisms*) to elements of the reals.

Main Result

Indeed, roughly speaking the rationals correspond to elements of the reals which are bounded above by that rational. Denote by $\tilde{\mathbf{R}}$ the set $\{q \in \mathbf{R} \mid \exists s \in \mathbf{Q}, q = \{t \in \mathbf{Q} \mid t < s\}\}$.

Proposition 1. *The fields $(\tilde{\mathbf{R}}, +_{\mathbf{R}} \mid \tilde{\mathbf{R}}, \cdot_{\mathbf{R}} \mid \tilde{\mathbf{R}})$ and $(\mathbf{Q}, +_{\mathbf{Q}}, \cdot_{\mathbf{Q}})$ are homomorphic.¹*

Proof. The function is $f : \mathbf{Q} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ with $f(q) = \{r \in \mathbf{Q} \mid r < q\}$ □

¹Indeed, more is true and will be included in future editions. There is an *order perserving* field homomorphism.

