

*Proposition.*  $\forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}$  with  $x < y$ ,  $\exists q \in \mathbb{Q}$  s.t.  $x < q < y$ .

*Proof :*

By Archimedean Principle,  $\exists n \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $n > \frac{1}{y-x}$ , where  $x < y \Rightarrow y - x > 0$ .

$\therefore nx < [nx] + 1 \leq nx + 1 < ny, x < q := \frac{[nx] + 1}{n} < y$ .

(Motivation : If  $y - x > 1$ ,  $x < q := [x] + 1 \leq x + 1 < y$ ; thus, find an adequately large  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  to make  $n(y - x) > 1 \equiv ny - nx > 1$ .)

*Corollary.*  $\forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}$  with  $x < y$ ,  $\exists r \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \mathbb{Q}$  s.t.  $x < r < y$ .

*Proof :*

By the preceding proposition,  $\exists q \in \mathbb{Q} \cap (x - \sqrt{2}, y - \sqrt{2})$  s.t.  $x - \sqrt{2} < q < y - \sqrt{2}$ ,  $\therefore x < r := q + \sqrt{2} < y$ .