

11.  $b = (\frac{1}{a} \cdot a) \cdot b$  (Symmetry of eq on 10) 12.  $b = \frac{1}{a}$  (Transitivity of eq on 11, 7)

(b) 1.  $a \cdot b = 0$  (Given) 2. Let,  $a \neq 0$ . (Assume).  $\therefore \exists (\frac{1}{a}) \in R$  s.t.  $(\frac{1}{a}) \cdot a = 1$  (M1)  
 3.  $(\frac{1}{a}) \cdot (a \cdot b) = (\frac{1}{a}) \cdot 0$  (Substitution of eq on 1)  
 4.  $(\frac{1}{a}) \cdot 0 = 0$  (Thm 2.1.2(c)) 5.  $(\frac{1}{a}) \cdot (a \cdot b) = 0$  (Transitivity of eq on 3, 4)  
 6.  $(\frac{1}{a} \cdot a) \cdot b = (\frac{1}{a}) \cdot (a \cdot b)$  (M2) 7.  $(\frac{1}{a} \cdot a) \cdot b = 0$  (Transitivity of eq on 6, 5)  
 8.  $(\frac{1}{a} \cdot a) \cdot b = 1 \cdot b$  (Substitution of eq on 2) 9.  $1 \cdot b = b$  (M3)  
 10.  $(\frac{1}{a} \cdot a) \cdot b = b$  (Transitivity of eq on 8, 9)  
 11.  $b = (\frac{1}{a} \cdot a) \cdot b$  (Symmetry of eq on 10) 12.  $b = 0$  (Transitivity of eq on 11, 7)

13. If  $a = 0$ , we are done

(Very small subset of properties we have proven)

• Subtraction:  $\forall a, b \in R, a - b = a + (-b)$   
 • Division:  $\forall a, b \in R, \text{ and } b \neq 0, a/b = a \cdot (1/b)$