

Lecture 1

This is a course in real analysis.

So, we better start with the question, what is a real number?

Def A field is a set F equipped with binary operations $+$, \times such that

1) $x+y = y+x \quad \forall x, y \in F$ [\forall = "for all"/"for any"]

2) $(x+y)+z = x+(y+z) \quad \forall x, y, z \in F$

3) $\exists 0 \in F$ s.t. $0+x = x \quad \forall x \in F$ [\exists = "there exists"]

4) $\forall x \in F \exists (-x) \in F$ s.t. $x+(-x) = 0$

5) $xy = yx \quad \forall x, y \in F$

6) $(xy)z = x(yz) \quad \forall x, y, z \in F$

7) $\exists 1 \in F$ s.t. $1 \neq 0, 1 \cdot x = x \quad \forall x \in F$

8) $\forall x \in F$ s.t. $x \neq 0, \exists (\frac{1}{x}) \in F$ s.t. $x \cdot (\frac{1}{x}) = 1$

9) $x(y+z) = xy+xz \quad \forall x, y, z \in F$

Notation 1) Let \mathbb{Z} denote the set of integers.

2) Let \mathbb{Q} denote the set of rational numbers.

We assume their standard operations $(+, -, \times, \div)$ and relations $(>, <)$.

3) let $\mathbb{N} = \{n \in \mathbb{Z} \mid n \geq 1\}$.

Ex \mathbb{Q} is a field. (But not \mathbb{Z} .)

Prop If F is a field and $x, y, z \in F$ then

1) $x+y = x+z \Rightarrow y=z$

2) $x+y = x \Rightarrow y=0$ (zero is unique)

3) $x+y = 0 \Rightarrow y = -x$

4) $-(-x) = x$

Pf of 1): $x+y = x+z \Rightarrow -x + (x+y) = -x + (x+z)$

$\Rightarrow (-x+x) + y = (-x+x) + z$

$\Rightarrow 0 + y = 0 + z$

$\Rightarrow y = z$ ▣

All the usual laws of arithmetic hold in any field F . From now on we'll use them freely.

Notation We write $x-y$ for $x+(-y)$ and $\frac{x}{y}$ for $x \cdot (\frac{1}{y})$.

Def An ordered set is a set S with a relation $<$ such that

- 1) $\forall x, y \in S$ exactly one of $x < y$, $y < x$ or $x = y$ is true
- 2) $\forall x, y, z \in S$ s.t. $x < y$ and $y < z$, $x < z$.

Ex \mathbb{Q} is an ordered set.

Notation We also write $x > y$ for $y < x$, and $x \geq y$ for $(x > y \text{ or } x = y)$.

Def For S an ordered set and $E \subset S$,

1) p is an upper bound for E if $p \in S$ and $\forall q \in E$, $p \geq q$.



2) If $\exists p$ s.t. p is an upper bound for E , E is bounded above.

3) p is a least upper bound for E if



a) p is an upper bound for E and

b) if $q < p$ then q is not an upper bound for E

Similarly define lower bound, greatest lower bound.

Prop If $E \subset S$, p is a least upper bound for E , and q is a least upper bound for E , then $p = q$. ("Least upper bounds are unique.")

Pf p is LUB, q is UB $\Rightarrow p \leq q$ (by part 3b of def. of LUB)
 q is LUB, p is UB $\Rightarrow q \leq p$. (also by part 3b of def. of LUB)

So $p = q$. \square

Notation If p is the LUB of E then we write $p = \sup E$.
" " " " GLB of E then we write $p = \inf E$.

Ex Take $S = \mathbb{Q}$ for all these examples. Then:

1) $E = \mathbb{Q}$: E has no least upper bound. (indeed no UB at all!)

2) $E = \{p \in \mathbb{Q} : 2 \leq p \leq 3\}$: $\sup E = 3$. (why?)

3) $E = \{p \in \mathbb{Q} : 2 \leq p < 3\}$: $\sup E = 3$. (why?)

4) $A = \{p \in \mathbb{Q} : p^2 < 2, p > 0\}$: we don't know yet whether $\sup A$ exists...

Proposition $\nexists p \in \mathbb{Q}$ such that $p^2 = 2$

(There exists no $p \in \mathbb{Q}$ such that $p^2 = 2$.)

Pf Suppose $p \in \mathbb{Q}$, $p^2 = 2$.

Then $\exists m, n$ s.t. $p = \frac{m}{n}$ and m, n are not both even. (why?)

$$p^2 = 2 \Rightarrow \frac{m^2}{n^2} = 2, \text{ so } m^2 = 2n^2 \quad (*)$$

Thus m is even. (why?) But then $2n^2$ is divisible by 4, so n is even.

Thus both m and n are even \times . ▣

Prop p is a UB for $A \iff p^2 > 2$ and $p > 0$.

Pf (\Leftarrow) Suppose $p^2 > 2, p > 0$, and $q \in A$. Then $p^2 > 2 > q^2$, so $p^2 > q^2$.

If $q > p$, then $q^2 > qp > p^2$, so $q^2 > p^2 \times$

Thus, $\forall q \in A, p > q$. Thus p is a UB for A .

(\Rightarrow) Suppose p is an UB for A .

If $p^2 < 2$, then consider $q = p - \frac{p^2 - 2}{p + 2} > p$

$$q = \frac{2p + 2}{p + 2}$$

$$q^2 - 2 = \frac{2(p^2 - 2)}{(p + 2)^2} < 0, \text{ so } q \in A, \text{ but } q > p \times$$

Thus $p^2 \geq 2$. But $p^2 \neq 2$, so $p^2 > 2$. Also $1 \in A$, so $p > 1 > 0$. ▣

Prop A has no LUB in \mathbb{Q} .

Pf If p is an UB for A , then $p^2 > 2$ and $p > 0$.

Consider $q = p - \frac{p^2 - 2}{p + 2} < p$. $q = \frac{2p + 2}{p + 2}$ so $q > 0$.

$$q^2 - 2 = \frac{2(p^2 - 2)}{(p + 2)^2} > 0 \text{ so } q^2 > 2$$

Thus q is an UB for A , but $q < p$!

So p cannot be LUB for A . ▣

Def An ordered field is a field F which is also an ordered set, such that

1) $\forall x, y, z \in F$ s.t. $x + y < x + z$, $y < z$.

2) $\forall x, y \in F$ s.t. $x > 0$ and $y > 0$, $xy > 0$.

Ex \mathbb{Q} is an ordered field.

Prop If F is an ordered field, then $\forall x, y, z \in F$,

a) $x > 0 \Rightarrow -x < 0$

b) $x > 0, y < z \Rightarrow xy < xz$

c) $x < 0, y < z \Rightarrow xy > xz$

d) $x \neq 0 \Rightarrow x^2 > 0$

e) $0 < x < y \Rightarrow 0 < \frac{1}{y} < \frac{1}{x}$.

Pf a) $x > 0 \Rightarrow -x + x > -x + 0$, i.e. $0 > -x$.

b) $y < z \Rightarrow z - y > 0$. If also $x > 0$, then $x(z - y) > 0$. Thus $xy < xz$.

c, d, e): see Rudin.

Theorem \exists an ordered field \mathbb{R} , such that

1) $\mathbb{Q} \subset \mathbb{R}$

2) $\forall E \subset \mathbb{R}$ bounded above, with $E \neq \emptyset$, E has a LUB in \mathbb{R} .

Pf ("Construction of the real numbers") See Rudin.

In particular, $A = \{p \in \mathbb{Q} \mid p^2 < 2, p > 0\}$ has a LUB in \mathbb{R} , though it does not have one in \mathbb{Q} .

In this sense \mathbb{R} "fills in the gaps" of \mathbb{Q} .

Moreover,

Prop $(\sup A)^2 = 2.$

Pf See Rudin.

Thm a) If $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ and $x > 0$, $\exists n \in \mathbb{N}$ s.t. $nx > y$.

b) If $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ and $x < y$, $\exists p \in \mathbb{Q}$ s.t. $x < p < y$.

Pf a) Suppose the contrary.

Let $A = \{nx \mid n \in \mathbb{Z}, n > 0\}$. y is an UB for A .

Thus A is a bounded subset of \mathbb{R} , hence $\sup A$ exists. Let $\alpha = \sup A$.

Then $\alpha - x$ is not an UB for A .

Thus $\exists m \in \mathbb{Z}$ s.t. $\alpha - x < mx$.

$$\alpha < (m+1)x \in A$$

But α is an UB for A ! ✘

b) $x < y \Rightarrow y - x > 0$.

Use a) to get: $\exists n \in \mathbb{N}$ s.t. $n(y-x) > 1$ (*)

$$\exists m_1 \in \mathbb{N} \text{ s.t. } m_1 > nx$$

$$\exists m_2 \in \mathbb{N} \text{ s.t. } m_2 > -nx$$

Then $-m_2 < nx < m_1$, so $\exists m \in \mathbb{Z}$ s.t. $m-1 \leq nx < m$.

ie $m \leq 1 + nx$ and $nx < m$.

$$\text{Thus, } nx < m \leq 1 + nx < ny$$

↑
using (*)

and finally dividing by n (using $n > 0$),

$$x < \frac{m}{n} < y$$

as desired. ▣

Rk a) is sometimes called the "Archimedean property" of \mathbb{R} .
It says roughly that \mathbb{R} does not contain infinitesimals.
There do exist ordered fields not satisfying this property...

Notation If $E \subset \mathbb{R}$ is not bounded above we write $\sup E = +\infty$.
If $E \subset \mathbb{R}$ is not bounded below we write $\inf E = -\infty$.