

Homework 3, Due on Tuesday, February 20, 2018

For all the proofs, write *in details* using standard mathematical language.

1. (*Non-uniqueness of positive set*) Let  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$  be the set defined as

$$\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}) = \{a + b\sqrt{2} : a, b \in \mathbb{Q}\}.$$

a). Prove that  $(\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}), +, \times)$  is a field.

*You only need to check rule (0) closure under + and  $\times$ , and rule (8) existence of multiplicative inverse. All other rules are trivial.*

b). Since  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$  is a subset of  $\mathbb{R}$ , show that  $(\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}), P_1)$  is an ordered field, with the positive set  $P_1$  defined as

$$P_1 = \{a + b\sqrt{2} \in \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}) : a + b\sqrt{2} \text{ is a positive real number}\}.$$

c). Prove that  $(\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}), P_2)$  is also an ordered field, with the positive set  $P_2$  defined as

$$P_2 = \{a + b\sqrt{2} \in \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}) : a - b\sqrt{2} \text{ is a positive real number}\}.$$

2. (*Uniqueness of positive set under additional assumptions*) Suppose  $F$  is a field with a positive set  $P$  such that

- (i)  $x, y \in P \Rightarrow x + y, xy \in P$ ;
- (ii) Exactly one of the three holds:  $x \in P, -x \in P, x = 0$ ;
- (iii)  $\forall x \in P \exists y \in F (x = y^2)$ .

Prove that the positive set  $P$  is unique.

*Note: condition (iii) is satisfied for  $\mathbb{R}$ . Therefore,  $\mathbb{R}$  has a unique order.*

*Hint: Let  $A = \{x^2 : x \in F\}$ . Prove that  $P = A$  (by showing  $P \subseteq A$  and  $P \supseteq A$ ).*

3. Prove the triangle inequality (Theorem 4.16 in the textbook).

4. Consider the space  $\mathbb{R}^2 = \{x = (x_1, x_2) : x_1, x_2 \in \mathbb{R}\}$  with the following metric

$$d_\infty(x, y) = |x - y|_\infty := \max\{|x_1 - y_1|, |x_2 - y_2|\}.$$

- a). Prove that  $d_\infty$  is a metric.
- b). What is the unit ball in  $(\mathbb{R}^2, |\cdot|_\infty)$ ? It is defined as  $B(0, 1) = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^2 : |x|_\infty < 1\}$ . Draw the ball in the  $\mathbb{R}^2$  plane.
- c). (Bonus) Prove that  $B(0, 1)$  is an open set in  $(\mathbb{R}^2, |\cdot|_\infty)$ .

5. Finish exercise 4 in page 72 of the textbook.

- a). If  $I = (a, b)$  and  $J = (c, d)$  are open intervals, show that  $I \subseteq J$  if and only if  $a \geq c$  and  $b \leq d$ .
- b). Does this result change if the intervals are not open?