

## Real Numbers Axioms

Let  $+$  and  $\cdot$  be two binary (closed) operations on  $\mathbb{R}$  called addition and multiplication.

**Field Axioms:**  $(\mathbb{R}, +, \cdot)$  satisfies the following properties for all  $a, b$  and  $c$  in  $\mathbb{R}$ :

- A1.  $a+b=b+a$  (commutativity of addition)
- A2.  $(a+b)+c = a+(b+c)$  (associativity of addition)
- A3. There exists an element  $0$  in  $\mathbb{R}$  such that  $a+0=a$  (and  $0+a=a$ ) (existence of zero)
- A4. For each  $a$  in  $\mathbb{R}$ , there exists an element  $-a$  in  $\mathbb{R}$  such that  $a+(-a)=0$  (and  $(-a)+a=0$ ) (existence of negative)
- M1.  $a \cdot b=b \cdot a$  (commutativity of multiplication)
- M2.  $(a \cdot b) \cdot c = a \cdot (b \cdot c)$  (associativity of multiplication)
- M3. There exists an element  $1$  in  $\mathbb{R}$ ,  $1 \neq 0$ , such that  $a \cdot 1=a$  ( $1 \cdot a=a$ ) (existence of unit)
- M4. For each  $a \neq 0$  there exists an element  $a^{-1}$  in  $\mathbb{R}$  such that  $a \cdot a^{-1}=1$  (and  $a^{-1} \cdot a=1$ ) (existence of inverse)
- D.  $a \cdot (b+c) = a \cdot b+a \cdot c$  (and  $(b+c) \cdot a = b \cdot a+c \cdot a$ ) (distributivity)

**Order Axioms:** There exists a nonempty subset  $P$  of  $\mathbb{R}$  called the set of positive real numbers, such that:

- O1. If  $a, b$  are in  $P$ , then  $a+b$  is in  $P$ .
- O2. If  $a, b$  are in  $P$ , then  $a \cdot b$  is in  $P$ .
- O3. For  $a$  in  $\mathbb{R}$ , exactly one of the following is true:  $a$  is in  $P$ ,  $a=0$ , or  $-a$  is in  $P$ .

**Completeness Axiom:**

Every nonempty set of real numbers that has an upper bound has a supremum in  $\mathbb{R}$ .