

4.3 Proofs involving Real Numbers

Some properties of \mathbb{R} :

1. $\forall a \in \mathbb{R}$ and n : positive even integer $\Rightarrow a^n \geq 0$.
2. If $a < 0$ and n : positive odd integer $\Rightarrow a^n < 0$.
3. $\forall a, b \in \mathbb{R}, ab > 0 \iff (a > 0 \text{ and } b > 0) \text{ or } (a < 0 \text{ and } b < 0)$.
4. Let $a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}$
 - (i) if $a \geq b$ and $c \geq 0 \implies ac \geq bc$.
 - (ii) if $a \geq b$ and $c > 0 \implies a/c \geq b/c$.
 - (iii) if $a > b$ and $c > 0 \implies ac > bc$ and $a/c > b/c$.
 - (iv) if $a > b$ and $c < 0 \implies ac < bc$ and $a/c < b/c$.

Thm 4.12 If $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ s.t. $xy = 0 \implies x = 0$ or $y = 0$.

(Pf) :

R4.13 \Rightarrow Ex4.13 Let $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$.

Prove that if $x^2 - 4x = y^2 - 4y$ and $x \neq y$

$\implies x + y = 4$.

(Pf) :

(4.3 cont.)

Read R4.14

<Def> $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}$, its **absolute value** $|x|$ is defined as

$$|x| = \begin{cases} x & \text{if } x \geq 0 \\ -x & \text{if } x < 0 \end{cases}$$

Thm 4.15 (**Triangle Inequality**)

$\forall x, y \in \mathbb{R} \implies |x + y| \leq |x| + |y|$.

<Pf> : read for homework.

Ex4.19 $\forall x, y \in \mathbb{R} \implies |x + y| \geq |x| - |y|$.

<Pf> :