

Due: 15th September, 2004. Hand in before the lecture starts at 9:00 a.m.

1. Suppose that a, b, c and d are in an ordered field $\mathbb{F}$. If $a > b$ and $c > d$, prove that

- (i) $a + c > b + d$; (ii) $a - b > d - c$;
 (iii) $-b + c > -a + d$; (iv) $-b - d > -a - c$.

Solution. It follows from $a > b$ and $c > d$ that $(a-b) + (c-d) > 0 + 0 = 0$.

(i) It follows from $(a + c) - (b + d) = (a - b) + (c - d) > 0$ that $a + c > b + d \iff 0$.

(ii) It follows from $(a - b) - (d - c) = (a - b) + (c - d) > 0$ that $a - b > d - c$.

(iii) It follows from $(-b + c) - (-a + d) = (a - b) + (c - d) > 0$ that $-b + c > -a + d$.

(iv) It follows from $(-b - d) - (-a - c) = (a - b) + (c - d) > 0$ that $-b - d > -a - c$.

2. Suppose that $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_m, b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n$ are elements in a ring $\mathbb{F}$, which is not necessarily commutative. Use the mathematical induction to prove that

$$\left(\sum_{i=1}^m a_i \right) \cdot \left(\sum_{j=1}^n b_j \right) = \sum_{i=1}^m \left(\sum_{j=1}^n a_i b_j \right).$$

Hint: Apply mathematical induction on the sum $m + n$.

Proof. Instead of using double indices m and n , we consider the sum $m + n$. Let $P(N)$ be the following statement involving a positive integer

$N \geq 1$: $\left(\sum_{i=1}^m a_i \right) \cdot \left(\sum_{j=1}^n b_j \right) = \sum_{i=1}^m \left(\sum_{j=1}^n a_i b_j \right)$ holds, where $m, n \geq 1$

and $m + n = N + 1$. The proof proceeds by mathematical induction on the number N :

(a) $N = 1$: then $(m, n) = (1, 1)$. Nothing to be prove in this case:

$$\left(\sum_{i=1}^m a_i \right) \cdot \left(\sum_{j=1}^n b_j \right) = (a_1) \cdot (b_1); \text{ and } \sum_{i=1}^m \left(\sum_{j=1}^n a_i b_j \right) = (a_1 \cdot b_1).$$

(b) Suppose that $P(N)$ holds for all $N \leq k$, we want to prove $P(k + 1)$ holds as well. Then we divide into 2 cases:

i. $(m, n) = (k, 1)$: From general distributive law (prove it!), we have

$$\text{L.H.S.} = \left(\sum_{i=1}^m a_i \right) \cdot b_1 = \left(\sum_{i=1}^m a_i \cdot b_1 \right) = \sum_{i=1}^m \left(\sum_{j=1}^1 a_i b_j \right) = \text{R.H.S.}$$

ii. $n \geq 2$. So we have $n - 1 \geq 1$ and $m + (n - 1) = k$, so we can apply $P(k)$:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{L.H.S.} &= \left(\sum_{i=1}^m a_i \right) \cdot \left(\sum_{j=1}^n b_j \right) \\ &= \left(\sum_{i=1}^m a_i \right) \cdot \left[\left(\sum_{j=1}^{n-1} b_j \right) + b_n \right] \\ &= \left(\sum_{i=1}^m a_i \right) \cdot \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n-1} b_j \right) + \left(\sum_{i=1}^m a_i \right) \cdot b_n \quad (\text{gen. dist. law}) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^m \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n-1} a_i b_j \right) + \left(\sum_{i=1}^m a_i b_n \right) \quad (\text{MI and gen. dist. law}) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^m \left[\left(\sum_{j=1}^{n-1} a_i b_j \right) + a_i b_n \right] \quad (\text{gen. comm. and asso. law}) \\ &= \text{R.H.S.} \end{aligned}$$

Remark. State and prove the generalized commutative and associative laws for addition and generalized distributive law.