

## On Sets of Hyperreal Numbers

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### Abstract

We construct a field  ${}^*R$  of hyperreal numbers so that the field  $R$  of real numbers is embedded as a subfield of  ${}^*R$ . The set  ${}^*R$  can be regarded as a metric space containing the set  $R$  as a discrete subset and we can generalize this property.

### 1. Introduction and preliminaries

In the 1960s, Abraham Robinson showed that the set  $R$  of real numbers can be regarded as a subset of a set  ${}^*R$  of hyperreal numbers which contains infinitely small and large numbers. We can contend the set  ${}^*R$  is a metric space containing the set  $R$  as a discrete subset. In the present paper we would like to generalize this property.

We shall first state some fundamental properties on filters. According to Comfort and Negretpontis [1], we shall give the following definition.

**DEFINITION 1.1.** Let  $I_i$  be an infinite set and  $\mathcal{F}_i$  be a filter on  $I_i$  for each  $i = 1, 2, 3$ . We define sets  $\mathcal{F}_1 \cdot \mathcal{F}_2$ ,  $(\mathcal{F}_1 \cdot \mathcal{F}_2) \cdot \mathcal{F}_3$ ,  $\mathcal{F}_1 \cdot \mathcal{F}_2 \cdot \mathcal{F}_3$ , and  $\mathcal{F}_1 \cdot (\mathcal{F}_2 \cdot \mathcal{F}_3)$  as follows.

$$\mathcal{F}_1 \cdot \mathcal{F}_2 = \{A \in \mathcal{P}(I_1 \times I_2) \mid \{y_1 \in I_1 \mid \{y_2 \in I_2 \mid (y_1, y_2) \in A\} \in \mathcal{F}_2\} \in \mathcal{F}_1\},$$

$$(\mathcal{F}_1 \cdot \mathcal{F}_2) \cdot \mathcal{F}_3 = \{A \in \mathcal{P}(I_1 \times I_2 \times I_3) \mid \{(y_1, y_2) \in I_1 \times I_2 \mid \{y_3 \in I_3 \mid (y_1, y_2, y_3) \in A\} \in \mathcal{F}_3\} \in \mathcal{F}_1 \cdot \mathcal{F}_2\},$$

$$\mathcal{F}_1 \cdot \mathcal{F}_2 \cdot \mathcal{F}_3 = \{A \in \mathcal{P}(I_1 \times I_2 \times I_3) \mid \{y_1 \in I_1 \mid \{y_2 \in I_2 \mid \{y_3 \in I_3 \mid (y_1, y_2, y_3) \in A\} \in \mathcal{F}_3\} \in \mathcal{F}_2\} \in \mathcal{F}_1\},$$

$$\mathcal{F}_1 \cdot (\mathcal{F}_2 \cdot \mathcal{F}_3) = \{A \in \mathcal{P}(I_1 \times I_2 \times I_3) \mid \{y_1 \in I_1 \mid \{(y_2, y_3) \in I_2 \times I_3 \mid (y_1, y_2, y_3) \in A\} \in \mathcal{F}_2 \cdot \mathcal{F}_3\} \in \mathcal{F}_1\}.$$

We immediately have the following proposition.

**PROPOSITION 1.2.** (1.1)  $\mathcal{F}_1 \cdot \mathcal{F}_2$  is a filter on  $I_1 \times I_2$ .  
 (1.2)  $(\mathcal{F}_1 \cdot \mathcal{F}_2) \cdot \mathcal{F}_3$ ,  $\mathcal{F}_1 \cdot \mathcal{F}_2 \cdot \mathcal{F}_3$  and  $\mathcal{F}_1 \cdot (\mathcal{F}_2 \cdot \mathcal{F}_3)$  are filters on  $I_1 \times I_2 \times I_3$  and we have

$$(\mathcal{F}_1 \cdot \mathcal{F}_2) \cdot \mathcal{F}_3 = \mathcal{F}_1 \cdot \mathcal{F}_2 \cdot \mathcal{F}_3 = \mathcal{F}_1 \cdot (\mathcal{F}_2 \cdot \mathcal{F}_3).$$

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The following proposition was given in [3].

PROPOSITION 1.3. *Let  $\mathcal{F}_1$  and  $\mathcal{F}_2$  be ultrafilters on  $I_1$  and  $I_2$  respectively. Then  $\mathcal{F}_1 \cdot \mathcal{F}_2$  is an ultrafilter on  $I_1 \times I_2$ .*

PROPOSITION 1.4. *Let  $\mathcal{F}_1$  and  $\mathcal{F}_2$  be ultrafilters on  $I_1$  and  $I_2$  respectively, and let  $\mathcal{F}_1$  or  $\mathcal{F}_2$  be a free ( $\omega$ -incomplete) ultrafilter, then  $\mathcal{F}_1 \cdot \mathcal{F}_2$  is a free ultrafilter on  $I_1 \times I_2$ .*

In order to prove Proposition 1.4, we use a lemma.

LEMMA 1.5. *Let  $\mathcal{F}_1$  and  $\mathcal{F}_2$  be filters on  $I_1$  and  $I_2$  respectively. Then we have the following.*

$$(1.3) \quad \text{Let } X_1 \in \mathcal{F}_1 \text{ and } X_2 \in \mathcal{F}_2, \text{ then } X_1 \times X_2 \in \mathcal{F}_1 \cdot \mathcal{F}_2.$$

$$(1.4) \quad \text{Let } X_1 \subset I_1 \text{ and } X_2 \subset I_2, \text{ and let } X_1 \notin \mathcal{F}_1 \text{ or } X_2 \notin \mathcal{F}_2,$$

then  $X_1 \times X_2 \notin \mathcal{F}_1 \cdot \mathcal{F}_2$ .

PROOF OF PROPOSITION 1.4. Let  $\mathcal{F}_1$  be a free ultrafilter, then there exists  $A_n$  such that  $A_n \in \mathcal{F}_1$  for each  $n \in N$  and  $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n \notin \mathcal{F}_1$ , where  $N$  is the set of all positive integers.

Using Lemma 1.5, we have  $A_n \times I_2 \in \mathcal{F}_1 \cdot \mathcal{F}_2$  for each  $n \in N$ . Since

$$\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} (A_n \times I_2) = \left( \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n \right) \times I_2 \quad \text{and} \quad \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n \notin \mathcal{F}_1,$$

we have

$$\left( \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n \right) \times I_n \notin \mathcal{F}_1 \cdot \mathcal{F}_2.$$

Therefore  $\mathcal{F}_1 \cdot \mathcal{F}_2$  is a free ultrafilter.

Q.E.D.

Let  $K$  be a nonempty set and

$$a(y_1, \dots, y_n), b(y_1, \dots, y_n) \in \prod_{(y_1, \dots, y_n) \in I_1 \times \dots \times I_n} K.$$

We define a relation  $R(n)$ , by

$$a(y_1, \dots, y_n) R(n) b(y_1, \dots, y_n), \text{ if and only if} \\ \{(y_1, \dots, y_n) \in I_1 \times \dots \times I_n \mid a(y_1, \dots, y_n) = b(y_1, \dots, y_n)\} \in \mathcal{F}_1 \cdot \mathcal{F}_2 \cdots \mathcal{F}_n.$$

The relation  $R(n)$  is an equivalence relation.

We would like to use a notation

$$\prod_{(y_1, \dots, y_n) \in I_1 \times \dots \times I_n} K / \mathcal{F}_1 \cdot \mathcal{F}_2 \cdots \mathcal{F}_n$$

in order to express the quotient space

$$\prod_{(y_1, \dots, y_n) \in I_1 \times \dots \times I_n} K/R(n).$$

The quotient class determined by a function  $a(y_1, \dots, y_n)$  will be denoted by  $[[a(y_1, \dots, y_n)]]$ .

**THEOREM 1.6.** *The following formula is valid.*

$$\prod_{y_1 \in I_1} \left( \prod_{y_2 \in I_2} K/\mathcal{F}_2 \right) / \mathcal{F}_1 = \prod_{(y_1, y_2) \in I_1 \times I_2} K/\mathcal{F}_1 \cdot \mathcal{F}_2.$$

**PROOF.** If

$$(\tilde{a}(y_2))(y_1) \in \prod_{y_1 \in I_1} \left( \prod_{y_2 \in I_2} K \right),$$

then we can contend

$$(\tilde{a}(y_2))(y_1) \in \prod_{(y_1, y_2) \in I_1 \times I_2} K,$$

and we write

$$(\tilde{a}(y_2))(y_1) = a(y_1, y_2).$$

We immediately have this result by the following fact.

Let

$$[[\tilde{a}(y_2)]](y_1), [[\tilde{b}(y_2)]](y_1) \in \prod_{y_1 \in I_1} \left( \prod_{y_2 \in I_2} K/\mathcal{F}_2 \right) / \mathcal{F}_1,$$

then we have

$$\begin{aligned} & [[\tilde{a}(y_2)]](y_1) = [[\tilde{b}(y_2)]](y_1) \\ \Leftrightarrow & \{y_1 \in I_1 \mid [[\tilde{a}(y_2)]](y_1) = [[\tilde{b}(y_2)]](y_1)\} \in \mathcal{F}_1 \\ \Leftrightarrow & \{y_1 \in I_1 \mid \{y_2 \in I_2 \mid (\tilde{a}(y_2))(y_1) = (\tilde{b}(y_2))(y_1)\} \in \mathcal{F}_2\} \in \mathcal{F}_1 \\ \Leftrightarrow & \{(y_1, y_2) \in I_1 \times I_2 \mid a(y_1, y_2) = b(y_1, y_2)\} \in \mathcal{F}_1 \cdot \mathcal{F}_2. \end{aligned}$$

Q.E.D.

**COROLLARY 1.7.** *The following formula is valid.*

$$\prod_{y_1 \in I_1} \left( \prod_{y_2 \in I_2} \left( \dots \left( \prod_{y_n \in I_n} K/\mathcal{F}_n \right) \dots \right) / \mathcal{F}_2 \right) / \mathcal{F}_1 = \prod_{(y_1, \dots, y_n) \in I_1 \times \dots \times I_n} K/\mathcal{F}_1 \cdots \mathcal{F}_n.$$

## 2. On sets of hyperreal numbers

Now we shall give the following definition.

**DEFINITION 2.1.** Let  $R^+ = \{y \in R \mid y > 0\}$  and let  $F = \{(0, y) \mid y \in R^+\}$ . Then  $F$  has the finite intersection property. We shall denote by  $\mathcal{F}$  one of the ultrafilters

containing  $F$ . The filter  $\mathcal{F}$  is a free ultrafilter.

We Shall use the following notations:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{F}^1 &= \mathcal{F} \text{ and } \mathcal{F} \cdot \mathcal{F}^n = \mathcal{F}^{n+1} \text{ for } n \in N, \\ (R^+)^1 &= R^+ \text{ and } R^+ \times (R^+)^n = (R^+)^{n+1} \text{ for } n \in N, \\ {}^0R &= R, \quad {}^1R = {}^*R = \prod_{y_1 \in R^+} R/\mathcal{F}, \text{ and} \\ {}^nR &= \prod_{(y_1, \dots, y_n) \in (R^+)^n} R/\mathcal{F}_1 \cdots \mathcal{F}_n \text{ for } n \in N.\end{aligned}$$

We immediately have the following theorem.

**THEOREM 2.2.**  ${}^nR = {}^{*(n-1)}R$  for  $n \in N$ .

An element of the set  ${}^nR$  is called a hyperreal number. The set  ${}^nR$  is made into a commutative ordered field by defining the addition, the subtraction, the product, the quotient and the order in the usual way.

We define absolute value in  ${}^nR$  as follows.

**DEFINITION 2.3.** If  $x = [x(y_1, \dots, y_n)] \in {}^nR$ , then

$$|x| = [|x(y_1, \dots, y_n)|].$$

We have the following theorem immediately.

**THEOREM 2.4.**  ${}^nR$  is a metric space with a usual metric

$$d(x, y) = |y - x| \quad \text{for } x, y \in {}^nR.$$

**DEFINITION 2.5 (Infinitesimal).** We shall say that  $\varepsilon = [\varepsilon(y_1, \dots, y_n)] \in {}^nR$  is infinitesimal or infinitesimal small if for every  $\delta \in R^+$  we have

$$(2.1) \quad \{(y_1, \dots, y_n) \in (R^+)^n \mid |\varepsilon(y_1, \dots, y_n)| < \delta\} \in \mathcal{F}^n.$$

When  $\varepsilon$  and  $\delta$  satisfy condition (2.1), we write  $|\varepsilon| < \delta$ .

**PROPOSITION 2.6.** Let  $\delta \in R^+$  and  $\varepsilon = [\varepsilon(y_1, \dots, y_n)] \in {}^nR$ , then we have

$$\begin{aligned}& \{(y_1, \dots, y_n) \in (R^+)^n \mid |\varepsilon(y_1, \dots, y_n)| < \delta\} \in \mathcal{F}^n \\ \Leftrightarrow & \{y_1 \in R^+ \mid \{(y_2, \dots, y_n) \in (R^+)^{n-1} \mid |\varepsilon(y_1, \dots, y_n)| < \delta\} \in \mathcal{F}^{n-1}\} \in \mathcal{F} \\ \Leftrightarrow & \{y_1 \in R^+ \mid \{y_2 \in R^+ \mid \{(y_3, \dots, y_n) \in (R^+)^{n-2} \mid |\varepsilon(y_1, \dots, y_n)| < \delta\} \in \mathcal{F}^{n-2}\} \in \mathcal{F}\} \in \mathcal{F} \\ \Leftrightarrow & \dots \\ \Leftrightarrow & \{y_1 \in R^+ \mid \{y_2 \in R^+ \mid \dots \{y_n \in R^+ \mid |\varepsilon(y_1, \dots, y_n)| < \delta\} \in \mathcal{F} \dots\} \in \mathcal{F}\} \in \mathcal{F} \\ \Leftrightarrow & \{(y_1, y_2) \in (R^+)^2 \mid \{(y_3, \dots, y_n) \in (R^+)^{n-2} \mid |\varepsilon(y_1, \dots, y_n)| < \delta\} \in \mathcal{F}^{n-2}\} \in \mathcal{F}^2 \\ \Leftrightarrow & \dots \\ \Leftrightarrow & \{(y_1, \dots, y_{n-1}) \in (R^+)^{n-1} \mid \{y_n \in R^+ \mid |\varepsilon(y_1, \dots, y_n)| < \delta\} \in \mathcal{F}\} \in \mathcal{F}^{n-1}.\end{aligned}$$

The proof is easy, and we omit it.

PROPOSITION 2.7. Let  $\varepsilon = [\varepsilon(y_n)] \in {}^*R$  and  $\delta \in R^+$  which satisfy a condition  $\{y_n \in R^+ \mid |\varepsilon(y_n)| < \delta\} \in \mathcal{F}$ . Then we have

$$\{(y_1, \dots, y_n) \in (R^+)^n \mid |\varepsilon(y_n)| < \delta\} \in \mathcal{F}^n.$$

PROOF. Let  $A = \{y_n \in R^+ \mid |\varepsilon(y_n)| < \delta\}$ , then  $A \in \mathcal{F}$ . Since

$$\begin{aligned} \{(y_1, \dots, y_n) \in (R^+)^n \mid |\varepsilon(y_n)| < \delta\} &= (R^+)^{n-1} \times A, \\ (R^+)^{n-1} &\in \mathcal{F}^{n-1} \text{ and } A \in \mathcal{F}, \end{aligned}$$

we have

$$\{(y_1, \dots, y_n) \in (R^+)^n \mid |\varepsilon(y_n)| < \delta\} \in \mathcal{F}^{n-1} \cdot \mathcal{F} = \mathcal{F}^n. \quad \text{Q.E.D.}$$

Let  $a, x, \varepsilon \in {}^*R$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$ . We define a set  $U(a, \varepsilon)$  by

$$U(a, \varepsilon) = \{x \in {}^*R \mid |x - a| < \varepsilon\}.$$

PROPOSITION 2.8. Let  $a = [a(y_1, \dots, y_{n-1})]$ ,  $x = [x(y_1, \dots, y_{n-1})] \in ({}^{n-1})^*R$  and let  $\varepsilon = [\varepsilon(y_n)]$  be a positive infinitesimal, then

$$U(a, \varepsilon) = \{a\}.$$

PROOF. Let  $a \neq x$ , and let

$$B = \{(y_1, \dots, y_{n-1}) \in (R^+)^{n-1} \mid |x(y_1, \dots, y_{n-1}) - a(y_1, \dots, y_{n-1})| > \varepsilon\}$$

then we have  $B \in \mathcal{F}^{n-1}$ .

Since

$$\{(y_1, \dots, y_{n-1}) \in (R^+)^{n-1} \mid \{y_n \in R^+ \mid |x(y_1, \dots, y_{n-1}) - a(y_1, \dots, y_{n-1})| > \varepsilon(y_n)\} \in \mathcal{F}\} \supset B,$$

we have

$$\{(y_1, \dots, y_n) \in (R^+)^n \mid |x(y_1, \dots, y_{n-1}) - a(y_1, \dots, y_{n-1})| > \varepsilon(y_n)\} \in \mathcal{F}^n,$$

which shows  $|x - a| > \varepsilon$ .

Clearly we have  $U(a, \varepsilon) \ni a$ . Hence we have

$$U(a, \varepsilon) = \{a\}. \quad \text{Q.E.D.}$$

Using Proposition 2.8 we have the following theorem.

THEOREM 2.9. A metric space  $({}^{n-1})^*R$  is a discrete subspace of a metric space  ${}^*R$ , for every  $n \in N$ .

### References

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