

I-Real numbers

1.1-Introduction. Numbers are a central element in mathematics. Among the different types of numbers, the set $\mathbb{N} = \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$ of natural numbers, the set $\mathbb{Z} = \mathbb{N} \cup (-\mathbb{N})$, [$m \in (-\mathbb{N}) \Leftrightarrow \exists n \in \mathbb{N}; m = -n$] of relative numbers and the set $\mathbb{Q} = \left\{ \frac{p}{q}; p \in \mathbb{Z}, q \in \mathbb{N}^* \text{ and } p \wedge q = 1 \right\}$ of rational numbers, ($p \wedge q = 1$ means that p and q are prime to each other). Starting from \mathbb{Q} , whose well-known properties are assumed, namely, $(\mathbb{Q}, +, \cdot, \leq)$ is a totally ordered set, the total order relation \leq , defined on \mathbb{Q} is compatible with the addition $+$ and the multiplication \times , and that \mathbb{Q} is Archimidean i.e., $\forall r \in \mathbb{Q}^*$ there exists $n \in \mathbb{N}^*$, such that $r < n$. The need to introduce a larger set than \mathbb{Q} , is motivated by the fact that $\sqrt{2} \notin \mathbb{Q}$. Indeed, if there exists $p \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $q \in \mathbb{N}^*$ with $p \wedge q = 1$, such that $p^2 = 2q^2$, then 2 divides p^2 , as the square of an odd number is odd, also 2 divides p , so there exists $p' \in \mathbb{Z}$, such that $p = 2p'$, hence $2p'^2 = q^2$ and therefore 2 divides q , which contradicts $p \wedge q = 1$. Also, the two numbers e and π are not rational. In general, if p is a prime number, then \sqrt{p} is not an rational number,...etc. Such numbers are called irrational numbers. The union of rational numbers and irrational numbers, constitutes the set \mathbb{R} of real numbers. The object of the following section, is to define the set of real numbers by a series of axioms, and to give a second motivation for the introduction of this set.

1.2-Axiomatic definition of real numbers

Since, the set of real numbers, was introduced to complete the set \mathbb{Q} of rational numbers, then we say that x is a real number if either ($x \in \mathbb{Q}$), or ($x \notin \mathbb{Q}$, x is said to be an irrational number). The intuition of their existence is ancient (since Pythagoras and his proof of the irrationality of $\sqrt{2}$). Their rigorous construction, dating from the 19^{iem} century by Cantor and Dedekine. Note that we can define a real number from its decimal development, i.e. a real x can be seen as a relative integer constituting its integer part, separated by a comma, followed by an infinity of digits constituting its decimal part for example: $\pi = 3.1415926536\dots$. This definition called arithmetic representation of a real number poses a certain number of problems. Also, a real number can be defined as a limit of the so-called Cauchy sequences in \mathbb{Q} (the density of \mathbb{Q} in \mathbb{R}). One of the simplest definitions of \mathbb{R} is the following axiomatic definition.

Definition 2.1. The set \mathbb{R} of real numbers, provided with two internal laws: the addition noted $+$, the multiplication noted \times . and a comparison relation noted \leq (lower or equal), satisfies the following axioms:

1 - $(\mathbb{R}, +, \times)$ is a commutative field.

* The addition is such that $(\mathbb{R}, +)$ is an Abelian group.

a_1) $\forall x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}, (x + y) + z = x + (y + z)$. The addition is associative.

a_2) $\forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}, x + y = y + x$. The addition is commutative.

a_3) $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}, x + 0 = x$. 0 is a neutral element for addition.

a_4) $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}, x + (-x) = 0$. Each element x admits a symmetric for the addition noted $-x \in \mathbb{R}$.

* The multiplication is such that (\mathbb{R}^*, \times) is an Abelian group, ($\mathbb{R}^* = \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}$).

$a_5) \forall x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}, (x \times y) \times z = x \times (y \times z)$. Multiplication is associative.
 $a_6) \forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}, x \times y = y \times x$. Multiplication is commutative.
 $a_7) \forall x \in \mathbb{R}, x \times 1 = x$. 1 is a neutral element for multiplication.
 $a_8) \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^*, x \times x^{-1} = 1$. Each element x admits the reverse for multiplication, noted $x^{-1} \in \mathbb{R}$, x^{-1} is also noted $\frac{1}{x}$.

* Multiplication is distributive with respect to addition:

$a_9) \forall x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}, x \times (y + z) = (x \times y) + (x \times z)$.

2 – (\mathbb{R}, \leq) is completely ordered.

$a_{10}) \forall x \in \mathbb{R}, x \leq x$. The comparison relationship is reflexive.

$a_{11}) \forall x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}$, if $(x \leq y$ and $y \leq z)$ then $x \leq z$. The comparison relationship is transitive.

$a_{12}) \forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}$, if $(x \leq y$ and $y \leq x)$ then $x = y$. The comparison relationship is antisymmetric.

$a_{13}) \forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}, x \leq y$ or $y \leq x$. The comparison relation is a total order relation.

For every $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$, we write $x \leq y$ or equivalently $y \geq x$ (y is upper than or equal to x), and the relation $(x \leq y; x \neq y)$ is written $x < y$ (x less than y).

A real number x is said to be positive if $0 < x$, the set of positive real numbers is denoted by \mathbb{R}_+ . x is said to be negative if $x < 0$, the set of negative real numbers is denoted by \mathbb{R}_- . For every $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$, we write $x - y$ instead of $x + (-y)$ and xy instead of $x \times y$.

3–Compatibility of the relation \leq with addition and multiplication.

$a_{14}) \forall x, y, x', y' \in \mathbb{R}$, satisfying $(x \leq y$ and $x' \leq y')$, we have $x + x' \leq y + y'$.

The relation \leq is compatible with addition.

$a_{15}) \forall x, y, x', y' \in \mathbb{R}^*$, checking $(x \leq y$ and $x' \leq y')$, we have $xx' \leq yy'$. The relation \leq is compatible with multiplication.

As a consequence, for every x, y in \mathbb{R} , if $x \leq y$ then $-y \leq -x$ and for every x, y in \mathbb{R}^* , if $x \leq y$ then $y^{-1} \leq x^{-1}$.

1.3. Intervals, absolute value, bounded parts

Definition 2.2. A non-empty part E in \mathbb{R} is an interval if, $\forall x, y \in E$ satisfying $x < y$, there exists $z \in E$ such that $x < z < y$.

If a, b and x_0 are three real numbers such that: $a < x_0 < b$. The unbounded open intervals of \mathbb{R} are: $] -\infty, a[$, $] b, +\infty[$, $\mathbb{R} =] -\infty, +\infty[$, and the open bounded interval of \mathbb{R} is $] a, b[$. The unbounded closed intervals of \mathbb{R} are: $] -\infty, a]$, $] b, +\infty[$, $\mathbb{R} =] -\infty, +\infty[$ and the closed bounded interval of \mathbb{R} is $[a, b]$. Neither open nor closed bounded intervals of \mathbb{R} are $] a, b]$, $[a, b[$. In the case where $a = b$, $[a, a] = \{ a \}$ and $] a, a[= \phi$. The numbers a and b are called the limits of the interval and $b - a$ is its length. The total order relation makes it possible to define the absolute value function in \mathbb{R} .

Definition 2.3. The absolute value in \mathbb{R} , is an application noted $|\cdot|$, defined from \mathbb{R} to \mathbb{R}_+ by: $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}, |x| = \begin{cases} x, & \text{if } 0 \leq x; \\ -x, & \text{if } x < 0. \end{cases}$ As a direct consequence we have: $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}, x \leq |x|$, if $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}_+$ (fixed), then for every $x \in \mathbb{R}, |x| \leq \alpha$ iff $-\alpha \leq x \leq \alpha$, (iff means, if and only if).

Proposition 2.1. The following are true, for every $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$:

- 1) $x \in \mathbb{R}$, $|x| = 0$ iff $x = 0$.
- 2) $|xy| = |x| |y|$.
- 3) $|x + y| \leq |x| + |y|$, (triangular inequality).
- 4) $||x| - |y|| \leq |x - y|$.

Proof.

1) evident.

2) if x and y have the same sign, then $|xy| = xy$. In the case where $x, y \in \mathbb{R}_+$, $|x| = x$ and $|y| = y$, and in the case where $x, y \in \mathbb{R}_-$, $|x| = -x$ and $|y| = -y$, so in both cases $|x| |y| = xy$. If x and y are of different signs, then $|xy| = -xy$. In the case where for example $x \in \mathbb{R}_+$ and $y \in \mathbb{R}_-$, $|x| = x$ and $|y| = -y$, then $|x| |y| = x(-y) = -xy$.

3) Since, from, 2) $\forall z \in \mathbb{R}$, $|z|^2 = z^2$, then for any $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$, we have $|x + y|^2 = (x + y)^2 = |x|^2 + 2xy + |y|^2 \leq |x|^2 + 2|x| |y| + |y|^2 = (|x| + |y|)^2$, so $|x + y| \leq |x| + |y|$.

4) We demonstrate in the same way that: $\forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}$, $||x| - |y|| \leq |x + y|$, and by replacing y by $-y$ in the last inequality, we get the result.

Definition 2.4. Let E be a non-empty part of \mathbb{R} . We say that:

i) E is bounded above, if there is a real number M such that, $\forall x \in E$, $x \leq M$, in this case M is called an upper bound of E .

ii) E is bounded below, if there is a real number m such that, $\forall x \in E$, $m \leq x$, in this case m is called a lower bound of E .

iii) E is bounded, if E is both bounded above and below. Equivalently E is bounded, iff there exists $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}_+$, such that $\forall x \in E$, $|x| \leq \alpha$.

Remark 2.1

a) If M is an upper bound of E , any element greater than M is also an upper bound of E . When E is bounded above, the least upper bound of E is called the supremum of E , and denoted by $\sup E$, or $\max E$ if it belongs to E . The $\sup E$ when it exists, it is unique.

b) If m is a lower bound of E , any element less than m is also a lower bound of E . When E is bounded below, the first lower bound of E is called the infimum of E and denoted by $\inf E$, or $\min E$ if it belongs to E . The $\inf E$ when it exists, it is unique.

a) In the case where a non-empty part E of \mathbb{R} is bounded, $[\inf E, \sup E]$ is the smallest closed interval containing E .

Let us end the axiomatic definition of \mathbb{R} , by the following.

4)–Axiom of the upper bound

a₁₆) Any non empty, bounded above (respectively bounded below) part of \mathbb{R} , has an supremum (respectively an infimum).

Remark 2.2. If $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $x < y + \epsilon$, $\forall \epsilon > 0$, then $x \leq y$. Indeed, suppose that $x > y$ then for $\epsilon = x - y$, we have $x < y + x - y = x$, a contradiction.

Proposition 2.1. Let E be a bounded part of \mathbb{R} , M_0 and m_0 two real numbers, then:

$$1) M_0 = \sup E \text{ iff } \begin{cases} i) \forall x \in \mathbb{R}, x \leq M_0; \\ ii) \forall \epsilon > 0, \text{ there exists } x_\epsilon \in E, \text{ such that } M_0 - \epsilon < x_\epsilon. \end{cases}$$

2) $m_0 = \inf E$ iff $\begin{cases} i) \forall x \in \mathbb{R}, m_0 \leq x; \\ ii) \forall \varepsilon > 0, \text{ there exists } x_\varepsilon \in E, \text{ such that } x_\varepsilon < m_0 + \varepsilon. \end{cases}$

Proof.

1) Since M_0 is the an upper bound of E , then $i) \forall x \in E, x \leq M_0$. To demonstrate $ii)$, suppose that there exists $\varepsilon > 0$, such that $\forall x \in E, x \leq M_0 - \varepsilon$, that is $M_0 - \varepsilon$ is an upper bound of E less than M_0 , contradiction with the definition of $\sup E$. Reciprocally $i)$ implies that M_0 is an upper bound of E . To demonstrate that M_0 is the least upper bound of E , suppose that there exists $M'_0 < M_0$, such that $M'_0 = \sup E$. According to $i)$ and $ii) \forall \varepsilon > 0$, there exists $x_\varepsilon \in E$, such that $M_0 - \varepsilon < x_\varepsilon \leq M'_0 < M_0$, so $M_0 < M'_0 + \varepsilon$, using the remark 2.2, we get $M'_0 = M_0$. Property 2) is demonstrated in the same way.

Example 2.1.

- a) If $E = \{-1, 0, 1\}$ then, $\inf E = \min E = -1$ and $\sup E = \max E = 1$.
- b) If $E = [0, 1]$ then, $\inf E = \min E = 0$ and $\sup E = \max E = 1$.
- c) If $E = [0, 1[$ then, $\inf E = \min E = 0$ and $\sup E = 1$.
- d) If $E =]0, 1]$ then, $\inf E = 0$ and $\sup E = 1$.
- e) If $E =]0, 1[$ then, $\inf E = 0$ and $\sup E = 1$.

Let us demonstrate, for example that in $e)$ $\sup E = 1$. Using property $a)$ in Proposition 2.2, it is clear that $i) \forall x \in E, x < 1$. To demonstrate $ii)$, let $\varepsilon > 0$, if $\varepsilon \leq 1$ then $0 \leq 1 - \varepsilon < 1$, as \mathbb{R} is an interval, there exists $x_\varepsilon \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $1 - \varepsilon < x_\varepsilon < 1$, so $x_\varepsilon \in E$. If, $1 < \varepsilon$, then $1 - \varepsilon < 0 < x, \forall x \in E$.

Example 2.2. Let $E = \{r \in \mathbb{Q}_+, r^2 < 2\}$ be a part of \mathbb{Q} , then $E \neq \phi$ and $\forall r \in E, 0 \leq r < \sqrt{2} < 2$, hence E is bounded in \mathbb{Q} , and $\min E = 0 \in \mathbb{Q}_+$. But $\sup E$ it isn't in \mathbb{Q} , which shows that the axiom a_{16} of the upper bound is not true in \mathbb{Q} . Hence, once again the need to introduce \mathbb{R} .

Let us prof that $\sup E \notin \mathbb{Q}$. Suppose that, there exist $p \in \mathbb{Z}, q \in \mathbb{N}^*$ with $p \wedge q = 1$, such that $\sup E = \frac{p}{q} = r$. In the case when $0 < 2 - r^2$, we have $s = \frac{2 - r^2}{5} \in \mathbb{Q}_+^*$, so $s < 1$ and $(r + s)^2 = r^2 + 2rs + s^2 < r^2 + 5s = 2$, witch implies that $r + s \in E$, therefore $s \leq 0$ contradiction. In the case when $0 < r^2 - 2$, we have $s = \frac{r^2 - 2}{5} \in \mathbb{Q}_+^*$, so $s < 1$ and $(r - s)^2 > r^2 - 2rs > r^2 - 4s = \frac{r^2 + 8}{5} > 2$, it follows that $r - s \in \mathbb{Q}_+^*$ and $r - s$ is an upper bound of E , witch is less than r , a contradiction.

1.4 Archimedes' axiom, density of \mathbb{Q} in \mathbb{R}

In the sequel, S^C denotes the complement of any set $S \subset \mathbb{R}$.

Proposition 2.2 (Archimedes' axiom). For every $x, y \in \mathbb{R}_+^*$ satisfying $x < y$ there exists $n \in \mathbb{N}^*$, such that $y \leq nx$, that is \mathbb{R} an Archimedian.

Proof. Suppose that, there exists x_0 and y_0 in \mathbb{R} , $x_0 < y_0$ and for all $n \in \mathbb{N}^*$, $nx_0 < y_0$. Since a non empty part $E = \{nx_0; n \in \mathbb{N}^*\}$ is bounded above by y_0 . For $M_0 = \sup E$ and $\varepsilon = \frac{M_0}{2} > 0$, there exists $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}^*$ such that, $M_0 - \frac{M_0}{2} < n_0 x_0$, hence $M_0 < (2n_0) x_0$, as $2n_0 \in E$, contradiction.

Remark 2.3.

a) The set \mathbb{N} of natural numbers is unbounded above. That is for every $y \in \mathbb{R}_+^*$, there exists $n \in \mathbb{N}^*$, such that $y \leq n$. It suffices to take $x = 1$ in the proposition 2.2.

b) The set \mathbb{Z} of relative numbers is both unbounded above and below, since $-\mathbb{N}$ is unbounded below.

Definition 2.4 (dense part in \mathbb{R}). A non-empty part in \mathbb{R} , is said to be dense in \mathbb{R} if, for all x, y in \mathbb{R} , $x < y$ there exists $z \in E$, such that $x < z < y$.

Proposition 2.3. \mathbb{Q} is dense in \mathbb{R} .

Proof. Let x, y be in \mathbb{R} with $x < y$. Let us prove that there exists r in \mathbb{Q} such that: $x < r < y$. Since $z = \frac{1}{y-x} > 0$, there exists $n \in \mathbb{N}^*$ such that $z = \frac{1}{y-x} < n$, or $nx + 1 < ny$ (*), likewise for $nx \in \mathbb{R}$, there exists $k \in \mathbb{N}^*$ such that $nx < k$. Let $E = \{k \in \mathbb{N}^*; nx < k\}$ and $F = \{nx \in \mathbb{R}; z < n\}$, E and F are non-empty, and F is bounded above by the elements of E . Let $p = \sup F$, then $p \in E$ and for $\varepsilon = 1$, there exists $n \in \mathbb{N}^*$ such that $p - 1 < nx < p$, witch implies that $nx < p < nx + 1$, using (*) we obtain $nx < p < ny$ or $x < \frac{p}{n} < y$, ($r = \frac{p}{n} \in \mathbb{Q}$).

In the sequel, S^C denotes the complement of any set $S \subset \mathbb{R}$.

Applications:

a) $\sqrt{2}$ is the supremum of $E = \{r \in \mathbb{Q}_+, r^2 < 2\}$, indeed i) $\forall r \in E, r < \sqrt{2}$, ii) For $0 < \epsilon \leq \sqrt{2}$, we have $0 \leq \sqrt{2} - \epsilon < \sqrt{2}$, since \mathbb{Q} is dense in \mathbb{R} , there exists $r_\epsilon \in \mathbb{Q}$ such that, $0 \leq \sqrt{2} - \epsilon < r_\epsilon < \sqrt{2}$ ($r_\epsilon \in E$). If, $\sqrt{2} < \epsilon$, then $\sqrt{2} - \epsilon < 0 \leq r, \forall r \in E$.

b) The set \mathbb{Q}^C , of the irrational numbers is dense in \mathbb{R} . Note that, for every $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{Q}$ ($\beta \neq 0$), $\alpha + \beta\sqrt{2} \in \mathbb{Q}^C$. Then if, $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ $x < y$, there exists $r \in \mathbb{Q}$ such that $x < r < y$. Since $\frac{\sqrt{2}}{y-r} \in \mathbb{R}_+^*$, there exists $n \in \mathbb{N}^*$, such that $\frac{\sqrt{2}}{y-r} \leq n$, then $x < r + \frac{1}{n}\sqrt{2} < y$ ($r + \frac{1}{n}\sqrt{2} \in \mathbb{Q}^C$).

Exercise series n°1

Exercise 1. Prof that

a) If $r \in \mathbb{Q}$ and $x \notin \mathbb{Q}$, then $r + x \notin \mathbb{Q}$ and if $r \neq 0$, then $rx \notin \mathbb{Q}$.

b) If x and y are irrational, then xy is not always an irrational.

c) $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}_+^*, -x < 0$ and $0 < \frac{1}{x}$.

d) $\forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}_+$, such that $x \leq y$, then: $-y \leq -x$ and if $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^*$, then $\frac{1}{y} \leq \frac{1}{x}$.

Exercise 2.

a) Prof that $\forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}$;

1) $|x| = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = 0$;

2) $|x| \leq \alpha \Leftrightarrow -\alpha \leq x \leq \alpha$ where $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}_+$.

3) Suppose that x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n are real numbers. Prove that $|x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n| \leq |x_1| + |x_2| + \dots + |x_n|$

4) $|x + y| \leq |x + y| + |x - y|$.

5) $\max(|x|, |y|) \leq \sqrt{x^2 + y^2} \leq \sqrt{2} \max(|x|, |y|)$

6) $\frac{|x + y|}{1 + |x + y|} \leq \frac{|x|}{1 + |x| + |y|} + \frac{|y|}{1 + |x| + |y|}$.

7) Prove that, $|x - y| < \epsilon$ for every $\epsilon > 0$ iff $x = y$.

b) Solve in \mathbb{R} ; $|x - 2| \leq 1$ and $|x^2 - 1| \leq 2$.

Exercise 3. Let E be a non-empty part of \mathbb{R} and $m \in \mathbb{R}$.

1) If E is bounded, then $\inf E$ and $\sup E$ are unique.

2) Prof that, E is bounded iff there exists $k \in \mathbb{R}_+$ such that, $\forall x \in E; |x| \leq k$.

3) Suppose that E is bounded below. Prof that:

4) $m = \inf E \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} i) \forall x \in E; m \leq x; \\ ii) \forall \epsilon > 0; \exists x_\epsilon \in E \text{ such that, } x_\epsilon < m + \epsilon. \end{cases}$

5) $-E = \{-x; x \in E\}$ is bounded above and $\sup(-E) = -\inf E$.

6) Prof that if F is a non-empty part of \mathbb{R} included in a bounded part E of \mathbb{R} , then F is bounded; and: $\inf E \leq \inf F; \sup F \leq \sup E$.

7) Noting that $\forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}_+; x + y \geq 2\sqrt{xy}$. Prof that if $E = \left\{x + \frac{1}{x}; x \in \mathbb{R}_+^*\right\}$;

then E is bounded below and $\min E = 2$.

Exercise 4. Let E, F be two non-empty and bounded parts in \mathbb{R} . We define the sum and the product of E and F , by: $E + F = \{x + y; x \in E, y \in F\}$ and $EF = \{xy; x \in E, y \in F\}$. Prof that:

1) $E + F$ is bounded; $\inf(E + F) = \inf E + \inf F$ and $\sup(E + F) = \sup E + \sup F$.

2) In the case where E and F are positive terms, EF is bounded, $\inf(EF) = \inf E \inf F$ and $\sup(EF) = \sup E \sup F$.

3) Calculate the min. and max of $E + F$ and EF in the following two cases:

i) $E = \{-1, 0\}$ and $F = \{-2, -1\}$.

ii) $E = \{-1, 0\}$ and $F = \{0, 1\}$.

What can we deduce?

4) Let $E = \left\{1 - \frac{1}{n}; n \in \mathbb{N}^*\right\}$. Determine $\min E$ and $\sup E$, justify.

Exercise 5. Let E, F be two non-empty and bounded parts in \mathbb{R} .

1) Prof that: $E \cup F$ is bounded and that: $\sup(E \cup F) = \max(\sup E, \sup F)$ and $\inf(E \cup F) = \min(\inf E, \inf F)$.

2) Suppose that $E \cap F$ is non-empty. Prof that: $E \cap F$ is bounded, $\sup(E \cap F) \leq \min(\sup E, \sup F)$ and $\max(\inf E, \inf F) \leq \inf(E \cap F)$.

Exercise 6. The integer part of $x \in \mathbb{R}$, is the largest element of \mathbb{Z} , noted $[x]$ such that: $[x] \leq x$. Prof that: $\forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}$

1) $[x]$ exists and it is unique.

2) $[x] \leq x < [x] + 1$ and $x - [x] \in [0, 1[$.

3) $\forall z \in \mathbb{Z}, [z] = z$ and $[z + x] = z + [x]$.

4) $[x] + [y] \leq [x + y] < [x] + [y] + 1$, if $x \leq y$ then $[x] \leq [y]$.

5) $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}, n[x] \leq [nx]$.

Exercise 7. Let $E = \{r \in \mathbb{Q}_-; r^2 < 2\}$..

- 1) Prof that E is bounded and determine $\inf E$ and $\max E$.
- 2) Prof that $E = \{r^3; r \in \mathbb{Q}\}$ is dense in \mathbb{R} .