



**Übungen zur Vorlesung Reelle algebraische Geometrie**  
**Blatt 15**

1. **Definition 0.1** Let  $(G, +, \leq)$  be an ordered abelian group. For any  $x \in G$ ,  $x \neq 0$ , we define

$$C_x := \bigcap \{C \text{ convex subgroup of } G, x \in C\}.$$

This is the smallest convex subgroup of  $G$  which contains  $x$ .  
 We also denote

$$D_x := \bigcup \{C \text{ convex subgroup of } G, x \notin C\}.$$

**Proposition 0.2** (a)  $D_x$  is the biggest convex subgroup of  $G$  which does not contain  $x$ .

(b) The extension from  $D_x$  to  $C_x$  is a **jump** (= **Sprung**), i.e. for any  $D_x \subseteq C \subseteq C_x$  with  $C$  convex, then  $C = D_x$  or  $C = C_x$ . We write  $D_x \prec C_x$ .

(c) Consequently, the ordered abelian group  $B_x := C_x/D_x$  has no proper non trivial convex subgroup.

*Proof.*

(a)  $D_x$  is non empty since it contains  $\{0\}$ . Consider  $a, b \in D_x$ , there exist convex subgroups  $A$  and  $B$  of  $G$  which do not contain  $x$  and such that  $a \in A$  and  $b \in B$ . Since convex subgroups are totally ordered by inclusion (see ÜA Blatt 14), we have either  $A \subseteq B$  or  $B \subseteq A$ . Suppose for instance that  $B \subseteq A$ . Then  $b \in A$ , and so  $a + b \in A \subseteq D_x$ . Thus  $D_x$  is a subgroup of  $G$ . Moreover, since  $x \in C_x$  but  $x \notin D_x$ , we have  $D_x \subsetneq C_x$ . Therefore  $D_x$  is a proper convex subgroup of  $C_x$ . Moreover,  $D_x$  is the biggest convex subgroup which do not contain  $x$  (if not, this would contradict the fact that  $D_x$  is the union of all the convex subgroups which do not contain  $x$ ).

(b) Consider a convex subgroup  $C$  of  $G$  such that  $D_x \subseteq C \subseteq C_x$ . Then there are two cases. Either  $x \in C$ , which implies that  $C_x \subseteq C$  and so  $C_x = C$ . Or  $x \notin C$ , which implies that  $C \subseteq D_x$  and so  $C = D_x$ .

(c) The existence of a proper non trivial subgroup of  $B_x$  would imply the existence of a convex subgroup  $C$  of  $C_x$  such that  $D_x \subsetneq C \subsetneq C_x$ , which is impossible by the preceding question.

2. **Definition 0.3** An ordered abelian group  $(A, +, \leq)$  is said to be **archimedean** if for any  $a_1, a_2 \in A$  with  $a_1 \neq 0$  and  $a_2 \neq 0$ , there exists  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $n|a_1| \geq |a_2|$  and  $n|a_2| \geq |a_1|$  (where  $|a| := \max\{a, -a\}$ ).

**Proposition 0.4** An ordered abelian group  $(A, +, \leq)$  is archimedean if and only if it has no non trivial proper convex subgroup.

*Proof.*

Consider an ordered abelian group  $(A, +, \leq)$  and suppose that it has a proper non trivial convex subgroup  $\{0\} \subsetneq C \subsetneq A$ . Then take  $x \in C$  and  $y \in G \setminus C$ :  $x$  and  $y$  would not be archimedean equivalents. Indeed, if they were equivalents, we would have some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $n|x| \geq |y|$  which would imply that  $y \in C$  by convexity.

Conversely, suppose that  $A$  is non archimedean. This means that there exist  $x$  and  $y$  which are not archimedean equivalents, i.e. such that for instance  $x \ll^+ y$ . Then we claim that the corresponding convex subgroups  $C_x, D_y$  and  $C_y$  are such that  $\{0\} \subsetneq C_x \subseteq D_y \subsetneq C_y$ . Indeed, it suffices to notice that the set  $\{z \in G \mid \exists n \in \mathbb{N}, n|z| \geq |x|\}$  is a convex subgroup of  $G$  which contains  $x$  without containing  $y$ .

3. **Definition 0.5** • Given an ordered abelian group  $(G, +, \leq)$ , two nonzero elements  $x, y \in G$  are said to be **archimedean equivalent**, denoted by  $x \sim^+ y$ , if there exists  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $n|x| \geq |y|$  and  $n|y| \geq |x|$ .  
 • Otherwise, given two nonzero elements  $x, y \in G$ , if we have  $n|x| < |y|$  for any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , then we denote  $x \ll^+ y$ .

**Proposition 0.6** The relation  $\sim^+$  is compatible with the relation  $\ll^+$  in the following sense: for any nonzero  $x, y, z \in G$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{if } x \ll^+ y \text{ and } z \sim^+ x, \text{ then } z \ll^+ y; \\ \text{if } x \ll^+ y \text{ and } z \sim^+ y, \text{ then } x \ll^+ z. \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.*

Consider  $x, y, z \in G$  such that  $x \ll^+ y$  and  $z \sim^+ x$ . This means that for all  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $m|x| < |y|$ , and that there exists  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $n|x| \geq |z|$ . So for any  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $k|z| \leq kn|x| < |y|$ . Thus  $z \ll^+ y$ .

Consider now  $x, y, z \in G$  such that  $x \ll^+ y$  and  $z \sim^+ y$ . This means that for all  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $m|x| < |y|$ , and that there exists  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $n|z| \geq |y|$ . So for any  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $kn|x| < |y| \leq n|z|$ , which implies that  $k|x| < |z|$ . Thus  $x \ll^+ z$ .

4. Given an ordered abelian group  $(G, +, \leq)$ , we consider the set  $\Gamma := G \setminus \{0\} / \sim^+$  of its archimedean equivalence classes. We define a relation on  $\Gamma$  by, for any nonzero  $x, y \in G$ ,

$$[y] <_{\Gamma} [x] \Leftrightarrow x <<^+ y.$$

**Proposition 0.7** (a) *The relation  $\leq_{\Gamma}$  is a total ordering on  $\Gamma$ .*

*The ordered set  $(\Gamma := G \setminus \{0\} / \sim^+, \leq_{\Gamma})$  is called the **rank** of  $G$ , denoted by  $\text{Rank}(G)$ .*

(b) *For any nonzero  $x \in G$ , denote its archimedean equivalence class  $[x] := v(x)$ , and denote  $[0] := \infty$ . The map*

$$\begin{aligned} v : G &\rightarrow \Gamma \cup \{\infty\} \\ x &\mapsto v(x) \end{aligned}$$

*is a valuation, which is called the **natural valuation** of  $G$ .*

**Definition 0.8** *Let  $(\Gamma, \leq)$  be an ordered set and  $\{B_{\gamma}, \gamma \in \Gamma\}$  be a family of archimedean abelian groups (consequently  $B_{\gamma} \hookrightarrow (\mathbb{R}, +, \leq)$  by Hölder's theorem).*

*The **ordered Hahn sum** is defined to be the Hahn sum  $G = \prod_{\gamma \in \Gamma} B_{\gamma}$  (i.e. the direct sum from the  $B_{\gamma}$ 's) endowed with the lexicographic ordering. Similarly, we define the **ordered Hahn product**  $\vec{H}_{\gamma \in \Gamma} B_{\gamma}$ .*

(c) *Given  $x \in G$ ,  $x \neq 0$ , we put  $v(x) := \gamma \in \Gamma$ . Then we have*

$$\begin{aligned} G^{\gamma} &:= \{a \in G \mid v(a) \geq \gamma\} = C_x; \\ G_{\gamma} &:= \{a \in G \mid v(a) > \gamma\} = D_x. \end{aligned}$$

*and consequently*

$$G^{\gamma} / G_{\gamma} =: B(\gamma) = B_x := C_x / D_x$$

*which is an archimedean group.*

(Hint: prove that for any nonzero  $x, y \in G$ , we have  $x \sim^+ y \Leftrightarrow C_x = C_y$  and  $D_x = D_y$ .)

*Proof.*

(a) We consider two nonzero elements  $x, y \in G$  such that  $x <<^+ y$ . Then applying the preceding proposition, for any  $a \in [x]$  and  $b \in [y]$ , we obtain that  $a <<^+ y$  and  $x <<^+ b$ , which implies that  $a <<^+ b$ . Thus  $\leq_{\Gamma}$  is well-defined. Moreover, for any nonzero elements  $x, y \in G$ , we have a trichotomy: either  $x <<^+ y$ , or  $x \sim^+ y$ , or  $y <<^+ x$ , which are pairwise exclusive. This means that the relation  $\leq_{\Gamma}$  is total on  $\Gamma$ .

Furthermore, the relation  $\leq_{\Gamma}$  is clearly reflexive. Consider now  $[x], [y] \in \Gamma$  such that  $[x] \leq_{\Gamma} [y]$  and  $[y] \leq_{\Gamma} [x]$ . This means that we have  $(x <<^+ y$  or  $x \sim^+ y)$  and  $(y <<^+ x$  or  $x \sim^+ y)$ . By exclusivity of the 3 cases, it implies that  $x \sim^+ y \Leftrightarrow [x] = [y]$ : the relation  $\leq_{\Gamma}$  is anti-symmetric. Now the transitivity of  $\leq_{\Gamma}$  follows directly from the transitivity of  $<<^+$  and  $\sim^+$ , and from their compatibility (see the preceding proposition).

Thus  $\leq_\Gamma$  is a total ordering on  $\Gamma$ .

(b) Firstly, it is clear by definition of  $v$  that  $v(x) := [x] \neq \infty \Leftrightarrow x \neq 0$ .

Secondly, consider  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $x \in G$ . We have  $v(nx) = [nx] = [x] = v(x)$  (indeed, by definition of the archimedean equivalence relation, we have  $x \sim^+ nx$  for any  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ ).

Thirdly, consider  $x, y \in G$ . We have  $v(y - x) = [y - x]$ . Suppose that  $x \ll^+ y \Leftrightarrow v(y) < v(x)$ . Without loss of generality, suppose that  $y > 0$  and  $x > 0$ . So we have  $y - x < y$ , but  $2(y - x) > y$  since  $y - 2x > 0$ . This means that  $y - x \sim^+ y$ , and so  $v(y - x) = v(y) = \min\{v(x), v(y)\}$ . Suppose now that  $x \sim y \Leftrightarrow v(x) = v(y)$ . If  $x = y$ , we trivially have  $v(y - x) = \infty > \min\{v(x), v(y)\}$ . If not, we may assume without loss of generality that  $x < y < nx$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then  $0 < y - x < (n - 1)x$ , which implies that  $y - x \ll^+ x$  or  $y - x \sim^+ x$ . Equivalently, we have  $v(y - x) \leq_\Gamma v(x) = \min\{v(y), v(x)\}$ .

So  $v$  is a valuation on  $G$ .

(c) Fix  $x \in G$ ,  $x \neq 0$ . First, we notice that the set  $\{y \in G \mid \exists n \in \mathbb{N}, n|x| \geq |y|\}$  is a convex subgroup of  $G$  which contains  $x$ . This implies that for any nonzero  $y \in G$ , if there exists  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $|y| \leq n|x|$ , then  $y \in C_x$ . Similarly, the set  $\{y \in G \mid \forall n \in \mathbb{N}, n|y| < |x|\}$  is a convex subgroup of  $G$ , which does not contain  $x$ . This implies that for any nonzero  $y \in G$ , if for any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , we have  $n|y| < |x|$ , then  $y \in D_x$ . By interchanging the role of  $x$  and  $y$ , we obtain that  $x \sim^+ y \Leftrightarrow C_x = C_y$  and  $D_x = D_y$ .

Moreover, for any  $y \in G$ , we have  $v(y) \geq v(x)$  if and only if  $y \ll^+ x$  or  $y \sim^+ x$ . This means that there exists  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $0 \leq |y| < n|x|$ . Thus  $y \in C_x$ , and so  $G^\gamma \subseteq C_x$ . To obtain the converse, it suffices to note that in fact the set  $G^\gamma = \{y \in G \mid \exists n \in \mathbb{N}, n|x| \geq |y|\}$ , which is a convex subgroup of  $G$ , which contains  $x$ . So it must contain  $C_x$ . Therefore,  $G^\gamma = C_x$ .

Similarly, we have  $v(y) > v(x)$  if and only if  $y \ll^+ x$ . This means that for any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , we have  $0 \leq n|y| < |x|$ . Thus  $y \in D_x$ , and so  $D_x \subseteq G_\gamma$ . But, we have  $G_\gamma = \{y \in G \mid \forall n \in \mathbb{N}, n|y| < |x|\}$  is a convex subgroup of  $G$ , which does not contain  $x$ . Therefore, we have  $G_\gamma \subseteq D_x$ , and so  $G_\gamma = D_x$ .

Now applying Proposition 0.2 and 0.4, we obtain that

$$G^\gamma/G_\gamma =: B(\gamma) = B_x := C_x/D_x$$

is an archimedean group.