

# Non-Archimedean Fields. Topological Properties of $\mathbf{Z}_p, \mathbf{Q}_p$ ( $p$ -adics Numbers)

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## Abstract

*The present work tries to offer a new approach to some non-Archimedean norms and to some unusual properties determined by these. Then, as an example,  $p$ -adic numbers  $\mathbf{Q}_p$  and some topological properties will be illustrated. The present article will present as an example some abstract notions with  $p$ -adic numbers extended to  $\mathbf{Q}_p$  during the translation from non-Archimedean norms to the  $\mathbf{Q}_p$  norm.*

**Key words:**  $p$ -adics, non-archimedean, topological properties

## Non-Archimedean Absolute Value and Non-Archimedean's Properties Fields

**Definition 1.** A function  $|\cdot| : \mathbf{E} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^+$  on a field  $\mathbf{E}$  satisfying:

- (1)  $|x| = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = 0$
- (2)  $|xy| = |x||y|$
- (3)  $|x + y| \leq |x| + |y|$  (the Triangle Inequality)

is called a norm or an absolute value.

**Definition 2.** Let  $\mathbf{E}$  be a fields with an absolute value  $|\cdot|$ .

Let  $a \in \mathbf{E}$ ,  $r \in \mathbf{R}^+$ . The open ball of radius  $r$  centered at  $a$  is  $B_r(a) = \{x \in \mathbf{E} : |x - a| < r\}$ .

A closed ball of radius  $r$  centered at  $a$  is  $B_r(a) = \{x \in \mathbf{E} : |x - a| \leq r\}$ .

A clopen ball of radius  $r$  centered at  $a$  is an open and in the same time an closed, ball.

**Definition 3.** An absolute value is called non-archimedean if it satisfies a stronger version of the Triangle Inequality:

$$|x + y| \leq \max\{|x|, |y|\} \quad \forall x, y \in \mathbf{E}$$

and archimedean otherwise; and a field  $\mathbf{E}$  with an non-archimedean absolute value is called a non-archimedean field.

**Proposition 1.** An absolute value  $|\cdot|$  on  $\mathbf{Q}$  is non-archimedean if and only if  $|x| \leq 1 \quad \forall x \in \mathbf{N}$ .

**Proof.** First suppose  $|\cdot|$  is non-archimedian.

Then for induction  $n \in \mathbf{N}$ , let be  $P(n) : |n| \leq 1$ .

For  $n = 1$  we have  $|1| = 1 \leq 1$ ;  $P(1)$  is true.

Considering now  $|n| \leq 1$  for  $n = k$ . Then  $|k + 1| \leq \max\{|k|, 1\} = 1 \leq 1$  and  $P(k) \Rightarrow P(k + 1)$ .

Trough induction,  $|n| \leq 1, \forall n \in \mathbf{N}$ .

Now we suppose  $|n| \leq 1, \forall n \in \mathbf{N}$  and we want to show  $|a + b| \leq \max\{|a|, |b|\}, \forall a, b \in \mathbf{Q}$ .

If  $b = 0$  we have  $|a + b| = |a + 0| = |a| = \max\{|a|, |0|\} \leq \max\{|a|, |b|\}$ .

So if we assume that  $b \neq 0$  then

$$|a + b| \leq \max\{|a|, |b|\} / \frac{1}{|b|} \Leftrightarrow \left| \frac{a+b}{b} \right| \leq \max\left\{ \left| \frac{a}{b} \right|, 1 \right\} \Leftrightarrow \left| \frac{a}{b} + 1 \right| \leq \max\left\{ \left| \frac{a}{b} \right|, 1 \right\}$$

and then it is enough to show that  $|x + 1| \leq \max\{|x|, 1\}, \forall x \in \mathbf{Q}$ .

For that, let be:

$$|x + 1|^n = \left| \sum_{k=0}^n C_n^k x^k \right| \leq \sum_{k=0}^n C_n^k |x|^k \leq \sum_{k=0}^n |x|^k.$$

If  $|x| \leq 1$  then  $|x|^k \leq 1$  for  $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$ .

If  $|x| > 1$  then  $|x|^k \leq |x|^n$  for  $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$ .

And in both cases,  $\sum_{k=0}^n |x|^k \leq (n + 1) \cdot \max\{1, |x|^n\}$ .

Then  $|x + 1|^n \leq \sum_{k=0}^n |x|^k \leq (n + 1) \cdot \max\{1, |x|^n\}$  and  $|x + 1| \leq \sqrt[n]{(n + 1)} \max\{1, |x|\}$

and because  $\sqrt[n]{n + 1} \rightarrow 1$  when  $n \rightarrow \infty$  we have for the last relations:

$$|x + 1| \leq \max\{|x|, 1\},$$

what we want to show.

Also another result which is known is that: an absolute value  $|\cdot|$  on  $\mathbf{Q}$  is archimedian if  $\forall x, y \in \mathbf{Q}, (\exists) n \in \mathbf{N}$  such  $|nx| > |y|$ .

**Lemma.** In a non-archimedian field  $\mathbf{E}$  if  $x, y \in \mathbf{E}, |x| < |y|$ , then  $|y| = |x + y|$ .

**Proof.**

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{Assume } |x| < |y| \\ |x + y| \leq \max\{|x|, |y|\} \text{ by the initial properties} \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow |x + y| \leq |y|. \quad (1)$$

Also,  $y = (x + y) - x$  we have  $|y| \leq \max\{|x + y|, |x|\} = \max\{|x + y|, |x|\}$  and because  $|x| < |y|$  for the last relations  $\Rightarrow$

$$|y| \leq |x + y|. \quad (2)$$

Now for (1) and (2) we have  $|y| = |x + y|$ .

**Proposition 2.** In a non-archimedean field  $\mathbf{E}$  every “triangle” is isosceles.

**Proof.** Let  $x, y, z$  be the “verticus” of the triangle an  $|x - y|, |y - z|, |x - z|$ .

If  $|x - y| = |y - z|$  we are done.

If  $|x - y| \neq |y - z|$  then we assume  $|y - z| < |x - y|$ .

But by Lemma, because  $|y - z| < |x - y|$ , we have  $|x - y| = |(x - y) + (y - z)| = |x - z| \Rightarrow |x - y| = |x - z|$  and the triangle is isosceles.

**Proposition 3.** In a non-archimedean field.  $\mathbf{E}$ , every point in an open ball is a center and  $b \in B_r(a) \Rightarrow B_r(a) = B_r(b)$ .

**Proof.** Let  $b \in B_r(a)$ , so  $|b - a| < r$  and  $x$  any element of  $B_r(a)$ .

$$|x - b| = |(x - a) + (a - b)| \leq \max \{|x - a|, |a - b|\} < r.$$

Hence,  $x \in B_r(b)$  since  $|x - b| < r \Rightarrow B_r(a) \subseteq B_r(b)$ .

Same  $B_r(b) \subseteq B_r(a)$  is obviously now.

Therefore,  $B_r(a) = B_r(b)$ .

**Corollary 1.** Let  $\mathbf{E}$  be a non-archimedean field. Then for two any open balls or one is contained in the other, or is either disjoint.

**Proof.** We assume  $p < r$  and the problem is:

$$x \in B_p(a) \text{ and } x \in B_r(a) \Rightarrow B_p(a) \subseteq B_r(b) \text{ or } B_p(b) \subseteq B_r(a).$$

By Proposition 3, we have:

$$x \in B_r(a) \Rightarrow B_r(a) = B_r(x) \text{ and } x \in B_r(b) \Rightarrow B_r(b) = B_r(x).$$

Then  $x \in B_p(a) = B_p(x) \subseteq B_r(x) = B_r(b)$  since  $p < r$ .

So,  $B_p(a) \subseteq B_r(b)$ .

**Corollary 2.** In a non-archimedean field every open ball is clopen, that is a ball which is open and closed.

**Proof.** Let  $B_p(a)$  be an open ball in a non-archimedean field.

Take any  $x$  in the boundary of  $B_p(a) \Leftrightarrow B_r(x) \cap B_p(a) \neq \emptyset$  for any  $s > 0$ , so in particular, for  $s < r$ .

By Corollary 1, since  $B_r(x)$  and  $B_p(a)$  are not disjoint, one is contained in the other and because  $s < r$  we have  $x \in B_r(x) \subseteq B_p(a) \Rightarrow B_p(a)$  is closed.

So every open ball is closed and every ball is clopen.

## The $p$ -adic Absolute Value and Topological Properties for $\mathbb{Z}_p$ and $\mathbb{Q}_p$ Non-Archimedians Fields

**Definitions.** Let  $p \in \mathbb{N}$  be a prime, then for each  $n \in \mathbb{Z}, n \neq 0$  we have  $n = p^\alpha n'$  with  $p$  not divides  $n'$ .

We define  $f_p(n) = \begin{cases} \infty & \text{for } n = 0 \\ \alpha & \text{when } n \neq 0 \end{cases}$  and  $|n|_p = p^{-f_p(n)}$  is a non-archimedean absolute value on

$\mathbb{Z}$ , called the  $p$ -adic absolute value.

For  $\frac{a}{b} \in \mathbf{Q}$ ,  $f_p\left(\frac{a}{b}\right) = f_p(a) - f_p(b)$  we define a non-archimedian  $p$ -adic absolute value in  $\mathbf{Q}$  with the relation:

$$|x|_p = p^{-f_p(x)}, (\forall) x \in \mathbf{Q}$$

and

$$|x - y|_p = p^{-f_p(x-y)} (\forall) x, y \in \mathbf{Q}.$$

Then we have:

$$\mathbf{N}_p = \left\{ \alpha / \alpha = \sum_{i=0}^n a_i \cdot p^i, a_i, n \in \mathbf{N}; 0 \leq a_i \leq p-1 \right\}$$

are the  $p$ -adic numbers from  $\mathbf{N}$ ,

$$\mathbf{Z}_p = \left\{ \alpha / \alpha = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} a_i \cdot p^i, a_i \in \mathbf{N}; 0 \leq a_i \leq p-1 \right\}$$

are the  $p$ -adic numbers from  $\mathbf{Z}$  and we can define these numbers as the inverses of naturals numbers written in  $p$ -base system and the naturals numbers.

$$\mathbf{Q}_p = \left\{ \alpha / \alpha = \sum_{i=k}^{\infty} a_i \cdot p^i, k \in \mathbf{Z}, a_i \in \mathbf{N}; 0 \leq a_i \leq p-1 \right\}$$

are the  $p$ -adic numbers from  $\mathbf{Q}$ .

**Proposition 4.** If  $\mathbf{E}'$  it's the completion of a field  $\mathbf{E}$  with respect to an absolute value  $|\cdot|$  then  $\mathbf{E}'$  it's a field where we can to extend the absolute value  $|\cdot|$

**Proof.** See [3] of references.

**Proposition 5.**  $\mathbf{Q}_p$  is the completion of  $\mathbf{Q}$  with respect to  $|\cdot|_p$ .

**Proof.** See [3] of references.

**Proposition 6.**  $\mathbf{Z}_p, \mathbf{Q}_p$  are completes.

**Proof.** See [3] of references.

$$\mathbf{Z}_p = \{x \in \mathbf{Q}_p / |x|_p \leq 1\}.$$

**Proof.** See [5] of references.

**Proposition 7.**  $\mathbf{Z}_p$  is compact and  $\mathbf{Q}_p$  is locally compact, by which we mean every  $x \in \mathbf{Q}_p$  have a neighborhood which is compact.

**Proof.**

(1) We know that  $\mathbf{Z}_p$  is complete, we want to show that  $\mathbf{Z}_p$  is totally bounded.

Take any  $\varepsilon > 0$  and  $n \in \mathbf{N}$  such that  $p^{-n} \leq \varepsilon$ .

Then  $a + p^n \cdot \mathbf{Z}_p = B_{p^{-n}}(a) \subseteq B_{\varepsilon}(a)$  because  $|x - a|_p \leq p^{-n} < \varepsilon (\forall) x \in a + p^n \mathbf{Z}_p$ .

For  $a \in \mathbf{Z} / p^n \mathbf{Z}$  the classes representants is included in  $\{0, 1, \dots, p, \dots, p^n - 1\}$ .

We have with definition of  $\mathbf{Z}_p$

$$\mathbb{Z}_p \subset \bigcup_{a \in \mathbb{Z}/p^n\mathbb{Z}} a + p^n\mathbb{Z}_p = \bigcup_{a \in \mathbb{Z}/p^n\mathbb{Z}} B_{p^{-n}}(a) \subseteq \bigcup_{a \in \mathbb{Z}/p^n\mathbb{Z}} B_\varepsilon(a)$$

a finite cover of  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ .

So  $\{B_\varepsilon(a) : a \in \mathbb{Z}/p^n\mathbb{Z}\}$  is a finite set of open balls which cover  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ , so  $\mathbb{Z}_p$  is totally bounded, also is complete and result it is compact.

(2) Let be  $f: \mathbb{Z}_p \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}_p$ ;  $f(y) = x + y$  for  $x \in \mathbb{Q}_p$  known, is continuous.

$\mathbb{Z}_p$  is compact so the image of  $\mathbb{Z}_p$  is  $x + \mathbb{Z}_p$  is also compact.

Now we can observe that  $x + \mathbb{Z}_p$  is a compact neighborhood of  $x \in \mathbb{Q}_p$  because for  $z \in x + \mathbb{Z}_p$ ;  $z - x \in \mathbb{Z}_p$ ;  $|z - x|_p < 1$ , (Proposition 2).

### Remarks

We give, for students, very common definitions, available in spaces with a norm.

### Definitions

Let  $(x_n)$  be a sequence with entries in a field  $\mathbf{E}$  with an absolute value  $|\cdot|$ .

1.  $(x_n)$  is a Cauchy sequence if

$$(\forall) \varepsilon > 0, (\exists) N_\varepsilon \in \mathbb{N}$$

such that  $(\forall) m, n \geq N, |x_m - x_n| < \varepsilon$ .

2. If every Cauchy sequence in  $\mathbf{E}$  converges,  $\mathbf{E}$  is complete with respect to  $|\cdot|$ .

3. We can introduce the equivalence relation:

$$(x_n) \equiv (y_n) \text{ if } (\forall) \varepsilon > 0, (\exists) N_\varepsilon \in \mathbb{N}$$

such that  $(\forall) n \geq N_\varepsilon, |x_n - y_n| < \varepsilon$ .

4. The completion of field  $\mathbf{E}$  with respect to an absolute value  $|\cdot|$  is the set :

$\{(x_n) : (x_n) \text{ is a Cauchy sequences on } \mathbf{E}\}$  of all equivalence classes of Cauchy sequence with the equivalence relation from 4).

5.

5.1. An open cover of a set  $S$  is a family of open sets  $\{S_i\}$  such that  $\cup_i S_i \supseteq S$ .

5.2. A set  $S$  is called compact if every open cover of  $S$  has a finite subcover. If  $\{S_i\}$  is any open cover of  $\cup_{i=1}^n S_i \supseteq S$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

6. A set is called totally bounded if for ever  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exist a finite collection of balls of radius  $\varepsilon$  which cover the set.

### Propositions

1. Compactness is preserved by continuous functions, what it means, if  $f$  is continuous and  $A$  is compact then  $f(A)$  is compact.
2. Any closed subset of a complete space is complete.
3. A set is compact if it is complete and totally bounded.

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## Câmpuri nearhimediene. Proprietăți topologice ale lui $\mathbf{Z}_p$ , $\mathbf{Q}_p$ (numere $p$ -adice)

### Rezumat

*Lucrarea dorește să dea o nouă abordare asupra unor norme nearhimediene și asupra unor ciudate proprietăți induse de acestea, apoi, ca exemplu, sunt prezentate numerele  $p$ -adice  $\mathbf{Q}_p$  și câteva proprietăți topologice. Trecând de la norme nearhimediene la norma în  $\mathbf{Q}_p$  se va da o exemplificare a unor noțiuni abstracte în numerele din baza  $p$  extinse la  $\mathbf{Q}_p$ .*