# DEDEKIND CUTS OF ORDERED ABELIAN GROUPS AND FIELDS

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ABSTRACT. A starting point of the theory.

#### **CONTENTS**



# 1. Invariance groups in ordered abelian groups

<span id="page-0-0"></span>By a cut  $\xi$  of a totally ordered set X we mean a pair  $\xi = (\xi^L, \xi^R)$ , where  $\xi^L \cup \xi^R = X$  and  $\xi^L < \xi^R$ . If S is a subset of X, then the **upper edge** of S, denoted by  $S^+$  is defined as the cut  $\xi$  of X with  $\xi^R = \{x \in X \mid S < x\}$ . Similarly, the lower edge of S is defined and denoted by  $S^-$ . In particular, the upper edge of  $\emptyset$  is  $(\emptyset, X)$  (also denoted by  $-\infty$ ) and the upper edge of X itself is  $(X, \emptyset)$  (also denoted by  $+\infty$ ). The **principal cuts** of X are defined to be  $+\infty$ ,  $-\infty$  and all the cuts  $x^+$ ,  $x^-$  where  $x \in X$ . If  $X \subseteq Y$  are totally ordered, then a cut  $\xi$  of X is realized by  $y \in Y$  if  $\xi^L < y < \xi^R$ ; if there is no such y we say that  $\xi$  is **omitted** in Y. A cut  $\eta$  of Y extends  $\xi$  if  $\xi^L = \eta^L \cap X$  and  $\xi^R = \eta^R \cap X$ .

Let G be an abelian ordered group. If  $\xi$  is a cut of G, then  $-\xi$  denotes the cut  $(-\xi^R, -\xi^L)$ . If  $S \subseteq G$ , then  $-(S^+) = (-S)^-$ . Further, G acts on the set of its cuts via  $g + \xi := (g + \xi^L, g + \xi^R)$ . We write  $g - \xi$  for  $g + (-\xi)$ . The stabilizer of  $\xi$  under the action is called the **invariance group** of  $\xi$  and is denoted by  $G(\xi)$ . Clearly  $G(\xi)$  is a convex subgroup of G. The upper edge of  $G(\xi)$  is denoted by

$$
\hat{\xi} := G(\xi)^+.
$$

If  $G \subseteq H$  is an extension of abelian ordered groups and  $h \in H \setminus G$ , then we write  $G(\alpha/G)$  for the invariance group of the cut of H that is realized by h.

<span id="page-0-1"></span>1.1. **Lemma.** Let  $G$  be an abelian ordered group and let  $U$  be a convex subgroup of G. Then the following are equivalent.

(i)  $U^+$  is realized in the divisible hull  $G \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Q}$ .

<sup>(</sup>ii)  $G/U$  has a smallest positive element.

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- (iii) there is some  $g \in G$  with  $U^+ = g + U^-$ .
- (iv) there is some  $g \in G, g > U$  such that for all  $g_0 \in G$  with  $U < 2g_0$  we have  $2g_0 > g$ . In other words, there is some  $g \in G$  with  $g > U$  such that no  $g_0 \in G$ satisfies  $U < 2g_0 \leq g$ .
- (v) There is some  $g \in G$  with  $g > U$  which is not the sum of two elements  $> U$ .
- (vi) there is some abelian ordered group  $H \supseteq G$ , such that the largest extension of  $U^+$  on H is not the upper edge of a convex subgroup of H.

If this is the case, then for each  $g \in G$  the following are equivalent:

- $U^+ = g + U^-$ .
- $\frac{g}{2}$  realizes  $U^+$ .
- $\frac{\tilde{g}}{n}$  realizes  $U^+$  for all  $n \geq 2$ .
- g mod U is the smallest positive element of  $G/U$ .
- $g > U$  and for all  $g_0 \in G$  with  $U < 2g_0$  we have  $2g_0 > g$ .
- $g > U$  is not the sum of two elements  $> U$ .

Note that it may happen that (i) holds, but the convex hull of U in some  $H \supseteq G$  is not the only convex subgroup of H lying over U. For example if  $\mathbb{Z} = G \subseteq \overline{\mathbb{Q}}((t^{\mathbb{Q}}))$ and  $U = \{0\}$ . Then the infinitesimal elements of  $\mathbb{Q}((t^{\mathbb{Q}}))$  witness this.

*Proof.* Let  $g \in G$ ,  $g > 0$ .

(i)⇒(ii). If  $U^+$  is realized in  $G \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Q}$ , then clearly there is some  $g_0 \in G$ , such that  $g_0/2$  realizes  $U^+$ .

Suppose  $g/2$  realizes  $U^+$  and  $0 < h \mod U < g \mod U$  for some  $h \in G$ . Then  $h > U$  and  $g - h > U$ , thus  $h > g/2$  and  $g - h > g/2$ . But  $g - h > g/2$  implies  $2g - 2h > g$ , thus  $g > 2h$ , a contradiction.

(ii)⇒(iii). If g mod U is the smallest positive element of  $G/U$  and  $h \in G$ ,  $h > U$ , then  $g - u \leq h$  for some  $u \in U$ . In other words  $U^+ = g + U^-$ .

(iii) $\Rightarrow$ (iv). If  $U^+ = g + U^-$  and  $g_0 \in G$  with  $U < 2g_0$ , then  $g_0 > U$  and  $g - u \le g_0$ for some  $u \in U$ . Thus  $2g_0 \ge g + g_0 - u > g$ .

(iv)⇒(v). An element g as in (iv) cannot be the sum of two elements  $g_1, g_2 > U$ because if  $g_1 \leq g_2$  we had  $2g_1 \leq g$ .

(v)⇒(i). If  $g > U$  is not the sum of two elements > U, then  $g/2$  realizes U<sup>+</sup>: Otherwise there is  $h > U$  with  $h \leq g/2$ , thus  $2h \leq g$ . But then  $g = h + (g - h)$  and  $g - h \geq h > U$ , a contradiction.

(i)⇒(vi). Take  $H = G \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Q}$ .

(vi)⇒(i). Take  $h \in H$  realizing  $U^+$  such that  $2h$  is not a realization of  $U^+$ . Hence there is some  $g \in G$  with  $U < g \leq 2h$  and  $U^+$  is realized by  $g/2$ .

Hence we know that (i)-(vi) are equivalent. Moreover, our proof shows the second set of equivalences.

1.2. Corollary. Let  $G$  be an abelian ordered group and let  $U$  be a convex subgroup of G. The convex hull of U in  $G \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Q}$  is the unique convex subgroup of  $G \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Q}$ , lying over U.

*Proof.* This is clear if  $U^+$  is not realized in  $G \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Q}$  and follows from [1.1](#page-0-1) in the other case.  $\Box$ 

<span id="page-2-1"></span>1.3. Definition. Let G be an ordered abelian group and let  $\xi$  be a cut of G. We define the **signature** of  $\xi$  as

$$
\text{sign}\,\xi := \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \xi = g + \hat{\xi} \text{ for some } g \in G \text{ and } \hat{\xi} \text{ is omitted in } G \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Q}. \\ -1 & \text{if } \xi = g - \hat{\xi} \text{ for some } g \in G \text{ and } \hat{\xi} \text{ is omitted in } G \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Q}. \\ 0 & \text{if there is no } g \in G \text{ with } \xi = g + \hat{\xi} \text{ or } \xi = g - \hat{\xi}. \\ \infty & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}
$$

Observe that by [1.1\(](#page-0-1)i) $\Leftrightarrow$ (iii), the first two cases in this definition cannot occur simultaneously. Therefore sign  $\xi$  is a well defined element of  $\{-1, 0, 1, \infty\}$ .

If  $G \subseteq H$  is an extension of abelian ordered groups and  $h \in H \backslash G$ , then we write  $sign(\alpha/G)$  for the signature of the cut of H that is realized by h.

1.4. Remarks.

- (i) If  $\xi$  is a cut of  $G, g \in G$  and U is a convex subgroups of G with  $\xi = g + U^+$ or  $\xi = g - U^+$  (which is equal to  $g + U^-$ ), then obviously  $U = G(\xi)$ .
- (ii) If G is divisible by n for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $n \geq 2$ , then no edge of a subgroup of G is realized in  $G \otimes \mathbb{Q}$ , in particular no cut of G has signature  $\infty$ . This follows immediately from the equivalent conditions characterizing realisations in [1.1.](#page-0-1)

<span id="page-2-0"></span>1.5. Corollary. Let G be an abelian ordered group and let  $\xi$  be a cut of G. If  $sign \xi = 0$ , then  $\hat{\xi}$  is omitted in  $G \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Q}$ .

*Proof.* Let  $U := G(\xi)$  and suppose  $U^+$  is realized in  $G \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Q}$ . By [1.1,](#page-0-1) there is some  $g \in G$ , such that  $g > U$  and g mod U is the least positive element in  $G/U$ . As  $g > G(\xi)$  there is some  $h \in G$  with  $h < \xi < h + g$ . We claim that  $\xi = h + \hat{\xi}$ . Clearly  $h + \hat{\xi} \leq \xi$ . Conversely let  $g_1 \in G$  with  $h + \hat{\xi} < g_1$ . Then  $g_1 - h > \hat{\xi}$ , thus  $(g_1 - h) \mod U > 0$  in  $G/U$ . So  $(g_1 - h) \mod U \ge g \mod U$  and there is some  $u \in U$ with  $g_1 - h \geq g - u$ . It follows  $g_1 \geq h + g + u > \xi + u = \xi$ .

Hence by [1.5,](#page-2-0) the signature of a cut  $\xi$  is  $\infty$  if and only if  $\hat{\xi}$  is realized in  $G \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Q}$ .

In general, there are cuts  $\xi$  of G with sign  $\xi = 0$  which are realized in  $G \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Q}$ . For example if  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $n \geq 2$  and G is the additive group of the localizatin of Z at n. Then for any prime p, which does not divide n, the cut  $\xi$  of G realized by  $\frac{1}{p}$ , has signature 0:  $G$  is dense in  $\mathbb Q$  and divisible by  $n$ .

<span id="page-2-2"></span>1.6. Example. Here is an example, where the signature is  $\infty$ . Let  $\omega > \mathbb{R}$  be an infi-1.0. *Example.* Here is an example, where the signature is  $\infty$ . Let  $\omega > \mathbb{R}$  be an inh-<br>nite element and let  $K := \mathbb{Q}(\omega)$ . Let  $G := (K^{>0}, \cdot, 1, \leq)$  and  $H := (K(\sqrt{\omega})^{>0}, \cdot, 1, \leq)$ The element and let  $K := Q(\omega)$ . Let  $G := (K^{\vee}, \cdot, 1, \leq)$  and  $H := (K(\sqrt{\omega})^{\vee}, \cdot, 1, \leq)$ .<br>
Let U be the convex hull of Q in K and let  $\xi := U^+$ . Then  $U < \sqrt{\omega} < \xi^R$  but Let  $\hat{U}$  be the convex num of Q in  $K$  and let  $\zeta := U$ . Then  $U \leq \sqrt{\omega} \leq \zeta$  but  $\omega = (\sqrt{\omega})^2 \in \xi^R$ . Note that G and H are densely ordered in this example. Related to this example, also see [2.3](#page-6-1) (and [2.4\)](#page-6-2), and [2.5.](#page-7-0)

1.7. **Observation.** Let G be an abelian ordered group and let  $\xi$  be a cut of G. The following are equivalent.

- (i) For all  $\xi < a$  there is some  $\xi < b < a$  with  $2b a < \xi$ .
- (*ii*)  $sign(\xi) \in \{0, 1\}.$
- (iii)  $\xi \neq g \hat{\xi}$  for all  $g \in G$ .

Proof. (ii) and (iii) are equivalent by definition and [1.1.](#page-0-1)

(iii)⇒(i). Let  $U = G(\xi)$  and pick  $\xi < a$ . Since  $\xi \neq a - \hat{\xi}$ , there is some  $c \in G$  with  $\xi < c < a - \hat{\xi}$ . Since  $a - c > U$ , there is some  $b > \xi$  with  $b - (a - c) < \xi$ . By

shrinking b if necessary we may assume that  $b \leq c$ . Then  $\xi < b \leq c < a$  and

$$
2b - a = b - (a - c) + b - c \le b - (a - c) < \xi.
$$

(i)⇒(iii). Assume  $\xi = g - \hat{\xi}$  for some  $g \in G$ . Then  $\xi < g$  and by (i) there is some  $b \in G$  with  $g - \hat{\xi} < b < g$  and  $2b - g < \xi$ . But then  $g - \hat{\xi} < b < g$  implies  $b - g \in U$ and so  $g - \hat{\xi} < b$  implies  $\xi = g - \hat{\xi} < b + (b - g) = 2b - g$ , which is impossible.  $\Box$ 

<span id="page-3-0"></span>1.8. Proposition. Let  $G \subseteq H$  be an extension of abelian ordered groups and let  $\xi$ be a cut of G. Then

- (i) If  $\eta$  is an extension of  $\xi$  on H, then  $G(\eta) \cap G \subseteq G(\xi)$ .
- (ii) If  $\eta$  is the least or the largest extension of  $\xi$  on H then  $\hat{\eta}$  is the least or the largest extension of  $\hat{\xi}$  on H.
- (iii) If  $\xi$  is omitted in H and  $\eta$  is the unique extension of  $\xi$  on H, then  $\hat{\eta}$  is the largest extension of  $\hat{\xi}$  on H. If in addition sign  $\xi = 0$ , then sign  $\eta = 0$ , too.
- (iv) Let sign  $\xi = 0$  and let  $\eta_1, \eta_2$  be the least and the largest extension of  $\xi$  on H. Then  $\hat{\eta}_1 = \hat{\eta}_2$  is the largest extension of  $\xi$ on H and for every realization h of  $\xi$  in H we have  $\eta_1 = h - \hat{\eta}_1$ ,  $\eta_2 = h + \hat{\eta}_2$  and  $\eta_2 = 2h - \eta_1$ .
- (v) Let sign  $\xi = 1$  and let  $\eta_1, \eta_2$  be the least and the largest extension of  $\xi$  on H. Then  $\hat{\eta}_1$  is the least extension of  $\hat{\xi}$  on H and  $\hat{\eta}_2$  is the largest extension of  $\hat{\xi}$ on H.

Moreover, if  $g \in G$  with  $\xi = g + \hat{\xi}$ , then  $\eta_1 = g + \hat{\eta}_1$  is of signature 1 and  $\eta_2 = g + \hat{\eta}_2$  is of signature 1.

- (vi) Let sign  $\xi = -1$  and let  $\eta_1, \eta_2$  be the least and the largest extension of  $\xi$  on H. Then  $\hat{\eta}_1$  is the largest extension of  $\hat{\xi}$  on H and  $\hat{\eta}_2$  is the least extension of  $\hat{\xi}$ on H.
- (vii) Let sign  $\xi = \infty$  and let  $g \in G$  such that g mod  $G(\xi)$  is the least positive element of  $G/G(\xi)$ . Let  $\eta_1, \eta_2$  be the least and the largest extension of  $\xi$  on H. Then  $\hat{\eta}_1 = \hat{\eta}_2$  is the least extension of  $\hat{\xi}$  on H and  $\hat{\eta}_2 = g - \hat{\eta}_1$ .

Further, there is some  $g_0 \in G$  such that  $\xi = g_0 + \hat{\xi} = g_0 + g - \hat{\xi}$  and for each such  $g_0$  we have  $\eta_1 = g_0 + V^+$  and  $\eta_2 = g_0 + g + V^-$ , where V is the convex hull of  $G(\xi)$  in  $H$ .

*Proof.* If  $g \in G$  and  $g + \eta = \eta$ , then  $g + \xi^L \subseteq (g + \eta^L) \cap G \subseteq \eta^L \cap G = \xi^L$ . This proves (i).

Claim. If  $\eta$  is the least or the largest extension of  $\xi$  on H, then  $\hat{\eta}$  extends  $\hat{\xi}$ .

*Proof.* Let  $g \in G(\xi)$  be positive. If  $\eta^L = \text{conv. hull}_H \xi^L$  then  $g + \eta^L = \eta^L$ . If  $\eta^R = \text{conv. hull}_{H} \xi^R$  then  $-g + \eta^R = \eta^R$ . In any case  $g + \eta = \eta$ . This proves the  $\Box$ 

(iii). Take some  $h \in H$  with  $h + \eta > \eta$ . Since  $\xi$  is omitted in H, there is  $g_1 \in G$ with  $g_1 < \xi$  such that  $h + g_1 > \eta$ . Since  $\xi$  is omitted in H there is  $g_2 \in G$  with  $h + g_1 \ge g_2 > \eta$ . Hence  $h \ge g_2 - g_1 > G(\xi)$  and h cannot be a realization of  $\xi$ . Now the claim implies that  $\hat{\eta}$  is the largest extension of  $\hat{\xi}$  on H.

Suppose now that  $\xi$  is omitted in H and sign  $\xi = 0$ . Suppose  $\eta = h + \hat{\eta}$  for some  $h \in H$ . As  $\xi$  is omitted in H, there is some  $g \in G$  with  $h \leq g < \xi$ . Thus  $\eta = g + \hat{\eta}$ and this implies that  $\xi = g + \xi$ , a contradiction.

(iv). By [1.5,](#page-2-0) and [1.1\(](#page-0-1)v), the largest extension of  $\hat{\xi}$  on H is the upper edge of a convex subgroup  $H_0$  of H. By the claim we know that  $\hat{\eta}_i$  extends  $\hat{\xi}$ . Let  $h_0 \in H_0$  be a realization of  $\xi$ . Since sign  $\xi = 0$ , and  $k \cdot h_0 \in H_0$  for all  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $\xi$  is omitted in the subgroup  $G(h_0)$  generated by G and  $h_0$  of H. Let  $\eta$  be the unique extension of  $\xi$  on  $G(h_0)$ . Hence  $\eta_1, \eta_2$  are the least and the largest extension of  $\eta$  on H. By the claim we know that  $h_0 + \eta = \eta$ . By the claim applied to  $\eta$  we get  $h_0 + \eta_i = \eta_i$  $(i = 1, 2)$ . This shows that  $\hat{\eta}_1 = \hat{\eta}_2 = H_0^+$ .

Now let  $h \in H$  be a realization of  $\xi$ . We already know  $h + H_0^+ \leq \eta_2$ . Suppose there is some  $h_1 \in H$  with  $h + H_0 < h_1 < \eta_2$ . Then  $h_1 - h$  is not a realization of ξ. Take *g* ∈ *G* with  $h_1 - h \ge g > \xi$ . Then  $h + g \le h_1$ , but  $h + g$  does not realize  $\xi$ , a contradiction.

(v) and (vi) are immediate consequences of [1.1.](#page-0-1)

(vii). We write  $U = G(\xi)$ . Using [1.5,](#page-2-0) we know that  $\xi = g_1 + U^+$  or  $\xi = g_1 + U^-$  for some  $g_1 \in G$ . By [1.1](#page-0-1) we know that  $U^+ = g + U^-$ . Hence if  $\xi = g_1 + U^+$ , then we may choose  $g_0 = g_1$  and get  $\xi = g_0 + U^+$ . If  $\xi = g_1 + U^-$ , then  $\xi = g_1 + (-g + U^+)$ and we may choose  $g_0 = g_1 - g$ , thus  $\xi = g_0 + U^+$ .

Hence there i some  $g_0$  as claimed and for the rest of the proof of (vii) we may thus assume that  $g_0 = 0$ , hence  $\xi = U^+ = g + U^-$  with  $U = G(\xi)$ . It is then clear that  $\eta_1$  is the upper edge of the convex hull V of U in H. and that  $\eta_2 = g + V^-$ . Thus (vii) follows.

(ii) follows by the descriptions of the invariance groups of the least and the largest extension of  $\xi$  on H in (iv)-(vii).

1.9. Definition. Let  $G \subseteq H$  be totally ordered abelian groups and let  $\xi$  be a cut of G. We define

$$
R_H(\xi) = \{ h \in H \mid h \text{ realizes } \xi \}.
$$

Hence  $R_H(\xi) \subseteq H \setminus G$  is the set of realizations of  $\xi$  in H. Further we define

$$
G_H(\xi) = R_H(\xi) - R_H(\xi) = \{h_1 - h_2 \mid h_1, h_2 \in R_H(\xi)\}.
$$

1.10. Corollary. Suppose  $R_H(\xi) \neq \emptyset$ .

- (i) If sign( $\xi$ )  $\neq \infty$ , then  $G_H(\xi)$  is the largest convex subgroup of H lying over  $G(\xi)$ .
- (ii) If  $sign(\xi) = \infty$ , then there is some  $g \in G$  such that  $\hat{\xi} = g \hat{\xi}$  and for each such g we have

$$
G_H(\xi) = \{ h \in H \mid |h| < g + G(\xi) \}.
$$

Notice that if H contains a realization of  $\hat{\xi}$  from the divisible hull of G, then  $G_H(\xi)$  is **not** a convex subgroup of H.

*Proof.* (i). Let W be the largest convex subgroup of H lying over  $G(\xi)$ .

If sign  $\xi = 0$  and  $h \in R_H(\xi)$ , then  $R_H(\xi) = h + W$  by [1.8\(](#page-3-0)iv) and so  $G_H(\xi) =$  $R_H(\xi) - R_H(\xi) = W.$ 

If sign  $\xi = 1$  and  $h \in R_H(\xi)$ , then by [1.8\(](#page-3-0)v) we have  $R_H(\xi) \cap [h, +\infty)_H = h + W^{\geq 0}$ . Hence

$$
G_H(\xi) = \bigcup_{h \in \xi} R_H(\xi) \cap [h, +\infty)_H - R_H(\xi) \cap [h, +\infty)_H = W.
$$

If sign  $\xi = -1$ , apply the previous case and  $G_H(\xi) = G_H(-\xi)$ .

(ii). If  $sign(\xi) = \infty$ , then let V be the convex hull of  $G(\xi)$  in H and take g, g<sub>0</sub> as in [1.8\(](#page-3-0)vii). By 1.8(vii) we then have  $R_H(\xi) = g_0 + \{h \in H \mid V < h < g + V\}$ . It is then straightforward to see that

$$
G_H(\xi) = R_H(\xi) - R_H(\xi) = \{ h \in H \mid |h| < g + V \}.
$$

1.11. **Definition.** Let  $f : X \longrightarrow Y$  be a monotone map between totally ordered sets let  $\eta$  be a cut of Y. Then clearly  $(f^{-1}(\eta^L), f^{-1}(\eta^R))$  is a cut of X, which we denote by  $f^{-1}(\eta)$ . Hence by definition  $f^{-1}(\eta)^L = f^{-1}(\eta^L)$  and  $f^{-1}(\eta)^R = f^{-1}(\eta^R)$ .

<span id="page-5-0"></span>1.12. Lemma. Let  $f: G \longrightarrow H$  be a homomorphism between totally ordered abelian groups.

(i) If  $S_1, S_2 \subseteq G$ , then  $f(S_1 + S_2) = f(S_1) + f(S_2)$ .

(ii) If  $T_1 \subseteq f(G)$  and  $T_2 \subseteq H$ , then  $f^{-1}(T_1 + T_2) = f^{-1}(T_1) + f^{-1}(T_2)$ .

Notice that the sets  $S_i$  and  $T_i$  considered here may also be empty, because the complex operation induced by addition of G on the powerset of G is defined as  $S_1 + S_2 = \{g \in G \mid \exists s_1 \in S_1, s_2 \in S_2 : g = s_1 + s_2\}.$  In particular  $\emptyset + S = S + \emptyset = \emptyset$ .

*Proof.* (i) is clear. To see (ii), take  $g \in G$ . If  $g_i \in f^{-1}(T_i)$  with  $g = g_1 + g_2$ , then  $f(g) = f(g_1) + f(g_2) \in T_1 + T_2$ , thus  $g \in f^{-1}(T_1 + T_2)$ . Conversely, if  $g \in f^{-1}(T_1 + T_2)$ , then there are  $t_1 \in T_1, t_2 \in T_2$  with  $f(g) = t_1 + t_2$ . As  $T_1 \subseteq f(G)$ , there is some  $g_1 \in G$  with  $f(g_1) = t_1$ . Then  $g = g_1 + g_2$  with  $g_2 = g - g_1$  and  $f(g_2) = f(g) - f(g_1) = t_1 + t_2 - t_1 = t_2$ , confirming  $g \in f^{-1}(T_1) + f^{-1}(T_2)$ .  $\Box$ 

<span id="page-5-1"></span>1.13. Proposition. Let  $G$  be a totally ordered abelian group and let  $U$  be a convex subgroup of G.

(i) If  $\eta$  is a cut of  $G/U$ , then  $G(\pi^{-1}(\eta)) = \pi^{-1}(G(\eta))$  and  $sign(\pi^{-1}(\eta)) = sign(\eta)$ .

(ii) If  $\xi$  is a cut of G, then  $\xi = \pi^{-1}(\eta)$  for some cut  $\eta$  of G/U if and only if  $U \subseteq G(\xi)$ .

*Proof.* (i) To verify  $G(\pi^{-1}(\eta)) = \pi^{-1}(G(\eta))$  it suffices to check that for  $g \in G$  we have

$$
g + \pi^{-1}(\eta^L) = \pi^{-1}(\eta^L) \iff \pi(g) + \eta^L = \eta^L.
$$

Since  $\pi$  is surjective we know that  $\eta^L = \pi(\pi^{-1}(\eta^L)).$  $\Rightarrow \pi(g) + \eta^L = \pi(g) + \pi(\pi^{-1}(\eta^L))$ <sup>1.[12\(](#page-5-0)i)</sup>  $\pi(g + \pi^{-1}(\eta^L)) = \pi(\pi^{-1}(\eta^L)) = \eta^L$ .  $\Leftarrow$ . π<sup>-1</sup>(η<sup>L</sup>) = π<sup>-1</sup>(π(g) + η<sup>L</sup>)<sup>1.[12\(](#page-5-0)*ii*)</sup> π<sup>-1</sup>(π(g)) + π<sup>-1</sup>(η<sup>L</sup>) = g + U + π<sup>-1</sup>(η<sup>L</sup>) =  $g + \pi^{-1}(\eta^L).$ 

Now we show  $sign(\pi^{-1}(\eta)) = sign(\eta)$ . Firstly  $sign(\eta) = \infty \iff \hat{\eta}$  is realized in  $(G/U) \otimes \mathbb{Q}$  iff  $(G/U)/G(\eta)$  has a smallest positive element iff  $G/\pi^{-1}(G(\eta))$  has a smallest positive element iff  $sign(\pi^{-1}(\eta)) = \infty$ . Hence we may assume that  $sign(\eta), sign(\pi^{-1}(\eta)) \neq \infty$ . But then  $sign(\pi^{-1}(\eta)) = sign(\eta)$  is immediate from [1.5](#page-2-0) and definition [1.3.](#page-2-1)

(ii) is an easy exercise.

<span id="page-5-2"></span>1.14. Proposition. Let  $G \subseteq H$  be totally ordered abelian groups and let U be a convex subgroup of H. Let  $\pi : H \longrightarrow H/U$  be the natural map and let  $h \in H$  with  $\pi(h) \notin \pi(G)$ . Let  $\eta$  be the cut of  $\pi(G)$  realized by  $\pi(h)$ . Let  $\xi$  be the cut of G realized by h. Let  $\pi_0$  be the restriction of  $\pi$  to G. Then

(i) 
$$
\xi^L = \pi_0^{-1}(\eta^L)
$$
 and  $\xi^R = \pi_0^{-1}(\eta^R)$ .

(*ii*)  $G(\xi) = \pi_0^{-1}(G(\eta)).$ (*iii*)  $sign(\xi) = sign(\eta)$ .

*Proof.* (i) To see  $\xi^L = \pi_0^{-1}(\eta^L)$ , we need to show that  $g < h \iff \pi(g) < \pi(h)$ for all  $g \in G$ . This is obvious, since  $\pi$  is order preserving and  $\pi(g) = \pi(h)$  cannot occur by assumption. Similarly  $\xi^R = \pi^{-1}(\eta^R)$ .

(ii) We assume that  $\eta^L \neq \emptyset$ , otherwise we proceed with  $-\xi$  and  $-\eta$ . For  $g \in G$  we clearly have

(\*) 
$$
\pi_0(g + \pi_0^{-1}(\eta^L)) = \pi_0(g) + \eta^L
$$
 and  $\pi_0^{-1}(\pi_0(g) + \eta^L) = g + \pi_0^{-1}(\eta^L)$ .  
Hence

Hence

$$
g \in G(\xi) \iff g + \xi^L = \xi^L \stackrel{\text{by}(i)}{\iff} g + \pi_0^{-1}(\eta^L) = \pi_0^{-1}(\eta^L) \iff
$$
  

$$
\stackrel{(*)}{\iff} \pi_0(g) + \eta^L = \eta^L \iff g \in \pi_0^{-1}(G(\eta)).
$$

<span id="page-6-0"></span>(iii) follows (i),(ii) and [1.13.](#page-5-1) (Exercise)  $\Box$ 

## 2. CUTS IN ORDERED FIELDS,  $G(\xi)$  AND  $V(\xi)$

<span id="page-6-3"></span>2.1. **Lemma.** Let  $K$  be an ordered field, let  $G$  be the multiplicative group of positive elements of K. If H is a convex subgroup of G with  $2 \notin H$ , then  $H^+$  is omitted in  $G \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Q}$ .

Recall from [1.6](#page-2-2) that the assumption  $2 \notin H$  cannot be dropped.

*Proof.* Suppose  $H^+$  is realized in  $G \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Q}$ . By [1.1,](#page-0-1) there is some realization  $\gamma$  of  $H^+$  in the real closure R of K, such that  $\gamma^2 \in K$ . Since  $2 \notin H$ ,  $H-1$  is a convex subgroup of  $(K, +, \leq)$ . Since  $(K, +)$  is divisible,  $3 \cdot (\gamma - 1)$  realizes  $(H - 1)^{+}$ . Since  $1\leq 1+\gamma\leq 3$  we have  $(\gamma-1)\leq (\gamma-1)(\gamma+1)\leq 3\cdot (\gamma-1),$  hence also  $(\gamma-1)(\gamma+1)$ realizes  $(H-1)^+$ . But this is impossible, since  $(\gamma - 1)(\gamma + 1) = \gamma^2 - 1 \in K$ .  $\Box$ 

2.2. Definition. If K is an ordered field and  $\xi$  is a cut of K then we define the multiplicative invariance group of  $\xi$ , written as  $G^*(\xi)$ , as the invariance group of  $|\xi|$  w.r.t.  $(K^{>0}, \cdot, \leq)$ . Explicitly we have

$$
G^*(\xi) = \{ a \in K \mid a \cdot \xi = \xi \}
$$

(This also applies if  $\xi < 0$ ).

The **multiplicative signature** of  $\xi$  is defined as

sign<sup>\*</sup>  $\xi :=$  the signature of  $|\xi|$  w.r.t.  $(K^{>0}, \cdot, <)$ .

If  $K \subseteq L$  is an extension of ordered fields and  $\alpha \in L \backslash K$ , then we write  $G^*(\alpha/K)$  and sign<sup>\*</sup> $(\alpha/K)$  for the multiplicative invariance group and the multiplicative signature of the cut of K that is realized by  $\alpha$ .

<span id="page-6-1"></span>2.3. Corollary. Let K be an ordered field and let  $\xi > 0$  be a cut of K with  $sign^*(\xi) = \infty$ . Then  $\xi = \hat{\xi}$  and  $\xi > Q$  or  $\xi^{-1} > Q$ .

*Proof.* By [2.1](#page-6-3) we have  $2 \in G^*(\xi)$ , which is equivalent to  $\xi = \hat{\xi}$ . If  $\xi > 1$ , then  $2 \in G^*(\xi)$  also implies  $\xi > 0$ . If  $\xi < 1$ , then as sign<sup>\*</sup>( $\xi^{-1}$ ) = sign<sup>\*</sup>( $\xi$ ) we get  $\xi^{-1} > \mathbb{Q}$ .  $^{-1} > 0.$ 

The multiplicative signature is only a new invariant for cuts with  $|\xi| = \hat{\xi}$ :

<span id="page-6-2"></span>2.4. Proposition. If  $\xi$  is a cut of an ordered field with  $\xi > \hat{\xi}$ , then

$$
\operatorname{sign}\xi = \operatorname{sign}^*\xi.
$$

<span id="page-7-1"></span>*Proof.* By [2.3](#page-6-1) we know that sign<sup>\*</sup>  $\xi \neq \infty$ . Since  $(K, +)$  is divisible, also sign  $\xi \neq \infty$ .

Let  $G := G(\xi)$ . If sign  $\xi = 1$ , then there is some  $a \in K$ ,  $a > G$  with  $\xi =$  $a + G^+$ . Since  $1 \notin \frac{1}{a} \cdot G$ ,  $1 + \frac{1}{a} \cdot G$  is a convex subgroup of  $(K^{>0}, \cdot, \leq)$ . Hence  $\xi = a \cdot (1 + \frac{1}{a} \cdot G^+) = a \cdot (1 + \frac{1}{a} \cdot G)^+$  has multiplicative signature 1.

If sign  $\xi = -1$ , then there is some  $a \in K$ ,  $a > G$  with  $\xi = a + G^-$ . Since  $1 \notin \frac{1}{a} \cdot G$ ,  $1+\frac{1}{a}\cdot G$  is a convex subgroup of  $(K^{>0}, \cdot, \leq)$ . Hence  $\xi = a\cdot (1+\frac{1}{a}\cdot G^-) = a\cdot (1+\frac{1}{a}\cdot G)^$ has multiplicative signature -1.

If sign<sup>\*</sup>  $\xi = 1$ , then  $\xi = a \cdot H^+$  for a convex subgroup H of  $(K^{>0}, \cdot, \leq)$  and some  $a > 0$ . Since  $\xi > \hat{\xi}$ ,  $2 \notin H$  and  $G := H - 1$  is a convex subgroup of  $(K, +, \leq)$ . Hence  $\xi = a \cdot (1 + G^+) = a + (a \cdot G)^+$  has signature 1.

If sign<sup>\*</sup>  $\xi = -1$ , then  $\xi = a \cdot H^-$  for a convex subgroup H of  $(K^{>0}, \cdot, \leq)$  and some  $a > 0$ . Since  $\xi > \hat{\xi}$ ,  $2 \notin H$  and  $G := H - 1$  is a convex subgroup of  $(K, +, \leq)$ . Hence  $\xi = a \cdot (1 + G^-) = a + (a \cdot G)^-$  has signature -1.

Hence we know that  $sign \xi = 1 \iff sign^* \xi = 1$  and  $sign \xi = -1 \iff sign^* \xi =$ −1. This shows the proposition.

<span id="page-7-0"></span>2.5. Example. Let K be an ordered field and let  $\alpha \notin K$ ,  $\alpha > 0$  be an element from the real closure of K such that  $\alpha^n \in K$ . Suppose  $1 \leq \alpha \leq n$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Let  $\xi$ be the cut of K realized by  $\alpha$ . Then sign  $\xi = sign^* \xi = 0$ .

*Proof.* Since  $1 \le \alpha \le n$ , we have  $\xi > \hat{\xi}$ , hence by [2.4,](#page-6-2) sign<sup>\*</sup>  $\xi = \text{sign}\,\xi \neq \infty$ . Since  $\xi$  is realized in the divisible hull of the multiplicative group of positive elements of K,  $\xi$  cannot have signature 1 (otherwise  $\frac{1}{b} \cdot \xi$  would be the upper edge of a convex subgroup of  $K^{>0}$ , realized in the divisible hull of  $K^{>0}$ ). The same argument shows that sign<sup>\*</sup>  $\xi \neq -1$ . Hence sign<sup>\*</sup>  $\xi = 0.$ 

The multiplicative invariance group can be computed from the additive invariance group, provided  $|\xi| > \xi$ : Let K be an ordered field. Firstly, recall from [\[6,](#page-18-1) proof of  $(3.5)$ :

The set of convex subgroups of  $(K, +, \leq)$  that do not contain 1 is in bijection with the convex subgroups of  $(K^{>0}, \cdot, \leq)$  that do not contain 2. The bijection is given by  $G \mapsto 1 + G$ . Moreover we have

2.6. Proposition. Let K be an ordered field and let  $\xi$  be a cut of K with  $|\xi| > \xi$ . There is some  $c \in K$  such that

$$
G^*(\xi) = c \cdot G(\xi) + 1 \ (= \{c \cdot a + 1 \mid a \in G(\xi)\}).
$$

*Proof.* By [\[6,](#page-18-1) (3.5)]. This is included here for completeness:

We may assume that  $\xi > \hat{\xi}$ . Let  $H := G^*(\xi)$ . Since  $\xi > \hat{\xi}$  we have  $2 \notin H$ .

*Claim 1.*  $H-1$  is a convex subgroup of  $(K, +, \leq)$ .

 $H-1$  is convex, since H is convex. Hence we only have to show that  $2·(H-1) \subseteq$  $H-1$  and  $H-1 = -(H-1)$ . Let  $\varepsilon \in H-1$ ,  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Then  $0 < 2\varepsilon < (1+\varepsilon)^2-1 \in H-1$ , hence  $2\varepsilon \in H - 1$ . Since  $2 \notin H$  we have  $\frac{\varepsilon^2}{1-\varepsilon} < \varepsilon$ , thus  $1 < \frac{1}{1-\varepsilon} = 1 + \varepsilon + \frac{\varepsilon^2}{1-\varepsilon} <$  $1 + 2\varepsilon \in H$ . We get  $\frac{1}{1-\varepsilon} \in H$ , therefore  $-\varepsilon \in H - 1$ .

If  $\varepsilon > 0$  with  $-\varepsilon \in H - 1$ , then  $1 < 1 + \varepsilon < \frac{1}{1-\varepsilon} \in H$ , that is  $\varepsilon \in H - 1$ .

Claim 2.  $H - 1 = \{a \in K \mid |a| \cdot \xi < \hat{\xi}\} = \{a \in K \mid |a| \cdot \xi < \hat{\xi}\}.$ 

The second equality holds since  $\xi > \hat{\xi}$ . To see the first equality we may assume that  $a > 0$ . If  $a \cdot \xi < \hat{\xi}$ , then easily  $(1+a) \cdot \xi = \xi$ . Conversely take  $h \in H$  and assume  $(h-1)\cdot \xi > \hat{\xi}$ .

First suppose  $h > 1$ . Then there is some  $0 < h_1 < \xi$  with  $(h - 1)h_1 \notin G(\xi)$ , hence there is some  $h_2 \in K$ ,  $0 < h_1 \leq h_2 < \xi$  with  $h_2 + (h_1)h_1 > \xi$ . It follows  $\xi = h\xi > hh_2 = h_2 + (h - 1)h_2 \geq h_2 + (h - 1)h_1 > \xi$ , a contradiction.

This argument shows that  $h > 1$  and  $h \cdot \xi = \xi$  imply  $(h - 1) \cdot \xi \leq \hat{\xi}$ , thus  $(h -$ 1)·ξ  $\langle \xi, \xi \rangle$ . On the other hand, if  $0 \langle h \xi \rangle$  and  $h \cdot \xi = \xi$  then by claim 1 we have  $1 - h = -(h - 1) \in H - 1$ , whence  $(2 - h) \cdot \xi = \xi$  and  $2 - h > 1$ . By what we have just proved it follows  $(1-h)\xi < \xi$ .

Now we prove the proposition. Let  $q := H^+ - 1$ . By claim 1 it is enough to find some  $c \in K$  with  $q = c \cdot \hat{\xi}$ . By elementary real algebra, there is an ordered field L containing K and realizations  $\alpha, \gamma$  of  $\hat{\xi}$  and  $\xi$  respectively. By claim 2 we know that  $\beta := \frac{\alpha}{\gamma}$  realizes q. Let G' be the convex hull of  $G(\xi)$  in  $K(\alpha, \gamma)$  and let  $\alpha'$ be a realization of  $G'^+$  from an ordered field extension of L. Note that  $\alpha' \leq \alpha$ . Certainly  $\frac{\alpha'}{\beta}$  $\frac{\alpha'}{\beta}$  is a realization of  $\frac{1}{\beta} \cdot G'^+$ , hence of  $U^+$ , where  $U := K \cap \frac{1}{\beta} \cdot G'$ . Since U is a convex subgroup of  $(K, +, \leq)$  and  $\xi > \hat{\xi}$ , the element  $\gamma = \frac{\alpha}{\beta}$  is not a realization of  $U^+$ , hence  $\frac{\alpha'}{\beta} \le a \le \frac{\alpha}{\beta}$  for some  $a \in K$ . As  $\alpha$  and  $\alpha'$  realize  $\hat{\xi}$  it follows that  $a \cdot \beta$ realizes  $\hat{\xi}$ . Since  $\beta$  realizes q this means  $q = \frac{1}{a}$ .  $\hat{\xi}$ .

2.7. **Definition.** Let K be an ordered field and let G be a convex subgroup of  $(K, +, \leq)$ . The **invariance ring** of G is defined as

$$
V(G) := \{ a \in K \mid a \cdot G \subseteq G \}.
$$

If  $\xi$  is a cut of K, then the invariance ring of  $\xi$  is defined as the invariance ring of  $G(\xi)$ :

$$
V(\xi) = V(G(\xi)).
$$

We also write  $V_{\xi}$  for  $V(\xi)$ .

If  $K \subseteq L$  is an extension of ordered fields and  $\alpha \in L \setminus K$ , then we write  $V(\alpha/K)$ for the invariance ring of the cut of K that is realized by  $\alpha$ .

2.8. Remark. Let G be a convex subgroup of  $(K, +, \leq)$ . Obviously  $V(G)$  is a convex subring of K and the set of units of  $V(G)$  is

$$
V(G)^{\times} = \{ a \in K \mid a \cdot G = G \}.
$$

It follows that the set of positive units of  $V(G)$  is the multiplicative invariance group of the upper edge  $G^+$  of  $G$ :

$$
V(G)^{\times > 0} = G^*(G^+).
$$

We write  $\mathfrak{m}(G)$  and  $\mathfrak{m}(\xi)$  for the maximal ideal of  $V(G)$ ,  $V(\xi)$ , respectively.

<span id="page-8-0"></span>2.9. Proposition. Let  $K \subseteq L$  be ordered fields and let  $\xi$  be a cut of K. Let  $\eta$  be the least or the last extension of  $\xi$  on L. Then  $\hat{\eta}$  is the least or the largest extension of  $\hat{\xi}$  on L and  $V_{\eta}^+$  is the least or the largest extension of  $V_{\xi}^+$  on L. In particular

$$
(K, \xi^L, G(\xi), V_{\xi}) \subseteq (L, \eta^L, G(\eta), V_{\eta}).
$$

Moreover, if  $\eta_1, \eta_2$  are the least and the largest extension of  $\xi$  on L and  $V_{\eta_1} = V_{\eta_2}$ (for example if  $L/K$  is algebraic), then either  $\hat{\eta}_1 = \hat{\eta}_2$  or there is some  $a \in L$  with  $\hat{\eta}_1 = a/\hat{\eta}_2.$ 

*Proof.* Everything except the additions follows from [1.8\(](#page-3-0)ii). So let  $V_{\eta_1} = V_{\eta_2}$ . This means that the invariance groups of  $\hat{\eta}_1$  and  $\hat{\eta}_2$  w.r.t.  $(K^{>0}, \cdot)$  are the same. By [1.8\(](#page-3-0)v),(vi), the multiplicative signature of  $\hat{\xi}$  is either 0 or  $\infty$  and the proposition follows from [1.8](#page-3-0) (iv),(vii) applied to  $\hat{\xi}$  and  $(K^{>0}, \cdot, <)$ .

<span id="page-9-1"></span>2.10. Lemma. Let K be an ordered field and let G be a convex subgroup of  $(K, +, \leq)$ ). The following are equivalent.

- (i) sign<sup>\*</sup>  $G^+ = -1$  or sign<sup>\*</sup>  $G^+ = \infty$
- (ii) There is some  $a \in K$  such that  $G = a \cdot \mathfrak{m}(\xi)$ .

*Proof.* The cut  $\mathfrak{m}(G)^+$  is the lower edge of the multiplicative invariance group  $V(G)^{\times>0}$  of  $G^+$ . Hence if  $G = a \cdot \mathfrak{m}(\xi)$ , then sign<sup>\*</sup>  $G^+ = -1$  or sign<sup>\*</sup>  $G^+ = \infty$ . Conversely, sign<sup>\*</sup>  $G^+ = -1$  and sign<sup>\*</sup>  $G^+ = \infty$  imply that  $G^+ = a G^*(\xi)^-$  for some  $a > 0$ .

2.11. Definition. Let K be an ordered field with real closure R and let  $\xi$  be a cut of K. We define the **degree of**  $\xi$  to be the infimum of all  $d \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\xi$  is realized by some  $\alpha \in R$ , with  $[K(\alpha):K]=d$ . If  $\xi$  is not realized in R, we define the degree of  $\xi$  to be  $\infty$ . We write  $\deg \xi \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{\infty\}$  for the degree of  $\xi$ .

A realization  $\alpha$  of  $\xi$  in some ordered field extension L of K is called  $\xi$ -generic if  $[K(\alpha):K] = \deg \xi$ .

An element  $\alpha$  of some ordered field extension L of K is called K-generic, or **generic over** K, if  $\alpha \in K$  or if  $\alpha$  is  $\xi$ -generic for the cut  $\xi$  of K realized by  $\alpha$ .

2.12. Example. Here is an example of an irreducible polynomial  $f(T)$  over an ordered field K with two roots from the real closure, realizing the same cut over  $K$ . Let  $K = k(X)$  where k is an arbitrary ordered field and  $X > k$ . Let  $\xi$  be the cut Let  $\Lambda = \kappa(\Lambda)$  where  $\kappa$  is an arbitrary ordered held and  $\Lambda > \kappa$ . Let  $\xi$  be the cut<br>of K realized by  $\sqrt{X}$ . Then both  $\sqrt{X} + \sqrt[4]{X}$  and  $\sqrt{X} - \sqrt[4]{X}$  realize  $\xi$ . Moreover or A realized by  $\sqrt{x}$ . Then both  $\sqrt{x} + \sqrt{x}$  and  $\sqrt{x} - \sqrt{x}$  realize  $\xi$ . Moreover both elements are roots of the minimal polynomial f of  $\sqrt{x} + \sqrt[4]{x}$  over  $k(X)$ . We compute f: We have

$$
p(T) := (T - (\sqrt{X} + \sqrt[4]{X}))(T - (\sqrt{X} - \sqrt[4]{X})) = (T - \sqrt{X})^2 - \sqrt{X}
$$

On the other hand

$$
q(T) := (T - (-\sqrt{X} + i\sqrt[4]{X}))(T - (-\sqrt{X} - i\sqrt[4]{X})) = (T + \sqrt{X})^2 + \sqrt{X}
$$

Then  
\n
$$
p(T) \cdot q(T) = (T^2 + X - (2T\sqrt{X} + \sqrt{X}))(T^2 + X + (2T\sqrt{X} + \sqrt{X})) =
$$
\n
$$
= (T^2 + X)^2 - (2T\sqrt{X} + \sqrt{X})^2 = (T^2 + X)^2 - X(2T + 1)^2 =
$$
\n
$$
= T^4 + 2T^2X + X^2 - 4XT^2 - 4XT - X =
$$

$$
=T^4 - 2XT^2 - 4XT + X^2 - X
$$
  
It is clear that no proper polynomial factor of f has coefficients in  $K = k(X)$ , so  
 $f(T) = p(T)q(T) = T^4 - 2XT^2 - 4XT + X^2 - X$  is irreducible over K and vanishes  
in the realizations  $\sqrt{X} + \sqrt[4]{X}$  and  $\sqrt{X} - \sqrt[4]{X}$  of  $\xi$ .

Observe that deg  $\xi \geq 2$  for all cuts  $\xi$  of ordered fields.

<span id="page-9-0"></span>2.13. Lemma. Let  $K \subseteq L$  be ordered fields and let  $\xi$  be a cut of K. Let  $\alpha, \beta \in L$ be realizations of  $\xi$  and let  $f(T), g(T) \in K[T]$  be polynomials with  $f(T)/g(T) \notin K$ . If deg  $f(T)$ , deg  $g(T) <$  deg  $\xi$  then the cut determined by  $f(\alpha)/g(\alpha)$  over K is equal to the cut determined by  $f(\beta)/g(\beta)$  over K.

*Proof.* Observe that the statement makes sense, since  $f(\alpha)/g(\alpha)$ ,  $f(\beta)/g(\beta) \notin K$ by the degree assumption and  $f(T)/g(T) \notin K$ . Clearly we may assume that L is real closed. Suppose there is some  $a \in K$  with  $f(\alpha)/g(\alpha) < a < f(\beta)/g(\beta)$ . Since deg  $g < \deg \xi$ , g does not have zeroes in the closed interval determined by  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ in L. By the mean value property for real closed fields, there is some  $\gamma \in L$  between  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  with  $f(\gamma)/g(\gamma) = a$ . Hence  $\gamma$  is a zero of  $h(T) := a \cdot g(T) - f(T)$  and  $\gamma$ realizes  $\xi$ . Since deg  $h < \deg \xi$  this is not possible.

2.14. Definition. Let K be an ordered field and let  $\xi$  be a cut of K. Let  $h(T) \in$  $K(T) \setminus K$ , such that there are  $f(T), g(T) \in K[T]$  with  $\deg f(T), \deg g(T) < \deg \xi$ and  $h(T) = \frac{f(T)}{g(T)}$ . We define the cut  $h(\xi)$  of K to be the cut determined by  $f(\alpha)/g(\alpha)$ , where  $\alpha$  is a realization of  $\xi$  in some ordered field extension  $L \supseteq K$ , By [2.13,](#page-9-0) this makes sense.

2.15. Definition. Let K be an ordered field with real closure R and let  $\xi$  be a cut of K. Let  $s: R \longrightarrow R$  be semi-algebraic. We say that s is **strictly increasing** in  $\xi$  if for all realizations  $\alpha < \beta$  from any ordered field extension L of R we have  $s(\alpha) < s(\beta)$ .

We say that s is **strictly decreasing in**  $\xi$  if for all realizations  $\alpha < \beta$  from any ordered field extension L of R we have  $s(\alpha) > s(\beta)$ .

We say that s is strictly monotonic in  $\xi$  if s is strictly decreasing or strictly increasing in  $\xi$ .

We say that s is constant in  $\xi$  if s is constant on all realizations of  $\xi$  in any ordered field extension L of R.

We say that s is defined at ξ, if for all realizations  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$  of ξ from some real closed field,  $s(\alpha)$  and  $s(\beta)$  induce the same cut of K. In this case we may define  $s(\xi)$  to be this cut.

Note that if  $\xi$  is omitted in R, then s is constant or strictly monotonic in  $\xi$ . Note also that a polynomial with coefficients in  $K$  is in general neither constant nor strictly monotonic nor defined in a given cut of K.

2.16. Definition. Let K be an ordered field with real closure R. A map  $s: R \longrightarrow R$ is called **piecewise K-rational** if there is a decomposition of  $R = I_1 \cup ... \cup I_k$  into intervals with endpoints in  $K \cup \{\pm \infty\}$  such that for each j there is some  $Q \in K(T)$ without poles on  $I_j$  such that  $s|_{I_j} = Q|_{I_j}$ . In particular  $s(K) \subseteq K$ .

<span id="page-10-0"></span>2.17. Lemma. Let K be an ordered field with real closure R and let  $\xi$  be a cut of K. Let  $s: R \longrightarrow R$  be piecewise K-rational.

- (i) If  $\xi$  is principal then  $\xi$  is omitted in R and either  $s(\eta) \in K$  or  $s(\eta) \upharpoonright K$  is a principal cut of K, where  $\eta$  is the unique extension of  $\xi$  on R.
- (ii) If  $\xi$  is a non principal cut of  $(K, +)$  and s is strictly monotonic in  $\xi$ , then there are a piecewise K-rational, strictly monotonic homeomorphism  $t: R \longrightarrow R$ and elements  $a < \xi < b$  in K such that  $s|_{[a,b]} = t|_{[a,b]}$  is a K-rational map on  $[a, b]$  (so equal to some  $Q \in K(T)$  on  $[a, b]$ ).

If in addition, s is defined in  $\xi$ , then

$$
s(\xi) = \begin{cases} s(\xi^L \cap [a, +\infty))^+ = s(\xi^R \cap (-\infty, b])^- & \text{if } s \text{ is increasing in } [a, b], \\ s(\xi^R \cap (-\infty, b])^+ = s(\xi^L \cap [a, +\infty))^- & \text{if } s \text{ is decreasing in } [a, b]. \end{cases}
$$

*Proof.* (i). We may assume that  $\xi > K$ . Clearly  $\xi$  is omitted in K. Let  $a :=$  $\lim_{t\to+\infty} s(t) \in R\cup\{\pm\infty\}$ . If  $a = +\infty$ , then  $s(\eta) = +\infty$  and we are done. If  $a \in R$ then, as s is piecewise K-rational,  $a \in K$  and  $s(\eta) = a^+$  or  $s(\eta) = a^-$ . In any case, (i) holds.

(ii). We assume that s is strictly increasing in  $\xi$ . As s is piecewise K-rational, there are  $a < \xi < b$  and some  $Q(T) \in K[T]$  such that  $s|_{(a,b)} = Q|_{(a,b)}$ . Let p be a cut of R, lying over  $\xi$ . As s is strictly increasing in  $\xi$  we must have  $Q' > 0 \in p$  (here we consider p as a 1-type over R, observe that p is not realized, hence  $Q' = 0 \notin p$ . In particular, if  $p_1, p_2$  are the least and the largest extension of  $\xi$  on R, we have  $Q' > 0 \in p_1, p_2$ . Since  $\xi$  is not principal, we can shrink the interval  $(a, b)$  such that  $Q' > 0$  on  $(a, a_1) \cup (b_1, b)$  for some  $a_1, b_1 \in R$  with  $p_1 < a_1, b_1 < p_2$ . But then, since s is strictly increasing in  $\xi$ , Q must be strictly increasing in  $(a, b) \subseteq R$ . Now a map t as claimed can easily be patched together.

Finally assume that s is also defined at  $\xi$ . The only thing we need to show is that there are no elements  $c \in K$  between  $s(\xi^L \cap [a, +\infty))$  and  $s(\xi^R \cap (-\infty, b])$ . Say s is increasing in  $\xi$  and suppose

$$
s(\xi^L \cap [a, +\infty)) \le c \le s(\xi^R \cap (-\infty, b]).
$$

Since  $\xi$  is non-principal and s is strictly increasing in [a, b] we have

$$
s(\xi^L \cap [a, +\infty)) < c < s(\xi^R \cap (-\infty, b]).
$$

Take realizations  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  of the cuts  $c^-$ ,  $c^+$  from some real closed field S. Since s is strictly increasing and continuous in  $[a, b]_S$ , there are  $\alpha_0, \beta_0 \in [a, b]_S$  with  $s(\alpha_0) = \alpha$ ,  $s(\beta_0) = \beta$ ,  $\xi^L \cap [a, +\infty) < \alpha_0$  and  $\beta_0 < \xi^R \cap (-\infty, b]$ . But then  $\alpha_0$ ,  $\beta_0$ realize  $\xi$ , whereas  $s(\alpha_0) < c < s(\beta_0)$ , i.e. s is not defined at  $\xi$ .

2.18. Definition. A cut  $\xi$  of an ordered abelian group is called dense if  $\xi$  is not principal and  $G(\xi) = \{0\}.$ 

<span id="page-11-0"></span>2.19. Corollary. Let K be an ordered field with real closure R, let  $\xi$  be a cut of K omitted in R and let  $\eta$  be the unique extension of  $\xi$  on R. Let  $s: R \longrightarrow R$  be piecewise K-rational and nonconstant in ξ. Then  $s(\eta)$  is the unique extension of  $s(\eta) \restriction K$  and

- (i)  $\xi$  is principal if and only if  $s(\eta) \restriction K$  is principal.
- (ii)  $\xi$  is dense if and only if  $s(\eta) \restriction K$  is dense.

*Proof.* All statements hold true by [2.17\(](#page-10-0)i), if  $\xi$  is principal. So we assume that  $\xi$  is not principal. As  $\xi$  is omitted in R, s is strictly monotonic and defined in  $\xi$ . Say s is strictly increasing in  $\xi$ . By [2.17\(](#page-10-0)ii) we may assume that s is a strictly increasing homeomorphism  $R \longrightarrow R$ . Then  $s(\eta) = (s(\eta^L), s(\eta^R))$  and  $s(\eta) \upharpoonright K = s(\xi^L)^+ =$  $s(\xi^R)$ <sup>-</sup>. Consequently  $s(\eta)$  is the unique extension of  $s(\eta) \restriction K$  and (i) holds.

Now we prove (ii). From the o-minimal case we know that  $\eta$  is dense is and only if  $s(\eta)$  is dense. But  $\xi$  is dense if and only if  $\eta$  is dense (by (i) and since  $\hat{\eta}$  lies over ξ). As  $s(\eta) \restriction K$  is omitted in R it follows that  $s(\eta) \restriction K$  is dense if and only if  $s(\eta)$ is dense. Altogether we get (ii).

# <span id="page-11-1"></span>2.20. Theorem. Let  $K \subseteq L$  be ordered fields and let  $\xi$  be a cut of K. Then

(i) If  $f, g \in K[T]$  with  $1 \leq \deg f + \deg g \leq \deg \xi$  and g has no zero in  $\xi$ , then  $f/g$  is strictly monotonic on the realizations of  $\xi$  in L. In particular there is at most one zero of f realizing  $\xi$ .

- (ii) If  $f \in K[T]$ ,  $1 \le \deg f < \deg \xi$  and L is real closed, then f maps the realizations of  $\xi$  in L onto the realizations of  $f(\xi)$  in L.
- (iii) Let  $\alpha, \beta \in L$ ,  $\alpha \neq \beta$  be algebraic with minimal polynomial  $\mu_{\alpha}, \mu_{\beta}$  respectively. If  $\alpha, \beta$  are ξ-generic, then either  $\mu_{\alpha}$  and  $\mu_{\beta}$  are strictly increasing on the realizations of  $\xi$  in L or  $\mu_{\alpha}$  and  $\mu_{\beta}$  are strictly decreasing on the realizations of  $\xi$  in L. Moreover  $\mu_{\alpha}$  and  $\mu_{\beta}$  are coprime.

*Proof.* (i). As  $0 \le \deg(gf' - g'f) < \deg \xi$ ,  $(f/g)'$  does not have zeroes in the realizations of  $\xi$  in the real closure of L. Hence (i) follows.

(ii). We assume that L is the real closure of K first. If  $\xi$  is omitted in L then (ii) holds by [2.19.](#page-11-0) So we may assume that  $\xi$  is realized in L, hence  $\xi$  is not principal. By [2.13,](#page-9-0) f maps the realizations of  $\xi$  in L into the realizations of  $f(\xi)$  in L. By (i), f is strictly monotonic in ξ. Hence by [2.17,](#page-10-0) there are  $a < \xi < b$  in K and a piecewise K-rational, strictly monotonic homeomorphism  $t : R \longrightarrow R$  such that  $f|_{[a,b]} = t|_{[a,b]}$ . Thus every realization of  $f(\xi)$  is the image of a realization of  $\xi$  in L.

Now let  $L$  be an arbitrary real closed field extending  $K$  and let  $R$  be the real closure of K in L. Let  $\eta_1, \eta_2$  be the least and the largest extension of  $\xi$  on R. Let  $\eta'_1, \eta'_2$  be the least and the largest extension of  $\xi$  on L. By what we have shown,  $f(\eta_1)$  and  $f(\eta_2)$  are the least and the largest extension of  $f(\xi)$  on R - possible in the reverse order. Since f is strictly monotonic in  $\xi$  we get that  $f(\eta_1')$  and  $f(\eta_2')$ are the least and the largest extension of  $f(\xi)$  on  $L$  - possible in the reverse order. This proves (ii).

(iii). Suppose  $\alpha < \beta$  and suppose  $\mu'_{\alpha}(\alpha) > 0 > \mu'_{\beta}(\beta)$ . By (i),  $\mu_{\alpha}$  is strictly increasing in  $\xi$  and  $\mu_\beta$  is strictly decreasing in  $\xi$ . Since  $\mu_\alpha(\alpha) = \mu_\beta(\beta) = 0$  there must be some  $\gamma$  in the real closure of L with  $\alpha < \gamma < \beta$  such that  $\mu_{\alpha}(\gamma) = \mu_{\beta}(\gamma)$ . But then  $[K(\gamma): K] \leq \deg(\mu_\alpha - \mu_\beta) < \deg \mu_\alpha = \deg \mu_\beta = \deg \xi$ , a contradiction.

The same argument gives a contradiction if  $\mu'_{\alpha}(\alpha) < 0 < \mu'_{\beta}(\beta)$ . By (i) it follows that  $\mu_{\alpha}$  and  $\mu_{\beta}$  are strictly increasing on the realizations of  $\xi$  in L or  $\mu_{\alpha}$  and  $\mu_{\beta}$ are strictly decreasing on the realizations of  $\xi$  in L.

By (i),  $\mu_{\alpha}$  and  $\mu_{\beta}$  are coprime.

<span id="page-12-0"></span>2.21. Corollary. Let K be an ordered field with real closure R and let  $\xi$  be a cut of K. Let  $\alpha \in R$  be a ξ-generic realization of ξ. Then for every polynomial  $q \in K[T]$ of degree  $\lt$  deg ξ the least and the largest extension of ξ on R is mapped via q onto the least and largest extension (possibly in reverse order) of the cut induced by  $q(\alpha)$ on K.

*Proof.* By [2.19](#page-11-0) and [2.20\(](#page-11-1)ii).  $\square$ 

[2.21](#page-12-0) says:  $\xi$  can be moved to all cuts of K, realized in some  $K(\alpha)$ ,  $\alpha$   $\xi$ -generic, in such a way that the movement is perfectly witnessed in  $R$ . By [2.9,](#page-8-0) we can then use the theory of cuts of real closed fields. Here an example

2.22. Definition. If  $K \subseteq L$  is an extension of ordered fields, then we write

$$
V_{L/K} = \bigcap_{\alpha \in L \backslash K} V(\alpha/K).
$$

<span id="page-12-1"></span>2.23. Proposition. Let  $K \subseteq L$  be ordered fields and let  $\xi$  be a cut of K. Let  $\alpha \in L$ be a ξ-generic realization of ξ. If  $L = K(\alpha)$ , then

$$
V_{L/K} = V(\xi).
$$

<span id="page-13-3"></span>*Proof.* First recall from [\[8,](#page-18-2) Thm. 5.1], that this is true if K is real closed (and actually not difficult to prove directly in that case).

Case 1.  $\xi$  is not realized in the real closure R of K

Let  $\eta$  be the unique extension of  $\xi$  on R and let  $\beta \in L\setminus K$ . As  $\alpha$  is transcendent over K. Take a rational map  $f: K \longrightarrow K$  with  $\beta = f(\alpha)$ . By [2.19,](#page-11-0)  $f_R(\eta)$ is the unique extension of  $f(\xi)$  on R. From the real closed field case, we know that  $V(f_R(\eta)) = V(\eta)$ . From [2.9](#page-8-0) we know that  $V(f_R(\eta))$  lies over  $V(f(\xi))$ . Thus  $V(\beta/K) = V(f(\xi)) = V(\xi).$ 

Case 2.  $\xi$  is realized in the real closure R of K.

By assumption  $\alpha \in R$  is a generic realization of  $\xi$ . Let  $\beta \in L \setminus K$  and take a polynomial  $f(T) \in K[T]$  of degree  $\langle \deg(\xi) \rangle$  such that  $\beta = f(\alpha)$ . By [2.21,](#page-12-0) the least and the largest extension  $\eta_1, \eta_2$  of  $\xi$  on R is mapped via f onto the least and largest extension (possibly in reverse order) of the cut induced by  $f(\alpha) = \beta$  on K. Again, from the real closed case we know that  $V(f_R(\eta_i)) = V(\eta_1)$ . Again [2.9](#page-8-0) shows that  $V(f_R(\eta_i))$  lies over  $V(f(\xi))$ .

<span id="page-13-1"></span>2.24. Example. Without the genericity, [2.23](#page-12-1) fails: Let K be an ordered field. If  $\xi$ and  $\eta$  are cuts of K realized in the real closure of K, then  $V(\xi) \neq V(\eta)$  in general. To see an example let  $K_0$  be any ordered field and let  $x, y$  be from an ordered field extension with  $K_0 < x$  and  $K_0(x) < y$ . Take  $K = K_0(x, y)$ ,  $\xi$  the cut of K realized extension with  $K_0 \leq x$  and  $K_0(x) \leq y$ . Take  $K = K_0(x, y)$ ,  $\xi$  the cut of  $K$  realized<br>by  $\alpha := \sqrt{x}$  and  $\eta$  the cut of  $K$  realized by  $\beta := \sqrt{y}$ . Then  $\xi$  and  $\eta$  are upper edges of distinct convex valuation rings of K.

2.25. Example. In general the ξ-generics are not convex: To see an example (also cf. [2.24\)](#page-13-1) let  $K_0$  be any ordered field and let  $x, y$  be from an ordered field extension with  $K_0 < x$  and  $K_0(x) < y$ . Take  $K = K_0(x, y)$  and let  $\xi$  be the cut of K realized with  $K_0 \leq x$  and  $K_0(x) \leq y$ . Take  $K = K_0(x, y)$  and let  $\zeta$  be the cut of  $K$  realization by  $\alpha := \sqrt{x}$ . Let  $\beta := \sqrt{y}$ . Then  $\alpha, \alpha + 1$  and  $\alpha + 1/\beta$  are realizations of  $\xi$ .  $\alpha, \alpha + 1$ are  $\xi$ -generic, but  $\alpha + 1/\beta$  is not.

## 3. Dense cuts and the order completion.

<span id="page-13-2"></span><span id="page-13-0"></span>3.1. Proposition. Let K be an ordered field and let  $\xi$  be a cut of K. Then the following are equivalent.

- (i)  $\xi$  is dense, i.e.  $\xi$  is not principal and  $G(\xi) = 0$ .
- (ii) There is an ordered field extension of K such that  $\xi$  has a unique realization in that field.

If this is the case, then  $\xi$  has at most one realization  $\alpha$  in every ordered field extension L of K which is archimedean over K and K is dense in  $K(\alpha)$ .

*Proof.* (ii) $\Rightarrow$ (i) is easy.

Now suppose  $\xi$  is dense. Then  $\xi$  can be realized in an ordered extension field of K, which is archimedean over K (if  $\xi$  is realized in the real closure R of K we can take the real closure; if  $\xi$  is omitted in the real closure, then the unique extension of  $\xi$  on R is again dense, hence K is archimedean in  $R < a$  realization of  $\xi >$ ). If L is any ordered field extension of K, archimedean over K and  $\alpha < \beta$  are from K, then there is some  $a \in K$  with  $0 < a < \beta - \alpha$ . As  $G(\xi) = 0$ ,  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  cannot realize  $\xi$  at the same time. This shows that (i) implies (ii) and it remains to show that K is dense in  $K(\alpha)$  if  $\alpha \models \xi$  and  $K(\alpha)$  is archimedean over K.

Case 1.  $\xi$  is omitted in the real closure R of K. As  $\xi$  is dense, the unique extension of  $\xi$  on R is dense, too. In particular R is archimedean in  $R(\alpha)$ . Then K

<span id="page-14-2"></span>is archimedean in  $R(\alpha)$ . Take rational functions  $f, g \in K(T)$  such that  $f(\alpha) < g(\alpha)$ , both not in K. Take some  $a \in K$  such that  $f(\alpha) + a < g(\alpha)$ . By [2.19\(](#page-11-0)ii), the cut defined by  $f(\alpha)$  over K is dense, too. Hence  $g(\alpha)$  cannot define the same cut as  $f(\alpha)$  over K and there must be some  $a \in K$  with  $f(\alpha) < a < g(\alpha)$  as desired.

Case 2. ξ is realized in R, by r say. Then r is the unique realization of  $\xi$  in R and  $\alpha - r$  is infinitesimal over R. Let  $\mu$  be the minimal polynomial of r over K. If  $\alpha \neq r$ , then  $\mu(\alpha) \neq 0$  is infinitesimal over R, in contradiction to our assumption that K is archimedean in  $K(\alpha)$ . Hence  $\alpha = r \in R$  is the unique realization of  $\xi$  on R. In particular  $[K(\alpha) : K] = \deg \xi$ . Take polynomials  $f, g \in K[T]$ , deg f, deg  $q \leq [K(\alpha):K]$  such that  $f(\alpha) < g(\alpha)$ , both not in K. By [2.20\(](#page-11-1)ii) we know that  $f(\alpha)$  is the unique extension of the cut of  $f(\alpha)$  over K. Hence there is some  $a \in K$  with  $f(\alpha) < a < g(\alpha)$ .

Observe that K need not be archimedean in  $K(\alpha)$  if  $\alpha$  realizes a dense cut over K. For example if  $\varepsilon$  is infinitesimal,  $K = \mathbb{Q}$  and  $\alpha = \sqrt{2} + \varepsilon$ . Then  $\alpha^2 - 2 =$  $2\sqrt{2}\varepsilon + \varepsilon^2 \in K(\alpha)$  is infinitesimal over K.

<span id="page-14-0"></span>3.2. Corollary. Let  $K \subseteq L \subseteq M$  be ordered fields and let  $X \subseteq M$ . If K is dense in  $K(x)$  for all  $x \in X$  and if K is archimedean in M then L is dense in  $L(X)$ .

*Proof.* We work inside the real closure  $\overline{M}$  of M. We may assume that X is finite,  $X = \{x_1, ..., x_n\}$  and we do an induction on the cardinality of X. First let  $X = \{x\}$ ,  $x \notin L$ , let  $\xi$  be the cut of x over K and let  $\eta$  be the cut of x over L.

By assumption, K is archimedean in  $L(x)$ . Hence by [3.1,](#page-13-2) x is the unique realization of  $\xi$  in  $L(x)$ . Thus x is the unique realization of  $\eta$  in  $L(x)$ . Again by [3.1,](#page-13-2) L is dense in  $L(x)$ .

So we know the corollary in the case  $n = 1$ . Now suppose K is dense in  $K(x)$ for every  $x \in X$  and K is dense in  $K(y)$ . By induction L is dense in  $L(X)$ , hence K is archimedean in  $L(X)$ . So from the case  $n = 1$  we get that  $L(X)$  is dense in  $L(X \cup \{y\})$ , thus L is dense in  $L(X \cup \{y\})$ .

If K is an ordered subfield of an ordered field  $M$  and  $K$  is archimedean in  $M$ , then by [3.2,](#page-14-0) for all fields  $K \subseteq L_1, L_2 \subseteq M$  with the property that K is dense in  $L_1$ and in  $L_2$ , K is also dense in the compositum  $L_1 \tcdot L_2 \subseteq M$ . Applying Zorn's lemma therefore shows that there is a largest subfield  $L$  of  $M$  such that  $K$  is dense in  $L$ .

For an ordered field  $K$  we may now define the **dense closure** (also called the continuous closure or the completion) of K as follows: Let  $\overline{K}$  be the real closure of K and let  $\overline{K}$  be the completion of  $\overline{K}$  (see [\[7,](#page-18-3) section 3]). Notice that K is archimedean in  $\overline{K}$ . We define the dense closure  $\hat{K}$  of K as

 $\hat{K}$  = the largest subfield of  $\hat{\overline{K}}$  that contains K as a dense subfield.

<span id="page-14-1"></span>3.3. Proposition. If  $K \subseteq L$  are ordered fields and K is dense in L, then there is a unique K-embedding of ordered fields  $L \longrightarrow \hat{K}$ .

*Proof.* Uniqueness is clear. To see existence of such an embedding, let  $\Omega$  be the real closure of L. Then there is a K-embedding of  $\overline{K}$  into  $\Omega$  and we may assume that  $\overline{K} \subseteq \Omega$ . Since K is archimedean in  $\Omega$  we know from [3.2](#page-14-0) that  $\overline{K}$  is dense in <span id="page-15-0"></span> $\overline{K}.L$ . It follows that  $\overline{K}$  is dense in  $\overline{K}.L$  (see the description of S in [\[7,](#page-18-3) Cor 3.2])). By [\[7,](#page-18-3) Cor 3.3], there is an embedding

$$
\varphi:\overline{K\!\cdot\! L}\longrightarrow \hat{\overline{K}}
$$

over  $\overline{K}$ . Hence the restriction of  $\varphi$  to L maps L onto a subfield of  $\hat{\overline{K}}$  that contains K as a dense subfield. By definition of  $\hat{K}$  we therefore have  $\varphi(L) \subseteq \hat{K}$ .

# 3.4. Corollary. [\[3\]](#page-18-4)

If  $K \subseteq L$  are ordered fields and K is dense in L, then the real closure  $\overline{K}$  of K is dense in the real closure  $\overline{L}$  of  $L$ .

*Proof.* By [3.3](#page-14-1) we may assume that  $L \subseteq \hat{K}$ . Now we have

$$
K\subseteq L\subseteq \hat K\subseteq \hat{\overline K}
$$

and  $\hat{\overline{K}}$  is real closed. Consequently

$$
\overline{K} \subseteq \overline{L} \subseteq \hat{\overline{K}},
$$

i.e.  $\overline{K}$  is dense in  $\overline{L}$ .

#### 4. Convex valuations on realizations of cuts

<span id="page-16-3"></span><span id="page-16-1"></span><span id="page-16-0"></span>4.1. Proposition. If V is a convex valuation ring of an ordered field  $K$ , then the convex hull W of V in the real closure R of K is the unique convex valuation ring of R with  $W \cap K = V$ .

Observe that this does **not** mean that  $V^+$  is omitted in R.

Proof. For a more general reference see [\[1\]](#page-18-5) (it says that on an algebraic extension of fields there cannot be a proper inclusions between valuations extending the same valuation of the base field).

Take  $\alpha \in R$  with  $\alpha > V$ . It suffices to show that for some  $d \in \mathbb{N}$  and some  $a \in K$ we have

$$
V < a < \alpha^d
$$

Let w be the valuation belonging to the convex hull W of V in the real closure  $R$ . Since  $\alpha$  is algebraic over K, there are  $i > j$  and  $c_i, c_j \in K^\times$  with  $w(c_i\alpha^i) = w(c_j\alpha^j)$ , hence

(\*) 
$$
w(\alpha^{i-j}) = w(\frac{c_j}{c_i}).
$$

We take  $d = i - j + 1$  and  $a = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{c_j}{c_j} \end{bmatrix}$  $\frac{c_j}{c_i}$ . As  $\alpha > V$  we have  $w(\alpha) < 0$  and by (\*) also  $w(a) = w(\frac{c_j}{c_j})$  $\frac{c_j}{c_i}$   $\geq 0$ . Since  $a > 0$ , this means  $V < a$ . On the other hand  $w(\alpha^d) = w(\alpha \cdot \alpha^{i-j}) = w(\alpha) + w(a) < w(a)$ , which implies  $a < \alpha^d$  as w is compatible with the order.  $\Box$ 

Recall from [4.1](#page-16-1) that every convex valuation ring  $V$  of an ordered field  $K$  has a unique extension to a convex valuation ring of the real closure  $R$  of  $K$ , namely the convex hull of V in R.

Throughout this section we fix

• ordered fields  $K \subseteq L$ 

Since  $\frac{a}{\alpha} < b$  we have

- a convex valuation ring W of L which is the convex hull of  $V := W \cap K$ . The maximal ideal of W is denoted by m and the residue map  $W \longrightarrow W/\mathfrak{m}$  is denoted by  $\lambda$ .
- A cut  $\xi$  of K and a realization  $\alpha \in L$  of K.

<span id="page-16-2"></span>4.2. Lemma. If  $a, b \in K$  and  $w(a\alpha - b) \notin w(K)$ , then  $sign(\xi) \neq 0$ .

*Proof.* Clearly  $a \neq 0$ . Since sign  $\xi$  is invariant under the map  $ax + b$ , we may assume that  $\alpha > 0$  and  $w(\alpha) \notin w(K)$ . Then for all  $c \in K$  with  $0 \leq c < \alpha$  we have  $w(\alpha) > w(c) = w(2c)$  and therefore  $2c < \alpha$ . Thus  $\alpha$  realizes the upper edge of a convex subgroup of  $(K, +, \leq)$ .

4.3. Lemma. If G is a convex subgroup of  $(K, +, \leq), \xi = G^+$  and  $V \subseteq V(\xi)$ , then  $w(\alpha) \notin w(K)$ .

*Proof.* Suppose  $a \in K$ ,  $a > 0$  with  $w(\alpha) = w(a)$ . Then  $w(\frac{\alpha}{a}) = 0$  and so  $\frac{\alpha}{a}$  and  $\frac{a}{\alpha}$  are in the convex hull of V. By assumption,  $\frac{\alpha}{a}$  and  $\frac{a}{\alpha}$  are in the convex hull of  $V(\xi)$ . Take  $b \in V(\xi)$  with

$$
\frac{\alpha}{a}, \frac{a}{\alpha} < b.
$$
  

$$
a = \frac{a}{\alpha} \cdot \alpha < b \cdot \alpha \models G^+,
$$

because  $b \in V(\xi)$  (and  $b \ge 1$ ). Hence  $a \in G$ . But this contradicts

$$
\alpha = a \cdot \frac{\alpha}{a} < a \cdot b \stackrel{b \in V(\xi)}{\in} G < \alpha.
$$

<span id="page-17-3"></span>4.4. Corollary. If  $\text{sign}(\xi) \neq 0$  and  $V \subseteq V(\xi)$ , then there is some  $a \in K$  with  $w(\alpha - a) \notin w(K)$ .

<span id="page-17-0"></span>4.5. Lemma. If  $\alpha \in W$  is a realization of  $\xi$  and  $1 \in G(\xi)$ , then  $\lambda(\alpha) \notin \lambda(V)$ .

*Proof.* Otherwise there is some  $a \in V$  with  $\alpha - a \in \mathfrak{m}$ , hence  $\alpha = a + \mu$  for some  $\mu \in \mathfrak{m}$ . Since  $1 \in G(\xi)$ ,  $\alpha$  and  $\alpha + 2$  realize the same cut of K, which contradicts

$$
\alpha = a + \mu < a + 1 < a + \mu + 2 = \alpha + 2.
$$

 $\Box$ 

<span id="page-17-1"></span>4.6. Corollary. If  $V(\xi) \subseteq V$ , then there are  $a, b \in K$  such that  $a\alpha + b \in W$  and  $\lambda(a\alpha + b) \notin \lambda(V)$ .

*Proof.* Since  $V(\xi) \subsetneq V$ , there is some  $a \in K$  with  $V(\xi)^+ \leq a \cdot \hat{\xi} < V^+$ . Since  $a\widehat{\xi} = a\widehat{\xi}$ , there is some  $b \in K$  with

(\*) 
$$
V(\xi)^+ \le a \cdot \hat{\xi} \le a\xi + b < V^+.
$$

Then  $a\alpha + b \in W$  and  $1 \in V(\xi) \subseteq aG(\xi) = G(a\xi) = G(a\xi + b)$ . Hence [4.5](#page-17-0) applies.  $\Box$ 

<span id="page-17-2"></span>4.7. Lemma. If  $\alpha \in W$ ,  $sign(\xi) = 0$ ,  $G(\xi) = m(\xi)$  and  $V(\xi) \subseteq V$ , then  $\lambda(\alpha) \notin$  $\lambda(V)$ .

*Proof.* Say  $\alpha > 0$ . Assume there is some  $a \in K$  with  $\alpha - a \in \mathfrak{m}$ . We may assume that  $a = 0$ , otherwise we continue to work with  $\xi - a$  and  $\alpha - a$ . Thus we may assume that  $\alpha \in \mathfrak{m}$ . Since  $sign(\xi) = 0$ ,  $\alpha$  does not realize  $(\mathfrak{m} \cap K)^+$ . As  $\alpha \in \mathfrak{m}$  this means  $0 < \xi < (m \cap K)^+$ . But this contradicts  $G(\xi) = m(\xi) \supseteq m \cap K$ .

<span id="page-17-4"></span>4.8. Corollary. If  $sign(\xi) = 0$ ,  $sign^*(\hat{\xi}) \in \{-1, \infty\}$  and  $V(\xi) \subseteq V$ , then there are  $a, b \in K$  such that  $a\alpha + b \in W$  and  $\lambda(a\alpha + b) \notin \lambda(V)$ .

*Proof.* This is true if  $V(\xi) \subsetneq V$  by [4.6.](#page-17-1) So assume  $V(\xi) = V$ . As sign<sup>\*</sup>( $\hat{\xi}$ )  $\in$  ${-1,\infty}$ , there is some  $a \in K$  with  $a \cdot G(\xi) = \mathfrak{m}(\xi)$  (see [2.10\)](#page-9-1). As  $a \cdot G(\xi) = G(a \cdot \xi)$ we have sign( $a\xi$ ) = 0 and  $\mathfrak{m}(a\xi) = \mathfrak{m} \cap K$ . Consequently there is some  $b \in K$  with  $0 < a\xi + b < 1$ , in particular  $a\alpha + b \in W$ . Now [4.7](#page-17-2) applies to  $a\xi + b$ .

<span id="page-17-5"></span>4.9. Lemma. If  $\alpha \in W$  with  $\lambda(\alpha) \notin \lambda(V)$  then  $V(\xi) \subseteq V$  and if  $V(\xi) = V$ , then  $G(\xi) = \mathfrak{m} \cap K$  and the cut of  $\lambda(V)$  realized by  $\lambda(\alpha)$  has invariance group  $\{0\}.$ 

*Proof.* We use [1.14.](#page-5-2) Let  $\eta$  be the cut of  $\lambda(V)$  determined by  $\lambda(\alpha)$ . Let  $\lambda_0$  be the restriction of  $\lambda$  to V. By [1.14\(](#page-5-2)ii) applied to  $V \subseteq W$  and m we have  $G(\xi)$  =  $\lambda_0^{-1}(G(\eta))$ , which contains  $\mathfrak{m} \cap K = \lambda_0^{-1}(0)$ .

If  $G(\xi) = \mathfrak{m} \cap K$ , then  $V(\xi) = V$  and  $G(\eta) = \{0\}$ .

Otherwise,  $G(\eta) = \lambda(G(\xi)) \neq \{0\}$  and so  $V(\eta) \neq \lambda(V)$ . Take  $a \in V$  with  $\lambda(a) > V(\eta)$  and  $b \in V$ ,  $b > 0$  with  $\lambda(b) \in G(\eta)$  and  $\lambda(a)\lambda(b) > G(\eta)$ . Then  $b \in \lambda_0^{-1}(G(\eta)) = G(\xi)$  and  $a \cdot b > \lambda_0^{-1}(G(\eta)) = G(\xi)$ . Hence  $a \notin V(\xi)$ . As  $a \in V$ this shows  $V(\xi) \subseteq V$ .

4.10. Conclusion The fact that  $a\alpha + b$  does not have a new value and  $a\alpha + b$  does not have a new residue w.r.t. K and W, for all  $a, b \in K$ , is determined by sign  $\xi$ , sign<sup>\*</sup>  $\xi$  and the position of V w.r.t.  $V(\xi)$ . In fact we have the following table:

Let  $K \subseteq L$  be ordered fields, let  $\xi$  be a cut of K realized by  $\alpha$  and suppose  $L = K(\alpha)$ . Let V be a convex valuation ring of K and let W be the convex hull of  $V$  in  $L$ .

	$V \subseteq V(\xi)$	$V=V(\xi)$	$V(\xi) \subseteq V$
$\xi$ principal	$\Gamma_V \neq \Gamma_W$	$\Gamma_V \neq \Gamma_W$	not possible
$\xi$ dense, $L/K$ archimedean	immediate	$\kappa_V \neq \kappa_W$	not possible
$sign \xi \neq 0$	$\Gamma_V \neq \Gamma_W$	$\Gamma_V \neq \Gamma_W$	$\kappa_V \neq \kappa_W$
$sign \xi = 0, sign^* \tilde{\xi} \in \{-1, \infty\}$	linear immediate	$\kappa_V \neq \kappa_W$	$\kappa_V \neq \kappa_W$
$sign \xi = 0, sign^* \hat{\xi} \in \{0, 1\}$	linear immediate linear immediate		$\kappa_V \neq \kappa_W$

Here, "linear immediate" stands for the property

For all  $a, b \in K$ ,  $w(a\alpha+b) \in \Gamma_V$  and, if  $a\alpha+b \in W$ , then  $\lambda(a\alpha+b) \in$  $\kappa_V$ "

Proof. The first two rows are clear and the last column follows from [4.6.](#page-17-1) Using [4.4,](#page-17-3) also the third column follows.

So we are left with the following sub-table:



If sign  $\xi = 0$ , sign<sup>\*</sup>  $\hat{\xi} \in \{-1, \infty\}$  and  $V(\xi) = V$ , then  $\kappa_W \neq \kappa_V$  by [4.8.](#page-17-4)

The three remaining cases are linear immediate by [4.2](#page-16-2) and [4.9.](#page-17-5)

 $\Box$ 

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