

1. Let  $b > 0$ . If  $a > 0$  then, by **(A13)**,  $ab > a \times 0$  where the right hand side is equal to 0 (see course notes).
2. By **(A6)** and **(A8)**,  $s = at$  with  $a = st^{-1} = t^{-1}s$ . The axiom **(A13)** implies that  $t^{-1}s > 1$  if and only if  $s > t$ .
3. By **(A6)** and **(A9)**,

$$(a - b)(a^{n-1} + a^{n-2}b + a^{n-3}b^2 + \dots + ab^{n-2} + b^{n-1}) \\ = a^n + a^{n-1}b + a^{n-2}b^2 + \dots + ab^{n-1} - a^{n-1}b - a^{n-2}b^2 - \dots - ab^{n-1} - b^n = a^n - b^n.$$

A more “scientific” (and more elegant) proof is by induction in  $n$ .

4. Assume that  $x^3 = a$  and  $y^3 = a$ . Then, by the above,

$$(x - y)(x^2 + xy + y^2) = 0.$$

The sum in the brackets is strictly positive because every term is positive (see Question 1). Using **(A8)** and **(A13)**, we can multiply both parts by  $(x^2 + xy + y^2)^{-1}$ . Then we obtain

$$x - y = 0.(x^2 + xy + y^2)^{-1} = 0.$$

Now **(A13)** implies that  $x = y$ .

5. If  $|x| \geq |y|$  then  $||x| - |y|| = |x| - |y|$ . Since  $x = y - (y - x)$ , the triangle inequality implies that  $|x| - |y| \leq |y - x| = |x - y|$ . If  $|x| \leq |y|$  then  $||x| - |y|| = |y| - |x|$ . Since  $y = x - (y - x)$ , the triangle inequality implies that  $|y| - |x| \leq |x - y|$ . The proof uses the axioms **(A2)**, **(A12)** and the definition of the modules.
6. By the Archimedean Property (see course notes), we have  $\delta^{-1} < n$  for some  $n \in \mathbf{N}$ . Multiplying both parts of this inequality by  $n^{-1}\delta$ , we obtain  $n^{-1} < \delta$ . Here we have used the axioms **(A6)**, **(A8)** and **(A13)**.