

March 25th

### Ruler & Compass constructions

- ① trisecting an angle      easy to bisect
- ② squaring a circle
- ③ doubling a cube

setup, have interval  $[0, 1]$

what length can we construct?

- any natural #s
  - constant  $\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{3}, \dots$  rational #s
  - can divide any interval in any number of equal pieces
- }  $\Rightarrow$  can construct any  $\frac{m}{n}, m, n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

• some irrationals,  $\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{3}, \dots$

Let  $C$  be the set of all constructable numbers

If  $x, y \in C$ , then  $x+y, x-y, x \cdot y, \frac{x}{y}$  ( $y \neq 0$ ) all constructable.

in other words,  $C$  - the set of constructable numbers is a number field

Def: a subset  $F \subset \mathbb{R}$  is called a number field if ①  $0, 1 \in F$

②  $x, y \in F \Rightarrow x+y, x-y, x \cdot y, x/y \in F$  also.

Ex:  $\mathbb{Q}$  - set of rational #s

$\mathbb{Q} \subset \mathbb{R}$

$\mathbb{Q}$  is a number field.

1, 0 are rational

if  $g_1, g_2$  are rational  $\Rightarrow g_1 + g_2, g_1 - g_2, \dots$  are also rational