

9:45-10:30 and 5:00-5:30

2 hour and 15 min

Irrational and Complex Numbers

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Date: 7/19/25

Instructions: Answer all questions to the best of your ability. Show all your work in the space provided for full credit.

1. Rationalize the denominators of the following:

(8)

(a) $\frac{3}{\sqrt{6}}$

$$\frac{3\sqrt{6}}{6} = \frac{\sqrt{6}}{2}$$

(b) $\frac{2}{\sqrt{9}}$

$$\frac{2\sqrt{9}}{9}$$

2. Rationalize the denominator of $\frac{2}{\sqrt{2}-\sqrt{5}+\sqrt{7}}$.

(10)

~~Handwritten work for problem 2 is crossed out with a large red X.~~

3. Simplify: $\frac{1}{\sqrt{100}+\sqrt{99}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{99}+\sqrt{98}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{98}+\sqrt{97}} + \dots + \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}+\sqrt{2}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}+\sqrt{1}}$

(12)

~~Handwritten work for problem 3 is crossed out with a large red X.~~

all terms cancel except $\frac{1}{\sqrt{100}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{1}} = \frac{1}{10} + 1 = \frac{11}{10}$

4. Solve $3 - 2\sqrt{x} = 7$.

(8)

(a) $\{-2\}$

(b) $\{4\}$

(c) $\{-4\}$

(d) \emptyset

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{x} &= -2 \\ x &= 4 \\ -2\sqrt{x} &= 4 \\ \sqrt{x} &= -2 \end{aligned}$$

\sqrt{x} doesn't return negative numbers

5. Simplify. If no simplification is possible, say so.

(10)

$$\sqrt[3]{24} - \sqrt[3]{56} + \sqrt[3]{81}$$

$$\sqrt[3]{24} - \sqrt[3]{56} + \sqrt[3]{81}$$

no simplification
is possible

6. Find all complex numbers $a + bi$ such that $a + bi = (a + bi)^2$. (12)

Hint: Write each side as a complex number in terms of a and b . Build a system of equations by considering the real and imaginary parts of both sides.

$$a^2 + 2abi - b^2 \quad a, b \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$a + bi = (a + bi)(a + bi) = a^2 - b^2 + 2abi$$

$$a = a^2 - b^2 \Rightarrow$$

$$b = 2ab \Rightarrow b = 0 \text{ or } a = 0.5$$

if $b = 0$, $a = a^2 \Rightarrow a = 0$
 if $a = 0.5$, $0.5 = \frac{1}{4} - b^2 \Rightarrow b^2 = \frac{3}{4} \Rightarrow b = \pm \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$

$a + bi \in \{0, \frac{1}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}i, \frac{1}{2} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}i\}$

7. Simplify $(i - i^{-1})^{-1}$. (8)

$$\frac{1}{i - \frac{1}{i}} = \frac{1}{\frac{i^2 - 1}{i}} = \frac{i}{i^2 - 1} = \frac{i}{-1 - 1} = \frac{i}{-2} = -\frac{i}{2}$$

$$i^{-1} = -i \quad \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ | \\ -i \end{array}$$

8. If $x = \frac{1 - i\sqrt{3}}{2}$, then what complex number is equal to $\frac{1}{x^2 - x}$? (10)

~~$\frac{1 - 2i\sqrt{3} + 3}{4}$~~

$$\left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{i\sqrt{3}}{2} - \frac{1}{2} + \frac{i\sqrt{3}}{2} \right)^{-2}$$

$$\left(\frac{1}{2} \right)^{-1} = 2 \quad (-1)^{-1} = -1$$

9. For two positive numbers x and y :

(12)

- (a) The arithmetic mean of two numbers x and y is the number $\frac{x+y}{2}$. If x and y are rational numbers, what can you conclude about their arithmetic mean?

Their arithmetic mean is also rational.

$$x = \frac{a}{b}, a, b \in \mathbb{Z}, \gcd(a, b) = 1; y = \frac{c}{d}, c, d \in \mathbb{Z}, \gcd(c, d) = 1$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \cdot \left(\frac{a}{b} + \frac{c}{d} \right) = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{ad+bc}{bd} \right) = \frac{ad+bc}{2bd}$$

- (b) The geometric mean of two positive numbers x and y is the number \sqrt{xy} . If x and y are positive rational numbers, can you conclude that their geometric mean is also rational? Explain.

No.

Counterexample:

$$x=1, y=2, x, y \in \mathbb{Q}$$

$$\sqrt{xy} = \sqrt{2} \notin \mathbb{Q}$$

10. Suppose x is rational and z is irrational. Prove that $x+z$ is irrational.

(10)

Hint: Let $x = \frac{a}{b}$ where a and b are integers, and use an indirect proof by assuming that $x+z$ is a rational number $\frac{c}{d}$.

$$\frac{a}{b} + z = \frac{c}{d}$$

$$\frac{a}{b} + \frac{bz}{b} = \frac{c}{d}$$

$$\frac{a+bz}{b} = \frac{c}{d}$$

since both functions are in lowest terms,
 $a+bz$ must be equal to c

Thus, $bz = c-a$ and $z = \frac{c-a}{b}$

If
 and since an integer multiplied by a non-integer is not an integer,
 $bz \notin \mathbb{Z}$

Thus, $a+bz$ is also not an integer
 and $a+bz \neq c$.