

MA1101
Mathematics I

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§1 Construction of Numbers

§1.1 Construction of Integers

Definition 1.1 (Addition). $a + b \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} [(m + p), (n + q)]$

Definition 1.2 (Multiplication). $a \cdot b \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} [(mp + nq), (mq + np)]$

Theorem 1.3 (Properties of Addition)

well defined.

Proof. We first check $+$ is well-defined. Let $a = [(m, n)] = [(m', n')]$ for $m, n, m', n' \in \mathbb{N}$ and $b = [(p, q)] = [(p', q')]$ for $p, q, p', q' \in \mathbb{N}$

We now check that $+$ is commutative. We have

$$\begin{aligned} a + b &= [(m, n)] + [(p, q)] \\ &= [(m + p, n + q)] \\ &= [(p + m, q + n)] \\ &= [(p, q)] + [(m, n)] \\ &= b + a \end{aligned}$$

Let us define $x \in \mathbb{Z}$ by

$$x \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} [(n, m)]$$

Then, $a + x = [(m, n)] + [(n, m)] = [(m + n, n + m)] = [(m + n, m + n)] = [(1, 1)] = \bar{0}$ □

Theorem 1.4 (Properties of Multiplication)

The following statements holds:

- “ \cdot ” is well defined.

Proof. We are going to check that the multiplication is well-defined. Let $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ with $a = [(m, n)] + [(m' + n')]$ and $b = [(p, q)] = [(p', q')]$ □

Recall that $\mathbb{Z} = \{[(j, 1)] : j \in \mathbb{N}, j \geq 2\} \cup$

§1.2 Construction of Rational Numbers