

RATIONALS: VIDEO XIII

MOTIVATION AND FIRST DEFINITIONS

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★ Note: $\frac{m}{n} = \frac{m'}{n'}$ if and only if $mn' = m'n$ ★

What would be your next idea....?

Definition of the rationals

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Define the equivalence relation on $\mathbb{Z} \times (\mathbb{Z} - \{0\})$

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★ Wanted:

$$\frac{m_1}{n_1} + \frac{m_2}{n_2} = \frac{m_1 n_2 + n_1 m_2}{n_1 n_2}, \quad \frac{m_1}{n_1} \cdot \frac{m_2}{n_2} = \frac{m_1 m_2}{n_1 n_2}$$

We define on \mathbb{Q} :

Addition: $cl(m_1, n_1) +_{\mathbb{Q}} cl(m_2, n_2) := cl(m_1 n_2 + n_1 m_2, n_1 n_2)$

Multiplication: $cl(m_1, n_1) \cdot_{\mathbb{Q}} cl(m_2, n_2) := cl(m_1 m_2, n_1 n_2)$.

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Proposition

Let $(m_i, n_i), (m'_i, n'_i) \in \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}$, $i = 1, 2$. If $(m_1, n_1) \sim (m'_1, n'_1)$ and $(m_2, n_2) \sim (m'_2, n'_2)$, then

$$\begin{aligned} cl(m_1, n_1) +_{\mathbb{Q}} cl(m_2, n_2) &= cl(m'_1, n'_1) +_{\mathbb{Q}} cl(m'_2, n'_2), \\ cl(m_1, n_1) \cdot_{\mathbb{Q}} cl(m_2, n_2) &= cl(m'_1 n'_1) \cdot_{\mathbb{Q}} cl(m'_2, n'_2) \end{aligned}$$

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Proposition

The map

$$i : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}, n \mapsto i(n) = \frac{n}{1}.$$

is injective and preserves addition and multiplication.



Ordering on \mathbb{Z} and \mathbb{Q}

For the integers, we say $a - b <_{\mathbb{Z}} c - d$ if $a + d < b + c$. This does not depend on the choice of representatives, and extends the ordering on \mathbb{N} . We can now define an ordering on \mathbb{Q} .

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$<_{\mathbb{Q}}$ defines a total order on \mathbb{Q} .