

■ Study Guide: Number Systems in Number Theory

1. Natural Numbers (■)

Definition: Numbers used for counting.

Two conventions: $\{1,2,3,\dots\}$ or $\{0,1,2,3,\dots\}$.

Properties: whole, non-negative, infinite.

2. Whole Numbers

Same as natural numbers but always include 0.

$\{0,1,2,3,\dots\}$.

3. Integers (■)

Extend whole numbers to include negatives.

$\{\dots,-3,-2,-1,0,1,2,3,\dots\}$.

4. Rational Numbers (■)

Numbers that can be expressed as fractions of integers.

Examples: $1/2$, $-3/4$, 5, 0.333...

Decimals either terminate or repeat.

5. Irrational Numbers

Cannot be expressed as a fraction of integers.

Decimals never terminate or repeat.

Examples: π , $\sqrt{2}$, e.

6. Real Numbers (■)

All rational and irrational numbers together.

Represented on the number line.

7. Complex Numbers (■)

Include imaginary unit i where $i^2=-1$.

Form: $a+bi$.

Examples: $3+2i$, $-1-4i$.

8. Set Hierarchy

■ ⊂ ■ ⊂ ■ ⊂ ■ ⊂ ■

9. Visual Representation

Nested diagram:

■ inside ■, inside ■, inside ■, inside ■.

Examples: $2 \in \blacksquare$, $-5 \in \blacksquare$, $1/2 \in \blacksquare$, $\pi \in \blacksquare$, $3+2i \in \blacksquare$.

10. Decision Tree for Classifying Numbers

1. Involves i ? \rightarrow Complex.
2. Can it be a fraction? Yes \rightarrow Rational, No \rightarrow Irrational (Real).
3. If Rational: Whole number? Yes \rightarrow Integer, No \rightarrow Fractional Rational.
4. If Integer: Positive/0? Yes \rightarrow Natural, No \rightarrow Negative Integer.

11. Practice Exercises

Examples classified:

$-7 \in \blacksquare, \blacksquare, \blacksquare, \blacksquare$

$0 \in \blacksquare, \blacksquare, \blacksquare, \blacksquare$ (maybe ■)

$3/4 \in \blacksquare, \blacksquare, \blacksquare$

$\sqrt{5} \in \blacksquare, \blacksquare$

$4+i \in \blacksquare$

$12 \in \blacksquare, \blacksquare, \blacksquare, \blacksquare, \blacksquare$

$-2/3 \in \blacksquare, \blacksquare, \blacksquare$

$\pi \in \blacksquare, \blacksquare$