

Mathematics

Jonah Benedicto

September 2025

Contents

I	Precalculus	7
0.1	Logical Notation	9
0.2	Real Number Systems	9
0.3	Properties of Real Numbers	9
0.3.1	Commutative Property	9
0.3.2	Associative Property	9
0.3.3	Distributive Property	9
0.4	Properties of Negatives	10
0.5	Properties of Fractions	10
0.6	The Real Line	10
0.7	Equality/Inequality Notation	10
0.8	Set Notation	11
0.9	Set Operations	11
0.10	Interval Notation	11
0.11	Absolute Value and Distance	12
0.11.1	Properties of Absolute Value	12
0.12	Questions	12
0.13	Exponential Notation	12
0.13.1	Zero and Negative Exponents	12
0.13.2	Laws of Exponents	12
0.14	Scientific Notation	13
0.15	Radicals	13
0.15.1	Properties of nth Roots	13
0.16	Rational Exponents	13
0.17	Questions	13

Preface

- Precalculus - Mathematics for Calculus by James Stewart
- Calculus by James Stewart

Part I

Precalculus

0.1 Logical Notation

for all \forall

there exists \exists

there does not exist \nexists

implies \implies

if and only if \iff

equivalent to \equiv

not equivalent to $\not\equiv$

0.2 Real Number Systems

Natural Numbers $\mathbb{N} = \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$

Whole Numbers $\mathbb{W} = \{0, 1, 2, 3, \dots\}$

Integers $\mathbb{Z} = \{0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \dots\}$

Rational Numbers $\mathbb{Q} = \{\frac{a}{b} : a, b \in \mathbb{Z}, b \neq 0\}$

Irrational Numbers $\mathbb{I} = \mathbb{R} \setminus \mathbb{Q}$

Real Numbers $\mathbb{R} = \mathbb{Q} \cup \mathbb{I}$

$$\mathbb{N} \subset \mathbb{W} \subset \mathbb{Z} \subset \mathbb{Q} \subset \mathbb{R}$$

0.3 Properties of Real Numbers

0.3.1 Commutative Property

addition $a + b = b + a$

multiplication $ab = ba$

0.3.2 Associative Property

addition $(a + b) + c = a + (b + c)$

multiplication $(ab)c = a(bc)$

0.3.3 Distributive Property

distributive $a(b + c) = ab + ac$

distributive $(b + c)a = ba + ca$

0.4 Properties of Negatives

1. $(-1)a = -a$
2. $-(-a) = a$
3. $(-a)b = a(-b) = -(ab)$
4. $(-a)(-b) = ab$
5. $-(a + b) = -a + -b$
6. $-(a - b) = -a + b$

0.5 Properties of Fractions

1. $\frac{a}{b} \cdot \frac{c}{d} = \frac{ac}{bd}$
2. $\frac{a}{b} \div \frac{c}{d} = \frac{a}{b} \cdot \frac{d}{c}$
3. $\frac{a}{c} + \frac{b}{c} = \frac{a+b}{c}$
4. $\frac{a}{b} + \frac{c}{d} = \frac{ad+bc}{bd}$
5. $\frac{ac}{bc} = \frac{a}{b}$
6. If $\frac{a}{b} = \frac{c}{d}$, then $ad = bc$

0.6 The Real Line

The real number line is ordered. For any two real numbers a and b , one and only one of the following is true:

- $a < b$
- $a = b$
- $a > b$

0.7 Equality/Inequality Notation

less than $<$

greater than $>$

less than or equal to \leq

greater than or equal to \geq

equal to $=$

not equal to \neq

0.8 Set Notation

set of elements $\{\}$

such that $|$ or $:$

is an element of \in

is not an element of \notin

is a subset of \subseteq

is a proper subset of \subset

is a superset of \supseteq

is a proper superset of \supset

empty set \emptyset

universal set U

cardinality $|A|$

0.9 Set Operations

union \cup

intersection \cap

difference \setminus

complement A'

0.10 Interval Notation

open interval $(a, b) = \{x \in \mathbb{R} : a < x < b\}$

closed interval $[a, b] = \{x \in \mathbb{R} : a \leq x \leq b\}$

half-open interval $[a, b) = \{x \in \mathbb{R} : a \leq x < b\}$

half-open interval $(a, b] = \{x \in \mathbb{R} : a < x \leq b\}$

infinite interval $(a, \infty) = \{x \in \mathbb{R} : x > a\}$

infinite interval $[a, \infty) = \{x \in \mathbb{R} : x \geq a\}$

infinite interval $(-\infty, b) = \{x \in \mathbb{R} : x < b\}$

infinite interval $(-\infty, b] = \{x \in \mathbb{R} : x \leq b\}$

infinite interval $(-\infty, \infty) = \mathbb{R}$

0.11 Absolute Value and Distance

absolute value $|a| = \begin{cases} a, & \text{if } a \geq 0 \\ -a, & \text{if } a < 0 \end{cases}$

distance between two points $d(a, b) = |a - b|$

0.11.1 Properties of Absolute Value

1. $|ab| = |a||b|$
2. **positive square root** $|a|^2 = a^2 \implies |a| = \sqrt{a^2}$
3. $|a^n| = |a|^n$, where $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $a \neq 0$ for $n < 0$
4. **triangle inequality** $|a + b| \leq |a| + |b|$

0.12 Questions

Precalculus - Mathematics for Calculus by James Stewart, Section 1.1.

0.13 Exponential Notation

$a^n = a \cdot a \cdot \dots \cdot a$ (a multiplied n times)

0.13.1 Zero and Negative Exponents

$a^0 = 1$, where $a \neq 0$

$a^{-n} = \frac{1}{a^n}$,

0.13.2 Laws of Exponents

1. $a^m \cdot a^n = a^{m+n}$
2. $\frac{a^m}{a^n} = a^{m-n}$
3. $(a^m)^n = a^{mn}$
4. $(ab)^n = a^n b^n$
5. $\left(\frac{a}{b}\right)^n = \frac{a^n}{b^n}$
6. $\left(\frac{a}{b}\right)^{-n} = \left(\frac{b}{a}\right)^n$
7. $\frac{a^{-n}}{b^{-m}} = \frac{b^m}{a^n}$

0.14 Scientific Notation

scientific notation $x = a \times 10^n$, where $1 \leq |a| < 10$ and $n \in \mathbb{Z}$

0.15 Radicals

radical $\sqrt{a} = b \iff b^2 = a$ and $b \geq 0$

nth root $\sqrt[n]{a} = b \iff b^n = a$ and if n is even, then $a, b \geq 0$

0.15.1 Properties of nth Roots

1. $\sqrt[n]{ab} = \sqrt[n]{a} \cdot \sqrt[n]{b}$
2. $\sqrt[n]{\frac{a}{b}} = \frac{\sqrt[n]{a}}{\sqrt[n]{b}}$
3. $\sqrt[m]{\sqrt[n]{a}} = \sqrt[mn]{a}$
4. $\sqrt[n]{a^n} = a$ if n is odd
5. $\sqrt[n]{a^n} = |a|$ if n is even

0.16 Rational Exponents

rational exponent $a^{\frac{1}{n}} = \sqrt[n]{a}$ and $a^{\frac{m}{n}} = (\sqrt[n]{a})^m = \sqrt[n]{a^m}$

0.17 Questions

Precalculus - Mathematics for Calculus by James Stewart, Section 1.2.