



Why

We want to add rationals.¹

Definition

Let $[(a, b)], [(b, c)] \in \mathbf{Q}$. The *rational sum* of $[(a, b)]$ with $[(b, c)]$ is $[(ad + bc, bd)]$.²

Notation

We denote the rational sum of $q, r \in \mathbf{Q}$ by $q + r$.

¹Future editions will expand on this why.

²An account that this is well-defined will appear in future editions.

