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- i.  $r_1 + r_2 \left( \frac{p_1}{q_1} + \frac{p_2}{q_2} = \frac{p_1 q_2 + p_2 q_1}{q_1 q_2} \right),$
- ii.  $r_1 - r_2 \left( \frac{p_1}{q_1} - \frac{p_2}{q_2} = \frac{p_1 q_2 - p_2 q_1}{q_1 q_2} \right),$
- iii.  $r_1 \cdot r_2 \left( \frac{p_1}{q_1} \cdot \frac{p_2}{q_2} = \frac{p_1 p_2}{q_1 q_2} \right),$
- iv.  $r_1 : r_2 \left( \frac{p_1}{q_1} : \frac{p_2}{q_2} = \frac{p_1 q_2}{q_1 p_2} \right)$

are all rational.

**COROLLARY 0.1.** *Between any two distinct rational numbers there exists at least one rational number, hence infinitely many.*

**PROOF.** Let the given rational numbers be  $r_1$  and  $r_2$  :  $r_1 + r_2$  rational  
 $\implies \frac{1}{2}(r_1 + r_2)$  is rational. (why this arithmetic mean is between  $r_1$  and  $r_2$ ?)  
 This process can be continued indefinitely.

**0.1. Irrational numbers.** A number which is not rational is called an *irrational number*. Since any cyclic decimal expansion is a rational number, then non cyclic ones represent irrational numbers:

0,81881888188881... (Number of 8's increases by 1 in each step)  
 4,303003000300003...

The existence of irrational numbers may also be shown by the following theorem: