

# Basic Properties of Rational Numbers

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**Summary.** A definition of rational numbers and some basic properties of them. Operations of addition, subtraction, multiplication are redefined for rational numbers. Functors numerator ( $\text{num } p$ ) and denominator ( $\text{den } p$ ) ( $p$  is rational) are defined and some properties of them are presented. Density of rational numbers is also given.

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The notation and terminology used here are introduced in the following papers: [4], [2], [1], [3], and [5]. For simplicity we follow the rules:  $x$  is arbitrary,  $a, b$  are real numbers,  $k, k_1, l, l_1$  are natural numbers,  $m, m_1, n, n_1$  are integers, and  $D$  is a non-empty set. Let us consider  $m$ . Then  $|m|$  is a natural number.

Let us consider  $k$ . Then  $|k|$  is a natural number.

The non-empty set  $\mathbb{Q}$  is defined by:

(Def.1)  $x \in \mathbb{Q}$  if and only if there exist  $m, n$  such that  $n \neq 0$  and  $x = \frac{m}{n}$ .

One can prove the following proposition

(1)  $D = \mathbb{Q}$  if and only if for every  $x$  holds  $x \in D$  if and only if there exist  $m, n$  such that  $n \neq 0$  and  $x = \frac{m}{n}$ .

A real number is said to be a rational number if:

(Def.2) it is an element of  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

We now state a number of propositions:

(2) For every real number  $x$  holds  $x$  is a rational number if and only if  $x$  is an element of  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

(4)<sup>2</sup> If  $x \in \mathbb{Q}$ , then  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ .

(5)  $x$  is a rational number if and only if  $x \in \mathbb{Q}$ .

(6)  $x$  is a rational number if and only if there exist  $m, n$  such that  $n \neq 0$  and  $x = \frac{m}{n}$ .

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<sup>2</sup>The proposition (3) became obvious.

- (7) For every integer  $x$  holds  $x$  is a rational number.
- (8) For every natural number  $x$  holds  $x$  is a rational number.
- (9) 1 is a rational number and 0 is a rational number.
- (10)  $\mathbb{Q} \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ .
- (11)  $\mathbb{Z} \subseteq \mathbb{Q}$ .
- (12)  $\mathbb{N} \subseteq \mathbb{Q}$ .

In the sequel  $p, q$  denote rational numbers. Next we state three propositions:

- (13) If  $x = \frac{k}{l}$  and  $l \neq 0$ , then  $x$  is a rational number.
- (14) If  $x = \frac{m}{k}$  and  $k \neq 0$ , then  $x$  is a rational number.
- (15) If  $x = \frac{k}{m}$  and  $m \neq 0$ , then  $x$  is a rational number.

Let us consider  $p, q$ . Then  $p \cdot q$  is a rational number. Then  $p + q$  is a rational number. Then  $p - q$  is a rational number.

Let us consider  $p, m$ . Then  $p + m$  is a rational number. Then  $p - m$  is a rational number. Then  $p \cdot m$  is a rational number.

Let us consider  $m, p$ . Then  $m + p$  is a rational number. Then  $m - p$  is a rational number. Then  $m \cdot p$  is a rational number.

Let us consider  $p, k$ . Then  $p + k$  is a rational number. Then  $p - k$  is a rational number. Then  $p \cdot k$  is a rational number.

Let us consider  $k, p$ . Then  $k + p$  is a rational number. Then  $k - p$  is a rational number. Then  $k \cdot p$  is a rational number.

Let us consider  $p$ . Then  $-p$  is a rational number. Then  $|p|$  is a rational number.

One can prove the following propositions:

- (16) For all  $p, q$  such that  $q \neq 0$  holds  $\frac{p}{q}$  is a rational number.
- (17) If  $k \neq 0$ , then  $\frac{p}{k}$  is a rational number.
- (18) If  $m \neq 0$ , then  $\frac{p}{m}$  is a rational number.
- (19) If  $p \neq 0$ , then  $\frac{k}{p}$  is a rational number and  $\frac{m}{p}$  is a rational number.
- (20) For every  $p$  such that  $p \neq 0$  holds  $\frac{1}{p}$  is a rational number.
- (21) For every  $p$  such that  $p \neq 0$  holds  $p^{-1}$  is a rational number.
- (22) For all  $a, b$  such that  $a < b$  there exists  $p$  such that  $a < p$  and  $p < b$ .
- (23)  $a < b$  if and only if there exists  $p$  such that  $a < p$  and  $p < b$ .
- (24) For every  $p$  there exist  $m, k$  such that  $k \neq 0$  and  $p = \frac{m}{k}$ .
- (25) For every  $p$  there exist  $m, k$  such that  $k \neq 0$  and  $p = \frac{m}{k}$  and for all  $n, l$  such that  $l \neq 0$  and  $p = \frac{n}{l}$  holds  $k \leq l$ .

Let us consider  $p$ . The functor  $\text{den } p$  yielding a natural number is defined by:

- (Def.3)  $\text{den } p \neq 0$  and there exists  $m$  such that  $p = \frac{m}{\text{den } p}$  and for all  $n, k$  such that  $k \neq 0$  and  $p = \frac{n}{k}$  holds  $\text{den } p \leq k$ .

We now state the proposition

- (26)  $\text{den } p \neq 0$  and there exists  $m$  such that  $p = \frac{m}{\text{den } p}$  and for all  $n, k$  such that  $k \neq 0$  and  $p = \frac{n}{k}$  holds  $\text{den } p \leq k$ .

Let us consider  $p$ . The functor  $\text{num } p$  yields an integer and is defined by:

(Def.4)  $\text{num } p = \text{den } p \cdot p$ .

One can prove the following propositions:

- (27)  $0 < \text{den } p$ .
- (28)  $0 \neq \text{den } p$ .
- (29)  $1 \leq \text{den } p$ .
- (30)  $0 < \text{den } p^{-1}$ .
- (31)  $0 \leq \text{den } p$ .
- (32)  $0 \leq \text{den } p^{-1}$ .
- (33)  $0 \neq \text{den } p^{-1}$ .
- (34)  $1 \geq \text{den } p^{-1}$ .
- (35)  $\text{num } p = \text{den } p \cdot p$  and  $\text{num } p = p \cdot \text{den } p$ .
- (36)  $\text{num } p = 0$  if and only if  $p = 0$ .
- (37)  $p = \frac{\text{num } p}{\text{den } p}$  and  $p = \text{num } p \cdot \text{den } p^{-1}$  and  $p = \text{den } p^{-1} \cdot \text{num } p$ .
- (38) If  $p \neq 0$ , then  $\text{den } p = \frac{\text{num } p}{p}$ .
- (39) If  $p = \frac{m}{k}$  and  $k \neq 0$ , then  $\text{den } p \leq k$ .
- (40) If  $p$  is an integer, then  $\text{den } p = 1$  and  $\text{num } p = p$ .
- (41) If  $\text{num } p = p$  or  $\text{den } p = 1$ , then  $p$  is an integer.
- (42)  $\text{num } p = p$  if and only if  $\text{den } p = 1$ .
- (43) If  $p$  is a natural number, then  $\text{den } p = 1$  and  $\text{num } p = p$ .
- (44) If  $\text{num } p = p$  or  $\text{den } p = 1$  but  $0 \leq p$ , then  $p$  is a natural number.
- (45)  $1 < \text{den } p$  if and only if  $p$  is not an integer.
- (46)  $1 > \text{den } p^{-1}$  if and only if  $p$  is not an integer.
- (47)  $\text{num } p = \text{den } p$  if and only if  $p = 1$ .
- (48)  $\text{num } p = -\text{den } p$  if and only if  $p = -1$ .
- (49)  $-\text{num } p = \text{den } p$  if and only if  $p = -1$ .
- (50) Suppose  $m \neq 0$ . Then  $p = \frac{\text{num } p \cdot m}{\text{den } p \cdot m}$  and  $p = \frac{m \cdot \text{num } p}{\text{den } p \cdot m}$  and  $p = \frac{m \cdot \text{num } p}{m \cdot \text{den } p}$  and  $p = \frac{\text{num } p \cdot m}{m \cdot \text{den } p}$ .
- (51) Suppose  $k \neq 0$ . Then  $p = \frac{\text{num } p \cdot k}{\text{den } p \cdot k}$  and  $p = \frac{k \cdot \text{num } p}{\text{den } p \cdot k}$  and  $p = \frac{k \cdot \text{num } p}{k \cdot \text{den } p}$  and  $p = \frac{\text{num } p \cdot k}{k \cdot \text{den } p}$ .
- (52) Suppose  $p = \frac{m}{n}$  and  $n \neq 0$  and  $m_1 \neq 0$ . Then  $p = \frac{m \cdot m_1}{n \cdot m_1}$  and  $p = \frac{m_1 \cdot m}{n \cdot m_1}$  and  $p = \frac{m_1 \cdot m}{m_1 \cdot n}$  and  $p = \frac{m \cdot m_1}{m_1 \cdot n}$ .
- (53) Suppose  $p = \frac{m}{l}$  and  $l \neq 0$  and  $m_1 \neq 0$ . Then  $p = \frac{m \cdot m_1}{l \cdot m_1}$  and  $p = \frac{m_1 \cdot m}{l \cdot m_1}$  and  $p = \frac{m_1 \cdot m}{m_1 \cdot l}$  and  $p = \frac{m \cdot m_1}{m_1 \cdot l}$ .
- (54) Suppose  $p = \frac{l}{n}$  and  $n \neq 0$  and  $m_1 \neq 0$ . Then  $p = \frac{l \cdot m_1}{n \cdot m_1}$  and  $p = \frac{m_1 \cdot l}{n \cdot m_1}$  and  $p = \frac{m_1 \cdot l}{m_1 \cdot n}$  and  $p = \frac{l \cdot m_1}{m_1 \cdot n}$ .

- (55) Suppose  $p = \frac{l}{l_1}$  and  $l_1 \neq 0$  and  $m_1 \neq 0$ . Then  $p = \frac{l \cdot m_1}{l_1 \cdot m_1}$  and  $p = \frac{m_1 \cdot l}{l_1 \cdot m_1}$  and  $p = \frac{m_1 \cdot l}{m_1 \cdot l_1}$  and  $p = \frac{l \cdot m_1}{m_1 \cdot l_1}$ .
- (56) Suppose  $p = \frac{m}{n}$  and  $n \neq 0$  and  $k \neq 0$ . Then  $p = \frac{m \cdot k}{n \cdot k}$  and  $p = \frac{k \cdot m}{n \cdot k}$  and  $p = \frac{k \cdot m}{k \cdot n}$  and  $p = \frac{m \cdot k}{k \cdot n}$ .
- (57) Suppose  $p = \frac{m}{l}$  and  $l \neq 0$  and  $k \neq 0$ . Then  $p = \frac{m \cdot k}{l \cdot k}$  and  $p = \frac{k \cdot m}{l \cdot k}$  and  $p = \frac{k \cdot m}{k \cdot l}$  and  $p = \frac{m \cdot k}{k \cdot l}$ .
- (58) Suppose  $p = \frac{l}{n}$  and  $n \neq 0$  and  $k \neq 0$ . Then  $p = \frac{l \cdot k}{n \cdot k}$  and  $p = \frac{k \cdot l}{n \cdot k}$  and  $p = \frac{k \cdot l}{k \cdot n}$  and  $p = \frac{l \cdot k}{k \cdot n}$ .
- (59) Suppose  $p = \frac{l}{l_1}$  and  $l_1 \neq 0$  and  $k \neq 0$ . Then  $p = \frac{l \cdot k}{l_1 \cdot k}$  and  $p = \frac{k \cdot l}{l_1 \cdot k}$  and  $p = \frac{k \cdot l}{k \cdot l_1}$  and  $p = \frac{l \cdot k}{k \cdot l_1}$ .
- (60) If  $k \neq 0$  and  $p = \frac{m}{k}$ , then there exists  $l$  such that  $m = \text{num } p \cdot l$  and  $k = \text{den } p \cdot l$ .
- (61) If  $p = \frac{m}{n}$  and  $n \neq 0$ , then there exists  $m_1$  such that  $m = \text{num } p \cdot m_1$  and  $n = \text{den } p \cdot m_1$ .
- (62) For no  $l$  holds  $1 < l$  and there exist  $m, k$  such that  $\text{num } p = m \cdot l$  and  $\text{den } p = k \cdot l$ .
- (63) If  $p = \frac{m}{k}$  and  $k \neq 0$  and for no  $l$  holds  $1 < l$  and there exist  $m_1, k_1$  such that  $m = m_1 \cdot l$  and  $k = k_1 \cdot l$ , then  $k = \text{den } p$  and  $m = \text{num } p$ .
- (64)  $p < -1$  if and only if  $\text{num } p < -\text{den } p$ .
- (65)  $p \leq -1$  if and only if  $\text{num } p \leq -\text{den } p$ .
- (66)  $p < -1$  if and only if  $\text{den } p < -\text{num } p$ .
- (67)  $p \leq -1$  if and only if  $\text{den } p \leq -\text{num } p$ .
- (68)  $-1 < p$  if and only if  $-\text{den } p < \text{num } p$ .
- (69)  $p \geq -1$  if and only if  $\text{num } p \geq -\text{den } p$ .
- (70)  $-1 < p$  if and only if  $-\text{num } p < \text{den } p$ .
- (71)  $p \geq -1$  if and only if  $\text{den } p \geq -\text{num } p$ .
- (72)  $p < 1$  if and only if  $\text{num } p < \text{den } p$ .
- (73)  $p \leq 1$  if and only if  $\text{num } p \leq \text{den } p$ .
- (74)  $1 < p$  if and only if  $\text{den } p < \text{num } p$ .
- (75)  $p \geq 1$  if and only if  $\text{num } p \geq \text{den } p$ .
- (76)  $p < 0$  if and only if  $\text{num } p < 0$ .
- (77)  $p \leq 0$  if and only if  $\text{num } p \leq 0$ .
- (78)  $0 < p$  if and only if  $0 < \text{num } p$ .
- (79)  $p \geq 0$  if and only if  $\text{num } p \geq 0$ .
- (80)  $a < p$  if and only if  $a \cdot \text{den } p < \text{num } p$ .
- (81)  $a \leq p$  if and only if  $a \cdot \text{den } p \leq \text{num } p$ .
- (82)  $p < a$  if and only if  $\text{num } p < a \cdot \text{den } p$ .
- (83)  $a \geq p$  if and only if  $a \cdot \text{den } p \geq \text{num } p$ .
- (84)  $p = q$  if and only if  $\text{den } p = \text{den } q$  and  $\text{num } p = \text{num } q$ .

- (85) If  $p = \frac{m}{n}$  and  $n \neq 0$  and  $q = \frac{m_1}{n_1}$  and  $n_1 \neq 0$ , then  $p = q$  if and only if  $m \cdot n_1 = m_1 \cdot n$ .
- (86)  $p < q$  if and only if  $\text{num } p \cdot \text{den } q < \text{num } q \cdot \text{den } p$ .
- (87)  $\text{den}(-p) = \text{den } p$  and  $\text{num}(-p) = -\text{num } p$ .
- (88)  $0 < p$  and  $q = \frac{1}{p}$  if and only if  $\text{num } q = \text{den } p$  and  $\text{den } q = \text{num } p$ .
- (89)  $p < 0$  and  $q = \frac{1}{p}$  if and only if  $\text{num } q = -\text{den } p$  and  $\text{den } q = -\text{num } p$ .

## References

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