Math 5C: Classwork 18 Homework #18 is due March 3-rd

Square-roots

The square-root of 2 ($\sqrt{2}$) is not a rational number, i.e. it cannot be written as a fraction. Let us assume that $\sqrt{2} = \frac{p}{q}$ where p and q are some whole numbers and the fraction $\frac{p}{q}$ cannot be simplified further. We can write:

$$\left(\sqrt{2}\right)^2 = \left(\frac{p}{q}\right)^2$$
$$2 = \frac{p^2}{q^2}$$
$$2q^2 = p^2$$

So that:

Thus, p must be an even number and could be rewritten as: p = 2m. Substituting:

$$2q^2 = p^2 = 4m^2$$
$$q^2 = 2m^2$$

So that:

Thus, q must be an even number. This *contradicts* our initial assertion that $\frac{p}{q}$ could not be simplified further (at least each p, q could be reduced by one factor of 2 each). Therefore, we have proven by contradiction that $\sqrt{2}$ cannot be written as a rational number.

Rational numbers

Definition: A **rational** number is a number that can be in the form p/q where p and q are integers and q is not equal to zero.

Example: 2/3 is a rational number because 3 and 2 are both integers

Pigeonhole principle states that if *n* items are put **into m** <u>pigeonholes</u> with n > m, then at least one pigeonhole must contain more than one item.

Theorem: any rational number is a finite or repeating decimal. The way we proved is using **Pigeonhole principle**.

Review

1. Operations with powers:

 $a^{n} = a \cdot a \cdots a \text{ (ntimes)}$ $(a \cdot b)^{n} = a^{n} \cdot b^{n}$ $a^{m} \cdot a^{n} = a^{m+n};$ $a^{m} \div a^{n} = a^{m-n}$ $a^{0} = 1$ $a^{-n} = \frac{1}{a^{n}}$

2. We reviewed solving equations and solving rational equations by multiplying both sides of the equation with the denominator, for example.

$$\frac{(x+1)}{3} = 7$$
$$\frac{(x+1)}{3} \times 3 = 7 \times 3$$
$$(x+1) = 21$$
$$x = 20$$

We also revised the *identities*:

$$(a + b)^{2} = a^{2} + 2ab + b^{2}$$
$$(a - b)^{2} = a^{2} - 2ab + b^{2}$$
$$(a + b)(a - b) = a^{2} - b^{2}$$

And *factorizing*:

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

... and used them to solve equations.

We solved equations with exponents: $a^x = a^c$ and found out that if we have equal bases we need only compare the exponents (powers) to find the unknown: x = c.

So, we need to find a way to rewrite the equations where both sides have the same base.

Geometry: Angles



From both these pieces of information we can show that the sum of angles in a triangle is always 180°.



Homework



- 5. What type of triangle has one angle equal to the sum of the other two?
- 6. Find each of the outside angles of a right-triangle, if one of its angles is 58°.
- 7. Consider the sequence 7, 72, 73, \dots .7n \dots

(a) Show that there will be two numbers in this sequence which have the same last two digits. [*Hint: pigeonhole principle!*]

(b) Show that from some moment, the last two digits of numbers in this sequence will start repeating periodically.