

Rational numbers.

Positive rational number is a number which can be represented as a ratio of two natural numbers:

$$a = \frac{p}{q}; \quad p, q \in N$$

As we know such number is also called a fraction, p in this fraction is a nominator and q is a denominator.

Basic property of fraction: nominator and denominator of the fraction can be multiplied by any non-zero number n , resulting the same fraction:

$$a = \frac{p}{q} = \frac{p \cdot n}{q \cdot n}$$

In the case that numbers p and q do not have common prime factors, the fraction $\frac{p}{q}$ is irreducible fraction. If $p < q$, the fraction is called “proper fraction”, if $p > q$, the fraction is called “improper fraction”.

If the denominator of fraction is a power of 10, this fraction can be represented as a finite decimal, for example,

$$\frac{37}{100} = \frac{37}{10^2} = 0.37, \quad \frac{3}{10} = \frac{3}{10^1} = 0.3, \quad \frac{12437}{1000} = \frac{12437}{10^3} = 12,437$$

$$10^n = (2 \cdot 5)^n = 2^n \cdot 5^n$$

$$\frac{2}{5} = \frac{2}{5^1} = \frac{2 \cdot 2^1}{5^1 \cdot 2^1} = \frac{4}{10} = 0.4$$

Therefore, any fraction, which denominator is represented by $2^n \cdot 5^m$ can be written in a form of finite decimal.

Periodic decimal

$$\begin{array}{r}
 0.71428571... \\
 7 \overline{) 5.000} \\
 \underline{-00} \\
 50 \\
 \underline{-49} \\
 10 \\
 \underline{-7} \\
 30 \\
 \underline{-28} \\
 20 \\
 \underline{-14} \\
 60 \\
 \underline{-56} \\
 40 \\
 \underline{-35} \\
 50 \\
 \underline{-49} \\
 10 \\

 \end{array}$$

If the denominator of the irreducible fraction has a factor different from 2 and 5, the fraction cannot be represented as a finite decimal. If we try to use the long division process, we will get an infinite periodic decimal.

At each step during this division, we will have a remainder. At some point during the process, we will see the remainder which occurred before.

Process will start to repeat itself. On the example on the left, $\frac{5}{7}$, after 7, 1, 4, 2, 8, 5, remainder 7 appeared again, the fraction $\frac{5}{7}$ can be represented only as an infinite periodic decimal and should be written as $\frac{5}{7} = 0.\overline{714285}$.

(Sometimes you can find the periodic infinite decimal written as $0.\overline{714285} = 0.(714285)$).

How can we represent the periodic decimal as a fraction?

Let's take a look on a few examples: $0.\bar{8}$, $2.35\bar{7}$, $0.\overline{0108}$.

$0.\bar{8}$ $x = 0.\bar{8}$ $10x = 8.\bar{8}$ $10x - x = 8.\bar{8} - 0.\bar{8} = 8$ $9x = 8$ $x = \frac{8}{9}$	$2.35\bar{7}$ $x = 2.35\bar{7}$ $100x = 235.\bar{7}$ $1000x = 2357.\bar{7}$ $1000x - 100x = 2357.\bar{7} - 235.\bar{7}$ $= 2122$ $x = \frac{2122}{900} = \frac{1061}{450}$	$0.\overline{0108}$ $x = 0.\overline{0108}$ $10000x = 108.\overline{0108}$ $10000x - x = 108$ $x = \frac{108}{9999} = \frac{12}{1111}$
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Homework.

1. Evaluate the following fractions:

a. $\frac{2}{3} + 0.6$; b. $1\frac{1}{6} - 0.5$; c. $0.3 \cdot \frac{5}{9}$; d. $\frac{8}{11} : 0.4$;

2. Write as a fraction

a. $0.\bar{5}$, b. 0.5 , c. $0.1\bar{2}$, d. $0.\overline{12}$,

3. The sorcerer used seaweed and mushrooms in a ratio of 5 to 2 when brewing a potion. How much seaweed does he need if there are only 450 grams of mushrooms?

4. The mass of a chicken egg is 80 g. Egg white makes up 55% of the total mass, and the yolk is 75% of the mass of egg white. Find the mass of the eggshell.

5. Evaluate:

$$\left(\frac{12 - \left(2\frac{1}{2} \cdot 3 + 9 : 5 \right)}{\left(1\frac{7}{8} + 2\frac{11}{12} \right) : 3\frac{5}{6} + 0.1} \right)^3$$