

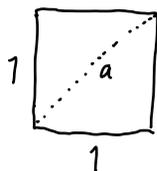
# MANG L3

So far:

Today:

$$\mathbb{N} \subset \mathbb{Z} \subset \mathbb{Q} \subset \mathbb{R}$$

Consider a square



What is the length of the diagonal of the unit square?

By Pythagoras' theorem

$$a^2 = 1^2 + 1^2 = 2$$

So  $a = \sqrt{2}$  the square root of 2

The ancient Greeks proved:

Theorem  $\sqrt{2}$  is not a rational number  
( $\sqrt{2}$  is an irrational number)

Proof

Suppose for contradiction that  $\sqrt{2}$  is rational.

Then we have integers  $m, n \geq 1$  <sup>such that</sup> s.t.  $\sqrt{2} = \frac{m}{n}$

We can assume that  $\frac{m}{n}$  is in reduced form.

We have  $\frac{m^2}{n^2} = 2$  ; i.e. <sup>that is</sup>  $m^2 = 2 \cdot n^2$ .

So 2 divides  $m^2$ . Therefore 2 divides  $m$ .

We can write  $m = 2m'$ .

Because  $m^2 = 2n^2$ , we have  $4(m')^2 = 2n^2$

that is  $2(m')^2 = n^2$

So 2 divides  $n^2$ . Therefore 2 divides  $n$ .

Since 2 divides both  $m$  and  $n$ ,

the fraction  $\frac{m}{n}$  is not in reduced form.

This is a contradiction. Therefore  $\sqrt{2}$  is irrational.

(as has been demonstrated) *quod erat demonstrandum*

Q. E. D.

How do we represent real numbers  
in general?

As decimal expansions

$$\sqrt{2} = 1.41421356 \dots$$

"One point four one four ..."

We need infinitely many digits

digits 0, ..., 9

There is no obvious pattern.

# Ratios

Real numbers often arise as ratios.

Example the recipe for English porridge:

1 part oats <sup>colon</sup> 1 part milk : 1 part water

(quantities measured by volume)

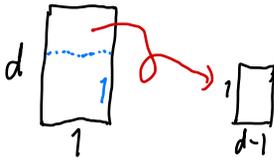
We say "one to one to one"

We can vary the relative proportions of milk and water, but the important invariant is the ratio:

1 part oats : 2 parts liquid

# The golden ratio

The ancient Greeks considered that the most aesthetic rectangle is defined by the following ratio



the second rectangle is similar to the first

This means that

$$\frac{d}{1} = \frac{1}{d-1} \quad ; \quad \text{i.e., } d^2 - d - 1 = 0$$

This is a quadratic equation. It has the form  $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ , with  $a=1$ ,  $b=-1$ ,  $c=-1$ .

Remember the solutions are given by:

$$\frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

$$\phi \approx 1.6180339\dots$$

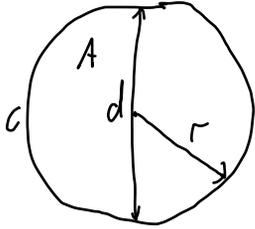
In our case we have

$$d = \frac{1 + \sqrt{1 + 4}}{2}$$

This gives the golden ratio

$$\phi = \frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2}$$

The most famous real number defined as a ratio.



$d$  = diameter

$C$  = circumference

$r$  = radius

$A$  = area

The ratio  $C:d$  is the same irrespective of the size of the circle.

This defines the real number pi (don't confuse with pie)

$$\pi = \frac{C}{d}$$

$\pi$  occurs ubiquitously in mathematics; e.g.,

By definition:  $C = \pi d = 2\pi r$  circumference

$A = \pi r^2$  area of the circle

$V = \frac{4}{3} \pi r^3$  volume of a sphere

$4\pi r^2$  surface area of a sphere

Watch the video: " .. area of a circle "

- Where is the speaker from?

- 2.58 "from thin air"

- 3.28 "concentric"

- 4.59 "unfurl"

} what do these mean?

- At 6.12 what is the mistake in the subtitles?