

# Real Numbers

## INTRODUCTION OF NUMBER SYSTEM

### INTRODUCTION :

#### Natural numbers :

The counting numbers 1,2,3..... are called natural numbers. It is denoted by N.

$$N = \{1,2,3,\dots\}$$

#### Whole numbers :

In the set of natural number if we include the number 0, the resulting set is known as the set of whole numbers. It is represented by W.

$$W = \{0,1,2,\dots\}$$

#### Integers :

Natural numbers along with 0 and their negatives are called integers and the set of integers is denoted by I

$$I = \{\dots, -4, -3, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots\}$$

#### Rational numbers :

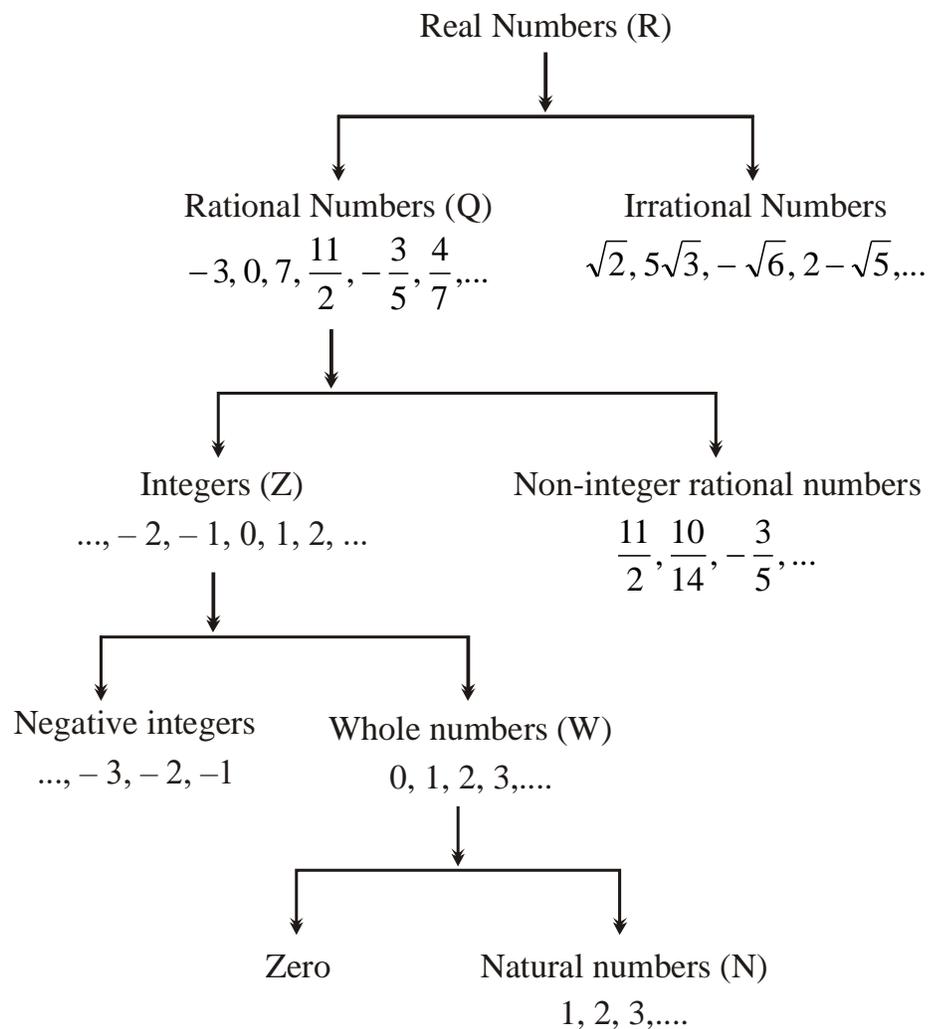
A rational number is a number which can be expressed in the form of  $p/q$ , where p and q are integers and q is not zero.

**Irrational numbers :**

A number is called irrational if it can not be written in the form of  $p/q$ , where  $p$  and  $q$  are integers and  $q \neq 0$

The system  $R$  of real numbers includes rational as well irrational numbers.

In this chapter we will begin with a brief recall of divisibility of integers as well state some important properties of integers.



**RATIONAL NUMBERS****Decimal Representation of Rational Numbers :****i) Finite or Terminating Decimal :**

Every fraction  $p/q$  can be expressed as a decimal, if the decimal expression of  $p/q$  terminates, i.e. comes to an end, then the decimal so obtained is called a terminating decimal.

e.g.,  $1/4 = 0.25$  ,  $5/8 = 0.625$  ,  $2\frac{3}{5} = \frac{13}{5} = 2.6$

Thus, each of the numbers  $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  $\frac{5}{8}$  and  $2\frac{3}{5}$  can be expressed in the form of a terminating decimal.

**Important :** A fraction  $p/q$  is a terminating decimal only, when prime factors of  $q$  are 2 and 5 only.

e.g. Each one of the fractions  $\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\frac{3}{4}$ ,  $\frac{7}{20}$ ,  $\frac{13}{25}$  is a terminating decimal, since the denominator of each has no prime factor other than 2 and 5.

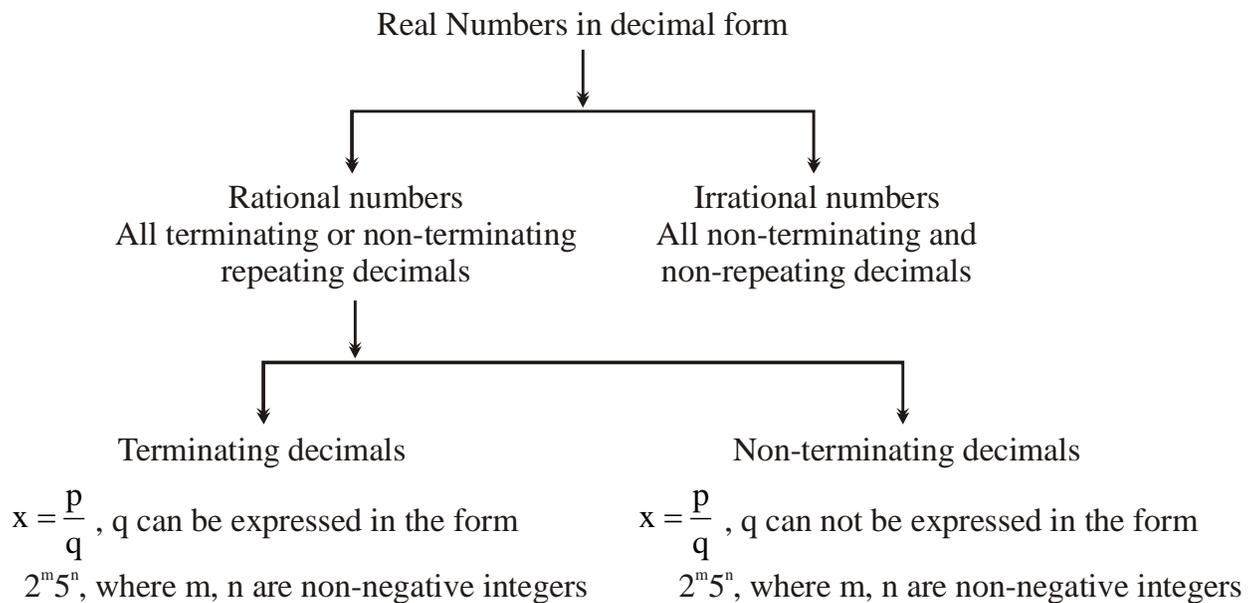
**(ii) Repeating (or Recurring) Decimals:**

A decimal in which a digit or a set of digits repeats periodically, is called a repeating or a recurring decimal.

In a recurring decimal, we place a bar over the first block of the repeating part and omit the other repeating blocks.

e.g. (i)  $\frac{2}{3} = 0.666 \dots\dots\dots = 0.\overline{6}$

(ii)  $\frac{15}{7} = 2.142857142857 \dots\dots\dots = 2.\overline{142857}$



### Special Characteristics of Rational Numbers :

- (i) Every rational number is expressible either as a terminating decimal or as a repeating decimal.
- (ii) Every terminating decimal is a rational number.
- (iii) Every repeating decimal is a rational number.

### Prime numbers :

All natural numbers that have one and itself only as their factors are called prime numbers  
i.e. prime numbers are exactly divisible by 1 and themselves.

**Example :** 2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 13, 17, 19, 23 ....etc.

**Twin Primes :**

The term twin primes is used for a pair of odd prime numbers that differ by two.

**Example :** 3 and 5 are twin primes.

**Co-prime numbers :**

If the H.C.F. of the given numbers (not necessarily prime) is 1 then they are known as co-prime numbers.

**Example :** 5, 6, are co-prime as H.C.F. of (5, 6) = 1.

- Note :**
- (i) 1 is neither prime nor composite number.
  - (ii) 2 is the only prime number which is even.
  - (iii) Any two consecutive numbers will always be co-prime.

**Composite numbers :**

All natural numbers that have more than two different factors are called composite numbers. If C is the set of composite numbers then  $C = \{4,6,8,9,10,12,\dots\}$ .

**Perfect Number :**

If the sum of all factors of a number is twice the number then this number is called perfect number.

If  $2^k - 1 = \text{Prime number}$ , then  $(2^k - 1)(2^k - 1)$  is a perfect number.

**Example :** 6, 28, etc.

**Imaginary Numbers:**

All the numbers whose square is negative are called imaginary numbers.

**Example :**  $2i, -7i, i, \dots$  where  $i = \sqrt{-1}$  ( $i^2 = -1$ ).

**Complex Numbers :**

The combined form of real and imaginary numbers is known as complex numbers. It is denoted by  $Z = a + ib$  where  $a$  is real part and  $b$  is imaginary part of  $Z$  and  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ .

The set of complex numbers is the super set of all the sets of numbers.

**Ex. 1:** Express  $\frac{2157}{625}$  in the decimal form.

**Sol.** We have,

$$\begin{array}{r}
 625 \overline{)2157.0000} \{ 3.4512 \\
 \underline{1875} \\
 2820 \\
 \underline{2500} \\
 3200 \\
 \underline{3125} \\
 750 \\
 \underline{625} \\
 1250 \\
 \underline{1250} \\
 0
 \end{array}$$

$$\therefore \frac{2157}{625} = 3.4512 \text{ Ans.}$$

**Ex. 2:** Find the decimal representation of  $\frac{-16}{45}$ .

**Sol.** By long division, we have

$$\begin{array}{r}
 45 \overline{)160} \quad (0.3555 \\
 \underline{135} \\
 250 \\
 \underline{225} \\
 250 \\
 \underline{225} \\
 250 \\
 \underline{225} \\
 25
 \end{array}$$

$$\therefore \frac{16}{45} = 0.355 \dots = 0.\overline{35}$$

$$\text{Hence, } \frac{-16}{45} = -0.\overline{35}. \text{ Ans.}$$

### Conversion of Decimal Numbers into Rational Numbers of the form p/q :

#### (i) Procedure for terminating decimal :

**Step. 1 :** Count the number of numerals to the right of the decimal point. Let it be m.

**Step. 2 :** Drop the decimal point and in the denominator write 1 followed by m zeros.

**Step. 3 :** Simplify the fraction.

**Ex. 3:** Convert 6.225 to the form p/q.

**Sol.** 1. Number of numerals to the right of decimal is 3 i.e. m = 3.

2. Write  $6.225 = \frac{6225}{1000}$

3. Simplify (divide the numerator and denominator by 25)  $= 6.225 = \frac{249}{40}$

#### (ii) Conversion of Pure Recurring Decimal to the form p/q.

**Step.1 :** Obtain the repeating decimal and put it equal to x.

**Step 2 :** Write the number in decimal form by removing bar from the top of repeating digits and listing repeating digits at least twice :

e.g. write  $x = 0.\overline{8}$  as  $x = 0.888 \dots\dots$

**Step 3 :** Determine the no. of digits having bar on their heads.

**Step 4 :** If the repeating decimal has 1 place repetition, multiply by 10, a two place repetition, multiply by 100, a three place repetition, multiply by 1000 and so on.

**Step 5 :** Subtract the number in step II from the numbers obtained in step IV.

**Step 6 :** Divide both sides of the equation by the coefficient of x.

**Step 7 :** Write the rational number in its simplest form.

**Ex. 4 :** Express  $0.\overline{585}$  in the form p/q.

**Sol.** Let  $x = 0.\overline{585}$

$$x = 0.585585585 \dots\dots\dots \dots\dots(i)$$

Here, we have 3 repeating digits after the decimal point. So, we multiply both sides

of (i) by  $10^3=1000$  to get

$$1000x = 585.585585 \dots\dots\dots \dots\dots(ii)$$

Subtracting (i) from (ii), we get

$$1000x - x = (585.585585 \dots\dots\dots) - (0.585585\dots)$$

$$999x = 585 \quad \Rightarrow \quad x = \frac{585}{999}$$

**(iii) Conversion of a Mixed Recurring Decimal to the form p/q.**

**Step 1 :** Obtain the mixed recurring decimal and write it equal to x.

**Step 2 :** Determine the number of digits after the decimal point which do not have bar on them. Let there be n digits without bar just after the decimal point.

**Step 3 :** Multiply both sides of x by  $10^n$ , so that only the repeating decimal is on the right side of the decimal point.

**Step 4 :** Use the method of converting pure recurring decimal to the form  $p/q$  and obtain the value of  $x$ .

**Ex. 5:** Express  $0.\overline{225}$  in the form  $p/q$ .

**Sol.** Let  $x = 0.\overline{225}$  .....(i)

The no of digits after the decimal point which do not have bar on them is 2.

Multiply both sides of  $x$  by  $10^2$ .

$$100x = 22.\overline{5} \quad \text{.....(ii)}$$

Here, we have 1 repeating digit after the decimal point. So, multiply both sides of (ii) by 10 to get.

$$1000x = 225.55 \text{ .....} \quad \text{.....(iii)}$$

Subtracting (ii) from (iii)

$$1000x - 100x = (225.55\text{.....}) - (22.55\text{.....})$$

$$900x = 203 \Rightarrow x = \frac{203}{900}.$$

### IRRATIONAL NUMBERS :

A number is an irrational number, if it has a non terminating and non-repeating decimal representations. A number that cannot be put in the form  $p/q$  where  $p, q$  are integers and  $q \neq 0$  is called irrational number.

e.g.  $\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{3}, \sqrt{11}$  etc.

**Ex. 6 :** Prove that  $\sqrt{5}$  is an irrational number.

**Sol.** Let us assume on the contrary that  $\sqrt{5}$  is a rational number. Then, there exist co-prime positive integers  $a$  and  $b$  such that

$$= \sqrt{5} \Rightarrow 5b^2 = a^2$$

$$\Rightarrow 5 \mid a^2 \quad [Q 5 \mid 5b^2]$$

$$\Rightarrow 5 \mid a \quad \dots\dots(i)$$

$$\Rightarrow a = 5c \text{ for some positive integer } c$$

$$\Rightarrow a^2 = 25c^2$$

$$\Rightarrow 5b^2 = 25c^2 \quad [Q a^2 = 5c^2]$$

$$\Rightarrow b^2 = 5c^2$$

$$\Rightarrow 5 \mid b^2 \quad [Q 5 \mid 5c^2]$$

$$\Rightarrow 5 \mid b \quad \dots\dots(ii)$$

From (i) and (ii), we find that a and b have at least 5 as a common factor. This contradicts the fact that a and b are co-prime.

Hence,  $\sqrt{5}$  is an irrational number.

**Ex 7:** Prove that  $\sqrt{3}-\sqrt{2}$  is an irrational number.

**Sol.** If possible, let be a rational number equal to x.

$$\text{Then, } x = \sqrt{3}-\sqrt{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 = (\sqrt{3}-\sqrt{2})^2$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 = 3 + 2 - 2\sqrt{3}\sqrt{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 = 5 - 2\sqrt{6}$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 - 5 = -2\sqrt{6}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{5-x^2}{2} = \sqrt{6}$$

Now,  $x$  is rational

$\Rightarrow x^2$  is rational

$\Rightarrow \frac{5-x^2}{2}$  is rational

$\Rightarrow \sqrt{6}$  is rational.

But,  $\sqrt{6}$  is irrational.

Thus, we arrive at a contradiction. So, our supposition that  $\sqrt{3}-\sqrt{2}$  is rational, is wrong.

Hence,  $\sqrt{3}-\sqrt{2}$  is an irrational number. **Ans.**

#### Some Properties of irrational numbers :

- (a) The -ve of an irrational number is an irrational number.
- (b) The sum of a rational and an irrational number is an irrational number.
- (c) The product of a non-zero rational number with an irrational number is always an irrational number.

#### REAL NUMBERS :

The collection of real numbers consists of all the rational and irrational numbers and is denoted by  $R$ .

Every real number corresponds to a point on the line and conversely, every point on the number line represents a real number.

**Ex.8** Insert a rational and an irrational number between 2 and 3.

**Sol.** If  $a$  and  $b$  are two positive rational numbers such that  $ab$  is not a perfect square of a rational number, then  $\sqrt{ab}$  is an irrational number lying between  $a$  and  $b$ . Also, if  $a, b$  are rational numbers, then  $\frac{a+b}{2}$  is a rational number between them.

$\therefore$  A rational number between 2 and 3 is

$$\frac{2+3}{2} = 2.5$$

An irrational number between 2 and 3 is

$$\sqrt{2 \times 3} = \sqrt{6}$$

**Ex.9** Find two irrational numbers between 2 and 2.5.

**Sol.** If  $a$  and  $b$  are two distinct positive rational numbers such that  $ab$  is not a perfect square of a rational number, then  $\sqrt{ab}$  is an irrational number lying between  $a$  and  $b$ .

$\therefore$  Irrational number between 2 and 2.5 is

$$\sqrt{2 \times 2.5} = \sqrt{5}$$

Similarly, irrational number between 2 and  $\sqrt{5}$  is  $\sqrt{2 \times \sqrt{5}}$

So, required numbers are  $\sqrt{5}$  and  $\sqrt{2 \times \sqrt{5}}$ .

**Ex.3** Find two irrational numbers lying between  $\sqrt{2}$  and  $\sqrt{3}$ .

**Sol.** We know that, if  $a$  and  $b$  are two distinct positive irrational numbers, then  $\sqrt{ab}$  is an irrational number lying between  $a$  and  $b$ .

$\therefore$  Irrational number between  $\sqrt{2}$  and  $\sqrt{3}$  is  $\sqrt{\sqrt{2} \times \sqrt{3}} = \sqrt{\sqrt{6}} = 6^{1/4}$

Irrational number between  $\sqrt{2}$  and  $6^{1/4}$  is  $\sqrt{\sqrt{2} \times 6^{1/4}} = 2^{1/4} \times 6^{1/8}$ .

Hence required irrational number are  $6^{1/4}$  and

$2^{1/4} \times 6^{1/8}$ .

**Ex.5** Prove that

(i)  $\sqrt{2}$  is irrational number

(ii)  $\sqrt{3}$  is irrational number

**Similarly**  $\sqrt{5}, \sqrt{7}, \sqrt{11}, \dots$  are irrational numbers.

**Sol.** (i) Let us assume, to the contrary, that  $\sqrt{2}$  is rational.

So, we can find integers  $r$  and  $s$  ( $\neq 0$ ) such that  $\sqrt{2} = \frac{r}{s}$ .

Suppose  $r$  and  $s$  not having a common factor other than 1. Then, we divide by the

common factor to get  $\sqrt{2} = \frac{a}{b}$ , where  $a$  and  $b$  are coprime.

So,  $b\sqrt{2} = a$ .

Squaring on both sides and rearranging, we get  $2b^2 = a^2$ . Therefore, 2 divides  $a^2$ .

Now, by Theorem it following that 2 divides  $a$ .

So, we can write  $a = 2c$  for some integer  $c$ .

Substituting for  $a$ , we get  $2b^2 = 4c^2$ , that is,

$$b^2 = 2c^2.$$

This means that 2 divides  $b^2$ , and so 2 divides  $b$  (again using Theorem with  $p = 2$ ).

Therefore,  $a$  and  $b$  have at least 2 as a common factor.

But this contradicts the fact that  $a$  and  $b$  have no common factors other than 1.

This contradiction has arisen because of our incorrect assumption that  $\sqrt{2}$  is rational.

So, we conclude that  $\sqrt{2}$  is irrational

- (ii) Let us assume, to contrary, that  $\sqrt{3}$  is rational. That is, we can find integers a and b ( $\neq 0$ ) such that  $\sqrt{3} = \frac{a}{b}$ .

Suppose a and b not having a common factor other than 1, then we can divide by the common factor, and assume that a and b are coprime.

So,  $b\sqrt{3} = a$ .

Squaring on both sides, and rearranging, we get  $3b^2 = a^2$ .

Therefore,  $a^2$  is divisible by 3, and by Theorem, it follows that a is also divisible by 3.

So, we can write  $a = 3c$  for some integer c.

Substituting for a, we get  $3b^2 = 9c^2$ , that is,  $b^2 = 3c^2$ .

This means that  $b^2$  is divisible by 3, and so b is also divisible by 3 (using Theorem with  $p = 3$ ).

Therefore, a and b have at least 3 as a common factor.

But this contradicts the fact that a and b are coprime.

This contradicts the fact that a and b are coprime.

This contradiction has arisen because of our incorrect assumption that  $\sqrt{3}$  is rational.

So, we conclude that  $\sqrt{3}$  is irrational

**Ex.6** Prove that  $7-\sqrt{3}$  is irrational

**Sol.** Let  $7-\sqrt{3}$  is rational number

$$\therefore 7-\sqrt{3}=\frac{p}{q} \text{ (p, q are integers, } q \neq 0)$$

$$\therefore 7-\frac{p}{q}=\sqrt{3}$$

$$\Rightarrow \sqrt{3}=\frac{7q-p}{q}$$

Here p, q are integers

$$\therefore \frac{7q-p}{q} \text{ is also integer}$$

$\therefore$  LHS =  $\sqrt{3}$  is also integer but this is contradiction that  $\sqrt{3}$  is irrational so our assumption is wrong that  $(7-\sqrt{3})$  is rational

$\therefore 7-\sqrt{3}$  is irrational proved.