

Lecture 3

Welcome to MAT 250!

MAT 250
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Definitions

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Brightspace

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Brightspace for MAT 250.01

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Activities:

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Grading:

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Midterm 2	25%
Final (5/14)	35%
HW	15%
Quizzes	5%

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The **final grade** is the **maximum** of the score for final exam and the total grade calculated according to the scheme described above.

What we have learned so far

A **proposition** is a sentence that is either true or false.

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We call true and false **truth values** or **Boolean values** and denote by **T** or **F**.

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P	Q	$P \wedge Q$	$P \vee Q$	$P \implies Q$	$P \iff Q$
T	T	T	T	T	T
T	F	F	T	F	F
F	T	F	T	T	F
F	F	F	F	T	T

P	$\neg P$
T	F
F	T

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Boolean functions vs. propositional forms

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In Calculus their counterparts are **polynomials**.

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Theorem. Any Boolean function of finitely many variable which is not identically false has a full disjunctive normal form.

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Conjunction and disjunction are involved in a few simple relations, which allow to simplify a disjunctive normal form.

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In order to answer, we need to study \implies and \iff .

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Proof.

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$$\begin{aligned} P \wedge (P \implies Q) \\ \iff P \wedge (\neg P \vee Q) \end{aligned}$$

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□

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Conclusion. the connective \implies is needed for **growth** of theories.

Objectives

MAT 250
Lecture 3
Definitions

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- What are definitions **for**?
- Where do definitions **come from**?
- What is the **structure** of a definition?
- Why is it important to **remember** definitions?
- How can we **work with** definitions?
- How should we **read** a mathematical text?

The nature of a mathematical definition

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Let us illustrate the nature of a mathematical definition

using the definition of a rational number.

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The definition also explains which number is not rational:
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Give a **definition**, not just an example!

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Definition (music). A **counterpoint** is the technique of combining several independent musical lines that are harmonically dependent.

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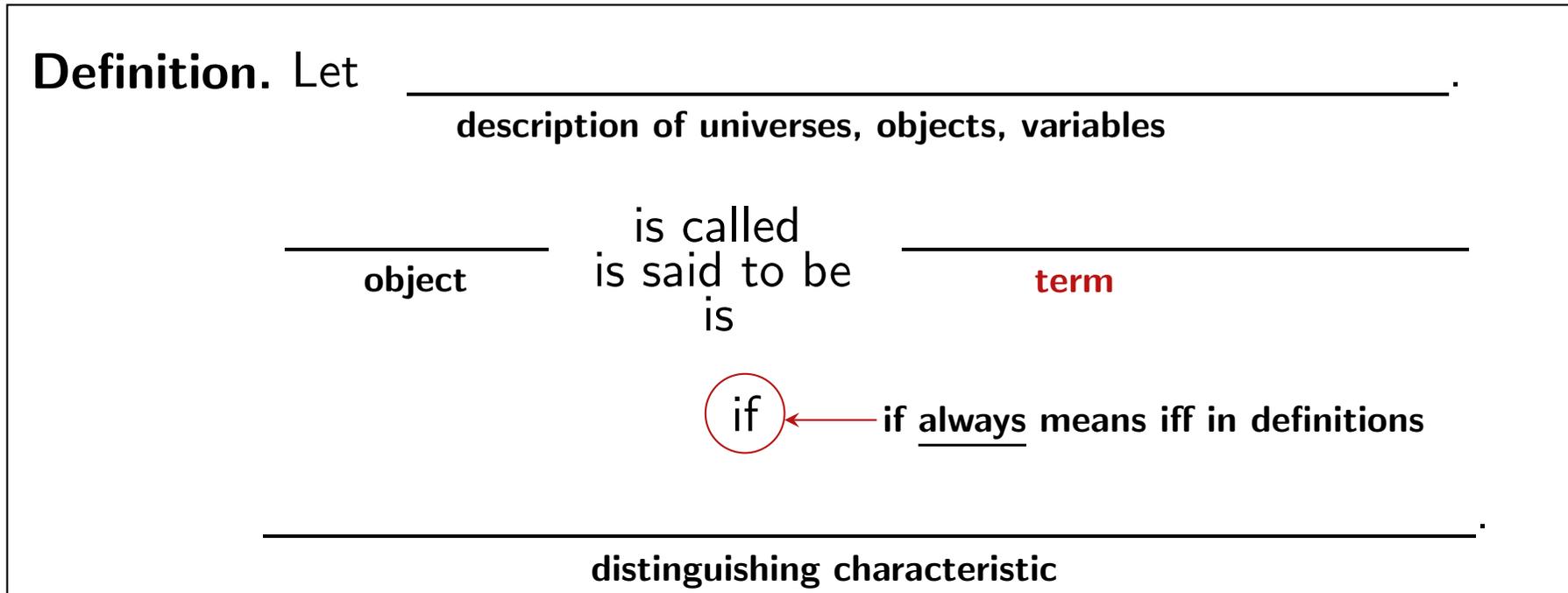
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What happens if we omit the universal quantifier \forall ?

The statement $f(-x) = f(x)$ becomes ambiguous:

for which values of x does this hold?

What happens if we change universal to existential quantifier?

This gives a statement with a different meaning: $f(-x) = f(x)$ for some $x \in \mathbb{R}$.

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Definition of divisibility

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4. Why $d \neq 0$? Why we can't divide by 0 ?

How to use definition in a proof

Let us see how this definition is used in the proof of a theorem.

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There is no special notation for a prime number,

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Answer: Yes, it is true that if a integer greater than 1 is not prime, then it is composite.

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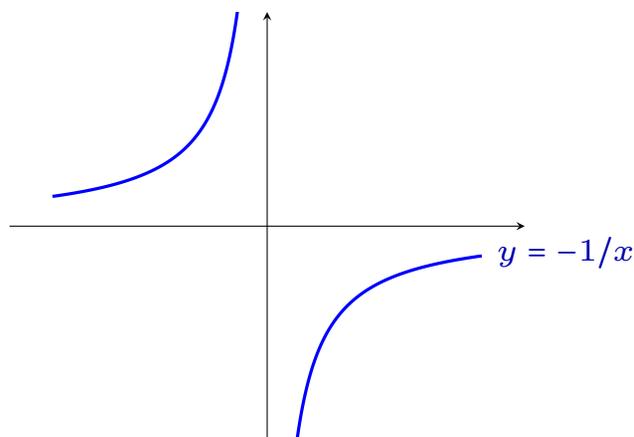
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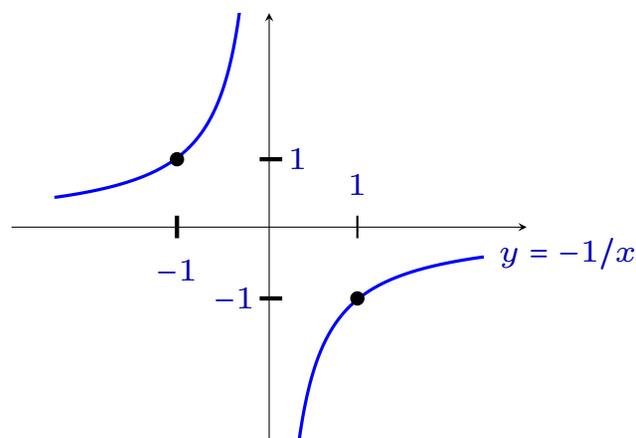
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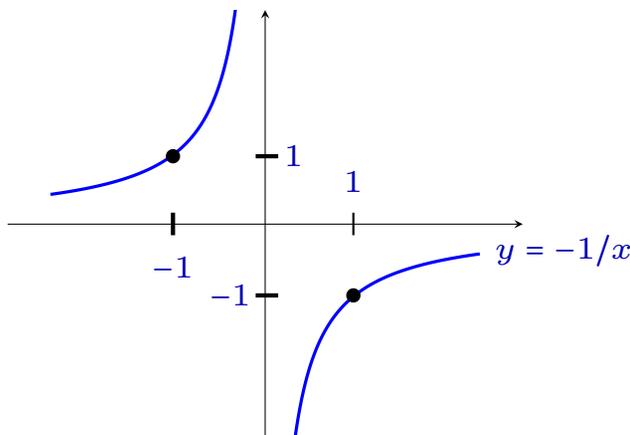
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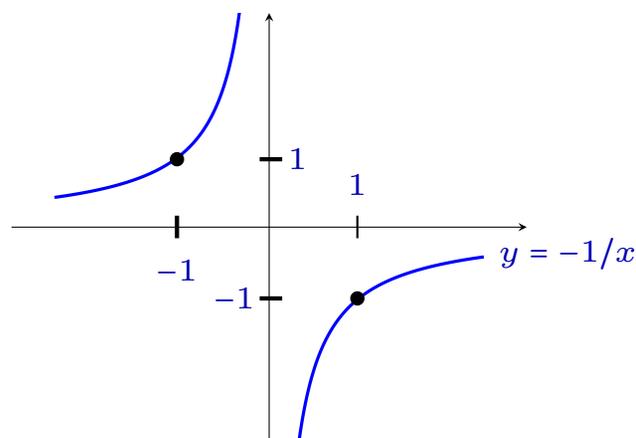
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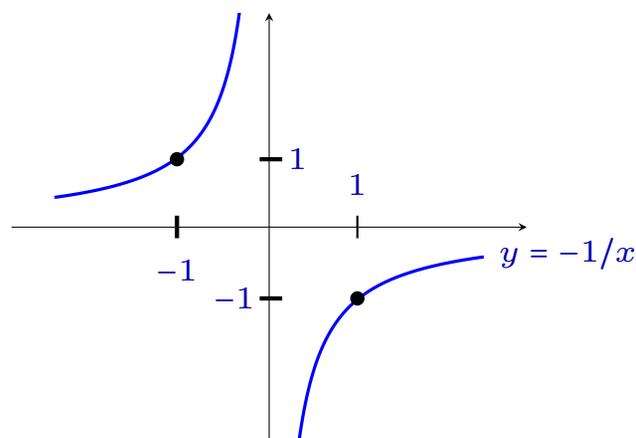
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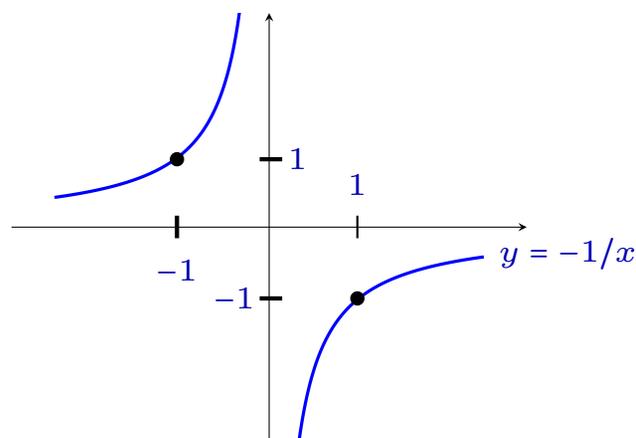
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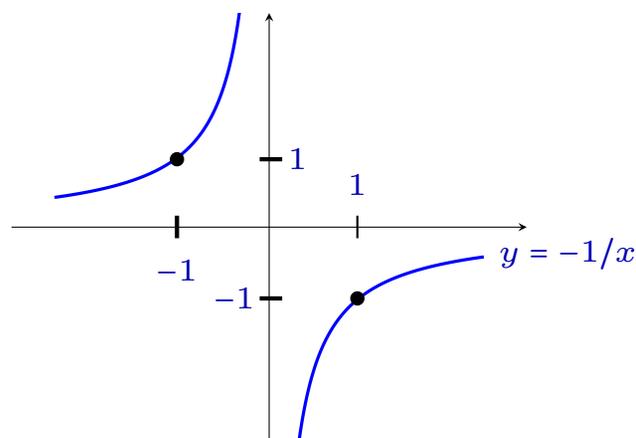
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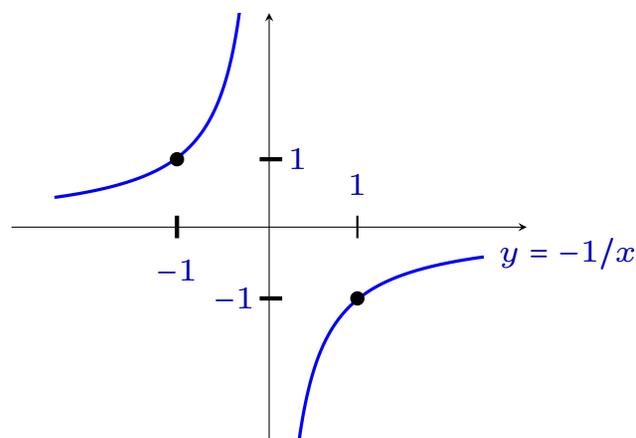
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- Each integer also has its **inverse**, or opposite – a number that cancels it out: $a + (-a) = (-a) + a = 0$.

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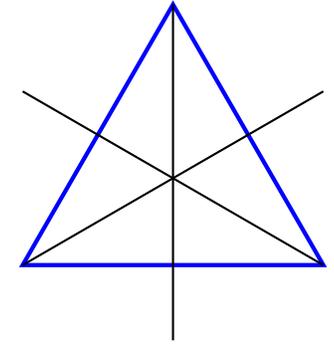
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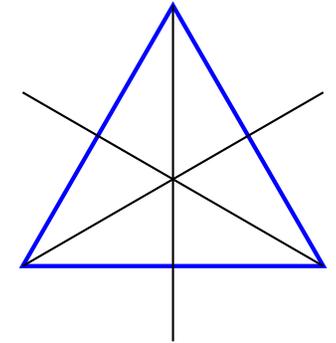


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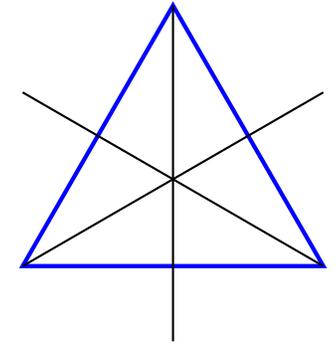


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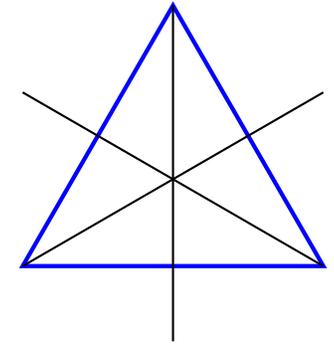
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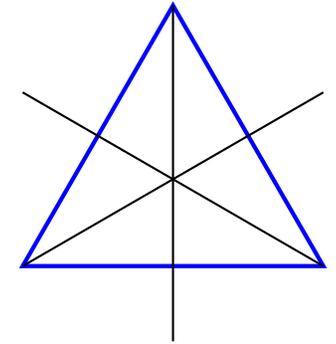
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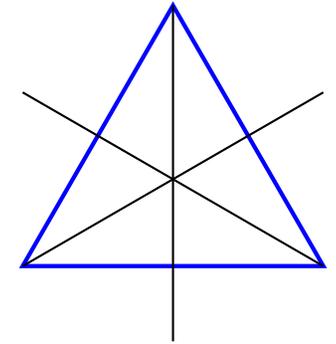
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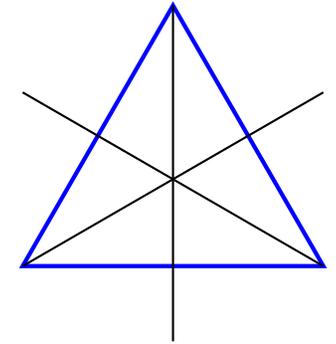
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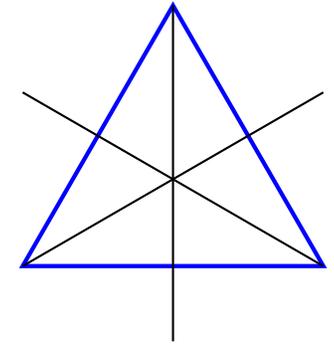
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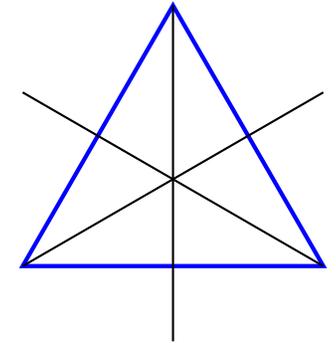
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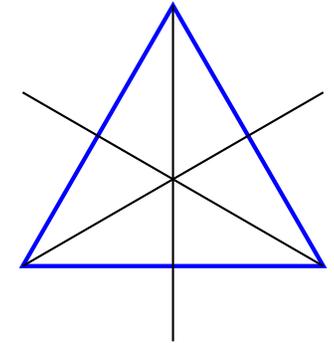
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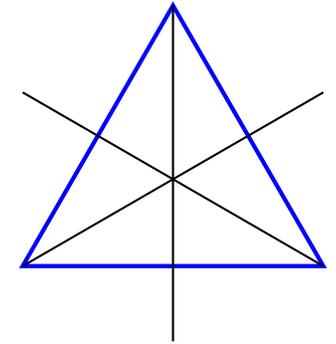
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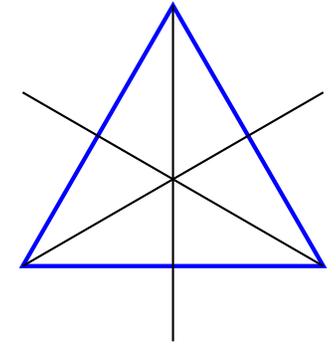
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- three clockwise **rotations** by 120° , 240° , 360° (which is the identity transformation, or rotation by 0°),
- and three **reflections**, each across a line of symmetry through a vertex and the midpoint of the opposite side.



The **composition** of any two of these symmetries is again a symmetry (you can verify this). We say that the set of symmetries is **closed** under composition.

The fact that every symmetry of the triangle is one of these six or a composition of them requires proof.

Now observe the familiar structure:

- **Associativity:** Composition of symmetries is associative, just like any composition of functions.
- **Identity element:** The identity transformation (rotation by 0°) acts as a neutral element.
- **Inverses:** Every symmetry has an inverse that undoes its effect.

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This leads to the definition of a **group**.

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In the next rounds, you explore examples, and then engage in a careful, detailed reading of the proofs.

Let us read!

Let's try to read an excerpt from a math textbook. We are not expected to fully understand the mathematical content at this point. Instead, our goal is to analyze the logical structure of the text. Identify and mark elements such as definitions, notations, theorems, proofs, examples, exercises, and any other structural components.

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As the first step towards classifying the lengths which can be constructed by straightedge and compass, this chapter introduces the concept of an algebraic number. Each such number will satisfy many polynomial equations and our immediate goal is to choose the simplest one.

A number $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}$ is said to be *algebraic over a field* $\mathbb{F} \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ if there exists a nonzero polynomial $f(x) \in \mathbb{F}[x]$ such that α is a zero of $f(x)$.

For each field \mathbb{F} , every number α in \mathbb{F} is algebraic over \mathbb{F} because α is a zero of the polynomial $f(x) = x - \alpha \in \mathbb{F}[x]$. This implies that e and π are algebraic over \mathbb{R} , though they are not algebraic over \mathbb{Q} as we will prove later.

Let us read!

The number $\sqrt{2}$ is algebraic over \mathbb{Q} because it is zero of the polynomial $f(x) = x^2 - 2$, which is nonzero and has coefficients in \mathbb{Q} .

In order to show that a number is algebraic, we look for a suitable polynomial having that number as zero. Try to prove that $1 + \sqrt{3}$ is algebraic over \mathbb{Q} .

It is useful to be able to recognize the definition of “algebraic over a field \mathbb{F} ” when it appears in different guises: a number $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}$ is algebraic over $\mathbb{F} \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ if and only if there is a positive integer n such that $\{1, \alpha, \alpha^2, \dots, \alpha^{n-1}, \alpha^n\}$ are linearly dependent over \mathbb{F} .

Indeed, if $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}$ is algebraic over $\mathbb{F} \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ then there exists a polynomial $f(x) = a_0 + a_1x + \dots + a_nx^n$, whose coefficients a_0, a_1, \dots, a_n all belong to \mathbb{F} , at least one of these coefficients is nonzero, and $f(\alpha) = 0$, that is

$$a_0 + a_1\alpha + a_2\alpha^2 + \dots + a_{n-1}\alpha^{n-1} + a_n\alpha^n = 0. \quad (*)$$

Let us read!

Since \mathbb{F} is a subfield of \mathbb{C} , we can regard \mathbb{C} as a vector space over \mathbb{F} . The numbers $1, \alpha, \alpha^2, \dots, \alpha^{n-1}, \alpha^n$ are all elements in \mathbb{C} , and hence can be regarded as vectors in the vector space \mathbb{C} over \mathbb{F} .

The coefficients $a_0, a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{n-1}, a_n$, on the other hand, are all in \mathbb{F} so we can regard them as scalars. Thus, the equality $(*)$ can be interpreted as a linear dependence of vectors $1, \alpha, \alpha^2, \dots, \alpha^{n-1}, \alpha^n$ in \mathbb{C} .

You will often meet the terms “algebraic number” and “transcendental number” where no field is specified. In such cases the field is taken to be \mathbb{Q} . We formalize this as follows.

A complex number is said to be an *algebraic number* if it is algebraic over \mathbb{Q} ; a *transcendental number* if it is not algebraic over \mathbb{Q} .
