

What to bring to class:
Ask students to bring PM
4A and 5A.

6.6 Fractions as Numbers

[SAY: Understanding fraction arithmetic becomes increasingly important as students prepare for algebra.]

Fraction arithmetic is developed using many arithmetic problems like the following:

Ex HW set 29, Prob 2d

$$\begin{aligned} [(\frac{1}{4} \cdot \frac{3}{4}) + (\frac{2}{3} \div \frac{4}{3})] \div \frac{11}{12} &= (\frac{1}{4} \cdot \frac{3}{4} + \frac{2}{3} \cdot \frac{3}{4}) \cdot \frac{12}{11} && \text{R5} \\ &= (\frac{1}{4} + \frac{2}{3}) \cdot \frac{3}{4} \cdot \frac{12^3}{11} && \text{distributive Prop.} \\ &= (\frac{3}{12} + \frac{8}{12}) \cdot \frac{9}{11} && \text{R1, R4} \\ &= \frac{11}{12} \cdot \frac{9}{11} && \text{R2} \\ &= \frac{3}{4} && \text{R4, R1} \end{aligned}$$

Students do rest of the problems in HW set 29, Prob 2. (in groups of 2, 5 min.)

Fraction Arithmetic - mathematics

[SAY: We used models and interpretations to generate the 5 rules of fractions.

Is it possible to use different models and interpretations to generate different (but valid) fraction rules?

Then, for instance, each country or classroom could have a different way to add fractions!]

Recall from § 4.2

"All identities (in particular, the arith. rules) can be derived from the arith. properties."

Thus

Arith. properties \Rightarrow Rules 1-5 \Rightarrow fraction arithmetic.

We are forced to make these rules -

they do not depend upon the models or interpretations.

To show this, we assume there is a set called "fractions" and

- There is some way to + and \times them
- They satisfy the arithmetic properties (Any order, dist, identity)

The Multiplicative inverse property

For each nonzero fraction x there is a unique fraction called the inverse, $\frac{1}{x}$ such that

$$x \cdot \frac{1}{x} = 1.$$

Fraction: 1, 2, 3, 4, \dots , $\frac{3}{4}$



Inverse: 1, $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{3}$, $\frac{1}{4}$, \dots , $\frac{1}{\frac{3}{4}}$

$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}$
fractional unit

Def Each fraction can be represented by a multiple of a fractional unit:

$$\frac{a}{b} = a \cdot \frac{1}{b}.$$

To prove "properties \Rightarrow rules" we need the following lemma:

Lemma Assuming only arithmetic properties,

$$\frac{1}{a} \cdot \frac{1}{b} = \frac{1}{ab} \quad \text{for } a, b \neq 0.$$

[SAY: The multiplication of 2 fractional units is again a fractional unit.]

Proof

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{a} \cdot \frac{1}{b} &= \frac{1}{a} \cdot \frac{1}{b} \cdot 1 && \text{mult. identity} \\ &= \frac{1}{a} \cdot \frac{1}{b} \cdot (ab) \frac{1}{ab} && \text{mult. inverse} \\ &= (a \cdot \frac{1}{a}) (b \cdot \frac{1}{b}) \cdot \frac{1}{ab} && \text{Any order} \\ &= 1 \cdot 1 \cdot \frac{1}{ab} && \text{mult. inv.} \\ &= \frac{1}{ab} && \text{mult. identity} \end{aligned}$$

Thm Rules 1-5 follow from the def. of fractions and the arithmetic property.

Proof

Rule 1 $\frac{an}{bn} = \frac{a}{b}$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{an}{bn} &= (an) \frac{1}{bn} = an \cdot \frac{1}{b} \cdot \frac{1}{n} = (a \cdot \frac{1}{b}) (n \cdot \frac{1}{n}) \\ &\quad \text{def.} \quad \text{Lemma} \quad \text{any order} \\ &= \frac{a}{b} \cdot 1 \quad \text{def of fractions, mult. inverse} \\ &= \frac{a}{b} \quad \text{mult. id.} \end{aligned}$$

Rule 2 $\frac{a}{b} + \frac{c}{b} = a \cdot \frac{1}{b} + c \cdot \frac{1}{b} = (a + c) \frac{1}{b} = \frac{a+c}{b}$

def dist. prop def

Rule 3 $a \div b = \frac{a}{b}$

def. of div.

$a \div b = x \Leftrightarrow a = bx$. Multiply by $\frac{1}{b}$

$$a \cdot \frac{1}{b} = \frac{1}{b} (bx) = \left(\frac{1}{b} \cdot b\right)x = 1 \cdot x = x$$

any order mult. inv. mult. id.

so $a \div b = x = a \cdot \frac{1}{b} = \frac{a}{b}$
def. of frac.

Rule 4 HW

Rule 5 By def, $\frac{a}{b} \div \frac{c}{d} = x \Leftrightarrow \frac{a}{b} = \frac{c}{d}x$.

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{a}{b} \cdot \frac{d}{c} &= \frac{d}{c} \left(\frac{c}{d}x\right) = \frac{dc}{dc} \cdot x = (dc \cdot \frac{1}{dc})x \\ &\quad \text{any order} \quad \text{def of} \\ &\quad \text{R4} \quad \text{fractions} \\ &= 1 \cdot x \quad \text{mult. inverse} \\ &= x \quad \text{mult. id.} \end{aligned}$$

Thus $\frac{a}{b} \div \frac{c}{d} = x = \frac{a}{b} \cdot \frac{d}{c}$

Note:

$$\frac{1}{\frac{a}{b}} = 1 \div \frac{a}{b} = 1 \cdot \frac{b}{a} = \frac{b}{a}$$

Rule 3 R5 Mult. id.

"Inverses are the same as reciprocals!"

HW Read § 6.6. Do HW set 29. Bring Primary math 5A & 6A to next 3 lectures.