Course Intro

I. The Branches of Mathematics

 $According \ to \ the \ Greeks...$

II. A Beastiary of Number Systems



According to the Geeks...



Central to all branches:

<u>Numbers</u>

What are they?

Most basic type: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, ...

<u>BUT</u>: Many other types!

ASIDE: Philosophers like to be pedantic and make the distinction between *numbers*, which are *concepts* of some sort, and *numerals*, which are *symbols* we use to represent numbers. Thus the symbols 1, 2, 3, 4, ... are numerals that represent the numbers one, two, three, four, *etc.* Just as I, II, III, IV, are (Roman) numerals that represent the same numbers. We won't be so pendantic in our usage of the term "number".

II. A Beastiary of Number Systems

Natural numbers.
$$\mathbb{N} = \{0, 1, 2, 3, ...\}$$
zero!Integers. $\mathbb{Z} = \{..., -3, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3, ...\}$ negative numbers!Rational numbers. $\mathbb{Q} = \left\{ all numbers that can be written as the ratio of two integers $\mathbb{Q} = \left\{ all p/q, where p, q \in \mathbb{Z}, and q \neq 0 \right\}$ Can't divide by 0:
fir would, then since $n \neq 0$
for any numbers $n, m,$
we could have $n = m$
for any $n, m.$ Irrational numbers $1/2 = 0.5000...$
 $1/3 = 0.3333...$
 $1/7 = 0.142857142857...$ decimal expansions
have repeating patterns
have repeating patterns
 $1/7 = 0.142857142857...$ Irrational numbers $= \left\{ all numbers that cannot be writtenas the ratio of two integers \right\}$ $\sqrt{2} = 1.4142135...$
 $\pi = 3.141592653...$
 $e = 2.7182818284...$ decimal expansions do not
have repeating patterns$

Real numbers. $\mathbb{R} = \{ \text{rational numbers and irrational numbers} \}$

Complex numbers. $\mathbb{C} = \{ \text{all } p + iq, \text{ where } p, q \in \mathbb{R}, \text{ and } i^2 = -1 \}$

Complex multiplication

$$(2 + i3) \times (1 + i6) = (2 \times 1) + (2 \times i6) + (i3 \times 1) + (i3 \times i6)$$
$$= 2 + i12 + i3 - 18$$
$$= -16 + i15$$

Geometric representations

 $\mathbb R$ - "1-dimensional" number system. Can be represented by a line:



The real number line: Points on a 1-dim line correspond to real numbers.

 $\mathbb C$ - "2-dimensional" number system. Can be represented by a plane:



The complex plane: Points on a 2-dim plane correspond to complex numbers.

Higher dimensional number systems



reversing arrows corresponds to multiplying by -1

Quaternionic multiplication

$$(2 + i3 + j5 + k2) \times (1 + i2 + j2 + k5) = 2 + i4 + j4 + k10 + i3 + i^{2}6 + ij6 + ik15 + j5 + j5 + j10 + j^{2}10 + jk25 + k2 + ki4 + kj4 + k^{2}10$$

$$= 2 + i4 + j4 + k10 + i3 - 6 + k6 - j15 + j5 - k10 - 10 + i25 + k2 + j4 - i4 - 10$$

$$= -24 + i28 - j2 + k8$$
Octonions. $\mathbb{O} = \begin{cases} all \ p + e_{1}q + e_{2}r + e_{3}s + e_{4}t + e_{5}u + e_{6}v + e_{7}w, \\ where \ p, \ q, \ r, \ s, \ t, \ u, \ v \in \mathbb{R}, \\ and \ e_{1}^{2} = e_{2}^{2} = e_{3}^{2} = e_{4}^{2} = e_{5}^{2} = e_{6}^{2} = e_{7}^{2} = -1, \\ with \end{cases}$
(8-dim number system: points on an 8-dim hypercube)
$$e_{4}$$

$$e_{4}$$

$$e_{7}$$

$$e$$

Multiplication Rules for the imaginary numbers. Each set of three numbers connected by three arrows represents a cyclical rule (like the rules for the quaternions). (The vertices of the outer triangle are implicitly connected by arrows.) Reversing arrows corresponds to multiplying by -1.

Sedonions.

 $\mathbb{S} = 16$ -dim number system, with 15 different types of imaginary numbers!

<u>Subtleties</u>:

- The number systems from \mathbb{R} on up form *algebras*. They consist of objects (real numbers and imaginary numbers) with rules for how to add and multiply them. These rules place constraints on the dimension of the system.
- Even more subtle: For all of these number systems, how large are they? How *many* numbers do they contain?



Story to come:

- Historical development of concept of infinity: from early Greeks to the Calculus to 19th century set theory.
- One result: The infinity of real numbers is greater than the infinity of natural numbers!
- Another result: Development of "transfinite" number systems: types of numbers that go beyond the infinities of the natural and real numbers!
- Yet another result: Attempt to base all branches of mathematics on set theory. Sets as fundamental objects of mathematics (more fundamental than numbers!).
- *More recently*: "Categories" (*objects* and *arrows*) as more fundamental than sets and numbers.