

TENTH EDITION

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# BASIC TECHNICAL MATHEMATICS

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ALLYN J. WASHINGTON



# Basic Technical Mathematics with Calculus

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TENTH EDITION

# Basic Technical Mathematics with Calculus

**Allyn J. Washington**  
*Dutchess Community College*

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#### **Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data**

Washington, Allyn J.

Basic technical mathematics with calculus / Allyn J. Washington, Dutchess Community College. — Tenth edition.

pages cm

Includes indexes.

ISBN-13: 978-0-13-311653-3 (hardcover)

ISBN-10: 0-13-311653-0 (hardcover)

1. Mathematics. 2. Calculus. I. Title.

QA37.3.W38 2014

510—dc23

2012039828

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

**PEARSON**

ISBN 10: 0-13-311653-0  
ISBN 13: 978-0-13-311653-3

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# Preface

## Scope of the Book

*Basic Technical Mathematics with Calculus, Tenth Edition*, is intended primarily for students in technical and pre-engineering technical programs or other programs for which coverage of basic mathematics is required.

Chapters 1 through 20 provide the necessary background for further study with an integrated treatment of algebra and trigonometry. Chapter 21 covers the basic topics of analytic geometry, and Chapter 22 gives an introduction to statistics. Fundamental topics of calculus are covered in Chapters 23 through 31. In the examples and exercises, numerous applications from the various fields of technology are included, primarily to indicate where and how mathematical techniques are used. However, it is not necessary that the student have a specific knowledge of the technical area from which any given problem is taken.

Most students using this text will have a background that includes some algebra and geometry. However, the material is presented in adequate detail for those who may need more study in these areas. The material presented here is sufficient for three to four semesters.

One of the principal reasons for the arrangement of topics in this text is to present material in an order that allows a student to take courses concurrently in allied technical areas, such as physics and electricity. These allied courses normally require a student to know certain mathematics topics by certain definite times; yet the traditional order of topics in mathematics courses makes it difficult to attain this coverage without loss of continuity. However, the material in this book can be rearranged to fit any appropriate sequence of topics. Another feature of this text is that certain topics traditionally included for mathematical completeness have been covered only briefly or have been omitted.

The approach used in this text is not unduly rigorous mathematically, although all appropriate terms and concepts are introduced as needed and given an intuitive or algebraic foundation. The aim is to help the student develop an understanding of mathematical methods without simply providing a collection of formulas. The text material is developed recognizing that it is essential for the student to have a sound background in algebra and trigonometry in order to understand and succeed in any subsequent work in mathematics.

## New to This Edition

The tenth edition of *Basic Technical Mathematics with Calculus* includes all the basic features of the earlier editions. Specifically, among the new features of this edition are the following:

- Many sections include revised explanatory material.
- Many examples have been rewritten.
- More examples now include technical applications.
- New exercises are included in nearly all sections.
- A new feature called *Quick Chapter Review* has been added.

- Changing units is now briefly introduced in an example in Section 1.4 with a few margin examples in Chapters 1 and 2. The more complete coverage is included in Appendix B as in earlier editions.

### NEW AND REVISED COVERAGE

A *Quick Chapter Review* before the Review Exercises of each chapter includes several brief true or false questions. Each question actively involves the student in the review and can be answered quickly when the student recognizes the topic covered.

### THE GRAPHING CALCULATOR

The graphing calculator is used throughout the text. The advanced graphing calculator (TI-89) is included primarily for use in the calculus chapters, but also now included are margin references to its use in the earlier chapters. There are over 270 calculator screens.

The coverage starts in Section 1.3, where it is used for calculational purposes, and its use for graphing starts in Section 3.5. Additional coverage of calculators, including 22 graphing calculator programs, is found in Appendix C.

### NEW EXERCISES AND EXAMPLES

There are over 2300 new exercises, including over 500 that illustrate technical and scientific applications. There is a total of over 13,800 exercises, including over 3000 applied exercises, in the tenth edition.

There is a total of over 1400 worked examples, including over 350 that illustrate technical and scientific applications. Of the applied examples, over 60 are new to the tenth edition.

## Continuing Features

### PAGE LAYOUT

Special attention has been given to the page layout. Nearly all examples are started and completed on the same page (of the 1400 examples, there are 9 exceptions, all but one of which are presented on facing pages). Also, all figures are shown immediately adjacent to the material in which they are discussed.

### CHAPTER INTRODUCTIONS

Each chapter introduction illustrates specific examples of how the development of technology has been related to the development of mathematics. In these introductions, it is shown that these past discoveries in technology led to some of the methods in mathematics, whereas in other cases mathematical topics already known were later very useful in bringing about advances in technology.

### SPECIAL EXPLANATORY COMMENTS

Throughout the book, special explanatory comments in color have been used in the examples to emphasize and clarify certain important points. Arrows are often used to indicate clearly the part of the example to which reference is made.

### PROBLEM SOLVING TECHNIQUES

Techniques and procedures that summarize the approaches in solving many types of problems have been clearly outlined in color-shaded boxes.

### IMPORTANT FORMULAS

Throughout the book, important formulas are set off and displayed so that they can be easily referenced for use.

### SUBHEADS AND KEY TERMS

Many sections include subheads to indicate where the discussion of a new topic starts within the section. Other key terms are noted in the margin for emphasis and easy reference.

### SPECIAL CAUTION AND NOTE INDICATORS

**CAUTION** ↗  
**NOTE** ↗

Two special margin indicators (as shown at the left) are used. The caution indicator identifies errors students commonly make or places where they frequently have difficulty. The note indicator points out material that is of particular importance in developing or understanding the topic under discussion. There are now over 450 of these indicators, an increase of over 150.

### CHAPTER AND SECTION CONTENTS

A listing of section titles for each chapter is given on the introductory page of the chapter. Also, a listing of the key topics of each section is given below the section number and title on the first page of the section. This gives the student and instructor a quick preview of the chapter and section contents.

### EXAMPLE DESCRIPTIONS

A brief descriptive title is given with each example number. This gives an easy reference for the example, particularly when reviewing the contents of the section.

### PRACTICE EXERCISES

Most sections include some *practice exercises* in the margin. They are included so that a student is more actively involved in the learning process and can check his or her understanding of the material. They can also be used for classroom exercises. The answers to these exercises are given at the end of the exercises set for the section. There are over 450 of these exercises, of which over 100 are new to the tenth edition.

### EXERCISES DIRECTLY REFERENCED TO TEXT EXAMPLES

The first few exercises in most of the text sections are referenced directly to a specific example of the section. These examples are worded so that it is necessary for the student to refer to the example in order to complete the required solution. In this way, the student should be able to better review and understand the text material before attempting to solve the exercises that follow.

### WRITING EXERCISES

One specific writing exercise is included at the end of each chapter. These exercises give the student practice in explaining their solutions. Also there are over 420 additional exercises through the book (at least seven in each chapter) that require at least a sentence or two of explanation as part of the answer. These are noted by the **W** symbol next to the exercise number. A special index of Writing Exercises is included at the back of the book.

### WORD PROBLEMS

There are over 130 examples throughout the text that show complete solutions of word problems. Of these over 20 are new to the tenth edition. There are nearly 1000 exercises, of which over 200 are new, in which word problems are to be solved.

### EQUATIONS, CHAPTER REVIEW, REVIEW EXERCISES, PRACTICE TESTS

At the end of each chapter, all important equations are listed together for easy reference. Each chapter is also followed by a Quick Chapter Review (as previously noted) and a set of review exercises that covers all the material in the chapter. Following the review exercises is a chapter practice test that students can use to check their understanding of the material. Solutions to all practice test problems are given in the back of the book.

### APPLICATIONS AND UNITS OF MEASUREMENTS

Examples and exercises illustrate the application of mathematics in all fields of technology. Many relate to modern technology such as computer design, electronics, solar energy, lasers fiber optics, the environment, and space technology. Others examples and exercises relate to technologies such as aeronautics, architecture, automotive, business, chemical, civil, construction, energy, environmental, fire science, machine, medical, meteorology, navigation, police, refrigeration, seismology, and wastewater.

## FIGURES

There are over 1600 figures in the text, over 110 (including over 40 new calculator screens) of which are new to the tenth edition.

## MARGIN NOTES

Throughout the text, some margin notes point out relevant historical events in mathematics and technology. Other margin notes are used to make specific comments related to the text material. Also, where appropriate, equations from earlier material are shown for reference in the margin. There is a total of over 430 of these notes, of which over 60 are new to the tenth edition.

## ANSWERS TO EXERCISES

The answers to all odd-numbered exercises (except the end-of-chapter writing exercises) are given near the end of the book. The *Student's Solution Manual* contains solutions to every other odd-numbered exercise and the *Instructor's Solution Manual* contains solutions to all section exercises.

## FLEXIBILITY OF MATERIAL COVERAGE

The order of coverage can be changed in many places and certain sections may be omitted without loss of continuity of coverage. Users of earlier editions have indicated successful use of numerous variations in coverage. Any changes will depend on the type of course and completeness required.

## Supplements

### SUPPLEMENTS FOR THE INSTRUCTOR

To access supplementary materials online, instructors need to request an instructor access code. Go to [www.pearsonhighered.com/irc](http://www.pearsonhighered.com/irc), where you can register for an instructor access code. Within 48 hours after registering, you will receive a confirming email including an instructor access code. Once you have received your code, go to the site and log on for full instructions on downloading the materials you wish to use.

### Instructor's Solutions Manual

The *Instructor's Solution Manual* by Bob Martin contains detailed solutions to every section exercise, including review exercises.

### TestGen with Algorithmically Generated Questions

Instructors can easily create tests from textbook section objectives. Algorithmically generated questions allow unlimited versions. Instructors can edit problems or create their own using the built-in question editor to generate graphs, import graphics, and insert math notation, insert variable numbers, or text. Tests can be printed or administered online via the Web or other network.

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#### SUPPLEMENT FOR THE STUDENT

##### Student’s Solutions Manual (ISBN: 0-13-325351-1)

The *Student’s Solutions Manual* by Bob Martin includes detailed solutions for every other odd-numbered section exercise.

#### Acknowledgments

Special thanks go to Bob Martin and John Garlow, both of Tarrant County College, Arlington, TX, for preparing the *Answer Book*, the *Student’s Solutions Manual*, and the *Instructor’s Solutions Manual*. Thanks also to Suzanne Garlow of Bedford, TX, for the keyboarding and typesetting of these supplements. Also, I again wish to thank Thomas Stark of Cincinnati State Technical and Community College for the *RISERS* approach to solving word problems in Appendix A.

My thanks and gratitude go to Jim Bryant, who drew all of the chapter-opener illustrations. I again greatly appreciate the invaluable help of Bob Martin in checking the answers to all of the exercises.



I gratefully acknowledge the cooperation and support of my editor, Sara Eilert. Also, I wish to acknowledge the very fine work of Nancy Kincade at PreMediaGlobal, who set all the type for this edition.

Also of great assistance during the production of this edition were Rex Davidson, Doug Greive, Jean Choe, Ruth Berry, Carl Cottrell, Eileen Moore, Mary Durnwald, and Marty Wright.

The author gratefully acknowledges the contributions of the following reviewers of the ninth and tenth editions. Their detailed comments and suggestions were of great assistance.

Imad Abouzahr <i>Oklahoma State University</i>	Kellie Knox <i>Southwest Wisconsin Technical College</i>
Laurie Bishop <i>McKicken College</i>	Nestor Komar <i>Niagara College</i>
Ruth Dalrymple <i>St. Philips College</i>	Larry Mason <i>Fairmont State University</i>
Philip J. Darcy <i>Dutchess Community College</i>	Todd Mattson <i>DeVry University, DuPage Campus</i>
Mark Ernsthause <i>Monroe Community College</i>	Scott Randby <i>University of Akron</i>
Raymond Travis Flewelling <i>Wilson Community College</i>	Hank Regis <i>Valencia Community College</i>
Barbara Harris <i>DeVry University—Chicago</i>	Janet Schachtner <i>San Jacinto College</i>
Jeffrey Ingram <i>Atlanta Technical College</i>	Terri Seiver <i>San Jacinto College</i>
Joe Jordan <i>John Tyler Community College</i>	Elizabeth Tregoning <i>Southern Illinois College</i>
Rosa Kavanaugh <i>Ozarks Technical Community College</i>	Richard Watkins <i>Tidewater Community College</i>

Finally, I wish to sincerely thank again each of the over 350 reviewers of the ten editions of this text. Their comments have helped further the education of more than two million students during the fifty years of this text since it was first published in 1964.

A.J.W.

# Basic Technical Mathematics with Calculus

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# [1]

# Basic Algebraic Operations

- 1.1 Numbers
- 1.2 Fundamental Operations of Algebra
- 1.3 Calculators and Approximate Numbers
- 1.4 Exponents
- 1.5 Scientific Notation
- 1.6 Roots and Radicals
- 1.7 Addition and Subtraction of Algebraic Expressions
- 1.8 Multiplication of Algebraic Expressions
- 1.9 Division of Algebraic Expressions
- 1.10 Solving Equations
- 1.11 Formulas and Literal Equations
- 1.12 Applied Word Problems

CHAPTER EQUATIONS  
QUICK CHAPTER REVIEW  
REVIEW EXERCISES  
PRACTICE TEST

Interest in things such as the land on which they lived, the structures they built, and the motion of the planets led people in early civilizations to keep records and to create methods of counting and measuring.

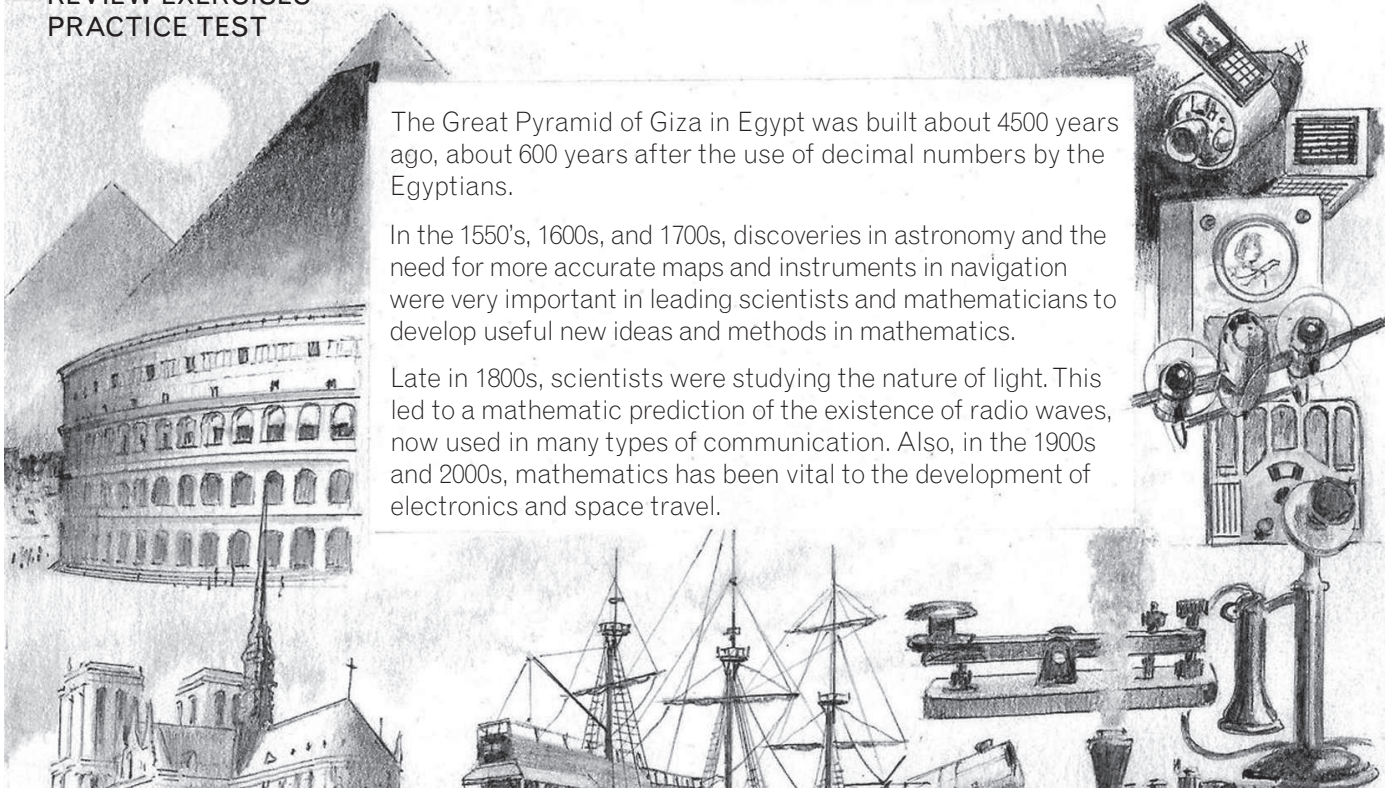
In turn, some of the early ideas of arithmetic, geometry, and trigonometry were developed. From such beginnings, mathematics has played a key role in the great advances in science and technology.

Often, mathematical methods were developed from studies made in sciences, such as astronomy and physics, to better describe and understand the subject being studied. Some of these methods resulted from the needs in a particular area of application.

Many people were interested in the math itself and added to what was then known. Although this additional mathematical knowledge may not have been related to applications at the time it was developed, it often later became useful in applied areas.

In the chapter introductions that follow, examples of the interaction of technology and mathematics are given. From these examples and the text material, it is hoped you will better understand the important role that math has had and still has in technology. In this text, there are applications from technologies including (but not limited to) aeronautical, business, communications, electricity, electronics, engineering, environmental, heat and air conditioning, mechanical, medical, meteorology, petroleum, product design, solar, and space. To solve the applied problems in this text will require a knowledge of the mathematics presented but will *not* require prior knowledge of the field of application.

We begin by reviewing the concepts that deal with numbers and symbols. This will enable us to develop topics in algebra, an understanding of which is essential for progress in other areas such as geometry, trigonometry, and calculus.



The Great Pyramid of Giza in Egypt was built about 4500 years ago, about 600 years after the use of decimal numbers by the Egyptians.

In the 1550's, 1600s, and 1700s, discoveries in astronomy and the need for more accurate maps and instruments in navigation were very important in leading scientists and mathematicians to develop useful new ideas and methods in mathematics.

Late in 1800s, scientists were studying the nature of light. This led to a mathematic prediction of the existence of radio waves, now used in many types of communication. Also, in the 1900s and 2000s, mathematics has been vital to the development of electronics and space travel.

## 1.1 Numbers

Real Number System • Number Line • Absolute Value • Signs of Inequality • Reciprocal • Denominate Numbers • Literal Numbers

■ Irrational numbers were discussed by the Greek mathematician Pythagoras in about 540 B.C.E.

■ For reference,  $\pi = 3.14159265\dots$

■ A notation that is often used for repeating decimals is to place a bar over the digits that repeat. Using this notation we can write  $\frac{1121}{1665} = 0.6732$  and  $\frac{2}{3} = 0.\overline{6}$ .

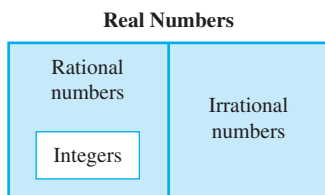


Fig. 1.1

■ Real numbers and imaginary numbers are both included in the *complex number system*. See Exercise 37.

In technology and science, as well as in everyday life, we use the very familiar **counting numbers**, or **natural numbers** 1, 2, 3, and so on. Because it is necessary and useful to use negative numbers as well as positive numbers in mathematics and its applications, the natural numbers are called the **positive integers**, and the numbers  $-1$ ,  $-2$ ,  $-3$ , and so on are the **negative integers**.

Therefore, the **integers** include the *positive integers*, the *negative integers*, and **zero**, which is neither positive nor negative. This means that the integers are the numbers  $\dots$ ,  $-3$ ,  $-2$ ,  $-1$ ,  $0$ ,  $1$ ,  $2$ ,  $3$   $\dots$  and so on.

A **rational number** is a number that can be expressed as the division of one integer  $a$  by another nonzero integer  $b$ , and can be represented by the fraction  $a/b$ . Here  $a$  is the **numerator** and  $b$  is the **denominator**. Here we have used algebra by letting letters represent numbers.

Another type of number, an **irrational number**, cannot be written in the form of a fraction that is the division of one integer by another integer. The following example illustrates integers, rational numbers, and irrational numbers.

**EXAMPLE 1** Identifying rational numbers and irrational numbers

The numbers 5 and  $-19$  are integers. They are also rational numbers because they can be written as  $\frac{5}{1}$  and  $\frac{-19}{1}$ , respectively. Normally, we do not write the 1's in the denominators.

The numbers  $\frac{5}{8}$  and  $\frac{-11}{3}$  are rational numbers because the numerator and the denominator of each are integers.

The numbers  $\sqrt{2}$  and  $\pi$  are irrational numbers. It is not possible to find two integers, one divided by the other, to represent either of these numbers. It can be shown that square roots (and other roots) that cannot be expressed exactly in decimal form are irrational. Also,  $\frac{22}{7}$  is sometimes used as an *approximation* for  $\pi$ , but it is not equal *exactly* to  $\pi$ . We must remember that  $\frac{22}{7}$  is rational and  $\pi$  is irrational.

The decimal number 1.5 is rational since it can be written as  $\frac{3}{2}$ . Any such *terminating decimal* is rational. The number  $0.6666\dots$ , where the 6's continue on indefinitely, is rational because we may write it as  $\frac{2}{3}$ . In fact, any *repeating decimal* (in decimal form, a specific sequence of digits is repeated indefinitely) is rational. The decimal number  $0.6732732732\dots$  is a repeating decimal where the sequence of digits 732 is repeated indefinitely ( $0.6732732732\dots = \frac{1121}{1665}$ ).

The integers, the rational numbers, and the irrational numbers, including all such numbers that are positive, negative, or zero, make up the **real number system** (see Fig. 1.1). There are times we will encounter an **imaginary number**, the name given to the square root of a negative number. Imaginary numbers are not real numbers and will be discussed in Chapter 12. However, unless specifically noted, we will use real numbers. Until Chapter 12, it will be necessary to only *recognize* imaginary numbers when they occur.

Also in Chapter 12, we will consider **complex numbers**, which include both the real numbers and imaginary numbers. See Exercise 37 of this section.

**EXAMPLE 2** Identifying real numbers and imaginary numbers

The number 7 is an integer. It is also rational because  $7 = \frac{7}{1}$ , and it is a real number since the real numbers include all the rational numbers.

The number  $3\pi$  is irrational, and it is real because the real numbers include all the irrational numbers.

The numbers  $\sqrt{-10}$  and  $-\sqrt{-7}$  are imaginary numbers.

The number  $\frac{-3}{7}$  is rational and real. The number  $-\sqrt{7}$  is irrational and real.

The number  $\frac{\pi}{6}$  is irrational and real. The number  $\frac{\sqrt{-3}}{2}$  is imaginary.

■ Fractions were used by early Egyptians and Babylonians. They were used for calculations that involved parts of measurements, property, and possessions.

A **fraction** may contain any number or symbol representing a number in its numerator or in its denominator. The fraction indicates the division of the numerator by the denominator, as we previously indicated in writing rational numbers. Therefore, a fraction may be a number that is rational, irrational, or imaginary.

**EXAMPLE 3 Fractions**

The numbers  $\frac{2}{7}$  and  $\frac{-3}{2}$  are fractions, and they are rational.

The numbers  $\frac{\sqrt{2}}{9}$  and  $\frac{6}{\pi}$  are fractions, but they are not rational numbers. It is not possible to express either as one integer divided by another integer.

The number  $\frac{\sqrt{-5}}{6}$  is a fraction, and it is an imaginary number. ■

**The Number Line**

Real numbers may be represented by points on a line. We draw a horizontal line and designate some point on it by  $O$ , which we call the **origin** (see Fig. 1.2). The integer zero is located at this point. Equal intervals are marked to the right of the origin, and the positive integers are placed at these positions. The other positive rational numbers are located between the integers. The points that cannot be defined as rational numbers represent irrational numbers. We cannot tell whether a given point represents a rational number or an irrational number unless it is specifically marked to indicate its value.

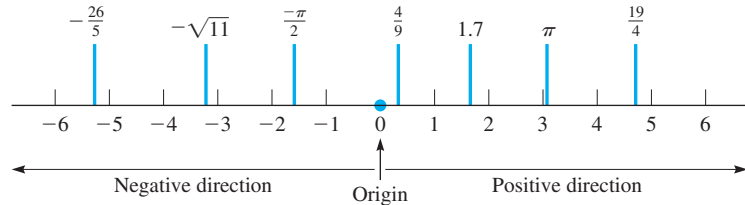


Fig. 1.2

The negative numbers are located on the number line by starting at the origin and marking off equal intervals to the left, which is the **negative direction**. As shown in Fig. 1.2, the positive numbers are to the right of the origin and the negative numbers are to the left of the origin. Representing numbers in this way is especially useful for graphical methods.

We next define another important concept of a number. The **absolute value** of a positive number is the number itself, and the absolute value of a negative number is the corresponding positive number. On the number line, we may interpret the absolute value of a number as the distance (which is always positive) between the origin and the number. Absolute value is denoted by writing the number between vertical lines, as shown in the following example.

**EXAMPLE 4 Absolute value**

The absolute value of 6 is 6, and the absolute value of  $-7$  is 7. We write these as  $|6| = 6$  and  $|-7| = 7$ . See Fig. 1.3.

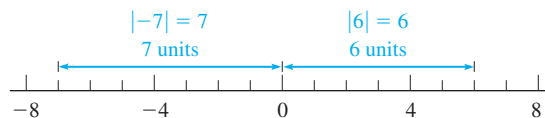


Fig. 1.3

Other examples are  $|\frac{7}{5}| = \frac{7}{5}$ ,  $|\sqrt{2}| = \sqrt{2}$ ,  $|0| = 0$ ,  $|\pi| = \pi$ ,  $|-5.29| = 5.29$ ,  $-|-9| = -9$  since  $|-9| = 9$ . ■

**Practice Exercises**

1.  $|-4.2| = ?$     2.  $|\frac{3}{4}| = ?$

■ The symbols =, <, and > were introduced by English mathematicians in the late 1500s.

On the number line, if a first number is to the right of a second number, then the first number is said to be **greater than** the second. If the first number is to the left of the second, it is **less than** the second number. The symbol > designates “is greater than,” and the symbol < designates “is less than.” These are called **signs of inequality**. See Fig. 1.4.

**EXAMPLE 5 Signs of inequality**

**Practice Exercises**

Place the correct sign of inequality (< or >) between the given numbers.

3. -5 4    4. 0 -3

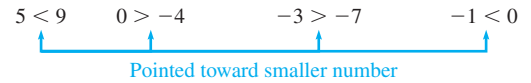
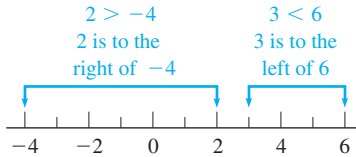


Fig. 1.4

Every number, except zero, has a **reciprocal**. The reciprocal of a number is 1 divided by the number.

**EXAMPLE 6 Reciprocal**

The reciprocal of 7 is  $\frac{1}{7}$ . The reciprocal of  $\frac{2}{3}$  is

$$\frac{1}{\frac{2}{3}} = 1 \times \frac{3}{2} = \frac{3}{2} \quad \text{invert denominator and multiply (from arithmetic)}$$

The reciprocal of 0.5 is  $\frac{1}{0.5} = 2$ . The reciprocal of  $-\pi$  is  $-\frac{1}{\pi}$ . Note that the negative sign is retained in the reciprocal of a negative number.

We showed the multiplication of 1 and  $\frac{3}{2}$  as  $1 \times \frac{3}{2}$ . We could also show it as  $1 \cdot \frac{3}{2}$  or  $1(\frac{3}{2})$ . We will often find the form with parentheses is preferable.

In applications, numbers that represent a measurement and are written with units of measurement are called **denominate numbers**. The next example illustrates the use of units and the symbols that represent them.

**EXAMPLE 7 Denominate numbers**

To show that a certain TV weighs 62 pounds, we write the weight as 62 lb.

To show that a giant redwood tree is 330 feet high, we write the height as 300 ft.

To show that the speed of a rocket is 1500 meters per second, we write the speed as 1500 m/s. (Note the use of s for second. We use s rather than sec.)

To show that the area of a computer chip is 0.75 square inch, we write the area as 0.75 in.<sup>2</sup>. (We will not use sq in.)

To show that the volume of water in a glass tube is 25 cubic centimeters, we write the volume as 25 cm<sup>3</sup>. (We will not use cu cm nor cc.)

**Literal Numbers**

It is usually more convenient to state definitions and operations on numbers in a general form. To do this, we represent the numbers by letters, called **literal numbers**. For example, if we want to say “If a first number is to the right of a second number on the number line, then the first number is greater than the second number,” we can write “If a is to the right of b on the number line, then  $a > b$ .” Another example of using a literal number is “The reciprocal of n is  $1/n$ .”

Certain literal numbers may take on any allowable value, whereas other literal numbers represent the same value throughout the discussion. Those literal numbers that may vary in a given problem are called **variables**, and those literal numbers that are held fixed are called **constants**.

■ For reference, see Appendix B for units of measurement and the symbols used for them.

**EXAMPLE 8** Variables and constants

- (a) The resistance of an electric resistor is  $R$ . The current  $I$  in the resistor equals the voltage  $V$  divided by  $R$ , written as  $I = V/R$ . For this resistor,  $I$  and  $V$  may take on various values, and  $R$  is fixed. This means  $I$  and  $V$  are variables and  $R$  is a constant. For a *different* resistor, the value of  $R$  may differ.
- (b) The fixed cost for a calculator manufacturer to operate a certain plant is  $b$  dollars per day, and it costs  $a$  dollars to produce each calculator. The total daily cost  $C$  to produce  $n$  calculators is

$$C = an + b$$

Here,  $C$  and  $n$  are variables, and  $a$  and  $b$  are constants, and the product of  $a$  and  $n$  is shown as  $an$ . For *another* plant, the values of  $a$  and  $b$  would probably differ.

If specific numerical values of  $a$  and  $b$  are known, say  $a = \$7$  per calculator and  $b = \$3000$ , then  $C = 7n + 3000$ . Thus, constants may be numerical or literal. ■

**EXERCISES 1.1**

In Exercises 1–4, make the given changes in the indicated examples of this section, and then answer the given questions.

- In the first line of Example 1, change the 5 to  $-3$  and the  $-19$  to 14. What other changes must then be made in the first paragraph?
- In Example 4, change the 6 to  $-6$ . What other changes must then be made in the first paragraph?
- In the left figure of Example 5, change the 2 to  $-6$ . What other changes must then be made?
- In Example 6, change the  $\frac{2}{3}$  to  $\frac{3}{2}$ . What other changes must then be made?

In Exercises 5 and 6, designate each of the given numbers as being an integer, rational, irrational, real, or imaginary. (More than one designation may be correct.)

$$5. 3, \sqrt{-4}, -\frac{\pi}{6}, \frac{1}{8} \quad 6. -\sqrt{-6}, -2.33, \frac{\sqrt{7}}{3}, -6$$

In Exercises 7 and 8, find the absolute value of each real number.

$$7. 3, -4, -\frac{\pi}{2}, \sqrt{-1} \quad 8. -0.857, \sqrt{2}, -\frac{19}{4}, \frac{\sqrt{-5}}{-2}$$

In Exercises 9–16, insert the correct sign of inequality ( $>$  or  $<$ ) between the given numbers.

$$\begin{array}{ll} 9. 6 & 8 \\ 11. -\pi & -3.1416 \\ 13. -4 & -|-3| \\ 15. -\frac{1}{3} & -\frac{1}{2} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{ll} 10. 7 & 5 \\ 12. -4 & 0 \\ 14. -\sqrt{2} & -1.42 \\ 16. -0.6 & 0.2 \end{array}$$

In Exercises 17 and 18, find the reciprocal of each number.

$$17. 3, -\frac{4}{\sqrt{3}}, \frac{y}{b} \quad 18. -\frac{1}{3}, 0.25, 2x$$

In Exercises 19 and 20, locate (approximately) each number on a number line as in Fig. 1.2.

$$19. 2.5, -\frac{12}{5}, \sqrt{3}, -\frac{3}{4} \quad 20. -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}, 2\pi, \frac{123}{19}, -\frac{7}{3}$$

In Exercises 21–44, solve the given problems. Refer to Appendix B for units of measurement and their symbols.

- W** 21. Is an absolute value always positive? Explain.
- W** 22. Is  $-2.17$  rational? Explain.
23. What is the reciprocal of the reciprocal of any positive or negative number?
24. Find a rational number between  $-0.9$  and  $-1.0$  that can be written with a denominator of 11 and an integer in the numerator.
25. Find a rational number between 0.13 and 0.14 that can be written with a numerator of 3 and an integer in the denominator.
26. If  $b > a$  and  $a > 0$ , is  $|b - a| < |b| - |a|$ ?
27. List the following numbers in numerical order, starting with the smallest:  $-1, 9, \pi, \sqrt{5}, |-8|, -|-3|, -3.1$ .
28. List the following numbers in numerical order, starting with the smallest:  $\frac{1}{5}, -\sqrt{10}, -|-6|, -4, 0.25, |-\pi|$ .
29. If  $a$  and  $b$  are positive integers and  $b > a$ , what type of number is represented by the following?
- (a)  $b - a$     (b)  $a - b$     (c)  $\frac{b - a}{b + a}$
30. If  $a$  and  $b$  represent positive integers, what kind of number is represented by (a)  $a + b$ , (b)  $a/b$ , and (c)  $a \times b$ ?
31. For any positive or negative integer: (a) Is its absolute value always an integer? (b) Is its reciprocal always a rational number?
32. For any positive or negative rational number: (a) Is its absolute value always a rational number? (b) Is its reciprocal always a rational number?
- W** 33. Describe the location of a number  $x$  on the number line when (a)  $x > 0$  and (b)  $x < -4$ .



- W** 34. Describe the location of a number  $x$  on the number line when (a)  $|x| < 1$  and (b)  $|x| > 2$ .
- W** 35. For a number  $x > 1$ , describe the location on the number line of the reciprocal of  $x$ .
- W** 36. For a number  $x < 0$ , describe the location on the number line of the number with a value of  $|x|$ .
37. A *complex number* is defined as  $a + bj$ , where  $a$  and  $b$  are real numbers and  $j = \sqrt{-1}$ . For what values of  $a$  and  $b$  is the complex number  $a + bj$  a real number? (All real numbers and all imaginary numbers are also complex numbers.)
38. A sensitive gauge measures the total weight  $w$  of a container and the water that forms in it as vapor condenses. It is found that  $w = c\sqrt{0.1t + 1}$ , where  $c$  is the weight of the container and  $t$  is the time of condensation. Identify the variables and constants.
39. In an electric circuit, the reciprocal of the total capacitance of two capacitors in series is the sum of the reciprocals of the capacitances. Find the total capacitance of two capacitances of 0.0040 F and 0.0010 F connected in series.
40. Alternating-current (ac) voltages change rapidly between positive and negative values. If a voltage of 100 V changes to  $-200$  V, which is greater in absolute value?
41. The memory of a certain computer has  $a$  bits in each byte. Express the number  $N$  of bits in  $n$  kilobytes in an equation. (A *bit* is a single digit, and bits are grouped in *bytes* in order to represent special characters. Generally, there are 8 bits per byte. If necessary, see Appendix B for the meaning of *kilo*.)
42. The computer design of the base of a truss is  $x$  ft. long. Later it is redesigned and shortened by  $y$  in. Give an equation for the length  $L$ , in inches, of the base in the second design.
- W** 43. In a laboratory report, a student wrote “ $-20^\circ\text{C} > -30^\circ\text{C}$ .” Is this statement correct? Explain.
44. After 5 s, the pressure on a valve is less than  $60 \text{ lb/in.}^2$  (pounds per square inch). Using  $t$  to represent time and  $p$  to represent pressure, this statement can be written “for  $t > 5$  s,  $p < 60 \text{ lb/in.}^2$ .” In this way, write the statement “when the current  $I$  in a circuit is less than 4 A, the resistance  $R$  is greater than  $12 \Omega$  (ohms).”

#### Answers to Practice Exercises

1. 4.2    2.  $-\frac{3}{4}$     3.  $<$     4.  $>$     5. (a)  $-\frac{1}{4}$     (b)  $\frac{8}{3}$

## 1.2 Fundamental Operations of Algebra

**Fundamental Laws of Algebra • Operations on Positive and Negative Numbers • Order of Operations • Operations with Zero**

### The Commutative and Associative Laws

If two numbers are added, it does not matter in which order they are added. (For example,  $5 + 3 = 8$  and  $3 + 5 = 8$ , or  $5 + 3 = 3 + 5$ .) This statement, generalized and accepted as being correct for all possible combinations of numbers being added, is called the **commutative law** for addition. It states that *the sum of two numbers is the same, regardless of the order in which they are added*. We make no attempt to prove this law in general, but accept that it is true.

In the same way, we have the **associative law** for addition, which states that *the sum of three or more numbers is the same, regardless of the way in which they are grouped for addition*. For example,  $3 + (5 + 6) = (3 + 5) + 6$ .

The laws just stated for addition are also true for multiplication. Therefore, *the product of two numbers is the same, regardless of the order in which they are multiplied, and the product of three or more numbers is the same, regardless of the way in which they are grouped for multiplication*. For example,  $2 \times 5 = 5 \times 2$ , and  $5 \times (4 \times 2) = (5 \times 4) \times 2$ .

### The Distributive Law

Another very important law is the **distributive law**. It states that *the product of one number and the sum of two or more other numbers is equal to the sum of the products of the first number and each of the other numbers of the sum*. For example,

$$\overbrace{5(4 + 2)}^{\text{Distributive Law}} = 5 \times 4 + 5 \times 2$$

In this case, it can be seen that the total is 30 on each side.

In practice, these **fundamental laws of algebra** are used naturally without thinking about them, except perhaps for the distributive law.

Not all operations are commutative and associative. For example, division is not commutative, because the order of division of two numbers does matter. For instance,  $\frac{6}{5} \neq \frac{5}{6}$  ( $\neq$  is read “does not equal”). (Also, see Exercise 52.)

■ Note carefully the difference:

associative law:  $5 \times (4 \times 2)$

distributive law:  $5 \times (4 + 2)$

Using literal numbers, the fundamental laws of algebra are as follows:

**Commutative law of addition:**  $a + b = b + a$

**Associative law of addition:**  $a + (b + c) = (a + b) + c$

**Commutative law of multiplication:**  $ab = ba$

**Associative law of multiplication:**  $a(bc) = (ab)c$

**Distributive law:**  $a(b + c) = ab + ac$

■ Note the meaning of *identity*.

Each of these laws is an example of an *identity*, in that the expression to the left of the = sign equals the expression to the right for any value of each of  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$ .

### OPERATIONS ON POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE NUMBERS

When using the basic operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication, division) on positive and negative numbers, we determine the result to be either positive or negative according to the following rules.

**Addition of two numbers of the same sign** *Add their absolute values and assign the sum their common sign.*

#### EXAMPLE 1 Adding numbers of the same sign

(a)  $2 + 6 = 8$  the sum of two positive numbers is positive

(b)  $-2 + (-6) = -(2 + 6) = -8$  the sum of two negative numbers is negative

The negative number  $-6$  is placed in parentheses because it is also preceded by a plus sign showing addition. It is not necessary to place the  $-2$  in parentheses. ■

**Addition of two numbers of different signs** *Subtract the number of smaller absolute value from the number of larger absolute value and assign to the result the sign of the number of larger absolute value.*

#### EXAMPLE 2 Adding numbers of different signs

(a)  $2 + (-6) = -(6 - 2) = -4$  the negative 6 has the larger absolute value

(b)  $-6 + 2 = -(6 - 2) = -4$  the negative 6 has the larger absolute value

(c)  $6 + (-2) = 6 - 2 = 4$  the positive 6 has the larger absolute value

(d)  $-2 + 6 = 6 - 2 = 4$  the subtraction of absolute values

**Subtraction of one number from another** *Change the sign of the number being subtracted and change the subtraction to addition. Perform the addition.*

#### EXAMPLE 3 Subtracting positive and negative numbers

(a)  $2 - 6 = 2 + (-6) = -(6 - 2) = -4$

Note that after changing the subtraction to addition, and changing the sign of 6 to make it  $-6$ , we have precisely the same illustration as Example 2(a).

(b)  $-2 - 6 = -2 + (-6) = -(2 + 6) = -8$

Note that after changing the subtraction to addition, and changing the sign of 6 to make it  $-6$ , we have precisely the same illustration as Example 1(b).

(c)  $-a - (-a) = -a + a = 0$

This shows that subtracting a number from itself results in zero, even if the number is negative. Therefore, *subtracting a negative number is equivalent to adding a positive number of the same absolute value.*

(d)  $-2 - (-6) = -2 + 6 = +4 = 4$

(e) The change in temperature from  $-12^\circ\text{C}$  to  $-26^\circ\text{C}$  is  
 $-26^\circ\text{C} - (-12^\circ\text{C}) = -26^\circ\text{C} + 12^\circ\text{C} = -14^\circ\text{C}$  ■

■ From Section 1.1, we recall that a positive number is preceded by no sign. Therefore, in using these rules, we show the “sign” of a positive number by simply writing the number itself.

#### Subtraction of a Negative Number

**Multiplication and division of two numbers** The product (or quotient) of two numbers of the same sign is positive. The product (or quotient) of two numbers of different signs is negative.

**EXAMPLE 4** Multiplying and dividing positive and negative numbers

Practice Exercises

- Evaluate: 1.  $-5 - (-8)$   
2.  $-5(-8)$

- |     |                                 |                                      |  |
|-----|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| (a) | $3(12) = 3 \times 12 = 36$      | $\frac{12}{3} = 4$                   | result is positive if both numbers are positive                        |
| (b) | $-3(-12) = 3 \times 12 = 36$    | $\frac{-12}{-3} = 4$                 | result is positive if both numbers are negative                        |
| (c) | $3(-12) = -(3 \times 12) = -36$ | $\frac{-12}{3} = -\frac{12}{3} = -4$ | result is negative if one number is positive and the other is negative |
| (d) | $-3(12) = -(3 \times 12) = -36$ | $\frac{12}{-3} = -\frac{12}{3} = -4$ |  |

**ORDER OF OPERATIONS**

Often, how we are to combine numbers is clear by grouping the numbers using symbols such as **parentheses**, ( ), the **bar**, \_\_\_\_\_, between the numerator and denominator of a fraction, and **vertical lines** for absolute value. Otherwise, for an expression in which there are several operations, we use the following order of operations.

**ORDER OF OPERATIONS**

1. Operations within specific groupings are done first.
2. Perform multiplications and divisions (from left to right).
3. Then perform additions and subtractions (from left to right).

**EXAMPLE 5** Order of operations

■ Note that  $20 \div (2 + 3) = \frac{20}{2+3}$ , whereas  $20 \div 2 + 3 = \frac{20}{2} + 3$ .

- (a)  $20 \div (2 + 3)$  is evaluated by first adding  $2 + 3$  and then dividing. The grouping of  $2 + 3$  is clearly shown by the parentheses. Therefore,  $20 \div (2 + 3) = 20 \div 5 = 4$ .
- (b)  $20 \div 2 + 3$  is evaluated by first dividing 20 by 2 and then adding. No specific grouping is shown, and therefore the division is done before the addition. This means  $20 \div 2 + 3 = 10 + 3 = 13$ .

**CAUTION** (c)  $16 - 2 \times 3$  is evaluated by **first multiplying 2 by 3** and then subtracting. We do **not first subtract 2 from 16**. Therefore,  $16 - 2 \times 3 = 16 - 6 = 10$ .

(d)  $16 \div 2 \times 4$  is evaluated by first dividing 16 by 2 and then multiplying. From left to right, the division occurs first. Therefore,  $16 \div 2 \times 4 = 8 \times 4 = 32$ .

(e)  $|3 - 5| - |-3 - 6|$  is evaluated by first performing the subtractions within the absolute value vertical bars, then evaluating the absolute values, and then subtracting. This means that  $|3 - 5| - |-3 - 6| = |-2| - |-9| = 2 - 9 = -7$ . ■

Practice Exercises

- Evaluate: 3.  $12 - 6 \div 2$   
4.  $16 \div (2 \times 4)$

When evaluating expressions, it is generally more convenient to change the operations and numbers so that the result is found by the addition and subtraction of positive numbers. When this is done, we must remember that

$$a + (-b) = a - b \quad (1.1)$$

$$a - (-b) = a + b \quad (1.2)$$

## Practice Exercises

Evaluate: 5.  $2(-3) - \frac{4-8}{2}$

6.  $\frac{|5-15|}{2} - \frac{-9}{3}$

**EXAMPLE 6** Evaluating numerical expressions

(a)  $7 + (-3) - 6 = 7 - 3 - 6 = 4 - 6 = -2$  using Eq. (1.1)

(b)  $\frac{18}{-6} + 5 - (-2)(3) = -3 + 5 - (-6) = 2 + 6 = 8$  using Eq. (1.2)

(c)  $\frac{|3-15|}{-2} - \frac{8}{4-6} = \frac{12}{-2} - \frac{8}{-2} = -6 - (-4) = -6 + 4 = -2$

(d)  $\frac{-12}{2-8} + \frac{5-1}{2(-1)} = \frac{-12}{-6} + \frac{4}{-2} = 2 + (-2) = 2 - 2 = 0$

In illustration (b), we see that the division and multiplication were done before the addition and subtraction. In (c) and (d), we see that the groupings were evaluated first. Then we did the divisions, and finally the subtraction and addition. ■

**EXAMPLE 7** Evaluating in an application

A 3000-lb van going at 40 mi/h ran head-on into a 2000-lb car going at 20 mi/h. An insurance investigator determined the velocity of the vehicles immediately after the collision from the following calculation. See Fig. 1.5.

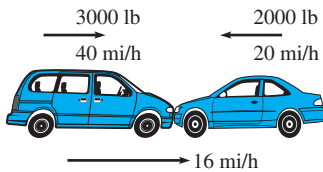


Fig. 1.5

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{3000(40) + (2000)(-20)}{3000 + 2000} &= \frac{120,000 + (-40,000)}{3000 + 2000} = \frac{120,000 - 40,000}{5000} \\ &= \frac{80,000}{5000} = 16 \text{ mi/h} \end{aligned}$$

The numerator and the denominator must be evaluated before the division is performed. The multiplications in the numerator are performed first, followed by the addition in the denominator and the subtraction in the numerator. ■

## OPERATIONS WITH ZERO

Because operations with zero tend to cause some difficulty, we will show them here.

If  $a$  is a real number, the operations of addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division with zero are as follows:

$$a + 0 = a$$

$$a - 0 = a \quad 0 - a = -a$$

$$a \times 0 = 0$$

$$0 \div a = \frac{0}{a} = 0 \quad (\text{if } a \neq 0) \quad (\neq \text{ means "is not equal to"})$$

**EXAMPLE 8** Operations with zero

(a)  $5 + 0 = 5$  (b)  $-6 - 0 = -6$  (c)  $0 - 4 = -4$

(d)  $\frac{0}{6} = 0$  (e)  $\frac{0}{-3} = 0$  (f)  $\frac{5 \times 0}{7} = \frac{0}{7} = 0$  ■

Note that there is no result defined for division by zero. To understand the reason for this, consider the results for  $\frac{6}{2}$  and  $\frac{6}{0}$ .

$$\frac{6}{2} = 3 \quad \text{since} \quad 2 \times 3 = 6$$

If  $\frac{6}{0} = b$ , then  $0 \times b = 6$ . This cannot be true because  $0 \times b = 0$  for any value of  $b$ . Thus,

**NOTE** ▶ *division by zero is undefined*

(The special case of  $\frac{0}{0}$  is termed *indeterminate*. If  $\frac{0}{0} = b$ , then  $0 = 0 \times b$ , which is true for any value of  $b$ . Therefore, no specific value of  $b$  can be determined.)