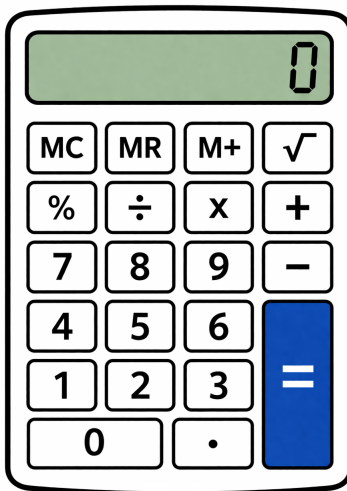


CALCULATOR NUMBERS

DEFINITION: A **dollar store calculator** is a device that allows you to enter numbers with finite decimal expansion, and apply the operations $+$, $-$, \times , \div and $\sqrt{\quad}$. A dollar store calculator can only work with real numbers.



- (a) What is the set of numbers that can be computed exactly in a dollar store calculator *without* using the $\sqrt{\quad}$ key?
- (b) Explain how $\sqrt[4]{2}$ can be computed exactly with a dollar store calculator.
- (c) Carefully explain¹ why neither $\sqrt[3]{2}$ nor $\sqrt[4]{2}$ can be computed exactly with a dollar store calculator using the $\sqrt{\quad}$ key *only once* (at any point, not necessarily at the end).
- (d) Carefully explain² why π *cannot* be computed exactly with a dollar store calculator. You can use any facts from analysis that we have assumed in this class.
- (e) Carefully explain² why $\sqrt[3]{2}$ *cannot* be computed exactly with a dollar store calculator.

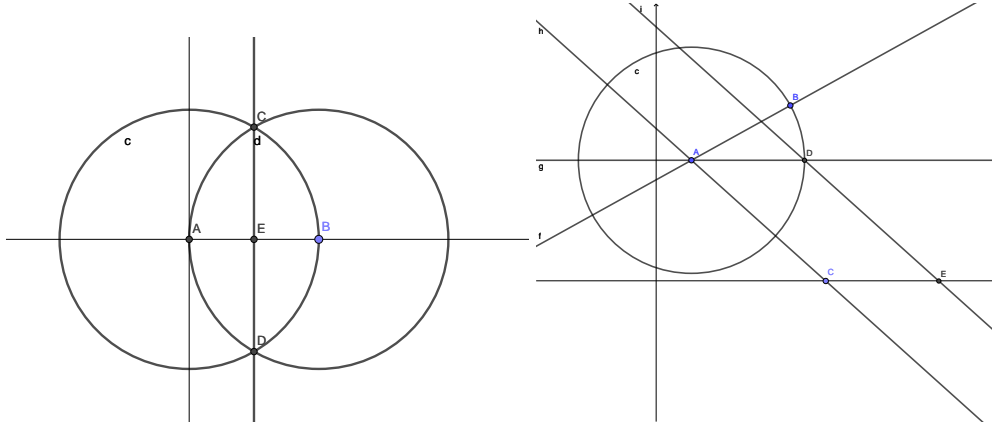
¹Hint: Let α be the number that $\sqrt{\quad}$ is applied to. Show that the final result must be in $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{\alpha})$, and compare $[\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[4]{2}) : \mathbb{Q}]$ with $[\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{\alpha}) : \mathbb{Q}]$.

²Hint: Let $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n$ be the numbers that $\sqrt{\quad}$ is applied to, in order. What can you say about $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{\alpha_1}, \dots, \sqrt{\alpha_n})$?

COMPASS AND STRAIGHTEDGE CONSTRUCTIONS

A **classical compass and straightedge construction** is a rule to create from an input finite subset of *marked points* $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$ another point $Z \in \mathbb{R}^2$ by a sequence of the following rules:

- Take any point $Z \in S$.
- If L is the line between two points $P, Q \in S$, and L' is the line between two points $P', Q' \in S$, then adjoin the intersection point $L \cap L'$ to S .
- If L is the line between two points $P, Q \in S$, and C is the circle centered at $P' \in S$ passing through $Q' \in S$, then adjoin the intersection points $L \cap C$ to S .
- If C is the circle centered at $P \in S$ passing through $Q \in S$, and C' is the circle centered at $P' \in S$ passing through $Q' \in S$, then adjoin the intersection points $C \cap C'$ to S .



LEMMA: Given points P, Q, P', Q' , the coordinates of a point X in $L \cap L'$, $L \cap C$, or $C \cap C'$ as in the constructions above can be computed from the coordinates of P, Q, P', Q' by a sequence of the operations $+, -, \times, \div, \sqrt{\quad}$.

- (f) Suppose that $S = \{(0, 0), (1, 0)\}$. Use the LEMMA to explain why the coordinates of any point that can be obtained from S by a classical compass and straightedge construction can also be obtained from a dollar store calculator.
- (g) **SQUARING THE CIRCLE:** Given two points P, Q , show that is impossible to use a classical compass and straightedge construction to give a line segment \overline{RS} such that the area of the square with base \overline{RS} equals the area of the circle with center P passing through Q .
- (h) **DOUBLING THE CUBE:** Given two points P, Q , show that is impossible to use a classical compass and straightedge construction to give a line segment \overline{RS} such that the volume of the cube with edge \overline{RS} equals twice the volume of the cube with edge \overline{PQ} .