Mathematics 52
Handout 2
Fall 2016
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Note: This handout covers important notes from the real numbers operations and properties.

## Important Notes 1: GENERAL

$$
\begin{aligned}
& +-=- \\
& -+=- \\
& --=+ \\
& ++=+
\end{aligned}
$$

- Same signs are always POSITIVE, while different signs are always NEGATIVE.


## Important Notes 2: MULTIPLICATION

$$
\begin{aligned}
& + \text { number } 1 \cdot-\text { number } 2=-(\text { number } 1 \cdot \text { number } 2) \\
& - \text { number } 1 \cdot+\text { number } 2=-(\text { number } 1 \cdot \text { number } 2) \\
& + \text { number } 1 \cdot+\text { number } 2=+(\text { number } 1 \cdot \text { number } 2) \\
& - \text { number } 1 \cdot-\text { number } 2=+(\text { number } 1 \cdot \text { number } 2)
\end{aligned}
$$

- Same signs are always POSITIVE, while different signs are always NEGATIVE.


## Important Notes 3: DIVISION

$$
\begin{gathered}
\frac{+ \text { number } 1}{-(\text { non }- \text { zero number } 2)}=-\frac{\text { number } 1}{(\text { non }- \text { zero number } 2)} \\
\frac{- \text { number } 1}{+(\text { non }- \text { zero number } 2)}=-\frac{\text { number } 1}{(\text { non }- \text { zero number } 2)} \\
\frac{+ \text { number } 1}{+(\text { non }- \text { zero number } 2)}=+\frac{\text { number } 1}{(\text { non }- \text { zero number } 2)} \\
\frac{- \text { number } 1}{-(\text { non }- \text { zero number } 2)}=+\frac{\text { number } 1}{(\text { non }- \text { zero number } 2)}
\end{gathered}
$$

- Same signs are always POSITIVE, while different signs are always NEGATIVE.


## Important Notes 4: Order of Operation

To simplify (evaluate) any math expression, you need to follow the following order:
STEP 1: Evaluate anything inside brackets.
STEP 2: Evaluate powers (exponents).
STEP 3: Evaluate multiplication and division from LEFT to RIGHT.
STEP 4: Evaluate addition and subtraction from LEFT to RIGHT.

## Important Notes 5: General

- Any number to the power (exponent) zero is always 1 such as: $2^{0}=1$ and $e^{0}=1$.
- Any number divided by zero is undefined.
- Zero divided by any non-zero number is always zero.
- Zero divided by zero is indeterminate (we cannot determine the answer).
- Negative of a negative number is always positive.


