John R Greene* (jgreene@d.umn.edu), Department of Mathematics and Statistics, 140 Solon Campus Center, 1117 University Drive, Duluth, MN 55812-3000, and Jesse Schmeig. A generalization of continued fractions. Preliminary report.
Maxwell Anselm and Steven Weintraub investigated generalizations of classical continued fractions where the "numerator" 1 was replaced by an arbitrary positive integer. Here, we replace the "numerator" with an arbitrary real number $z \geq 1$. Much of what Anselm and Weintraub found still applies, but with many surprising differences. For example, when $z$ is an integer, every rational number has a finite continued expansion. When $z=\frac{3}{2}$, again every rational number appears to have a finite expansion, but when $z=\frac{5}{3}$, some rational numbers have periodic expansions, and when $z=\frac{11}{8}$, there appear to be rationals with neither finite nor periodic expansions. For expansions of $\sqrt{n}$, Pell's equation often plays a role in the existence of periodic expansions. (Received September 15, 2015)

