# Ruby - Misc #15654

## **Documentation for Complex is wrong or misleading**

03/11/2019 08:43 AM - sawa (Tsuyoshi Sawada)

Status:	Open	
Priority:	Normal	
Assignee:		

#### Description

The documentation for Complex <a href="https://ruby-doc.org/core-2.6/Complex.html">https://ruby-doc.org/core-2.6/Complex.html</a> says or implies that a complex can be created by literal like 2+1i, but that is actually calling the method + on receiver 2 with argument 1i. The description should be changed to make it clear that 2+ 1i is not a literal but is applying a method.

## History

#### #1 - 03/11/2019 09:18 AM - Hanmac (Hans Mackowiak)

@nobu (Nobuyoshi Nakada): i don't know if that would be better, but can the parser be changed to support that stuff like "2+1i" would create the Complex object directly?

### #2 - 03/11/2019 09:25 AM - sawa (Tsuyoshi Sawada)

Actually, currently, there is no literal for complex numbers whose real part is non-zero. I think we need a literal to cover such cases. If something along nobu's suggestion works, that would be preferable.

## #3 - 03/11/2019 09:32 AM - Hanmac (Hans Mackowiak)

sawa (Tsuyoshi Sawada) wrote:

Actually, currently, there is no literal for complex numbers whose real part is non-zero. I think we need a literal to cover such cases. If something along nobu's suggestion works, that would be preferable.

it wasn't a suggestion from him, i just wanted to ping him so he can see the message

## #4 - 03/11/2019 11:55 AM - nobu (Nobuyoshi Nakada)

There would be a chance to optimize such expressions, but it is not a single literal syntactically, and constant folding is disabled in Ruby for its dynamic nature.

New literal syntax will be needed for an (impurely) imaginary number literal, but I doubt that we really need it.

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