

Re: abundance of irrationals!

Source: <http://sci.tech--archive.net/Archive/sci.math/2005-04/msg01396.html>

- *From:* Virgil <ITSnetNOTcom#virgil@xxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Sat, 09 Apr 2005 17:17:55 -0600
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In article <fb701d3c.0504091316.26b078ff@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>, mueckenh@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx (W. Mueckenheim) wrote:

> Matt Gutting <matthewdba@xxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
> news:<1112911242.31bdd0db59763e54c0def1b83b068bb8@teranews>...
>
>
>>> How can you find out whether $\text{SUM } 1/2^k$ is converging, unless you are
>>> able to prove for ALL $n > n_0$ that $1 - S_n < \epsilon$? (S_n is the
>>> partial sum up to n)
>>
>> You develop a formula using the terms " n " and " S_n " whose validity does
>> not depend on the particular value used for n . This allows you to
>> conclude that the formula holds for ALL n .
>
> a formula like that one, for example?
>
> n
> $\text{SUM } (1/2^k) = 1 - 1/2^n < 1$
> $k=1$
>
> or is there a big difference?
>
>>
>> Or in this case, one could prove (by induction) that $S_n = 1 - 2^{(-n)}$.
>> Since $\lim (n \text{ increases without bound}) 2^{(-n)} = 0$, $\lim (n \text{ increases}$
>> without bound) $S_n = 1 - \lim (n \text{ increases without bound}) 2^{(-n)} =$
>> $1 - 0 = 1$. (This obviously uses limit theorems rather than the epsilon
>> delta definition, but the limit theorems are directly obtained from
>> that definition.)
>
> As long as only natural numbers are involved,
> no limit is correct but $2^{(-n)} > 0$.

Not only non sequitur but non compos mentis.

Re: abundance of irrationals!)

- **References:**

- ◆ **Re: abundance of irrationals!)**
◇ From: W. Mueckenheim
- ◆ **Re: abundance of irrationals!)**
◇ From: Dik T. Winter
- ◆ **Re: abundance of irrationals!)**
◇ From: W. Mueckenheim

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