

Re: abundance of irrationals!)

Source: <http://sci.tech--archive.net/Archive/sci.math/2005-05/msg00186.html>

- *From:* mueckenh@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
 - *Date:* 2 May 2005 04:45:47 -0700
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Ed van der Meulen wrote:

- > We know what finite is in the reality so the sciences.
- > So please define in a positive way infinite.

There are two very different definitions. Here very short and informal, but understandable:

Potential infinity: You can add something without ever running out of finity.

It is something like a direction.

Actual infinity: You have something which is larger than any finite magnitde of he same kind.

Potential infinity exists in many domains, e.g., numbers, space, and time. For instance the possible way on a circle or on the surface of the earth is infinite.

Actual infinity does not exist in any form. Cantor believed that it existed in physics, mathematics and God. Physics has been rejected, God is extremely doubtful. Only some very conservative mathematicians continue to believe in his mathematical infinity.

Regards, WM

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- ***References:***

- ◆ ***Re: abundance of irrationals!)***
◇ *From:* Ed van der Meulen

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