

# Re: Cantor and the binary tree

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*Source:* <http://sci.tech--archive.net/Archive/sci.math/2005-05/msg05522.html>

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- *From:* "Dik T. Winter" <[Dik.Winter@xxxxxx](mailto:Dik.Winter@xxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Mon, 30 May 2005 13:59:56 GMT
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In article <1117432107.613540.297700@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>  
mueckenh@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx writes:

> Dik T. Winter wrote:

>> In article <1117381085.891784.283560@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>  
mueckenh@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx writes:

>>> Examples.

>>> Path 0,1000...is mapped on the node on level  $n = 0$ .

>>> Path 0,01000... is mapped on the left node on level  $n = 1$ .

>>> In this way all numbers (except  $0 = 0.000\dots$ ) which differ from all  
>>> other numbers by at least one digit are mapped on the nodes.

>>

>> Oh. On what node is 0,010101010... mapped? The numbers mapped on nodes

>> at level  $n = 0$  are of the form  $k/2$ , with  $k$  odd. The numbers mapped on

>> nodes at level  $n = 1$  are of the form  $k/4$ , with  $k$  odd. In general, the

>> numbers mapped on the nodes of some level  $n$  are of the form  $k/(2^n)$ ,

>> with  $k$  odd. On what level is there a node on which  $1/3$  is mapped?

>

> I don't know how many bits the number  $1/3$  has.

Infinitely many, and that is not a natural number.

> But if it is a number

> then it has a path in my tree. And if it has a path in my tree then it

> has a node to be mapped on.

Right for the first, wrong for the second.

> You must know, there are infinitely many

> nodes in my tree.

That does not matter, an infinite (i.e. unending path) as that which  
 $1/3$  corresponds to does not have a node on it that corresponds to  $1/3$ .

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Re: Cantor and the binary tree

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