

GCD(0,0)

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- *From:* "Leroy Quet" <qqquet@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* 29 Dec 2005 12:30:09 -0800
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I notice that these math-controversy threads often get massive numbers of replies.

(While more serious math posts and my games, for example, hardly ever get any replies.)

So I will post this troll-bait flame-bait message to sci.math because I always wanted to start one of those huge threads.

:)

For $n =$ any positive integer, it is known that

$$\text{GCD}(n,n) = n$$

and

$$\text{GCD}(0,n) = n.$$

(GCD is Greatest Common Divisor, of course.)

But what is, if there is any defined value,

$$\text{GCD}(0,0)?$$

It certainly isn't 0 (which would fit the pattern above if $n=0$), is it?

I would think that infinity would work as well as anything.

Or is $\text{GCD}(0,0)$ simply undefined, like $0/0$?

thanks, (half seriously, oh well, 3/4 seriously)

Leroy Quet

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- *Follow-Ups:*
 - ◆ *Re: GCD(0,0)*
 - ◇ *From:* Peter L. Montgomery

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- ◆ **Re: GCD(0,0)**
 - ◇ From: Marc Olschok
- ◆ **Re: GCD(0,0)**
 - ◇ From: john_ramsden
- ◆ **Re: GCD(0,0)**
 - ◇ From: Herman Rubin
- ◆ **Re: GCD(0,0)**
 - ◇ From: mensanator@xxxxxxxxxxxxx
- ◆ **Re: GCD(0,0)**
 - ◇ From: mensanator@xxxxxxxxxxxxx
- ◆ **Re: GCD(0,0)**
 - ◇ From: JoeS

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