

Re: Euler and 3

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On Jan 22, 8:44 pm, Gerry Myerson <ge...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

In article <220120080930154901%ed...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>, "G. A. Edgar" <ed...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

In article <16136681.1201011521204.JavaMail.jaka...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>, G.E. Ivey <george.i...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

The Euler-Mascheroni constant is not algebraic.

Wow. A new discovery. First announced in sci.math ... !!! ???

G. E. Ivey may not be able to prove that gamma is transcendental but is not really going out on a limb to assert it.

Anyway, back to the question that started this thread, I suppose one way to make sense of it is to ask whether there is some series like $\gamma^2 = (1 / 3) + (1 / 3333) + (1 / 3333333) + \dots$ that is, some series $\sum (1 / a_n)$ where $a_1 = 3$ and a_n is big for $n > 1$ and a_n follows some simple pattern. If there is such a series, it might be taken as an "explanation" of the closeness of γ^2 and $1/3$.

$1/3$ is the first convergent in the continued fraction development of γ^2 .

-- m
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