

Googolplex Written Out

Wolfgang H. Nitsche

A black and white illustration featuring a large, dense spiral composed of many small, stylized human figures. The figures are arranged in concentric rings, creating a sense of depth and movement. At the top left, the text "volume 10000" is written in a bold, sans-serif font. In the center of the spiral, the year "1887" is displayed in a similar font, with the "1" positioned slightly above the "8"s. The overall composition is circular and symmetrical, with the figures' heads and limbs pointing outwards from the center.

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A stylized graphic featuring a spiral composed of the number '8'. The spiral starts from the center and expands outwards in a clockwise direction. At the top left of the spiral, the text 'volume 1000' is written in a bold, sans-serif font. In the center of the spiral, the text 'T88' is displayed, with the 'T' rotated 90 degrees counter-clockwise. The entire graphic is rendered in black on a white background.

Foreword

In 1940, the mathematician Edward Kasner published the book "Mathematics and the Imagination", in which he popularized the words googol and googolplex which his nephew suggested as names for big numbers.

The number googol has been defined as 1 followed by a hundred zeros:

[illegible]

The much larger number googolplex has been defined as 1 followed by a googol zeros. While this number can easily be written as

$$\text{googolplex} = 10^{\text{googol}} = 10^{(10^{100})}$$

using the exponential notation, it has often been claimed that the number googolplex is so large that it can never be written out in full.

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Wolfgang H. Nitsche

August 2013

www.GoogolplexWrittenOut.com

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