

Googolplex Written Out

Wolfgang H. Nitsche

A black and white graphic featuring a spiral of the number '2'. The spiral starts in the center and winds outwards in a clockwise direction. At the top left of the spiral, the text 'volume 10000' is written in a bold, sans-serif font. The number '2' is repeated many times to form the spiral, with each '2' slightly rotated to follow the curve.

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Stanford University

A black and white graphic featuring a spiral of the number '2'. The spiral starts in the center and winds outwards in a clockwise direction. At the top left of the spiral, the text 'volume 1000' is written in a bold, sans-serif font. The entire graphic is set against a plain 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
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www.GoogolplexWrittenOut.com

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