

Do Infinities Exist ?

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Osher Lifelong Learning Institute

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All Odd Numbers > 1 are Prime Numbers.

Prime Number

A natural number that has only two divisors.

For Further Reading

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Prime Number

A natural number that has only two divisors.

For Further Reading

Mathematician

- ▶ 3 is an odd number, 3 is a prime number.
- ▶ 5 is an odd number, 5 is a prime number.
- ▶ 7 is an odd number, 7 is a prime number.

- ▶ By induction, all the odd integers are prime.

All Odd Numbers > 1 are Prime.

Engineer

- ▶ 3 is an odd number, 3 is a prime number.
 - ▶ 5 is an odd number, 5 is a prime number.
 - ▶ 7 is an odd number, 7 is a prime number.
 - ▶ 9 is an odd number, 9 is not a prime number.
 - ▶ 11 is an odd number, 11 is a prime number.
 - ▶ 13 is an odd number, 13 is a prime number.
 - ▶ 15 is an odd number, 15 is not a prime number.
 - ▶ 17 is an odd number, 17 is a prime number.
 - ▶ 19 is an odd number, 19 is a prime number.
-
- ▶ Except for the experimental errors, the data clearly indicates that all the odd integers are prime.

All Odd Numbers > 1 are Prime.

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- ▶ 3 is an odd number, 3 is a prime number.
 - ▶ 5 is an odd number, 5 is a prime number.
 - ▶ 7 is an odd number, 7 is a prime number.
 - ▶ 9 is an odd number, 9 is a prime number.
 - ▶ 11 is an odd number, 11 is a prime number.
 - ▶ 13 is an odd number, 13 is a prime number.
 - ▶ 15 is an odd number, 15 is a prime number.
 - ▶ 17 is an odd number, 17 is a prime number.
 - ▶ 19 is an odd number, 19 is a prime number.
- ▶ the data clearly indicates that all the odd integers are prime.

All Odd Numbers > 1 are Prime.

Particle / Nuclear Physicist

- ▶ 3 is an odd number, 3 is prime.
- ▶ 5 is an odd number, 5 is prime.
- ▶ 7 is an odd number, 7 is prime.
- ▶ 9 is an odd number, 9 is $\dots$ uh, $\frac{9}{3}$ is prime, so $\dots$
- ▶ 11 is an odd number, 11 is prime.
- ▶ 13 is an odd number, 13 is prime.
- ▶ 15 is an odd number, 15 is $\dots$, $\frac{15}{3}$ is prime, so $\dots$

When Renormalization is Properly applied¹ :

- ▶ All the odd integers are prime.

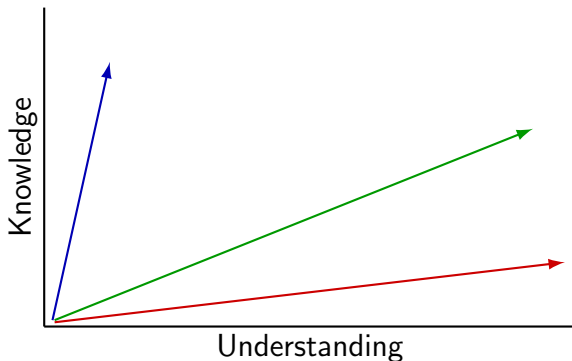
¹divide by smaller prime(s) when needed.

Knowledge versus Understanding

Acquire information versus Integrate information

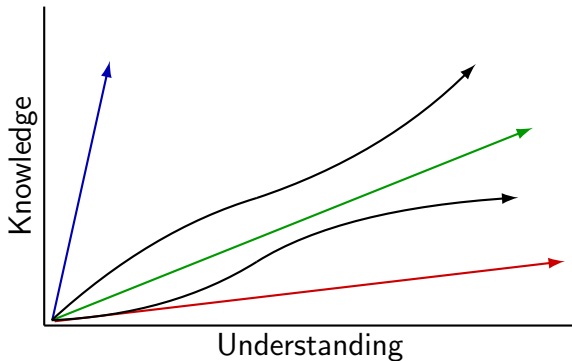
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A Metamathematical Interlude

1

A Metamathematical Interlude

$$1 + 2$$

A Metamathematical Interlude

$$1 + 2 + 3$$

A Metamathematical Interlude

$$1 + 2 + 3 + 4$$

A Metamathematical Interlude

$$1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5$$

A Metamathematical Interlude

$$1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5 + 6$$

A Metamathematical Interlude

$$1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5 + 6 + \dots$$

A Metamathematical Interlude

$$1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5 + 6 + \cdots =$$

A Metamathematical Interlude

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A Metamathematical Interlude

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Consider the Euler–Riemann zeta function,

$$\zeta(-1) = -\frac{1}{12}, \text{ and } \zeta(z) = 1^{-z} + 2^{-z} + 3^{-z} + 4^{-z} + \cdots$$

A Metamathematical Interlude

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$$\zeta(-1) = -\frac{1}{12}, \text{ and } \zeta(z) = 1^{-z} + 2^{-z} + 3^{-z} + 4^{-z} + \cdots$$

Therefore,

$$1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5 + 6 + \cdots = -\frac{1}{12}$$

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$$\frac{1}{1-x} = 1 + x + x^2 + x^3 + x^4 + \dots$$

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$$1 + 5 + 25 + 125 + 625 \dots = -\frac{1}{4}$$

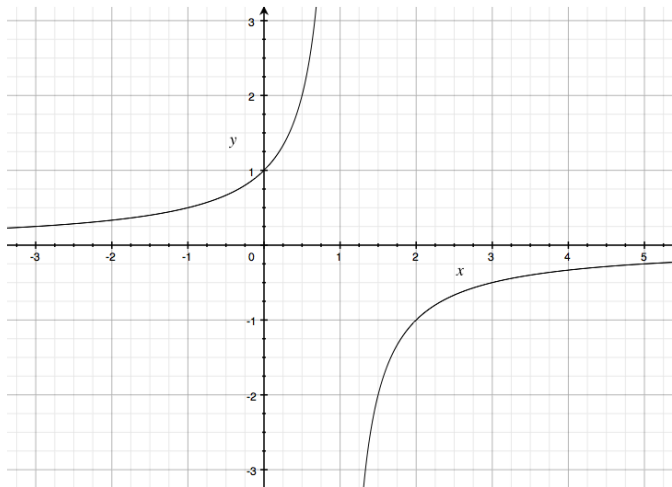


Figure 1 : $y = \frac{1}{1-x}$ versus x

21st Century understanding requires Quantum Mechanics

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Figure 2 : Red Flag Warning

21st Century understanding requires Quantum Mechanics



Figure 2 : Red Flag Warning

Looking to the past for “truth” is futile. Ancient Wisdom . . . Isn't ?

Perception versus Reality

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Perception

Over thousands of millennia our progenitors evolved what can be best described as a “classical” perception of their internal as well as their external environment.

Envision: Blue Skies, Rainbows, and Unicorns.

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Everything emerges from quantum mechanical processes.

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Socrates-Plato-Aristotle : The Authority for “Philosophers”.

Timidity is a virtue ... until it is Not ?

About 100 years ago we were timid as we tried to understand the storm clouds on the horizon. Several examples ...

wavicle : an entity having :
 $\{\text{properties characteristic of (waves)} \cup \text{(particles)}\}.$

We are supposed to be timid until we must be bold.

I myself have never met an interpretation of quantum mechanics I didn't dislike.²

²THE ITHACA INTERPRETATION OF QUANTUM MECHANICS

by N. David Mermin, 17 September 1996

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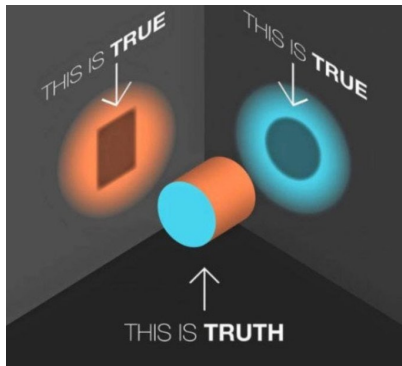
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What You See . . . NOT ?



When is a Particle not a Particle ?

{Things that are particles.}

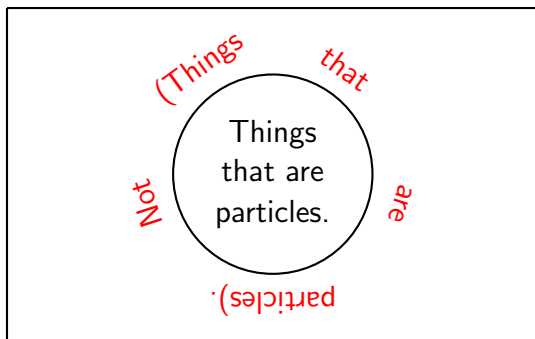
 versus {Not Things that are particles.}

Figure 3 : $P \cap \neg P = \emptyset$: $P \cup \neg P = \text{All Things}$

When is a Wave not a Wave?

{Things that are waves.} versus {Not Things that are waves.}

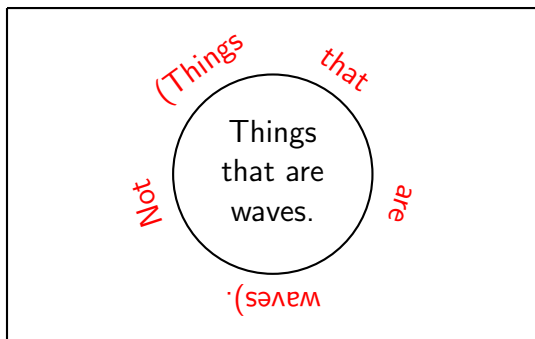


Figure 4 : $W \cap \neg W = \emptyset$: $W \cup \neg W = \text{All Things}$

Is thingness a thing?

electron : an entity having :

$$\begin{aligned} &\{\text{properties characteristic of (particles} \cap \neg \text{particles)}\} \\ &\quad \cap \\ &\{\text{properties characteristic of (waves} \cap \neg \text{waves)}\}. \end{aligned}$$

photon : an entity having :

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These “properties” are **Emergent Properties**.