

Integer π Ratio

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What is π ?

- π is the ratio of a circle's circumference to diameter - $C = \pi D$
- π is an irrational number
- $\pi = 3.1415926535\ 8979323846\ 2643383279\ 5028841971\ 6939937510\ 5820974944\ 5923078164\ 0628620899\ 8628034825\ 3421170679\ ...$

π in the Sky – 2012 over Stanford



Calculating π

- Rather than calculating π , calculate two integers N & D such that N/D is the closest approximation to π
- These numbers could be used with standard Forths using */
- π can be approximated by 22/7, 355/113 is better
- But are there even better approximations?

Algorithm requirements

- Use a Forth (or other language) that supports floating point
- I implemented this on an HP-67 calculator in 1978 and in TCL more recently



Number = 3.1415926535

N = Integer(Number)

D = 1

Error = Abs(Float(N / D) – Number)

Begin

X = Float(N / D)

 X < Number

 if N = N +1 (increment numerator)

 else D = D +1 (increment denominator)

 then

Y = Abs(X – number)

 Y < Error

 if print N, D

 Error = Y

 then

N > 2^15

Until

Algorithm progress

N	3	4	4	5	6	7	7	8	9	9	10	11	12	13	13	14	15	16	16	17	18	19	20	20	21	22
D	1	1	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	4	4	4	4	5	5	5	5	6	6	6	6	6	6	7	7	7

TCL Program circa 2005

```
# Find 2 integers N and D such that N/D is the closest
# approximation to an irrational number X

set x 3.14159265358979323846264338327950288419716939937510
set n [expr int ($x)]
set d 1
set dif [expr 1. + $n]

proc irr {} {
    global n
    global d
    global x
    global dif
    for {set try 0} {$n < 65535} {incr try} {
        incr try
        set temp [expr double ($n) / $d]
        set thisdif [expr abs($temp - $x)]
        if {$thisdif < $dif} {
            set dif $thisdif
            puts "$try $n $d $dif"
        }
        if {$temp < $x} {
            incr n
        } else {
            incr d
        }
    }
}
```

Errors

- $\frac{22}{7}$ - $\text{Pi} = 0.00126448926734961868021375957764$
- $\frac{355}{113}$ - $\text{Pi} = 2.6676418906242231236893288649633e-7$
- $\frac{65298}{20785}$ - $\text{Pi} = -1.5900235037101015360699853102949e-7$
- 10000 355 113 */ . 31415
- 10000 65298 20785 */ . 31415

Results

	N	D
pi	65298	20785
e	49171	18089
sqrt 2	47321	33461
sqrt 3	51409	29681
sqrt 5	51841	23184
sqrt 6	47525	19402
sqrt 7	32257	12192
sqrt 8	55440	19601
sqrt 10	27379	8658