

Abstract:

Polygonal numbers are among the most studied numbers in history, so it is important to ask how many of rank greater than 2 there are under a given number x . In this paper, we introduce the function designated as $\mathcal{B}(x)$, which not only answers this question, but relates it to the ***fine structure constant***, thereby allowing a determination of its value by means that are strictly mathematical.

Article:

Let polygonal numbers of rank greater than 2 be defined as the various different numbers:

$p_{n>2}^{r>2} = 6, 9, 10, 12, 15, 16, 18, 21, 22, 24, 25, 27, 28, 30 \dots$ which are generated by the formula:

$$\left(\frac{n}{2} - 1\right) * r^2 - \left(\frac{n}{2} - 2\right) * r, \text{ when integers } n \text{ and } r \text{ are greater than } 2,$$

and let $\varpi(x)$ represent how many such numbers there are less than or equal to a given number x .

$$\text{Then, } \varpi(x) \sim \mathcal{B}(x) = x - (\alpha * \pi * e + e)^{-1} * x - \frac{1}{2} * \sqrt{x - (\alpha * \pi * e + e)^{-1} * x}$$

where $\alpha \approx 137.03599908451^{-1}$ is the ***fine structure constant***.

The table below represents $\varpi(x)$ approximated by $\mathcal{B}(x)$:

x	$\varpi(x)$	$\mathcal{B}(x)$	Difference	Percentage of error
10	3	5	2	.666666667
100	57	60	3	.052631579
1,000	622	628	6	.009646302
10,000	6,357	6,364	7	.001101148
100,000	63,889	63,910	21	.000172174
1,000,000	639,946	639,965	19	.000029690
10,000,000	6,402,325	6,402,388	63	.000009840
100,000,000	64,032,121	64,032,528	407	.000006356
1,000,000,000	640,349,979	640,352,643	2664	.000004160

Note that $\mathcal{B}(x)$ is an upper bound with a very small and ever decreasing percentage of error. Clearly, this is extraordinary and compelling evidence that the fine structure constant is not only a “physical constant”, but a *mathematical* constant as well, and that its value might now be determined by determining $\varpi(x)$ for increasingly large values of x , and adjusting α so that $\mathcal{B}(x)$ remains an upper bound with a very small and ever decreasing percentage of error. ■