

MATHEMATICS SEMINAR

On the irrationality of e and π

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Proofs by Contradiction:

ICONEC

Given a proposition it is sometimes very difficult to give a proof using direct methods. In such cases, a proof by contradiction allows mathematicians to assume the opposite of the proposition is true and use logical deductions to reach a contradiction.

In this lecture we give an overview of the structure of a proof by contradiction and use this to give some classical proofs of famous results such as the irrationality of e and π .

Friday, February 7th, 2014 2:00 pm – 2:45 pm AB7 Room 220