

Googolplex Written Out

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A circular arrangement of the numbers 6 and 9, with the word 'volume' at the top left. The numbers are arranged in a circle, with '9' appearing more frequently than '6'. The word 'volume' is positioned at the top left of the circle.

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:

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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