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WHICH ONE OF THE FOLLOWING MATHEMATICAL CONCEPTS IS MORE NATURAL:

“INFINITY” OR “BASE NUMBER”?

Speaker: Prof. Mehdi Radjabalipour



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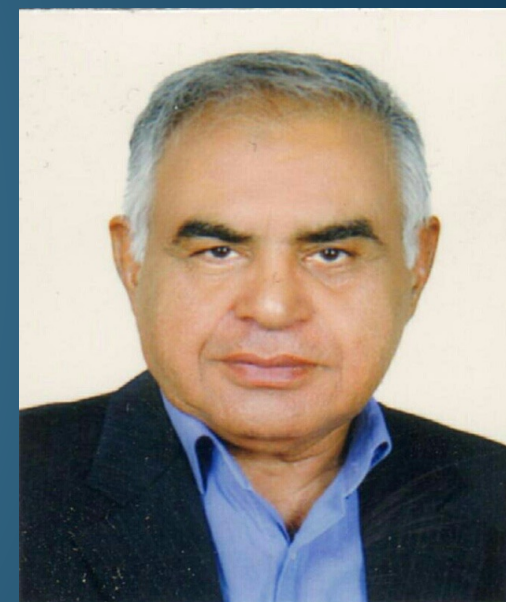
11:00 AM (GMT+5) Pakistan Time

09:30 AM (GMT+3:30) Iran Time

Zoom ID: 858 0216 7411

Password: 450647

Zoom Link: <https://shorturl.at/bstPZ>



Prof. Mehdi Radjabalipour

Abstract: First, why are the two concepts comparable? This may be a controversial point being brought up in this talk. To be prepared, let us mention that while the base number was very welcomed by the mathematicians of the eastern hemisphere (Africa, Asia, and Europe), “infinity” was disgusted by most mathematicians and philosophers of the old world (except perhaps in India). Thousands of years ago, base numbers appeared naturally as 2, 5, 10, and 20, and artificially (if I dare the adverb modification) as 60; but “infinity” as a mathematical concept was officially introduced not until before Abraham Robinson published his book on nonstandard analysis in 1966. Maybe, this hatred of infinity causes you to believe that infinity was less natural. But we argue, here, that the simple mind of the early man accepted “infinity” as a “natural thing” (or perhaps “quantity”) and this was the sophisticated mind of the (later) philosophers who decided to go another way. Base numbers in the old world came as natural ways of handling the dual concepts of “infinity” and “infinitesimal”. In the western hemisphere (Central America), “Doomsday” came into the scene and the three concepts of “Infinity”, “Base number” and “Zero” collapsed into the single concept of “Doomsday” and, in the absence of any notion of fraction, no mention of infinitesimal appeared.

Bionote – Prof. Mehdi Radjabalipour

Professor Mehdi Radjabalipour was born in 1945 in Kerman, who is Fellow of the Iranian Academy of Sciences and Retired Professor of mathematics from Kerman University and used to be the President of the Iranian Mathematical Society for many years. He was teaching and doing research at Pahlavi University; Reza Shah University; Shahid Bahonar University of Kerman; Dalhousie University; University of Toronto; University of Waterloo and Abdussalam Centre for Theoretical Physics. So far, he had 21 Ph.D. students in mathematics. Some of his distinctions and awards are as follows: Scholarship for Ph.D. Program at the University of Toronto; Distinguished professor and researcher of the Ministry of Culture and Higher Education of Iran; Senior associate of the International Centre for Theoretical Physics (Trieste, Italy); Selected by the Festival of Iranian Prominent Figures; Winner of Afzalipour’s Prize. Being honored by the Iranian Mathematical Society with the establishment of M. Radjabalipour annual prize in linear algebra; Winner of Behzad's Prize for Achievements in Mathematical Services and Administration. Joined with his late wife, the cofounder of Kerman House of Mathematics. Professor Rajabalipour has more than 80 papers in international journals; Several papers presented in international conferences; More than 25 papers in national journals.