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Number "Zero" redirects here. For other uses, see 0 (disambiguation) and Zero (disambiguation). For technical reasons, "0#" and ":0" redirect here. For the concept in set theory, see Zero sharp. For the keyboard symbols, see List of emoticons. Not to be confused with the letter O. This article contains special characters. Without proper rendering support, you may see question marks, boxes, or other symbols. Natural number ← −1 0 1 → −1 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 → List of numbersIntegers← 0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 →Cardinal0, zero, "oh" (/oʊ/), nought, naught, nilOrdinalZeroth, noughth, 0thLatin prefixnulli-Binary02Ternary03Senary06Octal08Duodecimal012Hexadecimal016Arabic, Kurdish, Persian, Sindhi, Urdu·Hindu numerals□Santali□Chinese零, ○Burmese□Khmer□Thai□Assamese, Bengali□Maya numerals□Morse code_ _ _ _ _ 0 (zero) is a number representing an empty quantity. Adding (or subtracting) 0 to any number leaves that number unchanged; in mathematical terminology, 0 is the additive identity of the integers, rational numbers, real numbers, and complex numbers, as well as other algebraic structures. Multiplying any number by 0 results in 0, and consequently division by zero has no meaning in arithmetic. As a numerical digit, 0 plays a crucial role in decimal notation: it indicates that the power of ten corresponding to the place containing a 0 does not contribute to the total. For example, "205" in decimal means two hundreds, no tens, and five ones. The same principle applies in place-value notations that uses a base other than ten, such as binary and hexadecimal. The modern use of 0 in this manner derives from Indian mathematics that was transmitted to Europe via medieval Islamic mathematicians and popularized by Fibonacci. It was independently used by the Maya. Common names for the number 0 in English include zero, nought, naught (/nɔːt/), and nil. In contexts where at least one adjacent digit distinguishes it from the letter O, the number is sometimes pronounced as oh or o (/oʊ/). Informal or slang terms for 0 include zilch and zip. Historically, ought, aught (/ɔːt/), and cipher have also been used. Main articles: Names for the number 0 and Names for the number 0 in English The word zero came into the English language via French zéro from the Italian zero, a contraction of the Venetian zevero form of Italian zefiro via ṣafira or ṣifr.[1] In pre-Islamic time the word ṣifr (Arabic صفر) had the meaning "empty".[2] Sifr evolved to mean zero when it was used to translate śūnya (Sanskrit: □□□□) from India.[2] The first known English use of zero was in 1598.[3] The Italian mathematician Fibonacci (c. 1170 – c. 1250), who grew up in North Africa and is credited with introducing the decimal system to Europe, used the term zephyrum. This became zefiro in Italian, and was then contracted to zero in Venetian. The Italian word zefiro was already in existence (meaning "west wind" from Latin and Greek Zephyrus) and may have influenced the spelling when transcribing Arabic ṣifr.[4] Depending on the context, there may be different words used for the number zero, or the concept of zero. For the simple notion of lacking, the words "nothing" (although this is not accurate) and "none" are often used. The British English words "nought" or "naught", and "nil" are also synonymous.[5][6] It is often called "oh" in the context of reading out a string of digits, such as telephone numbers, street addresses, credit card numbers, military time, or years. For example, the area code 201 may be pronounced "two oh one", and the year 1907 is often pronounced "nineteen oh seven". The presence of other digits, indicating that the string contains only numbers, avoids confusion with the letter O. For this reason, systems that include strings with both letters and numbers (such as Canadian postal codes) may exclude the use of the letter O.[citation needed] Slang words for zero include "zip", "zilch", "nada", and "scratch".[7] In the context of sports, "nil" is sometimes used, especially in British English. Several sports have specific words for a score of zero, such as "love" in tennis – possibly from French l'œuf, "the egg" – and "duck" in cricket, a shortening of "duck's egg". "Goose egg" is another general slang term used for zero.[7] nfr heart with tracheabeautiful, pleasant, good Ancient Egyptian numerals were of base 10.[8] They used hieroglyphs for the digits and were not positional. In one papyrus written around 1770 BC, a scribe recorded daily incomes and expenditures for the pharaoh's court, using the nfr hieroglyph to indicate cases where the amount of a foodstuff received was exactly equal to the amount disbursed. Egyptologist Alan Gardiner suggested that the nfr hieroglyph was being used as a symbol for zero. The same symbol was also used to indicate the base level in drawings of tombs and pyramids, and distances were measured relative to the base line as being above or below this line.[9] By the middle of the 2nd millennium BC, Babylonian mathematics had a sophisticated base 60 positional numeral system. The lack of a positional value (or zero) was indicated by a space between sexagesimal numerals. In a tablet unearthed at Kish (dating to as early as 700 BC), the scribe Bêl-bân-aplu used three hooks as a placeholder in the same Babylonian system.[10] By 300 BC, a punctuation symbol (two slanted wedges) was repurposed as a placeholder.[11][12] The Babylonian positional numeral system differed from the later Hindu–Arabic system in that it did not explicitly specify the magnitude of the leading sexagesimal digit, so that for example the lone digit 1 () might represent any of 1, 60, 3600 = 602, etc., similar to the significand of a floating-point number but without an explicit exponent, and so only distinguished implicitly from context. The zero-like placeholder mark was only ever used in between digits, but never alone or at the end of a number.[13] Maya numeral zero The Mesoamerican Long Count calendar developed in south-central Mexico and Central America required the use of zero as a placeholder within its vigesimal (base-20) positional numeral system. Many different glyphs, including the partial quatrefoil were used as a zero symbol for these Long Count dates, the earliest of which (on Stela 2 at Chiapa de Corzo, Chiapas) has a date of 36 BC.[a][14] Since the eight earliest Long Count dates appear outside the Maya homeland,[15] it is generally believed that the use of zero in the Americas predated the Maya and was possibly the invention of the Olmecs.[16] Many of the earliest Long Count dates were found within the Olmec heartland, although the Olmec civilization ended by the 4th century BC,[17] several centuries before the earliest known Long Count dates.[18] Although zero became an integral part of Maya numerals, with a different, empty tortoise-like "shell shape" used for many depictions of the "zero" numeral, it is assumed not to have influenced Old World numeral systems.[citation needed] Quipu, a knotted cord device, used in the Inca Empire and its predecessor societies in the Andean region to record accounting and other digital data, is encoded in a base ten positional system. Zero is represented by the absence of a knot in the appropriate position.[19] The ancient Greeks had no symbol for zero (μηδέν, pronounced mēdén), and did not use a digit placeholder for it.[20] According to mathematician Charles Seife, the ancient Greeks did begin to adopt the Babylonian placeholder zero for their work in astronomy after 500 BC, representing it with the lowercase Greek letter ó (όμικρον: omicron). However, after using the Babylonian placeholder zero for astronomical calculations they would typically convert the numbers back into Greek numerals. Greeks seemed to have a philosophical opposition to using zero as a number.[21] Other scholars give the Greek partial adoption of the Babylonian zero a later date, with neuroscientist Andreas Nieder giving a date of after 400 BC and mathematician Robert Kaplan dating it after the conquests of Alexander.[22][23] Greeks seemed unsure about the status of zero as a number. Some of them asked themselves, "How can not being be?", leading to philosophical and, by the medieval period, religious arguments about the nature and existence of zero and the vacuum. The paradoxes of Zeno of Elea depend in large part on the uncertain interpretation of zero.[24] Example of the early Greek symbol for zero (lower right corner) from a 2nd-century papyrus By AD 150, Ptolemy, influenced by Hipparchus and the Babylonians, was using a symbol for zero (—°)[25][26] in his work on mathematical astronomy called the Syntaxis Mathematica, also known as the Almagest.[27] This Hellenistic zero was perhaps the earliest documented use of a numeral representing zero in the Old World.[28] Ptolemy used it many times in his Almagest (VI.8) for the magnitude of solar and lunar eclipses. It represented the value of both digits and minutes of immersion at first and last contact. Digits varied continuously from 0 to 12 to 0 as the Moon passed over the Sun (a triangular pulse), where twelve digits was the angular diameter of the Sun. Minutes of immersion was tabulated from 0′0″ to 31′20″ to 0′0″, where 0′0″ used the symbol as a placeholder in two positions of his sexagesimal positional numeral system,[b] while the combination meant a zero angle. Minutes of immersion was also a continuous function 1/12 31′20″ √d(24−d) (a triangular pulse with convex sides), where d was the digit function and 31′20″ was the sum of the radii of the Sun's and Moon's discs.[29] Ptolemy's symbol was a placeholder as well as a number used by two continuous mathematical functions, one within another, so it meant zero, not none. Over time, Ptolemy's zero tended to increase in size and lose the overline, sometimes depicted as a large elongated 0-like omicron "O" or as omicron with overline "ō" instead of a dot with overline.[30] The earliest use of zero in the calculation of the Julian Easter occurred before AD 311, at the first entry in a table of epacts as preserved in an Ethiopic document for the years 311 to 369, using a Geʿez word for "none" (English translation is "0" elsewhere) alongside Geʿez numerals (based on Greek numerals), which was translated from an equivalent table published by the Church of Alexandria in Medieval Greek.[31] This use was repeated in 525 in an equivalent table, that was translated via the Latin nulla ("none") by Dionysius Exiguus, alongside Roman numerals.[32] When division produced zero as a remainder, nihil, meaning "nothing", was used. These medieval zeros were used by all future medieval calculators of Easter. The initial "N" was used as a zero symbol in a table of Roman numerals by Bede—or his colleagues—around AD 725.[33] In most cultures, 0 was identified before the idea of negative things (i.e., quantities less than zero) was accepted.[citation needed] This is a depiction of zero expressed in Chinese counting rods, based on the example provided by A History of Mathematics. An empty space is used to represent zero.[34] The Sūnzǐ Suànjīng, of unknown date but estimated to be dated from the 1st to 5th centuries AD, describe how the 4th century BC Chinese counting rods system enabled one to perform positional decimal calculations.[35][36] As noted in the Xiahou Yang Suanjing (425–468 AD), to multiply or divide a number by 10, 100, 1000, or 10000, all one needs to do, with rods on the counting board, is to move them forwards, or back, by 1, 2, 3, or 4 places.[37] The rods gave the decimal representation of a number, with an empty space denoting zero.[34][38] A circa 190 AD, manual, the "Supplementary Notes on the Art of Figures", by Xu Yue, also outlines the techniques to add, subtract, multiply, and divide numbers, containing zero values in a decimal power, on counting devices, that include counting rods, and abacus.[39][40] Chinese authors had been familiar with the idea of negative numbers, and decimal fractions, by the Han dynasty (2nd century AD), as seen in The Nine Chapters on the Mathematical Art.[41] Qín Jiǔshào's 1247 Mathematical Treatise in Nine Sections is the oldest surviving Chinese mathematical text using a round symbol 'O' for zero.[42] The origin of this symbol is unknown; it may have been produced by modifying a square symbol.[43] Zero was not treated as a number at that time, but as a "vacant position".[44] A variety of Chinese characters have been used, through history, to represent zero: 空, 零, 洞, ○. Pingala (c. 3rd or 2nd century BC),[45] a Sanskrit prosody scholar,[46] used binary sequences, in the form of short and long syllables (the latter equal in length to two short syllables), to identify the possible valid Sanskrit meters, a notation similar to Morse code.[47] Pingala used the Sanskrit word śūnya explicitly to refer to zero.[45] Bakhshali manuscript, with the numeral "zero" represented by a black dot; its date is uncertain.[48] The concept of zero as a written digit in the decimal place value notation was developed in India.[49] The Lokavibhāga, a Jain text on cosmology surviving in a medieval Sanskrit translation of the Prakrit original, which is internally dated to AD 458 (Saka era 380), uses a decimal place-value system, including a zero. In this text, śūnya ("void, empty") is also used to refer to zero.[50] The Aryabhatiya (c. 499), states sthānāt sthānaṁ daśaguṇaṁ syāt "from place to place each is ten times the preceding".[51][52][53] Rules governing the use of zero appeared in Brahmagupta's Brahmasputha Siddhanta (7th century), which states the sum of zero with itself as zero, and incorrectly describes division by zero in the following way:[54][55] A positive or negative number when divided by zero is a fraction with the zero as denominator. Zero divided by a negative or positive number is either zero or is expressed as a fraction with zero as numerator and the finite quantity as denominator. Zero divided by zero is zero. Bhāskara II's, 12th century, Līlāvatī instead proposed that division by zero results in an infinite quantity,[56] A quantity divided by zero becomes a fraction the denominator of which is zero. This fraction is termed an infinite quantity. In this quantity consisting of that which has zero for its divisor, there is no alteration, though many may be inserted or extracted; as no change takes place in the infinite and immutable God when worlds are created or destroyed, though numerous orders of beings are absorbed or put forth. Sambor InscriptionThe oldest, firmly dated use of zero as a decimal figure, found on the Sambor Inscription. The number "605" is written in Khmer numerals (top), referring to the year it was made: 605 Saka era (683 CE). The fragment, inscribed in Old Khmer, was once part of a temple doorway, and was found in Kratié province, Cambodia. There are numerous copper plate inscriptions, with the same small O in them, some of them possibly dated to the 6th century, but their date or authenticity may be open to doubt.[10] A stone tablet found in the ruins of a temple near Sambor on the Mekong, Kratié Province, Cambodia, includes the inscription of "605" in Khmer numerals (a set of numeral glyphs for the Hindu–Arabic numeral system). The number is the year of the inscription in the Saka era, corresponding to a date of AD 683.[57] The first known use of special glyphs for the decimal digits that includes the indubitable appearance of a symbol for the digit zero, a small circle, appears on a stone inscription found at the Chaturbhuj Temple, Gwalior, in India, dated AD 876.[58][59] A symbol for zero, a black dot, is used throughout the Bakhshali manuscript, a practical manual on arithmetic for merchants. The Bodleian Library reported radiocarbon dating results for six folio from the manuscript, indicating that they came from different centuries, but date the manuscript to AD 799 - 1102.[48] See also: History of the Hindu–Arabic numeral system The Arabic-language inheritance of science was largely Greek,[60] followed by Hindu influences.[61] In 773, at Al-Mansur's behest, translations were made of many ancient treatises including Greek, Roman, Indian, and others. In AD 813, astronomical tables were prepared by a Persian mathematician, Muḥammad ibn Mūsā al-Khwārizmī, using Hindu numerals;[61] and about 825, he published a book synthesizing Greek and Hindu knowledge and also contained his own contribution to mathematics including an explanation of the use of zero.[62] This book was later translated into Latin in the 12th century under the title Algoritmi de numero Indorum. This title means "al-Khwarizmi on the Numerals of the Indians". The word "Algoritmi" was the translator's Latinization of Al-Khwarizmi's name, and the word "Algorithm" or "Algorism" started to acquire a meaning of any arithmetic based on decimals.[61] Muhammad ibn Ahmad al-Khwarizmi, in 976, stated that if no number appears in the place of tens in a calculation, a little circle should be used "to keep the rows". This circle was called ṣifr.[63] The Hindu–Arabic numeral system (base 10) reached Western Europe in the 11th century, via Al-Andalus, through Spanish Muslims, the Moors, together with knowledge of classical astronomy and instruments like the astrolabe. Gerbert of Aurillac is credited with reintroducing the lost teachings into Catholic Europe. For this reason, the numerals came to be known in Europe as "Arabic numerals". The Italian mathematician Fibonacci or Leonardo of Pisa was instrumental in bringing the system into European mathematics in 1202, stating: After my father's appointment by his homeland as state official in the customs house of Bugia for the Pisan merchants who thronged to it, he took charge; and in view of its future usefulness and convenience, had me in my boyhood come to him and there wanted me to devote myself to and be instructed in the study of calculation for some days. There, following my introduction, as a consequence of marvelous instruction in the art, to the nine digits of the Hindus, the knowledge of the art very much appealed to me before all others, and for it I realized that all its aspects were studied in Egypt, Syria, Greece, Sicily, and Provence, with their varying methods; and at these places thereafter, while on business. I pursued my study in depth and learned the give-and-take of disputation. But all this even, and the algorism, as well as the art of Pythagoras, I considered as almost a mistake in respect to the method of the Hindus [Modus Indorum]. Therefore, embracing more stringently that method of the Hindus, and taking stricter pains in its study, while adding certain things from my own understanding and inserting also certain things from the niceties of Euclid's geometric art. I have striven to compose this book in its entirety as understandably as I could, dividing it into fifteen chapters. Almost everything which I have introduced I have displayed with exact proof, in order that those further seeking this knowledge, with its pre-eminent method, might be instructed, and further, in order that the Latin people might not be discovered to be without it, as they have been up to now. If I have perchance omitted anything more or less proper or necessary, I beg indulgence, since there is no one who is blameless and utterly provident in all things. The nine Indian figures are: 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1. With these nine figures, and with the sign 0 ... any number may be written.[64] From the 13th century, manuals on calculation (adding, multiplying, extracting roots, etc.) became common in Europe where they were called algorismus after the Persian mathematician al-Khwārizmī. One popular manual was written by Johannes de Sacrobosco in the early 1200s and was one of the earliest scientific books to be printed, in 1488.[65][66] The practice of calculating on paper using Hindu–Arabic numerals only gradually displaced calculation by abacus and recording with Roman numerals.[67] In the 16th century, Hindu–Arabic numerals became the predominant numerals used in Europe.[65] Main article: Symbols for zero Oslo airport train station, Platform 0 Today, the numerical digit 0 is usually written as a circle or ellipse. Traditionally, many print typefaces made the capital letter O more rounded than the narrower, elliptical digit 0.[68] Typewriters originally made no distinction in shape between O and 0; some models did not even have a separate key for the digit 0. The distinction came into prominence on modern character displays.[68] A slashed zero (0 / {\displaystyle 0\!\!!{/}}) is often used to distinguish the number from the letter (mostly in computing, navigation and in the military, for example). The digit 0 with a dot in the center seems to have originated as an option on IBM 3270 displays and has continued with some modern computer typefaces such as Andalé Mono, and in some airline reservation systems. One variation uses a short vertical bar instead of the dot. Some fonts designed for use with computers made the "0" character more squared at the edges, like a rectangle, and the "O" character more rounded. A further distinction is made in falsification-hindering typeface as used on German car number plates by slitting open the digit 0 on the upper right side. In some systems either the letter O or the numeral 0, or both, are excluded from use, to avoid confusion. See also: Null (mathematics) The concept of zero plays multiple roles in mathematics: as a digit, it is an important part of positional notation for representing numbers, while it also plays an important role as a number in its own right in many algebraic settings. Main article: Positional notation In positional number systems (such as the usual decimal notation for representing numbers), the digit 0 plays the role of a placeholder, indicating that certain powers of the base do not contribute. For example, the decimal number 205 is the sum of two hundreds and five ones, with the 0 digit indicating that no tens are added. The digit plays the same role in decimal fractions and in the decimal representation of other real numbers (indicating whether any tenths, hundredths, thousandths, etc., are present) and in bases other than 10 (for example, in binary, where it indicates which powers of 2 are omitted).[69] A number line from −3 to 3, with 0 in the middle The number 0 is the smallest nonnegative integer, and the largest nonpositive integer. The natural number following 0 is 1 and no natural number precedes 0. The number 0 may or may not be considered a natural number,[70][71] but it is an integer, and hence a rational number and a real number.[72] All rational numbers are algebraic numbers, including 0. When the real numbers are extended to form the complex numbers, 0 becomes the origin of the complex plane. The number 0 can be regarded as neither positive nor negative[73] or, alternatively, both positive and negative[74] and is usually displayed as the central number in a number line. Zero is even[75] (that is, a multiple of 2), and is also an integer multiple of any other integer, rational, or real number. It is neither a prime number nor a composite number: it is not prime because prime numbers are greater than 1 by definition, and it is not composite because it cannot be expressed as the product of two smaller natural numbers.[76] (However, the singleton set {0} is a prime ideal in the ring of the integers.) 5+0=5 illustrated with collections of dots. The following are some basic rules for dealing with the number 0. These rules apply for any real or complex number x, unless otherwise stated. Addition: x + 0 = 0 + x = x. That is, 0 is an identity element (or neutral element) with respect to addition. Subtraction: x − 0 = x and 0 − x = −x. Multiplication: x · 0 = 0 · x = 0. Division: 0/x = 0, for nonzero x. But x/0 is undefined, because 0 has no multiplicative inverse (no real number multiplied by 0 produces 1), a consequence of the previous rule.[77] Exponentiation: x0 = x/x = 1, except that the case x = 0 is considered undefined in some contexts. For all positive real x, 0x = 0. The expression 0/0, which may be obtained in an attempt to determine the limit of an expression of the form f(x)/g(x) as a result of applying the lim operator independently to both operands of the fraction, is a so-called "indeterminate form". That does not mean that the limit sought is necessarily undefined; rather, it means that the limit of f(x)/g(x), if it exists, must be found by another method, such as l'Hôpital's rule.[78] The sum of 0 numbers (the empty sum) is 0, and the product of 0 numbers (the empty product) is 1. The factorial 0! evaluates to 1, as a special case of the empty product.[79] The empty set has zero elementsThe role of 0 as the smallest counting number can be generalized or extended in various ways. In set theory, 0 is the cardinality of the empty set (notated as "{ }", " ∅ {\textstyle \emptyset } ", or "∅"): if one does not have any apples, then one has 0 apples. In fact, in certain axiomatic developments of mathematics from set theory, 0 is defined to be the empty set.[80] When this is done, the empty set is the von Neumann cardinal assignment for a set with no elements, which is the empty set. The cardinality function, applied to the empty set, returns the empty set as a value, thereby assigning it 0 elements. Also in set theory, 0 is the lowest ordinal number, corresponding to the empty set viewed as a well-ordered set. In order theory (and especially its subfield lattice theory), 0 may denote the least element of a lattice or other partially ordered set. The role of 0 as additive identity generalizes beyond elementary algebra. In abstract algebra, 0 is commonly used to denote a zero element, which is the identity element for addition (if defined on the structure under consideration) and an absorbing element for multiplication (if defined). (Such elements may also be called zero elements.) Examples include identity elements of additive groups and vector spaces. Another example is the zero function (or zero map) on a domain D. This is the constant function with 0 as its only possible output value, that is, it is the function f defined by f(x) = 0 for all x in D. As a function from the real numbers to the real numbers, the zero function is the only function that is both even and odd. The number 0 is also used in several other ways within various branches of mathematics: A zero of a function f is a point x in the domain of the function such that f(x) = 0. In propositional logic, 0 may be used to denote the truth value false. In probability theory, 0 is the smallest allowed value for the probability of any event.[81] Category theory introduces the idea of a zero object, often denoted 0, and the related concept of zero morphisms, which generalize the zero function.[82] The value zero plays a special role for many physical quantities. For some quantities, the zero level is naturally distinguished from all other levels, whereas for others it is more or less arbitrarily chosen. For example, for an absolute temperature (typically measured in kelvins), zero is the lowest possible value. (Negative temperatures can be defined for some physical systems, but negative-temperature systems are not actually colder.) This is in contrast to temperatures on the Celsius scale, for example, where zero is arbitrarily defined to be at the freezing point of water.[83][84] Measuring sound intensity in decibels or phons, the zero level is arbitrarily set at a reference value—for example, at a value for the threshold of hearing. In physics, the zero-point energy is the lowest possible energy that a quantum mechanical physical system may possess and is the energy of the ground state of the system. Modern computers store information in binary, that is, using an "alphabet" that contains only two symbols, usually chosen to be "0" and "1". Binary coding is convenient for digital electronics, where "0" and "1" can stand for the absence or presence of electrical current in a wire.[85] Computer programmers typically use high-level programming languages that are more intelligible to humans than the binary instructions that are directly executed by the central processing unit. 0 plays various important roles in high-level languages. For example, a Boolean variable stores a value that is either true or false, and 0 is often the numerical representation of false.[86] 0 also plays a role in array indexing. The most common practice throughout human history has been to start counting at one, and this is the practice in early classic programming languages such as Fortran and COBOL.[87] However, in the late 1950s LISP introduced zero-based numbering for arrays while Algol 58 introduced completely flexible basing for array subscripts (allowing any positive, negative, or zero integer as base for array subscripts), and most subsequent programming languages adopted one or other of these positions.[citation needed] For example, the elements of an array are numbered starting from 0 in C, so that for an array of n items the sequence of array indices runs from 0 to n−1.[88] There can be confusion between 0- and 1-based indexing; for example, Java's JDBC indexes parameters from 1 although Java itself uses 0-based indexing.[89] In C, a byte containing the value 0 serves to indicate where a string of characters ends. Also, 0 is a standard way to refer to a null pointer in code.[90] In databases, it is possible for a field not to have a value. It is then said to have a null value.[91] For numeric fields it is not the value zero. For text fields this is not blank nor the empty string. The presence of null values leads to three-valued logic. No longer is a condition either true or false, but it can be undetermined. Any computation including a null value delivers a null result.[92] In mathematics, there is no "positive zero" or "negative zero" distinct from zero; both −0 and +0 represent exactly the same number. However, in some computer hardware signed number representations, zero has two distinct representations, a positive one grouped with the positive numbers and a negative one grouped with the negatives. This kind of dual representation is known as signed zero, with the latter form sometimes called negative zero. These representations include the signed magnitude and ones' complement binary integer representations (but not the two's complement binary form used in most modern computers), and most floating-point number representations (such as IEEE 754 and IBM S/360 floating-point formats). An epoch, in computing terminology, is the date and time associated with a zero timestamp. The Unix epoch begins the midnight before the first of January 1970.[93][94][95] The Classic Mac OS epoch and Palm OS epoch begin the midnight before the first of January 1904.[96] Many APIs and operating systems that require applications to return an integer value as an exit status typically use zero to indicate success and non-zero values to indicate specific error or warning conditions.[97][citation needed] Programmers often use a slashed zero to avoid confusion with the letter "O".[98] In comparative zoology and cognitive science, recognition that some animals display awareness of the concept of zero leads to the conclusion that the capability for numerical abstraction arose early in the evolution of species.[99] Main article: Year zero In the BC calendar era, the year 1 BC is the first year before AD 1; there is not a year zero. By contrast, in astronomical year numbering, the year 1 BC is numbered 0, the year 2 BC is numbered −1, and so forth.[100] Grammatical number Mathematical constant Number theory Peano axioms ^ No long count date actually using the number 0 has been found before the 3rd century AD, but since the long count system would make no sense without some placeholder, and since Mesoamerican glyphs do not typically leave empty spaces, these earlier dates are taken as indirect evidence that the concept of 0 already existed at the time. ^ Each place in Ptolemy's sexagesimal system was written in Greek numerals from 0 to 59, where 31 was written λα meaning 30+1, and 20 was written κ meaning 20. ^ Harper, Douglas (2011). "Zero". Etymonline. Archived from the original on 3 July 2017. "figure which stands for naught in the Arabic notation," also "the absence of all quantity considered as quantity", c. 1600, from French zéro or directly from Italian zero, from Medieval Latin zephirum, from Arabic sifr "cipher", translation of Sanskrit sunya-m "empty place, desert, naught.Menninger, Karl (1992). Number Words and Number Symbols: A cultural history of numbers. Courier Dover Publications. pp. 399–404. ISBN 978-0-486-27096-8. Retrieved 5 January 2016."zero, n." OED Online. Oxford University Press. December 2011. Archived from the original on 7 March 2012. Retrieved 4 March 2012. French zéro (1515 in Hatzfeld & Darmesteter) or its source Italian zero, for *zefiro, < Arabic çifr. ^ a b Smithsonian Institution. Oriental Elements of Culture in the Occident, p. 518, at Google Books. Annual Report of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution; Harvard University Archives. "Sifr occurs in the meaning of "empty" even in the pre-Islamic time. ... Arabic sifr in the meaning of zero is a translation of the corresponding India sunya."Gullberg, Jan (1997). Mathematics: From the Birth of Numbers. W.W. Norton & Co. ISBN 978-0-393-04002-9. p. 26: Zero derives from Hindu sunya – meaning void, emptiness – via Arabic sifr, Latin cephirum, Italian zevero.Logan, Robert (2010). The Poetry of Physics and the Physics of Poetry. World Scientific. ISBN 978-981-4295-92-5. p. 38: The idea of sunya and place numbers was transmitted to the Arabs who translated sunya or "leave a space" into their language as sifr. ^ "Zero". Merriam Webster online Dictionary. Archived from the original on 6 December 2017. ^ Ifrah 2000, p. 589. ^ "Collins – Free online dictionary". ^ "Collins – Free online dictionary, thesaurus and reference materials – nill". ^ a b "'Aught' synonyms". Thesaurus.com. Archived from the original on 23 August 2014. Retrieved 23 April 2013. ^ O'Connor, J. J.; Robertson, E. F. (2000). "Egyptian numerals". mathshistory.st-andrews.ac.uk. 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View (previous 50 | next 50) (20 | 50 | 100 | 250 | 500)ASCII (links | edit) Break key (links | edit) Baudot code (links | edit) Cube (links | edit) Chinese remainder theorem (links | edit) Decimal (links | edit) Dimensional analysis (links | edit) Duodecimal (links | edit) Electron (links | edit) Exponential function (links | edit) EBCDIC (links | edit) Giga- (links | edit) Integer (links | edit) ISO/IEC 8859-1 (links | edit) IBM 3270 (links | edit) IBM PC keyboard (links | edit) Kilo- (links | edit) List of Latin words with English derivatives (links | edit) Mega- (links | edit) Modular arithmetic (links | edit) Natural number (links | edit) Number theory (links | edit) Number (links | edit) Prime number (links | edit) Radian (links | edit) International System of Units (links | edit) Metric prefix (links | edit) Scroll Lock (links | edit) System request (links | edit) Transcendental number (links | edit) Unit (links | edit) 0 (links | edit) Triskaidekaphobia (links | edit) Friday the 13th (links | edit) 13 (number) (links | edit) Chain letter (links | edit) ISO/IEC 8859-15 (links | edit) Euler's identity (links | edit) Fortune cookie (links | edit) Dimensionless quantity (links | edit) Imaginary unit (links | edit) Taboo (links | edit) 2 (links | edit) Sieve of Eratosthenes (links | edit) ISO/IEC 8859-3 (links | edit) Human sacrifice (links | edit) Rainmaking (ritual) (links | edit) I'noGo tied (links | edit) Penny (links | edit) Japanese numerals (links | edit) View (previous 50 | next 50) (20 | 50 | 100 | 250 | 500) Retrieved from " WhatLinksHere/1" Voir aussi : ⁰, ₀, 𝟘, 𝟢, 𝟬, 𝟎, ○, 0 , 𝟘, 𝟢, 𝟬, 𝟎, 0 Chiffre arabe zéro. Unicode : U+0030. Unicode, Inc., Basic Latin, The Unicode Standard, version 12.1, 2019 0 0 (Informatique) (C, Perl, etc.) Préfixe marquant un nombre en système octal, par opposition au nombre décimal sans préfixe. Par exemple, 0100 est 100 en octal, donc 64 en décimal. 0 (Modélisme) Échelle reproduction. (France) Avec un rapport de 1:43,5. (États-Unis) Avec un rapport de 1:48. Échelles en modélisme ferroviaire SymboleRapport 2/II/G1:22,5 ou 1:28,25 1/I1:32 01:43,5 ou 1:45 ou 1:48 S ou H11:64 001:76 H0/HO1:87 TT1:120 N1:160 Z1:220 ZZ1:300 T1:450 ou 1:480 Sous-échelles du 0 0m, 0e ou 0-16.5, 0f ou 0i Étymologie manquante ou incomplète. Si vous la connaissez, vous pouvez l'ajouter en cliquant ici. Singulier et pluriel 0 \ze.ʁo\ 0 \ze.ʁo\ masculin (Tennis) (France) Classement d'un licencié à la Fédération Française de Tennis. Une locomotive en 0. 0 \ze.ʁo\ masculin invariable (Modélisme) Échelle correspondant au rapport 1:43,5 en France, 1:48 aux États-Unis et 1:45 ailleurs. En 0 des traverses métalliques PLM en impression 3D sont disponibles. — (Aurélien Prévot, « Hiver 23-24 : Les nouveautés & projets », dans Loco-Revue (ISSN 0024 5739), no 918, janvier 2024, page 52) Échelles en modélisme ferroviaire SymboleRapport 2/II/G1:22,5 ou 1:28,25 1/I1:32 01:43,5 ou 1:45 ou 1:48 S ou H11:64 001:76 H0/HO1:87 TT1:120 N1:160 Z1:220 ZZ1:300 T1:450 ou 1:480 Sous-échelles du S ou H1 Sm, Se, Sf ou Si, Sp, Sn3½, Sn3, Sn2½, Sn2 Étymologie manquante ou incomplète. Si vous la connaissez, vous pouvez l'ajouter en cliquant ici. SingulierPluriel 0\'zi:.rəo\ 0s\'zi:.rəoz\ 0 A locomotive in 0 (« Une locomotive en 0. ») 0 \ow\ invariable Échelles en modélisme ferroviaire SymboleRapport 2/II/G1:22,5 ou 1:28,25 1/I1:32 01:43,5 ou 1:45 ou 1:48 S ou H11:64 001:76 H0/HO1:87 TT1:120 N1:160 Z1:220 ZZ1:300 T1:450 ou 1:480 Sous-échelles du 0 0m, 0e ou 0-16.5, 0f ou 0i → Prononciation audio manquante. (Ajouter un fichier ou en enregistrer un avec Lingua Libre) Le zéro est bien plus qu'un simple chiffre ou symbole : c'est un concept fondamental qui a façonné l'histoire des mathématiques et, par conséquent, l'évolution de la pensée humaine. Voici une incursion dans sa définition, ses origines et son impact sur la numération moderne. Une définition du zéro (0) pour commencer Le terme « zéro », qui trouve ses racines dans le mot italien « zero », est dérivé de l'expression arabe « sifr ». Cependant, le zéro transcende la simple notion d'un caractère ou d'un signe numérique. Dans le système de notation positionnelle qui sous-tend la plupart des systèmes numériques modernes, le zéro joue un rôle essentiel en signalant une position dépourvue de valeur. Mais sa signification s'étend bien au-delà : il incarne, sur le plan mathématique, l'essence même de l'absence dans une forme quantifiable et est, dans la suite des numéros intercalé entre le -1 et le chiffre 1. Lorsque nous parlons d'un ensemble qui ne contient aucun élément, c'est le zéro qui quantifie le nombre d'éléments de cet ensemble vide. Ainsi, le zéro agit comme le fondement de l'échelle des entiers naturels, se positionnant comme le plus minime d'entre eux. Au-delà de cette caractérisation, il sert de point central dans le spectre des nombres réels, séparant harmonieusement les entités positives des négatives. L'histoire du zéro La trace du zéro (0) remonte à la Mésopotamie du IIIe siècle av. J.-C. Cependant, il servait principalement de marqueur de position. La véritable révolution est venue de l'Inde où, aux alentours du Ve siècle, le zéro a été reconnu non seulement comme marqueur, mais aussi comme un nombre à part entière, capable d'entrer dans des opérations mathématiques. C'est cette conceptualisation du zéro qui a été adoptée par les mathématiciens arabes, puis européens. Il convient de mentionner ici aussi la contribution unique des Mayas qui ont développé non pas un, mais deux concepts de zéro : un zéro cardinal et un zéro ordinal. Le zéro dans les systèmes de numération positionnels Les systèmes de numération positionnels offrent un terrain fertile pour l'émergence du zéro en tant que chiffre. Diverses civilisations ont, en effet, mis en place ce concept à plusieurs reprises. Mais il est important de noter que le chiffre zéro n'est pas intrinsèquement nécessaire. Des civilisations notables telles que la Chine et la Mésopotamie ont fonctionné sans lui pendant des millénaires. Par exemple, la Mésopotamie avait adopté un système sexagésimal dès le XXIe siècle av. J.-C. qui ne faisait pas usage du zéro. Leur mode de notation était analogue à notre système actuel de virgule flottante, où ils n'avaient pas besoin de zéro pour indiquer l'ordre de grandeur. Ce n'est qu'au IIIe siècle av. J.-C. que le zéro a fait son apparition, et ce, principalement pour marquer un emplacement vacant dans leur système. Les origines chinoises du zéro Les Chinois avaient également une approche unique de la numération. Des inscriptions découvertes, datant des XIVe-XIe siècles av. J.-C., révèlent qu'ils utilisaient une numération décimale « hybride ». Bien que le zéro ait finalement été incorporé dans leur système, probablement sous l'influence babylonienne ou grecque, ce n'était pas un élément originel de leur numération. Le 0 en Inde et son impact global L'Inde, quant à elle, semble avoir accueilli le zéro plus tôt, au IIIe siècle ou peut-être même avant. L'un des premiers enregistrements écrits du zéro se trouve dans le manuscrit de Bakhshali. Ce zéro, en tant que concept et symbole, s'est épanoui en Inde. Le mathématicien Brahmagupta le définit dans son travail, liant le zéro à la notion de « vide ». Les Arabes ont adapté ce concept, le transmettant finalement à l'Occident, pavant la voie à sa popularisation et à son adoption. L'ascension du zéro en Europe L'Europe, initialement réticente à accepter le zéro, a finalement embrassé le concept, en grande partie grâce à l'influence de Leonardo Fibonacci. Après avoir voyagé et étudié les systèmes numériques de différentes cultures, il a introduit ces concepts en Europe. Son ouvrage, le Liber Abaci, a été une étape cruciale pour enseigner à l'Europe à compter sans utiliser un abaque, incorporant pleinement le 0. Le zéro : Au-delà des mathématiques Charles Seife, dans son ouvrage Zéro, la biographie d'une idée dangereuse, évoque l'impact transformateur du zéro. Au-delà de sa simple utilisation en mathématiques, le zéro a joué un rôle crucial dans la compréhension de divers domaines tels que la thermodynamique et la mécanique quantique. La relation entre zéro et l'infini, telle qu'explorée par des esprits tels que Newton et Leibniz, souligne son importance fondamentale dans notre quête de compréhension du cosmos. Leonardo Fibonacci Utilisations du 0 dans les domaines mathématiques Le zéro est sans conteste l'une des inventions les plus profondes et les plus polyvalentes de l'histoire des mathématiques. Il agit non seulement comme un symbole pour la « non-existence » ou « l'absence », mais il a également une myriade d'applications techniques et théoriques. Le point d'origine sur la droite réelle Lorsque nous envisageons la droite réelle, le zéro est utilisé comme le point central à partir duquel nous mesurons tous les autres nombres. Par exemple, quand on parle de températures, le 0°C est le point de congélation de l'eau, servant de repère crucial pour définir les états d'agrégation de cette substance. Le zéro : Élément neutre de l'addition Dans le contexte des mathématiques, le zéro est défini comme l'élément neutre de l'addition. Cela signifie que l'ajout de zéro à n'importe quel nombre n'altère pas la valeur de ce nombre. Par exemple, 5+0=5 et le numéro cinq est ainsi non alteré. Cette propriété est vitale non seulement en mathématiques pures mais aussi dans des applications telles que la comptabilité. Prenons l'exemple des bilans financiers d'une entreprise : si une entreprise n'a ni profit ni perte, on peut dire qu'elle a un solde nul, représenté par le zéro. Plus d'informations sur sa neutralité dans la section algèbre de cet article. Groupe abélien et son importance Les groupes abéliens sont au cœur de l'algèbre abstraite et jouent un rôle important dans la compréhension des structures mathématiques. Ces groupes, avec leur opération bien définie et leur élément neutre, offrent une base solide pour explorer des concepts plus avancés et des applications dans divers domaines. Définition et propriétés Un groupe est un ensemble G associé à une opération binaire (généralement notée « + ») qui vérifie quatre propriétés fondamentales : la clôture, la présence d'un élément neutre, l'existence d'un élément inverse pour chaque élément, et l'associativité. Un groupe est dit « abélien » (ou « commutatif ») si, pour tous les éléments a et b de G, a+b=b+a. L'élément neutre est celui qui, lorsqu'il est combiné avec n'importe quel élément de G selon l'opération binaire, laisse cet élément inchangé. Dans le contexte des groupes abéliens, cet élément neutre est souvent noté « 0 », rappelant le rôle du zéro dans les systèmes numériques habituels. Les entiers comme groupe abélien Considérez l'ensemble Z des nombres entiers avec l'opération d'addition. Il s'agit d'un groupe abélien car : La somme de deux entiers est toujours un entier (clôture) ; Pour chaque entier nn, l'entier −n−n est son inverse additif, car n+(−n)=0 ; L'addition est associative : (a+b)+c=a+(b+c) pour tous les entiers a,b, et c ; L'addition est commutative : a+b=b+a pour tous les entiers a et b. L'importance des groupes abéliens Les groupes abéliens ne se limitent pas aux entiers. De nombreux autres systèmes en mathématiques, en physique et dans d'autres disciplines forment des groupes abéliens. Par exemple, l'ensemble des vecteurs dans un espace vectoriel fixe, avec l'addition de vecteurs comme opération, forme également un groupe abélien. De plus, les groupes abéliens sont la pierre angulaire de nombreux concepts en algèbre, tels que les anneaux, les corps et les modules. Ces structures algébriques ont des applications profondes en mathématiques, en physique théorique, en cryptographie, et même en économie. Espaces vectoriels et zéro Les espaces vectoriels sont au cœur de l'algèbre linéaire et sont omniprésents dans une multitude de disciplines allant des mathématiques à la physique. Au centre de ces espaces se trouve un élément essentiel : le vecteur zéro. Définition et propriétés Un espace vectoriel est un ensemble de vecteurs sur lequel deux opérations sont définies : l'addition de vecteurs et la multiplication d'un vecteur par un scalaire (un nombre du corps sous-jacent). Le vecteur zéro est ce vecteur unique qui, lorsqu'il est ajouté à un autre vecteur, ne modifie pas ce dernier. Mathématiquement, pour tout vecteur v de l'espace vectoriel V, nous avons v+0= v. Exemple : L'espace R^3 Considérons l'espace tridimensionnel R3, qui est l'ensemble de tous les triples ordonnés de nombres réels. Dans cet espace, le vecteur zéro est le triple (0,0,0). Si l'on prend un vecteur quelconque, disons (x,y,z), l'addition de ce vecteur avec le vecteur zéro donne le même vecteur : (x,y,z)+(0,0,0)=(x,y,z). Application en physique Le vecteur zéro est d'une importance fondamentale dans la description des phénomènes physiques. Par exemple, en mécanique, un objet qui n'a pas de mouvement par rapport à un observateur a une vitesse vectorielle de zéro. Si l'on considère un objet en chute libre, sa vitesse initiale, avant de commencer sa chute, serait un vecteur vitesse zéro. Autres domaines et généralisations Les espaces vectoriels ne sont pas limités à deux ou trois dimensions ; Ainsi, en mathématiques et en physique théorique, il est courant de travailler avec des espaces de dimensions beaucoup plus élevées, voire infinies. Dans tous ces espaces, le vecteur zéro sert de point de référence, facilitant le calcul et la compréhension des propriétés structurelles de l'espace. Le 0 en algèbre Dans le vaste univers des structures algébriques, le zéro occupe une place centrale, notamment dans la définition des anneaux et des corps. Ces structures sont fondamentales pour une grande variété de disciplines mathématiques, allant de l'algèbre abstraite à la théorie des nombres. Un anneau est un ensemble équipé de deux opérations, généralement notées + et x, qui satisfait un certain nombre de propriétés, parmi lesquelles l'existence d'un élément neutre pour l'addition. Cet élément neutre est appelé « zéro de l'anneau« . Dans l'anneau des entiers, par exemple, l'élément neutre est le nombre 0, car pour tout entier n, n+0 = n (voir d'autres explications plus haut dans l'article). Zéro dans les corps Un corps est une structure algébrique plus sophistiquée qu'un anneau, comportant à la fois une addition et une multiplication. Tout comme dans un anneau, le corps a un élément neutre pour l'addition, et cet élément est aussi appelé « zéro du corps« . Dans le corps des nombres réels, le zéro possède cette propriété car pour tout réel r, r+0=r. De plus, le produit de zéro avec n'importe quel élément du corps donne toujours zéro. Polynômes et le polynôme zéro Lorsque nous nous aventurons dans l'ensemble des polynômes, le zéro se manifeste sous la forme du « polynôme zéro ». Un polynôme est une somme d'expressions de la forme anxn, où an an est un coefficient xn. Le polynôme zéro est spécial en ce que tous ses coefficients sont zéro. Pour clarifier par un exemple : considérons l'ensemble des polynômes à coefficients réels. Un polynôme typique pourrait ressembler à 2×3−5×2+4. Le polynôme zéro, en revanche, est simplement 0. Il s'agit du polynôme qui, lorsqu'il est ajouté à n'importe quel autre polynôme, ne change pas ce dernier. De plus, lorsqu'il est multiplié par n'importe quel autre polynôme, le résultat est encore le polynôme zéro. Exemple de polynôme Le zéro dans différentes bases : L'omniprésent marqueur d'absence Le concept de base numérique fait référence à la manière dont les nombres sont représentés à l'aide d'un certain ensemble de chiffres. La plupart d'entre nous sont familiers avec le système décimal, où dix symboles (0-9) sont utilisés. Cependant, en fonction de diverses applications, en particulier en informatique, d'autres bases sont couramment employées. Malgré ces variations, une constante demeure : le zéro. Il est le pilier sur lequel chaque base est construite, servant de repère inestimable et de représentant de l'absence. Base 2 (Binaire) Le système binaire, fondé sur deux chiffres (0 et 1), est la langue de base de l'informatique. Ici, le zéro prend une importance vitale. Non seulement il représente l'absence de valeur, mais dans le contexte de l'électronique, un « 0 » binaire peut indiquer un circuit éteint (absence de courant électrique). Par exemple, le nombre 1010 signifie qu'il y a une absence de valeurs aux deuxième et quatrième positions. Base 8 (Octal) Utilisé moins fréquemment de nos jours mais encore pertinent, notamment dans certains systèmes de programmation, l'octal emploie les chiffres de 0 à 7. Dans ce système, le zéro continue de jouer son rôle de marqueur d'absence et d'initiateur de place. Par exemple, le nombre octal 704 signifie qu'il y a absence de « dizaines » dans ce nombre. Base 10 (Décimale) C'est le système que nous utilisons dans notre vie quotidienne. Chaque position dans un nombre peut être remplie par des chiffres allant de 0 à 9. Le zéro indique une absence dans cette position, comme dans le nombre 2048 où il y a absence de centaines. Base 16 (Hexadécimale) Utilisé principalement dans les domaines de la programmation et de l'électronique, l'hexadécimal utilise les chiffres de 0 à 9, suivis des lettres de A à F. Même ici, le zéro sert à indiquer une absence. Par exemple, dans le nombre hexadécimal 2A0B, le zéro indique une absence à la troisième position. Graphies actuelles du zéro Sa représentation la plus familière à ce jour est le cercle. Cette graphie simple, mais puissante, en dit long sur l'histoire humaine, les échanges culturels et l'évolution des mathématiques. L'inspiration céleste du 0 La forme circulaire du zéro est souvent associée à la voûte céleste, un espace vide et infini (voir à ce titre notre sujet aussi sur le huit). Dans de nombreuses cultures, le cercle symbolise la perfection, l'éternité, et le cycle sans fin de la vie. Le zéro, de par sa nature circulaire, est une parfaite métaphore du vide et de l'infini, et ce n'est pas une surprise qu'il ait pris cette forme, évoquant l'immensité de l'univers. Différentes appellations autour du monde Voici différents manières de nommer cette entité mathématique : Zéro : C'est le terme couramment utilisé en français, dérivé de l'italien « zero ». Le passage du mot à travers différentes cultures a légèrement modifié sa prononciation et son orthographe, mais sa racine reste reconnaissable ; Null : C'est le mot pour zéro en allemand. Il est aussi utilisé dans le contexte informatique pour signifier l'absence de valeur ; Oudén : Ce mot provient du grec ancien et signifie « rien ». Les Grecs avaient une relation complexe avec le concept de zéro, hésitant à lui donner une place complète dans leur système numérique ; Nihil : Ce terme latin pour « rien » a donné naissance à de nombreux mots en langues romanes, et il est étroitement lié à la philosophie et à la notion d'absence d'existence ; Shūnya : En sanskrit, ce mot signifie « vide ». C'est à partir de ce terme que le zéro a été introduit dans le monde des mathématiques en Inde, avant de se propager vers l'Ouest via les Arabes. Le zéro et la notion de vide L'utilisation du zéro dans la culture moderne Le zéro est profondément ancré dans le langage quotidien à travers diverses expressions. « Partir de zéro » évoque l'idée de commencer quelque chose de nouveau, sans préjugés ou bagages antérieurs. « Zéro faute » est une expression d'excellence, indiquant une performance sans erreurs. À l'inverse, dire de quelqu'un qu'il « vaut zéro » est une critique de sa valeur ou de ses compétences. L'expression « zéro déchet » a pris de l'importance ces dernières années. C'est un appel à réduire la consommation et à éliminer les déchets pour protéger l'environnement. Il en est de même pour des termes tels que « zéro émission » lié aux véhicules propres, ou « zéro carbone », qui met l'accent sur la réduction de l'empreinte carbone pour lutter contre le changement climatique. Cinéma, musique et arts Dans les arts, le zéro a également une présence significative. Il peut être utilisé comme un titre évocateur, comme dans le film « Patient Zéro », ou la série « Zéro Absolu ». En musique, « Zéro » est une chanson du groupe The Smashing Pumpkins, reflétant une certaine mélancolie et un sentiment de vacuité. Ces utilisations artistiques du zéro évoquent souvent des sentiments de néant, d'isolement ou, à l'inverse, de renaissance et de potentialité. La technologie et le numérique Avec l'avènement du numérique, le zéro, en tandem avec le un, forme la base du langage binaire utilisé dans la programmation informatique et le fonctionnement des ordinateurs. Dans ce contexte, le zéro est omniprésent et essentiel à la technologie moderne. Le symbolisme culturel, enfin Pour clore notre long sujet, le zéro peut aussi symboliser un nouveau départ ou une table rase et c'est le moment précis où l'on commence à compter, suggérant l'idée d'un nouveau commencement. Par conséquent, le zéro est souvent utilisé dans les campagnes de motivation ou les événements de remise en forme, indiquant le premier pas vers un changement positif sous forme de « remise à zéro ». Une manière de nous dire que tout est un éternel recommencement R.C. Un nombre qui n'a pas toujours été considéré comme tel. Son apparition fut longue et délicate suivant les civilisations qui n'ont pas toutes ressenti le besoin d'inventer un symbole pour représenter l'absence d'objets ! Et quand ce besoin s'est fait sentir, son introduction a suscité beaucoup de crainte et de mystère. Le zéro est par sa nature différent des autres chiffres. Pour les grecs de l'Antiquité par exemple, est « un » ce qui existe. A cette époque, ils ne possédent pas encore un degré d'abstraction suffisant pour pouvoir imaginer et de surcroît écrire ce qui n'est pas. Citons d'Euclide d'Alexandrie (-320? ; -260?) : "Est unité ce selon quoi chacune des choses existantes est dite une." Pourtant les astronomes grecs emploient dans leurs tables un zéro, l'omicron, noté o qui ressemble à notre zéro actuel mais il s'agit vraisemblablement d'une coïncidence. Les grecs comprennent l'utilité d'un zéro pour leurs calculs mais le rejettent pour des croyances philosophiques. Comme l'infini, le zéro fait peur aux grecs. Selon la conception aristotélicienne, le vide et l'infini n'existent pas, bien qu'elle conçoive un infini potentiel au sens d'une éventualité utopique impossible à réaliser. Il y a donc peu de chance pour que le zéro grec soit l'ancêtre de notre zéro. La première trace du zéro nous parvient des babyloniens (3e siècle avant J.C.). Leur système de numération tenant sur la combinaison du principe de position et du principe additif est parfois ambigu. Comment écrire par exemple le nombre « 305 » si on ne dispose pas du symbole « 0 ». On peut écrire « 3 5 », mais ne risque-t-on pas de confondre avec « 35 » ? Les scribes ont l'idée d'un signe de séparation des symboles se présentant sous la forme d'un double chevron exprimant qu'il n'y a rien. C'est le plus vieux zéro connu mais ce n'est pas encore un nombre ni même une quantité. On le qualifierait plutôt de «pense bête» ou de «marque-place» qui ne servait à autre chose que de fixer la bonne place des chiffres dans le système de numération de position. Indépendamment des autres civilisations, les savants mayas développent au cours du 1er millénaire de notre ère un système de numération performant et inventent un « zéro ». Le symbole connaît des formes très diverses telles que celle d'un coquillage. Quelques représentations de zéros mayas Mais le coup de génie vient encore de l'Inde où le zéro apparaît vers le Veme siècle. A l'opposé des grecs, la religion hindoue intègre totalement le vide et l'infini. Elle voit le cosmos comme un univers qui s'étend à l'infini alors que pour les pythagoriciens, le cosmos est "prisonnier" dans des sphères de différentes tailles qui émettent de la musique : l'harmonie des sphères. Le zéro n'est plus seulement un symbole utilisé pour marquer un vide, mais il devient un nombre à part entière. En 628, dans un traité d'astronomie appelé le Brahma Sphuta Siddhanta, Brahmagupta (598 ; 660) définira le zéro comme la soustraction d'un nombre par lui-même (a - a = 0). Il établira aussi qu'un nombre multiplié par zéro est égal à zéro. A cette époque, on l'appelle « sunya » qui se traduit par « vide » en sanskrit (la langue indienne). Brahmagupta tente en vain de calculer 1:0 et 0:0. Pour la 2ème division, il affirme que le résultat est 0. Ce qui est faux, il s'agit d'une forme indéterminée.Quant à la première, il faudra attendre un autre mathématicien indien, Bhaskara (1114 ; 1185) pour apporter la solution. Effectué à la calculatrice, 1:0 provoque une erreur. En effet, la division par zéro est interdite en mathématiques. Il s'agit en fait d'un calcul de limite. En prenant des valeurs de x de plus en plus proches de zéro, on s'aperçoit que 1:x prend des valeurs de plus en plus grandes. Bhaskara découvre que le zéro et l'infini sont intimement liés par le fait que 1:0 n'est autre que l'infini ! En même temps que l'Islam s'étend dans le monde arabe, les musulmans abandonnent la théorie d'Aristote (-384 ; -322) rejetant le vide et l'infini. Ils empruntent le zéro aux indiens et le mot deviendra « sifr ». Le zéro arrive en occident au XIIeme siècle. Mais comme pour les autres chiffres, le zéro fait une entrée laborieuse dans le langage mathématique. Il souffre des vestiges de la pensée aristotélicienne, mais aussi de la méfiance de l'Eglise. Léonard de Pise, dit Fibonacci (1170 ; 1250), utilise dans son Liber Abaci le nom de «zefirum» qui fait son apparition pour les besoins du commerce. Le mot deviendra ensuite «zefiro» pour devenir «zero» à partir de 1491. Notons que le «sifr» arabe dérivera aussi vers le mot «chiffre». Pour en savoir plus sur les zéros ! Cliquez sur les liens suivants : See also: o, O, 0., ๐, ○, , and Appendix:Variations of "o" English Wikipedia has an article on:Wikipedia Tenth century "West Arabic" variation of the Nepali form of Hindu-Arabic numeral · (compare Devanāgarī script (0)), adopted for use with the Latin script in Europe. See 0 § History for more. 0 (Arabic digits) The cardinal number zero, indicating absence of any quantity. A digit in decimal, binary, and every other base numbering system, indicating the absence of any quantity in a given place value. 0x1000E001 (hexadecimal notation) (mathematics) The identity element with respect to addition. ∃ 0 : ∀ a ∈ A : 0 + a = a + 0 = a {\displaystyle \exists \,\mathbf {0} :\forall a\in A:\mathbf {0} +a=a+\mathbf {0} =a} (mathematics, computer science) A Boolean or truth value corresponding to false. A&B&C=0 → A=0 || B=0 || C=0 (computing) Indicates that the number that follows is in octal. (phonetics, often superscript) The pitch of a tone that is more extreme than 1 (higher or lower, depending on local convention; e.g. 0 is the highest tone in Chatino). (phonetics, Sinosphere, often superscript) Lack of an inherent tone; the pitch depends on the tones of the surrounding syllables. Styles Oldstyle 0 in Fraktur script. A vintage clock with numbers 0–11. The digit ‘0’ in a digital seven segment display. The following forms are equivalent as a decimal digit: The additional following forms are equivalent as a cardinal number: (Arabic digits): 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 Other representations of 0: (number, digit, “zero”): (digit, “nought”): (Received Pronunciation) IPA(key): /ˈnɔːt/ Rhymes: -ɔːt (digit, “oh” o): (Received Pronunciation) IPA(key): /ˈəʊ/ Rhymes: -əʊ The pronunciation as a digit is very often shortened to that of the letter O to save time or keep rhythm. This change is required for the tens place of minutes following the hour and in shortened pronunciation of numbers between 10 and 19 hundred, including years, as well as their truncated two-digit forms, where the zero is a leading digit. It is also very common when saying telephone numbers, decimals after the decimal point, the leading zero in decimal fractions less than one, or many other words such as 007 double o seven. 0 (plural 0s) 0. The origin, starting point, or fixed reference point, especially for a measurement. The 0 for the Celsius scale is 273.15 Kelvin. (electrical engineering) The off or low bit state. If the NOT gate input is 1, the output is 0. 0-1000-600th, the ordinal number form60-0 0 (number) in Wikipedia 1 2 0 (Hong Kong Cantonese) 0仔