

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910791743703321
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Titolo	Numbers : rational and irrational / / Ivan Niven [[electronic resource]]
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Washington : , : Mathematical Association of America, , 2002
ISBN	0-88385-919-X
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (viii, 140 pages) : digital, PDF file(s)
Collana	Anneli Lax New Mathematical Library ; ; 1
Disciplina	512.7
Soggetti	Numbers, Real Numbers, Rational Irrational numbers
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Title from publisher's bibliographic system (viewed on 02 Oct 2015).
Sommario/riassunto	A superb development that starts with the natural numbers and carries the reader through the rationals and their decimal representations to algebraic numbers and then to the real numbers. Along the way, you will see characterizations of the rationals and of certain special (Liouville) transcendental numbers. This material is basic to all of algebra and analysis. Professor Niven's book may be read with profit by interested high school students as well as by college students and others who want to know more about the basic aspects of pure mathematics.