1. Record Nr. UNINA9910823189203321

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Titolo	Numbers : rational and irrational / / by Ivan Niven
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Washington, DC, : Mathematical Association of America, 1961
ISBN	0-88385-919-X
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (viii, 140 pages) : digital, PDF file(s)
Collana	Anneli Lax New Mathematical Library ; ; 1
Disciplina	512.81
Soggetti	Numbers, Real Numbers, Complex
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Includes index.
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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.