

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

IMPERIAL ACADEMY

PAPERS COMMUNICATED

1. Approximation of an Irrational Number by Rational Numbers.

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(Rec. Oct. 14, 1925. Comm. Dec. 12, 1925.)

Let ω be any positive irrational number, whose expansion into simple continued fraction is represented by

$$\omega = a_0 + \frac{1}{a_1 + \frac{1}{a_2 + \dots + \frac{1}{a_n + \dots}}} = [a_0 a_1 a_2 \dots a_n \dots].$$

If $\frac{P_n}{Q_n} = [a_0 a_1 a_2 \dots a_n]$ be the n -th convergent, and

$$S_n = Q_n^2 \left| \omega - \frac{P_n}{Q_n} \right|,$$

then the classical theorem due to HURWITZ and BOREL can be expressed

by
$$\text{Mini}(S_{n-1}, S_n, S_{n+1}) < \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}},$$

and
$$\text{Mini}(S_{n-1}, S_n, S_{n+1}) < \frac{1}{\sqrt{8}}, \text{ if } a_{n+1} = 2.$$

I have extended¹⁾ this theorem in the form

$$\text{Mini}(S_{n-1}, S_n, \dots, S_{n+3}) < \frac{5}{\sqrt{221}},$$

1) Bemerkung zur Theorie der Approximation der irrationalen Zahl durch rationale Zahlen, Science Reports of the Tôhoku Imperial University, Ser. I, 14 (1924). See also the Japanese Journal of Mathematics, 1 (1924).