

Concise golden formula for the fine-structure constant (α) — math-only
excerpt

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$$\alpha = \left([(\sqrt{N})^N + (N + 1)^N] \varphi e^{N+1} \right)^{-1/\pi}, \quad N = 4$$

Fig. 1. Concise formula for the fine-structure constant.

Definition (variant for $N = 4$): Let $\varphi = (1 + \sqrt{5})/2$. Define $S(N) = (\sqrt{N})^N + (N + 1)^N$. The proposed relation is $\alpha(N) = ([S(N)]^\varphi \cdot e^{N+1})^{-1/\pi}$. In what follows we set $N = 4$.

Symbols: α — fine-structure constant (dimensionless); φ — golden ratio; e — base of the natural logarithm; π — Archimedes' constant; N — positive integer.

Numerical evaluation ($N = 4$): $S(4) = (\sqrt{4})^4 + 5^4 = 16 + 625 = 641$. Hence $\alpha = (641^\varphi \cdot e^5)^{-1/\pi}$. Numerically: $\alpha \approx 0.007297352568$, so $\alpha^{-1} \approx 137.035999113$.

Comparison with CODATA (2018): $\alpha^{-1}_{\text{CODATA2018}} = 137.035999084$. Relative differences: $\Delta\alpha/\alpha \approx -0.21$ ppb; $\Delta(\alpha^{-1})/\alpha^{-1} \approx +0.21$ ppb.

Mathematical properties: (i) $\alpha(N) \in (0, 1)$ for $N \geq 1$; (ii) due to the negative exponent, $\alpha(N)$ decreases with increasing argument inside the parentheses; (iii) sensitivity to N is driven by the growth of $S(N)$ and of e^{N+1} ; (iv) for $N = 4$ the term $(N + 1)^N = 5^4$ dominates $S(N)$; (v) the function is smooth and differentiable in (φ, π, e) ; (vi) the expression uses only mathematical constants, hence it is unitless.

Editorial note: This excerpt intentionally contains mathematics only (definition, numeric evaluation, formal properties) with no speculative physical discussion.

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