

planetmath.org

Math for the people, by the people.

numerator and denominator increased by same amount

 ${\bf Canonical\ name} \quad {\bf Numerator And Denominator Increased By Same Amount}$

Date of creation 2013-03-22 19:36:29 Last modified on 2013-03-22 19:36:29

Owner pahio (2872) Last modified by pahio (2872)

Numerical id 9

Author pahio (2872)

Entry type Result
Classification msc 26D07
Classification msc 11A99

Related topic AdjacentFraction

Let the positive fraction $\frac{a}{b}$ be altered by adding a positive number δ to both a and b. Then

$$\frac{a}{b} < \frac{a+\delta}{b+\delta} \quad \text{if} \quad a < b,$$

$$\frac{a}{b} > \frac{a+\delta}{b+\delta}$$
 if $a > b$.

The asserted inequalities follow from the identity

$$\frac{a}{b} - \frac{a+\delta}{b+\delta} = \frac{(a-b)\delta}{b^2 + b\delta}.$$

Accordingly, we have for example

$$\frac{2}{3} < \frac{3}{4}, \quad \frac{200}{99} > \frac{201}{100}.$$