

Photos

Sources: [wikipedia.org](https://en.wikipedia.org), history.mcs, and [Oberwolfach Photo Collection](#)

Pierre-Simon Laplace 1749 – 1827
(Beaumont-en-Auge, France).

Astronomy (“Mécanique Céleste”, black holes),
probability theory, physics.



Augustin Louis Cauchy 1789 – 1857 (Paris, France).

École Polytechnique and then École des Ponts et Chaussées. Worked on diff. eq. with application to physics. Father of real and complex analysis. 789 articles.



Karl Hermann Amandus Schwarz 1843 – 1921
(Hermsdorf, now Poland).

Studied chemistry in Berlin but Kummer and Weierstrass persuaded him to change to mathematics. 1864: PhD at the University of Berlin. Worked in Halle, ETHZ, Göttingen. Main work in complex analysis. Had 20 PhD students.



Joseph-Louis Lagrange 1736 – 1813 (Turin, Italy).

Learned math. alone. Letter to Euler who was impressed by Lagranges ideas. Main work: calculus of variation, mechanics (vibrating string), astrophysics (3 body problem with Euler), etc.

Citation: ”“If I had been rich, I probably would not have devoted myself to mathematics.””



Boris Grigorievich Galerkin 1871 — 1945
(Polotsk, Belarus).

”Galerkin was a consultant in the planning and building of many of the Soviet Union’s largest hydrostations“.



Johann Peter Gustav Lejeune Dirichlet
1805 – 1859 (Düren, French Empire (now
Germany)).

Only certificate of end of gymnasium, no Abitur
(not good at Latin). Went to Paris to study
mathematics. Prof. at the University of Berlin
(1828 – 1855, no Habilitation lecture in Latin
for 20 y.). Youngest member of the Prussian
Academy of Sciences (age 27).

Worked in number theory, modern analysis
(concept of function), Fourier series.



Carl Gottfried Neumann 1832 – 1925
(Königsberg, Germany (now Kaliningrad,
Russia)).

Studied physics with his father (prof.). Then
worked mostly on electrodynamics. Professor at
Halle, Basel, Tübingen, and Leipzig. Also
known for the series

$$\frac{1}{1-x} = 1 + x + x^2 + \dots$$



Jules Henri Poincaré 1854 – 1912 (Nancy, France).

Student of Hermite (PhD on ODE). “Last universalist in mathematics” (math., physics, philosophy). Algebra, algebraic geometry, functional analysis, fluid dynamics, relativity, Poincaré conjecture, etc.



Leonhard Euler 1707 – 1783 (Basel,
Switzerland).

Entered the University at the age of 14. Had
Johann Bernoulli as mentor. Worked in almost
all areas of mathematics. If all his work would
have been printed, this would represent ca. 50
books.

Best mathematician in the world.



John Crank 1916 – 2006 (Hindley, England).
During WWII worked on ballistics problems.
Main field of research: numerical methods for
PDE. Established the John Crank Garden as a
retirement gift to Brunel University.



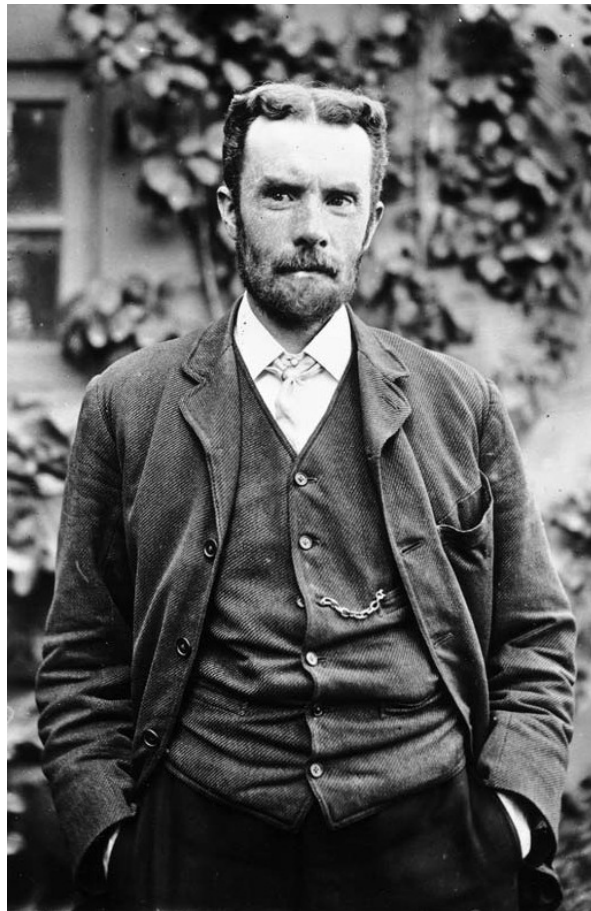
Phyllis Nicolson 1917 – 1968 (Macclesfield,
England).

She got a Phd in physics in 1946 (Manchester
University). During WWII worked on
defence-related problems.



Oliver Heaviside 1850 – 1925 (Camden Town,
England).

Autodidactic electrical engineer, mathematician,
and physicist. Used complex numbers in circuit
analysis. Rewrote Maxwell's equations in the
form commonly used today. Heaviside's
equations helped further the implementation of
the telegraph. Fellow of the Royal Society in
1891.



Jean Baptiste Joseph Fourier 1768 – 1830
(Auxerre, France).

Worked on the heat equation. Was governor of
Egypt!



Friedrich Wilhelm Bessel 1784 – 1846 (Minden,
Germany).

Interested in geography, navigation, math. and
astronomy: computed better trajectories of
Halley's comet, trajectories of 38 stars for 100
years.



Georg Friedrich Bernhard Riemann 1826 – 1866
(Breselenz, Hanover).

With 20 at Uni. Göttingen: theology and then
mathematics (with Gauss). 1851 Phd. Complex
numbers, Riemann surfaces, trigonometric
series, zeta function.



Henri Léon Lebesgue 1875 – 1941 (Beauvais,
France).

Lebesgue integral. Topology. Fourier series.
During WWI had argument with another
mathematician Borel (Dept. de la défense).

