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A comprehensive list of the publications of Jean André Ville (1910–1989)

Glenn Shafer

This list includes all the published work by Ville of which I am aware, together with some unpublished papers. Ville's name is given as it appears in each paper. All the reviews of Ville's publications of which I am aware are listed, including those in *Zentralblatt für Mathematik und ihre Grenzgebiete* (*Zbl*), *Jahrbuch über die Fortschritte der Mathematik* (*JFM*), and *Mathematical Reviews* (*MR*).

Except for a note in German [1936b] and a short article in English [1957b], all Ville's writings were in French. I have not translated the titles.

I am grateful to the many individuals, most notably Yves Bouvier, Benedicte Briotet, Bernard Bru, Pierre Crépel, Jean-Yves Jaffray, Laurent Mazliak, and Robert Vallée, who have helped me locate Ville's scattered published and unpublished writings. The Bibliothèque historique des postes et des télécommunications (BHPT, www.bhpt.org) was also very helpful.

Except for the unpublished paper [1980a], I have copies of all the items listed. I would be delighted to share them with others interested in studying Ville's work and influence.

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1 Doctoral thesis

Two versions of Ville's thesis were printed, both distributed by Gauthier-Villars. The first was the official thesis. The second, which differs from the first by the deletion of the brief introduction and the addition of two philosophical chapters (a preliminary chapter and Chapter VI), appeared in Borel's series of monographs on probability.

[1939a] Jean Ville. *Thèses présentées à la Faculté des Sciences de Paris pour obtenir le grade de Docteur es Sciences mathématiques. Première thèse. — Etude critique de la notion de collectif. Deuxième thèse. — La transformation de Laplace.* Gauthier-Villars, Paris, 1939. 116 pages.

- There is no text concerning the second thesis, on Laplace transforms.
- Review by Bruno de Finetti, *Zbl* 0021.14505.

[1939b] Jean Ville. *Etude critique de la notion de collectif.* Monographies des Probabilités. Gauthier-Villars, Paris 1939. 144 pages.

- Review by Kamke, *Zbl* 0021.14601.
- Review by F. Rehbock, *JFM* 65.0547.05.
- Review by J. L. Doob, *Bulletin of the American Mathematical Society* 45(11):824, 1939.
- Review by B. Jessen, *Matematisk Tidsskrift B* 84, 1939.
- Review by H. T. H. Piaggio, *The Mathematical Gazette* 23(257):490–491, 1939.
- Unsigned review in *Enseignement Mathématique* 174, 1940.

2 Articles

[1936a] A. Ville. Sur une proposition de M. L. M. Blumenthal. *Ergebnisse eines Mathematischen Kolloquiums, Wien* 7:10–11, 1936.

- Review by M. Steck, *JFM* 62.1404.04.

[1936b] A. Ville. Ein Satz über quadratische Länge. *Ergebnisse eines Mathematischen Kolloquiums, Wien* 7:22–23, 1936.

- Review by Erika Pannwitz, *JFM* 62.1453.03.

[1936c] M. Jean-André Ville. Sur les suites indifférentes. *Comptes rendus* 202:1393–1394, 27 April 1936.

- Review by Bruno de Finetti, *Zbl* 0013.40805.

- Review by F. Rehbock, *JFM* 62.0590.02.
- [1936d] M. Jean-André Ville. Sur la notion de collectif. *Comptes rendus* 203:26–27, 6 July 1936.
- Review by W. Feller, *Zbl* 0014.16802.
 - Review by F. Rehbock, *JFM* 62.0589.01.
- [1936e] M. Jean-André Ville. Sur la convergence de la médiane des n premiers résultats d’une suite infinie d’épreuves indépendantes. *Comptes rendus* 203:1309–1310, 14 December 1936.
- Review by W. Feller, Stockholm, *Zbl* 0015.26102.
 - Review by F. Rehbock, Braunschweig, *JFM* 62.0614.03.
- [1938b] M. Jean Ville. Sur la théorie générale des jeux où intervient l’habileté des joueurs. Pp. 105–113 of Borel’s *Applications de la théorie des probabilités aux jeux de hasard* ([1938a] in Section 6), 1938.
- [1938c] M. Jean Ville. Sur un jeu continu. *Comptes rendus* 206:968–969, 28 March 1938.
- Review by W. Feller, *Zbl* 0018.22404.
 - Review by G. Elfving, *JFM* 64.0540.03.
- [1942a] M. Jean Ville. Sur un problème de géométrie suggéré par l’étude du mouvement brownien. *Comptes rendus* 215:51–52, 15 July 1942.
- Review by J. L. Doob, *MR* 0009267.
 - Review by B. Hostinský, Brünn, *Zbl* 0027.41101.
 - Review by Ky Fan, *JFM* 68.0285.02.
- [1943a] M. Jean Ville. Sur un critère d’indépendance. *Comptes rendus* 216:552–553, 19 April 1943.
- Review by A. H. Copeland, *MR* 0009810.
 - Review by M. P. Geppert, *Zbl* 0028.29201.
- [1943b] M. Jean Ville. Sur l’application, à un critère d’indépendance, du dénombrement des inversions présentées par une permutation. *Comptes rendus* 217:41–42, 12 July 1943.
- Review by W. Feller, *MR* 0010363.
 - Review by A. Sade, *Zbl* 0060.30607.
- [1943c] M. Jean Ville. Sur les processus stochastiques stationnaires analytiques. *Comptes rendus* 217:101–103, 26 July 1943.

- [1944a] J. Ville. Sur la transitivité d'une methode d'estimation. *Annales de l'Université de Lyon, Section A* 7(3):14–20, 1944.
- Review by J. L. Doob, *MR* 0016618.
 - Review by A. Sade, *Zbl* 0060.30608.
- [1944b] M. Jean Ville. Sur la théorie invariante de l'estimation statistique. *Bulletin des Sciences Mathématiques* 68:95–108, 1944.
- Review by H. Scheffé, *MR* 0013278.
 - Review by A. Sade, *Zbl* 0060.30609.
- [1944c] M. Jean Ville. Etude statistique des irrégularités des câbles coaxiaux. Applications au calcul des phénomènes d'écho et de trainage. Premier mémoire. *Bulletin de la Société française des électriciens* 6e série 4(41):215–241, November 1944.
- [1944d] M. Jean Ville. Etude statistique des irrégularités des câbles coaxiaux. Diminution du trainage par groupement des longueurs de fabrications. Deuxième mémoire. *Bulletin de la Société française des électriciens* 6e série 4(42):253–260, December 1944.
- [1944e] J. Ville. Essai d'une théorie de l'hydrolyse des polymères. *Mémorial des Services chimiques de l'Etat*. Pages 278–292. 1944.
- [1945a] Jean Ville. Théorie des systèmes presque linéaires. *Revue générale de l'Electricité* 54:54–57. February 1945.
- [1945b] J. Ville. Sur la relation d'incertitude de Heisenberg. *Annales de l'Université de Lyon, Section A* 8:49–52, 1945.
- [1945c] MM. Pierre Herreng et Jean Ville. Sur la stabilité des réseaux linéaires. *Revue générale de l'Electricité* 54:93–96, March 1945.
- Review by N. Levinson, *MR* 0020477.
- [1945d] M. Jean Ville. Sur l'opérateur $\exp\{x + (d/dx)\}$. *Comptes Rendus* 221:529–530, 5 November 1945.
- Review by H. Pollard, *MR* 0014146.
- [1946a] Jean Ville. Sur les conditions d'existence d'une ophélimité totale et d'un indice du niveau des prix. *Annales de l'Université de Lyon, Section A* 9:32–39, 1946.
- Review by K. J. Arrow, *MR* 0019296.
 - A translation by P. K. Newman, entitled “The existence-conditions of a total utility function,” appeared in *Review of Economic Studies* 19(2):123–128, 1951.

- [1946c] M. Jean Ville. Sur l'équation de la force vive dans le mouvement rectiligne des gaz. *Comptes Rendus* 223:308–310, 12 August 1946.
- Review by G. F. Carrier, *MR* 0017077.
- [1947c] R. Belus, P. Herreng, and J. Ville. Sur les conditions de régularité à imposer aux longueurs de fabrication de câbles pour assurer la régularité des sections d'amplification. *Câbles et Transmissions* 1(1):3–12, April 1947.
- The table of contents of the issue gives the shorter title, “Ecart de l'impédance admissible sur les sections d'amplification de câble coaxial.”
 - An earlier version appeared as a SOTELEC working paper in April 1946 [1946b].
- [1948a] J. Ville. Théorie et applications de la notion de signal analytique. *Câbles et Transmissions* 2(1):61–74 January 1948.
- A translation by Ivan Selin, entitled “Theory and applications of the notion of complex signal,” appeared as RAND Corporation Technical Report T-92, Santa Monica, California, 1958. Available on-line (open-access) from the Defense Technical Information Center (www.dtic.mil), Accession Number AD0636038.
- [1948b] P. Herreng et J. Ville. Etude des irrégularités d'impédance des câbles coaxiaux par observation oscillographique des échos d'une impulsion. Première partie: Etude théorique. *Câbles et Transmissions* 2(2):111–130, April 1948.
- The second part, “L'échomètre à impulsions,” by Ville's colleagues G. Couanault and P. Herreng, appeared in *Câbles et Transmissions* 2(3):219–232, July 1948.
- [1948d] M. Ville. Composition des distorsions en régime transitoire sur les différentes longueurs d'un câble coaxial. *Onde électrique* 28:468 December 1948.
- [1949a] J. Ville. Réseaux réactifs en échelle. *Câbles et Transmissions* 3(2):159–176, April 1949.
- [1949b] J. Ville. Variables aléatoires équiréparties. *Câbles et Transmissions* 3(3):262–274, July 1949.
- [1949e] J. A. Ville. Fonctions aléatoires et transmission de l'information. Pp. 115–119 of *Le calcul des probabilités et ses applications; Lyon, 28 juin an 3 juillet 1948*, edited by Maurice Fréchet. Colloques Internationaux du Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, no. 13. Paris, 1949.

- The review by J. L. Doob (*MR* 0032132) says only, “General discussion.”
- [1950a] J. Ville. Signaux analytiques à spectre borné. *Câbles et Transmissions* 4(1):9–23, January 1950.
- An earlier version appeared as a SOTELEC working paper in July 1949 [1949c].
- [1950c] J. Ville. Note sur la limitation d’un traînage par la limitation de l’écho. *Câbles et Transmissions* 4(3):271–274, July 1950.
- An earlier version appeared as a SOTELEC working paper in October 1949 [1949d].
- [1951a] Jean Ville and Marcel Paul Schützenberger. Les problèmes de diagnostic séquentiel. *Comptes Rendus*. 232:206–207. January 15, 1951.
- Review by J. Wolfowitz, *MR* 0039230.
 - Review by Stefan Vajda, *Zbl* 0042.14303.
- [1951b] J. Ville. Sur une équation fonctionnelle de la théorie de l’information. *Câbles et Transmissions* 5(1):76–83, January 1951.
- An earlier version appeared as a SOTELEC working paper in April 1950 [1950b].
- [1951d] J. Ville. Décomposition d’un signal en composantes en cosinusoïde surélevée. *Câbles et Transmissions* 5(2):126–135, April 1951.
- An earlier version appeared as a SOTELEC working paper in July 1950 [1950d].
- [1951e] J. A. Ville. Entropie d’un système de transmission. *Câbles et Transmissions* 5(3):189–197, July 1951.
- An earlier version appeared as a SOTELEC working paper in October 1950 [1950e].
- [1951g] Jean Ville. Mesure de la quantité d’information. Exposé théorique. (Session for Tuesday, May 16.) Pp. 151–160 of *La cybernétique. Théorie du signal et de l’information. Réunions d’études et de mises au point. . .*, edited by Louis de Broglie. Editions de la Revue d’optique théorique et instrumentale, Paris, 1951.
- The seminar was held on May 16, 1951. It is not clear whether the book actually appeared in print in 1951.
- [1951h] Jean Ville. La formation de la connaissance envisagée du point de vue probabiliste. Pp. 101–114 of *Calcul des probabilités*, (Part IV of the proceedings of the Congrès Internationale de Philosophie des Sciences, Paris, 1949.) No. 1146 of the series Actualités Scientifiques et Industrielles. Hermann, Paris, 1951

- [1952a] M. Jean Ville. Sur les origines de la théorie des réseaux linéaires. *Revue générale de l'Electricité* 61(1):52–54, January 1952.
- [1952b] J.-A. Ville. Calcul des quaternions et compositions de quadripôles en chaîne. *Câbles et Transmissions* 6(3):211–220, July 1952.
- An earlier version appeared as a SOTELEC working paper in July 1951 [1951f].
- [1953a] J.-A. Ville. Signaux analytiques à spectre borné. Deuxième partie. *Câbles et Transmissions* 7(1):44–53, January 1953.
- This article continues [1950a].
 - An earlier version appeared as a SOTELEC working paper in July 1952 [1952c].
- [1953b] Rose Roch et J.-A. Ville. Note sur les paramètres de transmission d'une section d'amplification. *Câbles et Transmissions* 7(2):159–168, April 1953.
- An earlier version appeared as a SOTELEC working paper in October 1952 [1952d].
- [1953c] J. Ville. Considérations sur la théorie du risque et du crédit. *Econométrie; Paris, 12-17 mai 1952*. Colloques Internationaux du Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, no. 40. Pp. 231–233; discussion, 233–234. Paris, 1953.
- Review by I. J. Good, *MR* 0068815.
- [1954a] M. J. A. Ville. Expression analytique de l'exposant de transfert d'un circuit appelé à transmettre des impulsions. *Onde électrique* 34:135–138, February 1954.
- [1954b] M. J. A. Ville. Modulation conjuguée d'une démodulation linéaire. *Onde électrique*, 34:372–375, April 1954.
- [1955b] J.-A. Ville and J. Bouzitat. Sur un type de signaux pratiquement bornés en temps et en fréquence. *Câbles et Transmissions*. 9(4):293–303, October 1955.
- An earlier version appeared as a SOTELEC working paper in July 1954 [1954c].
- [1955e] J. A. Ville. De la transposition. *Publications scientifiques de l'Université d'Alger. Série A, Sciences mathématiques*. 2(1):137–154, 1955.
- Review by J. L. Brenner, *MR* 0079561.
 - Review by W. Gröbner, *Zbl* 0074.25301.

- [1956a] J.-A. Ville. Sur le prolongement des signaux à spectre borné. *Câbles et Transmissions* 10(1):44–52, January 1956.
- An earlier version appeared as a SOTELEC working paper in January 1955 [1955a].
- [1957b] Jean A. Ville. The part of statistical considerations in the separation of a signal masked by noise. *IRE Transactions on Information Theory* 3(1):24–27, March 1957.
- This journal was published by the Institute of Radio Engineers. It was continued by the *IEEE Transactions on Information Theory*.
- [1957c] J.-A. Ville and J. Bouzitat. Note sur un signal de durée finie et d'énergie filtrée maximum. *Câbles et Transmissions* 11(2):102–127, April 1957.
- An earlier version appeared as a SOTELEC working paper in January 1956 [1956b].
- [1957d] J. A. Ville. Evolution des appareils de mesure de transmission par courants porteurs au cours des dix dernières années. *Câbles et Transmissions*, 11(4):337–341, October 1957.
- [1958a] J. A. Ville. Application de la théorie de l'information à la compression d'amplitude. *Câbles et Transmissions* 12(2):144–147, April 1958.
- An earlier version appeared as a SOTELEC working paper in January 1957 [1957a].
- [1962a] J. A. Ville. De l'inversion des matrices. *Publications de l'Institut de Statistique de l'Université de Paris* 11(3):267–272, 1962.
- Review by H. O. Kreiss, *MR* 0155838.
 - Review by E. M. Bruins, *Zbl* 0112.25102.
- [1963a] J.-A. Ville. Le rôle des mathématiques dans la formation de la pensée économique. *Cahiers de l'Institut de Science Économique Appliquée. Série E: Les Mathématiques de l'Économiste*, No. 2, pp. 15–30, 1962.
- [1964a] M. Ville. Entropie et information. *Revue du CETHEDDEC* (Centre d'Études Théoriques de la Détection et des Communications) 1:141–153, 1964.
- Anonymously, *Mathematical Reviews* notes merely that this is an expository article: *MR* 0209056.

- [1966a] M. Jean Ville. Information et théorie des jeux. Pp. 85–100 of *Theory of Games: Techniques and Applications* (Proceedings of a conference under the aegis of the NATO Scientific Affairs Committee at Toulon, 29th June–3rd July 1964), Edited by A. Mensch. Elsevier, New York, 1966.
- [1968a] J. A. Ville. Flux d’information d’un signal à corrélation exponentielle. *Câbles et Transmissions*. 22(2):140–159, April 1968
- [1968b] J. A. Ville. Interpolation à tangente continue. Pp. 241–251 of *Programmation en mathématiques numériques*. Colloques Internationaux du Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, No. 165 (proceedings of a colloquium at Besançon, September 7–14, 1966). Paris. 1968.
- Review by R. R. Coveyou, *MR* 0233510.
- [1969a] J. A. Ville. Circuits d’informations dans un jeu coopératif. *Bulletin de Mathématiques économiques*. No. 2: October 1969, pp. 5–9. Faculté de Droit et des Sciences Economiques, Faculté des Sciences, Paris.
- [1970a] J. A. Ville. Sur une application de la théorie des pseudo-inverses à celle de certains semi-groupes. *Bulletin de Mathématiques économiques*. No. 4, October 1970, pp. 1–7. Faculté de Droit et des Sciences Economiques, Faculté des Sciences, Paris.
- [1974a] M. Jean Ville. Rapports et proportions en algèbre matricielle. *Comptes rendus* 279:77–78, 8 July 1974.
- Review by M. F. Smiley, *MR* 0349701.
 - Review by A. R. Amir-Moéz, *Zbl* 0291.15006.
- [1980a] Jean Ville. Théorie de l’Hamiltonien en économétrie.
- This title is mentioned Ville’s entry in *Who’s Who in France*; see the last page of the Bernard d’Orgeval’s obituary of Ville in this issue of the *Electronic Journal for History of Probability and Statistics*.
 - I have not seen a copy. Ville’s student and successor at the University of Paris, Jean-Yves Jaffray, who died in 2009, told me that Ville had once given him a copy of a draft of a monograph with this title. Being fond of Ville but embarrassed by the quality of the draft, Jaffray threw this copy away.
- [1983a] Jean A. Ville. Théorie des jeux, dualité et développement. *Economie appliquée* 36(4):593–609, 1983.

- This article, partly autobiographical, appeared in a special issue of the journal devoted to the memory of Oscar Morgenstern.
- An English translation appears in this issue of the *Electronic Journal for History of Probability and Statistics*.

[1986a] Jean A. Ville. Extension de l'usage des matrices technologiques. Pp. 5–13 of *Systèmes, information et jeux, Economies et Sociétés*, Cahiers de l'Institut de Sciences Mathématiques et Économiques Appliquées, Série EM no. 10, no. 11, edited by Robert Vallée, Presses Universitaires de Grenoble, 1986.

3 Courses and other pedagogical material

[1949f] J. Ville. Analyse matricielle et ses applications à la statistique mathématique, année scolaire 1948–49. Ecole d'application, INSEE. Paris, Ministère de l'économie nationale, 1949. 122 pp.

- Included in these lecture notes is Ville's work on the fiducial argument and the method of maximum likelihood, which he had first discussed in his unpublished Peccot lectures at the end of 1942.
- Ville taught this course under the auspices of statistical institute of the University of Paris, ISUP (Institut de Statistique de l'Université de Paris), which awarded certificates. These lecture notes were published by the governmental statistical institute INSEE (Institut National de la Statistique et des Etudes Economiques). The course was used by students in the training school for INSEE employees, and INSEE may have been responsible for paying Ville to teach the course. The training school later became ENSAE (Ecole Nationale de la Statistique et de l'Administration).

[1952e] J. A. Ville. Leçons sur la démographie mathématique. Ecole d'application, INSEE. 1952. 46 pp.

- This document is not dated, but it was received by INSEE's own library (now ENSAE's library) on 29 October 1952.

[1954d] J. A. Ville. Leçons sur quelques aspects nouveaux de la théorie des probabilités. *Annales de l'Institut Henri Poincaré* 14(2):61–143, 1954. Available on-line (open access) from Numdam.

- Review by L. J. Savage, *MR* 0068146. According to Savage, many of the results on information theory in these lectures were novel.

- Review by O. Onicescu, *Zbl* 0059.11401.
- [1955c] J. Ville. Eléments de l’algèbre de Boole. *Publications de l’Institut de Statistique de l’Université de Paris* 4:107–140, 1955.
- Review by R. Sikorski, *Zbl* 0067.26404.
 - P. Halmos, in *MR* 0077503, noted that this is an expository paper.
- [1955d] J. Ville. Principes d’analyse matricielle. *Publications de l’Institut de Statistique de l’Université de Paris* 4:141–218, 1955.
- *Zbl* 0067.36703, by H. Bergström.
 - This course overlaps with Ville’s earlier course on matrix algebra [1949f]. It omits the material on mathematical statistics and the brief chapter on linear algebra. It adds a general introductory chapter about numbers and matrices and a brief chapter on information theory.
- [1960b] M. Le Professeur Ville. Cours de calcul automatique: Théorie des machines mathématiques. Faculté des Sciences de l’Université de Paris. Laboratoire d’Econométrie. October 1960. 33 pp.
- [1960a] J. Ville. La structure mathématique simple des grandes machines à calculer. *Bulletin de l’Association des Professeurs de Mathématiques de l’Enseignement Public*, No. 213, December 1960.
- Reprinted on pp. 123–127 of *Le calcul des probabilités et l’enseignement*, published by the association in 1961.
- [1973a] M. Ville. Théoreme fondamental de la théorie de l’information. Théoreme de Feinstein. Institut de Programmation, Université de Paris VI. U. V. Téléinformatique. Année 73/74. 9 pp.
- [1976a] Professeur J. André Ville. Mathématiques économiques et théorie des systèmes. Université de Paris VI et Institut des Sciences et Techniques Nucléaires. Leçons enseignées en 1975–1976. 72 pp.
- In his *Who’s Who* entry, Ville lists a work dated 1975 with the title “Théorie des systèmes.” According to Jean-Yves Jaffray, a paper with this title was submitted to a journal but never published.

4 Miscellaneous

- [1938a] Emile Borel. Rédigé par Jean Ville. *Applications de la théorie des probabilités aux jeux de hasard*. Paris: Gauthier-Villars, 1938.

- *Rédigé par* means “written by.” Borel gave the lectures, and Ville wrote them up.
 - The book is volume IV, fascicle ii, of Borel’s *Traité du calcul des probabilités et de ses applications*. It was reprinted by Jacques Gabay in 1991.
 - The book includes Ville’s celebrated article on von Neumann’s minimax theorem (Section 2 [1938b]).
- [1940a] Allocution de M. Jean Ville. Pp. 49–51 of *Jubilé scientifique de M. Émile Borel: Allocutions prononcées à la cérémonie du 14 janvier 1940*. Gauthier-Villars, Paris, 1940.
- This is the text of Ville’s tribute to Emile Borel at the ceremony honoring him on January 14, 1940, on the occasion of his retirement from the University of Paris. Because Ville was absent at the front, the tribute was read by Ville’s colleague and friend Robert Fortet.
- [1949g] *Nouveau dictionnaire illustré Simon, dictionnaire encyclopédique français*, Editions R. Simon, Paris, 1949. Copyright 1947. The editor lists four principal collaborators: F. de Martini (litterature and grammar), R. Mayer (physical and natural sciences), A. Ville (mathematics, mechanics, and astronomy), and Maurice Catel (history and geography).
- [1960c] Jean André Ville. Préface. Pp. vii–viii of *Traité des ordinateurs*, by Dimitris N. Chorafas. 309 pp., Hermann, Paris, 1960.
- [1962b] J. A. Ville. Préface. Pp. v–vi of *Monographie des treillis et algèbre de Boole*, by Michel Carvallo. Gauthier-Villars. Paris, 125 pp., 1962. 2nd edition, 130 pp., 1966.
- This book was the first of the series, “Collection de Mathématiques Economiques,” edited by Ville. At the time of the second edition, 1966, a second monograph by Carvallo had appeared in the series, and additional ones, by Moisil, Rouquet La Garrique and Rocher, Künzi and Krelle, and Carvallo, were planned.
- [1972] Mahmoud Abdel Fadil.
- This document consists of two apparently unpublished typescripts, 3 pages and 4 pages in length respectively, concerning the work of the Egyptian economist Mahmoud Abdel Fadil on the Soviet planning system. Fadil defended his doctoral thesis on this topic at the Sorbonne in 1972 and published a book on it in 1975. In 1984, Ville told Pierre Crépel that he had written in praise of Fadil’s book in the newspaper *Le Monde* around

1976 (see Crépel's report on the conversation in this issue of the *Electronic Journal for History of Probability and Statistics*).

[1965c] J.-A. Ville. Préface. *Théorie des questionnaires*, by Claude François Picard. Gauthier-Villars, Paris, 126 pp., 1965.

[1968c] J. A. Ville. Préface. *Logique à trois valeurs; Logique à seuil*, by Michel Carvallo. Gauthier-Villars. Paris, 1968.

- This was the fifth of the series, “Collection de Mathématiques Economiques,” edited by Ville.

[1983b] Jean-André Ville. La langue algorithmique. Pp. 203–204 of *Calcul par l'informatique: Méthode logique d'enseignement des mathématiques*, by Marie José Bertin. Hermann, Paris, 1983.

- This is a textbook for teaching elements of programming and numerical mathematics using a basic electronic calculator. Ville's two-page note at the end of the book was his response to the author's project. Its first paragraph shows its philosophic flavor: “The growth of computer science has reminded us that mathematics is largely a language—a written language. Although we cannot predict future attitudes, this emphasis on language is one of the imperatives for the modern comprehension of mathematics at the end of the twentieth century. The language of mathematics has no emotional content. Better put, it is bereft of intelligence in the Latin sense of the word, if not in the Anglo-Saxon sense.”

5 SOTELEC working papers

The SOTELEC consortium (Société mixte pour le développement de la technique des Télécommunications sur câbles) brought together the French government office for the mail, telegraph, and telephone services (the PTT), and the large companies from which it purchased electrical and communications equipment. Its purpose was to share patents and coordinate an attempt to save the French electrical and telephone industry from United States dominance. SOTELEC's *Bulletin technique d'information* was circulated only within the consortium, but many of its papers later appeared in the consortium's internationally distributed research journal, *Câbles et Transmissions*.

The bulletin had 47 issues, from April 1946 to October 1957, containing 200 technical papers, numbered E1 to E200. Ville was author or co-author of 17 of the papers. Of these, 13 were later published in *Câbles et Transmissions*. A complete series of the bulletin is preserved in the archives of the Centre National d'Etudes des Télécommunications (CNET) in Lannion, France, and is available to the public through the Bibliothèque historique des postes et

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6 *Zentralblatt* reviews written by Ville

Zentralblatt für Mathematik und ihre Grenzgebiete was founded in 1931 as a multi-lingual reviewing journal, providing prompt one-paragraph reviews of articles in the mathematical literature world-wide. Ville was one of a couple dozen French mathematicians who contributed to the journal before World War II and during the German occupation of France. Ville's first three reviews appeared in 1938 in volume 18, the last volume to be edited by Otto Neugebauer in Copenhagen. He contributed three more that appeared in August and September 1939, under the editorship of E. Ullrich in Berlin. After returning to France from the prisoner-of-war camp in Edelbach, he contributed 15 more reviews, which appeared from December 1941 to April 1944, in volumes 25 through 28, which were edited by Harald Geppert.

All Ville's contributions to *Zentralblatt* appeared in French.

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