

Introducing the mini-DML Project

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Introduction

At the Göttingen meeting of the Digital Mathematical Library project (DML), in May 2004, the issue was raised that discovery and seamless access to the available digitised literature was still a task to be accomplished. The ambitious project of a comprehensive registry of all ongoing digitisation activities in the field of mathematical research literature was agreed upon, as well as the further investigation of many linking options to ease user's life. However, given the scope of those projects, their benefits can't be expected too soon.

Between the hope of a comprehensive DML with many efficient entry points and the actual dissemination of heterogeneous partial lists of available material, there is a path towards multiple distributed databases allowing integrated search, metadata exchange and powerful interlinking. The mini-DML project, initiated by Cellule MathDoc, is a prototypal implementation of this vision.

We will briefly discuss its roots, definition, and outline a proposal of good practice in metadata exposure and retrieval, as a mean to turn it (and its expected companion competitors) into a useful service.

1. Context

Scientific publishing has a long history:

- Scientific journals exist since 1665 (*Journal des savans, Philosophical transactions*).
- Mathematical journals exist since 1810 (*Annales de Gergonne*).
- Many digitisation projects are heavily working in order to provide that intellectual treasury to the digital age.
- Freely downloadable grey literature is omnipresent.
- We face an exponentially growing amount of available material while

- most researchers aren't even aware of this, and...
- those who know have to bookmark hundreds of websites: repositories, specialised search engines, home pages, individual journal pages, and...
- they need to figure a specific strategy to localise an item in each of these sites!

2. Catalogues & lists

Facing a similar situation, the mathematicians of the end of 19th century chose to build lists of important published resources:

- Valentin's famous lost catalogue (1885–1910).
- The *Répertoire bibliographique des sciences mathématiques* (1894–1912, covering 19th century).
- The *Jahrbuch über die Fortschritte der Mathematik* (1868–1944).
And later:
 - *Zentralblatt-Math* (1931–).
 - *Mathematical reviews* (1940–).

Except in the (conjectural) first case, these lists are non-comprehensive and require an important intellectual input (choice, classification, review). Converted into databases, they are an invaluable utility for the working mathematician.

3. Where is the DML?

Let me risk the following definition.

The DML is the virtual library of all mathematical texts available digitally, both retrodigitised and born digital.

The difficulty which is addressed here is how to easily locate an item in the already vast DML, without being an expert in information technology.

How does an average mathematician know that such an important resource as *Annals of Mathematics* is currently available

- at JSTOR from the first issue until 1994,
- at arXiv for certain years,
- at the journal home page (rare links to arXiv),
- at project Euclid since 2001?

How does an average mathematician know that the *Journal de théorie de nombres de Bordeaux* is currently available

- at Göttingen GDZ for the pre-series *Séminaire*...,
- at EMIS for recent years (1994–),
- at the journal home page for recent years,

DML: Digital Mathematics Library			
Also: WDM _L : World Digital Mathematics Library			
Retrodigitized Mathematics Journals and Monographs Contains links to 1798 digitized books (~ 311353 pages) and to 124 digitized journals (~ 2403280 pages). (Numbers of pages are preliminary, not all informations are already available.)			
Includes all the links mentioned on page 920 of Allyn Jackson, "The Digital Mathematics Library", <i>Notices Amer. Math. Soc.</i> , vol. 50 (8), 2003 [Local Copy] A similar list is offered at http://www.wdml.org .			
The database for this table is an ASCII based (ISO Latin 8859-1 extended) list, which may be parsed by this PERL script . If you want items to be added here, please send me the necessary data.			
Lists ordered by "Author name", "Title", or "Repository" are provided: (ordering by "Repository" gives a list of journals only. Sorting by "Author" gives lists only with those items - such as books - with an author entry.)			
Author: [A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z]		Title: [A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z]	
Nr.	Repository	Journal:	Pages:
1	AIP : (American Institute of Physics)	Applied Physical Letters	1968-present journal
2	AIP : (American Institute of Physics)	Journal of Applied Physics	1968-present journal
3	AIP : (American Institute of Physics)	Journal of Mathematical Physics	1968-present journal
4	AIP : (American Institute of Physics)	Physics of Fluids	1968-1988 journal
5	AIP : (American Institute of Physics)	The Journal of Chemical Physics	1968-present journal
6	icm : (Biblioteka Wirtualna Matematyki)	Acta Arithmetica	1935-1964 journal
7	icm : (Biblioteka Wirtualna Matematyki)	Annales Polonici Mathematici	1955-1961 journal
8	icm : (Biblioteka Wirtualna Matematyki)	Banach Center Publications	1976-1982 journal
9	icm : (Biblioteka Wirtualna Matematyki)	Colloquium Mathematicum	1947-1961 journal
10	icm : (Biblioteka Wirtualna Matematyki)	Fundamenta Mathematicae	1920-1993 journal
11	icm : (Biblioteka Wirtualna Matematyki)	International Journal of Applied Mathematics and Computer Science	2001-2003 journal
12	icm : (Biblioteka Wirtualna Matematyki)	Pisma M. Smoluchowskiego	1924-1928 journal
13	icm : (Biblioteka Wirtualna Matematyki)	Prace matematyczno-fizyczne	1888-1952 journal
14	icm : (Biblioteka Wirtualna Matematyki)	Rozprawy Matematyczne	1952-1955 journal
15	icm : (Biblioteka Wirtualna Matematyki)	Studia Mathematica	1929-1981 journal

Figure 1: Ulf Rehmann's list of digitised mathematics. A mathematician's view of the DML.

- except two gaps.

It is currently almost impossible for one working researcher to keep some insight on the ongoing activities related to digitisation or digital publication in his field. It is common sense that collecting links to available resources is today's metaphore for our legacy library shelves. But library shelves are at *one* location and arranged in a coherent manner throughout the whole library. This is not the case with websites which all have their own way of arranging, naming, and access strategies to the material they archive.

4. The mini-DML project

The mini-DML project is currently in a very preliminary phase. A summary of the goals and techniques of the project follows.

Synopsis. Collate in *one* place basic bibliographical data for any kind of mathematical digital article and make them accessible to the users through simple search or metadata retrieval. Where...

- *Basic bibliographical data* means
 - Author,
 - Title,

Journal	On-line articles from	Archived/digitised versions
Acta Appl Math	46 (1997)	
Acta Math	144 (1980)	
Adv in Math	97 (1993)	
Aequationes Math	55 (1998)	GDZ (1968-1997)
Amer J Math	118 (1996)	JSTOR (1878-1995)
Amer Math Monthly		JSTOR (1894-1998)
Ann Henri Poincaré	1 (2000)	
Ann Inst Fourier (Grenoble)	1 (1949) (free to now-5)	NUMDAM (1949-2000)
Ann Math	140 (1994) (some free)	JSTOR (1884-1998)
Ann Probab	24 (1996)	JSTOR (1973-2000)
Ann Sci École Norm Sup	30 (1997)	NUMDAM (1864-2000)
Bull Amer Math Soc	33 (1996) (free)	
Bull London Math Soc	29 (1997)	
Bull Sci Math	122 (1998)	
Bull Soc Math France	117 (1989)	NUMDAM (1872-2000)
Cah Topol Géom Différ Catég	38 (1997)	
Canad J Math	49 (1997) (49 and 50 free)	
Comment Math Helv	72 (1997)	GDZ (1929-1996)
C R Acad Sci Paris Ser I Math	324 (1997)	
Chaos Solitons Fractals	1 (1991)	
Comm Math Phys	183 (no.3) (1997)	
Ergodic Theory Dynam Syst	1 (1981-2001)	

Figure 2: Stephen Wills' carefully arranged list of existing sources for mathematical serials (both born digital and retrodigitised). Another mathematician's view of the DML.

- Date of publication,
- Full bibliographical reference,
- Unique identifier,
- URL (preferably calculated from the above).
- *Mathematical digital article* means
 - Journal article,
 - Proceedings, seminar article,
 - Reprint, collected works,
 - Preprint,
 - Memoirs, books, slides... (not yet)
- *Accessible to the users* means
 - Simple unified search interface,

- Easy retrieval of the used metadata for further processing or different exposure to the public.

Collections. A proof-of-concept implementation is presented here, based on a variety of sources of mathematical texts. The main emphasis is on long-run journals whose early production is widely unknown to *Math. Reviews*, *Zentralblatt-MATH* or even the *Jahrbuch*, with special interest towards current production and preprints on the other end.

- *Annals of Mathematics* (JSTOR URL guessed),
- NUMDAM journals (currently: six French titles, more to be added soon),
- One Gallica journal: *Journal de mathématiques pures et appliquées* (a.k.a. *Lionville*, up to 1880),
- Few Gallica complete works (Abel, Cauchy, Dirichlet, Fourier, Jacobi, Klein, Lagrange, Laguerre, Laplace, Möbius, Riemann),
- Some project Euclid journals (Duke, . . .),
- Part of arXiv.

Method. Retrieval of basic metadata through OAI protocol:

- From our home-grown catalogues (NUMDAM, Gallica, Works),
- From OAI servers (Euclid, arXiv),
- Possibly from less structured sources (HTML tables of contents, OCRed tables of contents, . . .).

Indexing with *Edbm-2* (MathDoc indexer).

It is foreseen to eventually expose the remastered metadata through an OAI server using at least 3 schemes (Dublin core, minidml, proposed MR/ZM when stable). Of course, this will depend on the metadata provider's policy in this respect.

Collaborations. The size of the project makes it mandatory that the gathering of metadata be automatised. New material must be continuously added as indexed sites are updated. The best available solution is to find an agreement about a basic metadata scheme to be exchanged between content providers and indexers. We cannot expect that manual updates, and person-to-person exchanges permit to maintain such a service in the long term.

If you have scanned a long-run periodical, please provide

- a unique identifier for each article,
- structured basic metadata,
- a simple stable URL pointing towards an introductory HTML page for each article without restriction access;

and set up an OAI server to share your effort!

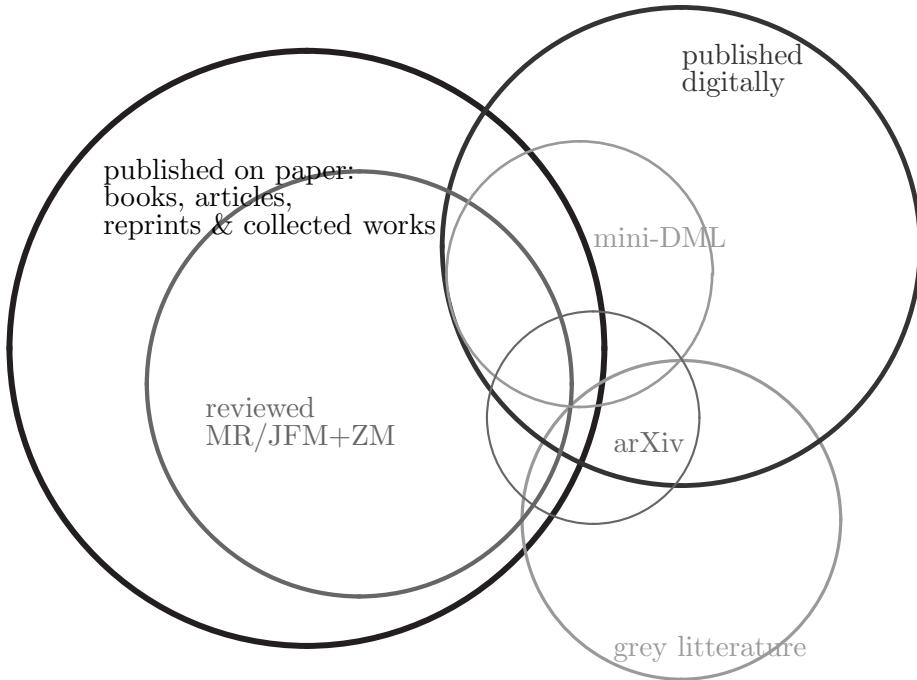


Figure 3: A picture of how the various classes of mathematical documents overlap. The three main classes are: legacy paper, DML (available digitally) and grey literature. The mini-DML scope has been zoomed in order to be visible.

5. Where are Cauchy seminal papers?

Augustin Cauchy published a lot. But too early to be referenced in the mainstream databases, where only the publication of volumes of its collected works are acknowledged. Digging into the table of contents of the volumes allows to localise the actual quotation in a bibliography at NUMDAM website, e.g. the screen capture is of <http://www.numdam.org/minidml/> as of September 2004.

6. A case study

Louis de Branges de Bourcia claims he has at last completed a proof of Riemann hypothesis in 2004. This is for him an occasion to write an *Apology*¹ depicting his own path towards the conjecture. The paper contains 41 “bibliographical” references going back to 1730. I spent one full afternoon hunting for these references on the Internet. I present here the results, which show the variety of locations and strategies needed to eventually put your hands on the references.

Here is the list of cited items, grouped by entry type in citation order. How many strategies should try the working mathematician in order to know whether an item is digitally available, and to locate it when possible? The underlined resources correspond to what you could expect to see one day in the mini-DML, i.e. papers already or soon available at large

¹ http://www.math.psu.edu/ftp_pub/branges/apology.pdf

Cauchy
Mémoire sur l'interpolation.
Journal de mathématiques pures et appliquées (1), 193-205 (1837)
[Article \(jmpa\)](#)

Cauchy
522. ANALYSE MATHÉMATIQUE. - Mémoire sur l'interpolation, ou remarques sur les remarques de M. Jules Bienaymé
Oeuvres, Tome 12, Série 1, 63-67
[Article \(Gallica - Oeuvres\)](#)

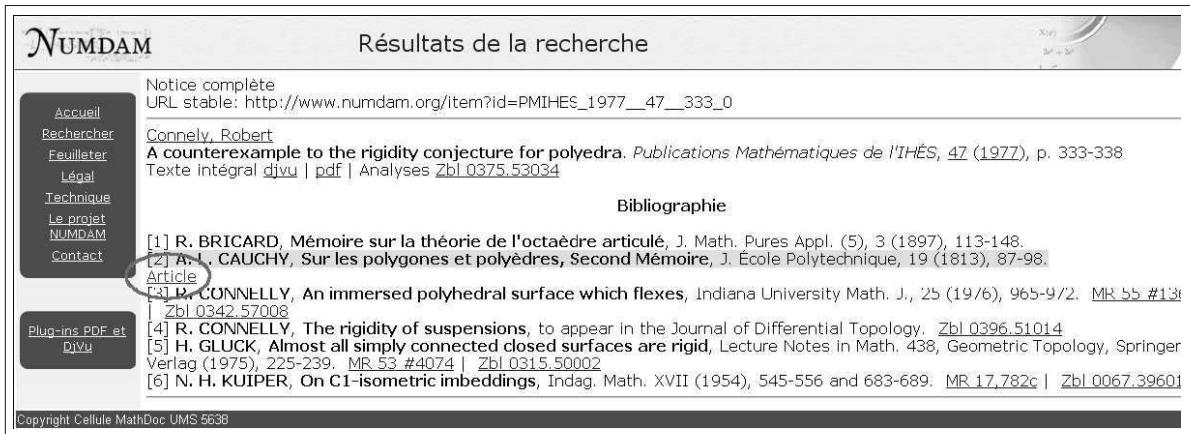
Cauchy
523. ANALYSE MATHÉMATIQUE. - Sur la nouvelle méthode d'interpolation comparée à la méthode des moindres carrés
Oeuvres, Tome 12, Série 1, 68-53
[Article \(Gallica - Oeuvres\)](#)

Cauchy
Mémoire sur l'interpolation
Oeuvres, Tome 2, Série 2, 5-17
[Article \(Gallica - Oeuvres\)](#)

Cauchy
NOTE V. - Sur la formule de Lagrange relative à l'interpolation.
Oeuvres, Tome 3, Série 2, 429-433
[Article \(Gallica - Oeuvres\)](#)

Cauchy
V. Formules d'interpolation
Oeuvres, Tome 10, Série 2, 40-45
[Article \(Gallica - Oeuvres\)](#)

Figure 4: Some papers from Augustin Cauchy's Œuvres



The screenshot shows the NUMDAM search results page for a paper by Robert Connelly. The main title is "A counterexample to the rigidity conjecture for polyhedra". Below it, there is a link to the full text in DjVu and PDF formats, and a Zbl number (0375.53034). A sidebar on the left contains links for Accueil, Rechercher, Feuilleter, Légal, Technique, Le projet, NUMDAM, and Contact. A footer at the bottom of the page says "Copyright Cellule MathDoc UMS 5638".

Figure 5: Once a paper is referenced in the mini-DML, it is possible to have a direct link from anywhere...

digitisation centres pertaining to the DML effort. The underlined italic resources also pertain to the DML, but as native digital documents (in our case: new editions of legacy papers, such as Hilbert's problems). The small print shows the full URL. The other pointers are unexpected digitised items, to be found at some personal homepage or such, typically found thanks to Google!

One can dream of some sort of fuzzy logic search engine that could be fed with any unstructured bibliographical citation and gives back a list of near matches available in the DML. Two typical applications would be: add links to the full text of quoted items in the bibliographies of articles (batch mode); copy and paste a reference from an electronic document and look for it in the DML (interactive mode). This is something we will try to implement soon in the mini-DML.

[Articles]

- Thomas Stieltjes, “Recherches sur les fractions continues”, *Annales de la Faculté Scientifique de Toulouse* **8** (1894), 1–122,
- and **9** (1895), 1–47.

⇒ NUMDAMII

- A selection of such problems was presented by David Hilbert to the International Congress of Mathematicians which was held in 1900 in Paris: “Mathematical Problems”, *Bulletin of the American Mathematical Society* **8** (1902), 437–479.

⇒ Mathematical enthusiasts

⇒ <http://www.rinconmatematico.com/hilbert/hilbertproblems.doc>

⇒ AMS

⇒ <http://www.ams.org/bull/2000-37-04/S0273-0979-00-00881-8/S0273-0979-00-00881-8.pdf>

- Jean-Pierre Gram, “Note sur les zéros de la fonction de Riemann”, *Acta Mathematica* **27** (1903), 289–305.

⇒ <http://www.actamathematica.org?notyet!>

- Nikolai Sonine, “Recherches sur les fonctions cylindriques et le développement des fonctions continues en séries”, *Mathematische Annalen* **16** (1880), 1–80.

⇒ GDZ

⇒ <http://134.76.163.65/servlet/digbib?template=view.html&id=26157&startpage=9&endpage=88&image-path=http://134.76.176.141/cgi-bin/letgifsfly.cgi&image-subpath=/1342&image-subpath=1342&pagenumber=9&imageset-id=1342>

- by the author, “Self-reciprocal functions”, *Journal of Mathematical Analysis and Applications* **9** (1964), 433–455.
- Virginia Rovnyak in her thesis, “Self-reciprocal functions”. Duke Mathematical Journal **33** (1966), 363–378.

⇒ ProjectEuclid

⇒ <http://projecteuclid.org/Dienst/UI/1.0/Summarize/euclid.dmj/1077376391>

- series of publications [by Hilbert], “Grundzüge einer allgemeinen Theorie der Integralgleichungen”, *Göttinger Nachrichten* **I** (1904), 49–91.

⇒ <http://134.76.163.65/servlet/digbib?template=view.html&id=57552&startpage=55&endpage=97&image-path=http://134.76.176.141/cgi-bin/letgifsfly.cgi&image-subpath=/2133&image-subpath=2133&pagenumber=55&imageset-id=2133>

- **II** (1904), 213–259,
 $\Rightarrow \text{http://134.76.163.65/servlet/digbib?template=view.html&id=57571&startpage=228&endpage=275&image-path=http://134.76.176.141/cgi-bin/letgifsfly.cgi&image-subpath=/2133&image-subpath=2133&pagenumber=228&imageset-id=2133}$
- **III** (1905), 307–338.
 $\Rightarrow \text{http://134.76.163.65/servlet/digbib?template=view.html&id=62905&startpage=336&endpage=367&image-path=http://134.76.176.141/cgi-bin/letgifsfly.cgi&image-subpath=/2251&image-subpath=2251&pagenumber=336&imageset-id=2251}$
- **IV** (1906), 157–222.
 $\Rightarrow \text{http://134.76.163.65/servlet/digbib?template=view.html&id=58133&startpage=169&endpage=240&image-path=http://134.76.176.141/cgi-bin/letgifsfly.cgi&image-subpath=/2156&image-subpath=2156&pagenumber=169&imageset-id=2156}$
- and **V** (1906), 439–480.
 $\Rightarrow \text{http://134.76.163.65/servlet/digbib?template=view.html&id=58156&startpage=459&endpage=498&image-path=http://134.76.176.141/cgi-bin/letgifsfly.cgi&image-subpath=/2156&image-subpath=2156&pagenumber=459&imageset-id=2156}$
 $\Rightarrow \text{GDZ}$
- Erhard Schmidt, “Über die Anzahl der Primzahlen unter gegebener Grenze”, *Mathematische Annalen* **57** (1903), 195–204.
 $\Rightarrow \text{GDZ}$
 $\Rightarrow \text{http://134.76.163.65/servlet/digbib?template=view.html&id=36506&startpage=206&endpage=215&image-path=http://134.76.176.141/cgi-bin/letgifsfly.cgi&image-subpath=/1560&image-subpath=1560&pagenumber=206&imageset-id=1560}$
- The construction of Hilbert spaces of entire functions associated with Dirichlet zeta functions appeared as “Modular spaces of entire functions”, *Journal of Mathematical Analysis and Applications* **44** (1973), 192–205.
- Hans Maass, “Über eine neue Art von nichtanalytischen automorphen Funktionen und die Bestimmung Dirichletscher Reihen durch Funktionalgleichungen”, *Mathematische Annalen* **121** (1949), 141–183.
 $\Rightarrow \text{GDZ}$
 $\Rightarrow \text{http://134.76.163.65/servlet/digbib?template=view.html&id=37241&startpage=145&endpage=187&image-path=http://134.76.176.141/cgi-bin/letgifsfly.cgi&image-subpath=/1577&image-subpath=1577&pagenumber=145&imageset-id=1577}$
- David Trutt and the author, “Orthogonal Newton polynomials”, *Advances in Mathematics* **37** (1980), 251–271.
- David Trutt and the author, “Meixner and Pollaczek spaces of entire functions”, *Journal of Mathematical Analysis and Applications* **22** (1968), 12–24.
- Arne Beurling and Paul Malliavin at an International Symposium on Functional Analysis held at Stanford University. Their results “On Fourier transforms of measures with compact support” appear in *Acta Mathematica* **107** (1962), 291–392.

[Books]

- The publication of Newton’s Principia Mathematica in 1687.
 $\Rightarrow \text{Gallica}$
 $\Rightarrow \text{http://gallica.bnf.fr/document?O=N003363}$

⇒ Newton online
 ⇒ <http://dibinst.mit.edu/BURNDY/Collections/Babson/OnlineNewton/NewtoniaPDF/PrincipiaMathematica/PrincipiaMathematica1687.pdf>

- The text on Modern Algebra by Garret Birkhoff and Saunders Mac Lane, Macmillan, 1941.
- *Lectures on Classical Differential Geometry* by Dirk Struik, Addison-Wesley, 1950.
- *Principles of Mathematical Analysis* as his book was called when it was published by McGraw-Hill in 1953.
- Emil Artin and Emmi Nöther on Moderne Algebra taken by Bartel van der Waerden, Springer-Verlag, 1940.
- Edward Titchmarsh then determined the direction of my efforts: *Introduction to the Theory of Fourier Integrals, Eigenfunction Expansions Associated with Second-Order Differential Equations*, and *The Theory of the Riemann Zeta-Function*, Clarendon Press, Oxford, 1937, 1946, and 1951.
- *Hilbert Spaces of Entire Functions*, Prentice-Hall, 1968.

[Informal]

- The discovery of the gamma function in 1730.
- discovery of the zeta function in 1737.
- The functional identity for the zeta function was discovered by Euler only in 1761.
- A first step was made in 1811 by Gauss.
- The statement of the conjecture in 1859; Riemann hypothesis for the classical zeta function was stated by Bernhard Riemann in 1859.

⇒ Monatsberichte der Berliner Akademie, November 1859, 671–680
 ⇒ <http://www.emis.de/classics/Riemann/Zeta.pdf>

- The interest of Hilbert in the Riemann hypothesis is attested by his 1900 Congress address.

[Colloquium proceedings]

- Colloquium Publication of Raymond Paley and Norbert Wiener, Fourier Transforms in the Complex Domain, American Mathematical Society, 1934.
- A source of their work is the Colloquium Publication of Norman Levinson on Gap and Density Theorems, American Mathematical Society, 1940.

[Articles – in complete works]

- in 1814 by Carl Friederich Gauss, “Methodus nova integralium valores per approximationem inveniendi”, Werke, Königliche Gesellschaft der Wissenschaften, Göttingen, 1886, volume 3, pp. 163–196.

⇒ GDZ
 ⇒ <http://134.76.163.65/servlet/digbib?template=view.html&id=137431&startpage=171&endpage=204&image-path=http://134.76.176.141/cgi-bin/letgifsfly.cgi&image-subpath=/3600&image-subpath=3600&pagenumber=171&imageset-id=3600>

- in 1730 by Leonard Euler, “De progressionibus transcendentalibus seu quarum termini generales algebraice dari nequeunt,” Opera Omnia I (14), 1–24.
- in 1737 , “Variae observationes circa series infinitas,” Opera Omnia I (14), 216–244.
- Euler discovered for the classical zeta function in 1761: “Remarques sur un beau rapport entre les séries de puissances tant directes que réciproques”, Opera Omnia I (15), 70–90.

⇒ *Gallica? not yet!*
 ⇒ <http://vax.wcsu.edu/~sandifer/Beaurapp/Beaurapp.htm>

[Thesis]

- Erhard Schmidt also made a contribution to the theory of integral equations, “Entwicklung willkürlicher Funktionen nach Systemen vorgeschrifbener”, Dissertation, Göttingen, 1905.
- the author in his thesis, “Local operators on Fourier transforms”, *Duke Mathematical Journal* **25** (1958), 143–153.

⇒ *ProjectEuclid*
 ⇒ <http://projecteuclid.org/getRecord?id=euclid.dmj/1077467784>

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