# Mathematics and Physics timeline 

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## 1 Summary timeline



Figure 1: Summary timeline

## 2 Detailed timeline

1501-1576 • Gerolamo Cardano. Born 24 September 1501 Pavia, Died 21 September 1576 (aged 74) Italy.
"Algebra. first systematic use of negative numbers. published with attribution the solutions of other mathematicians for the cubic and quartic equations, and acknowledged the existence of imaginary numbers."
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gerolamo_Cardano
1550-1617 • John Napier. discovered logarithms. Use of decimal point. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Napier

1564-1642 • Galileo Galilei. Born 15 February 1564, Pisa, Duchy of Florence. Died 8 January 1642 (aged 77) Arcetri.
Pendulum, Gravity, astronomy.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Galileo_Galilei


1584-1667 • Gregory St. Vincent. Born: March 22, 1584, Bruges, Belgium, June 5, 1667, Ghent, Belgium.
Publishes in 1647 Opus geometricum quadrature ciculi et sectionum coni. First use of method of exhaustion in geometry. First use of method of chords to transform one conic to another. First use of geometric series. First to settle Zeno's Achilles paradox.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gr\�\�goire_de_Sai

nt-Vincent

1596-1650 • René Descartes. Born: March 31, 1596, France, Died: Feb. 11, 1650, Stockholm, Sweden.<br>Wrote Descartes Meditations on First Philosophy (1641).<br>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ren\%C3\%A9_Descartes

1607-1665 • Pierre de Fermat. Born: 1607, Beaumont-de-Lomagne, France, Died: Jan. 12, 1665, Castres, France.
Important contributions to analytical geometry, probability, number theory and calculus.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pierre_de_Fermat


1616-1703 • John Wallis. Publishes Arithmetica infinitorum in 1655.
Created the arithmetical concept of limit. First to use the symbol $\infty$. First to use the term hyper-geometric series in his 1655 book Arithmetica Infinitorum.


Blaise Pascal. Born: June 19, 1623, Clermont-Ferrand, France. Died: August 19, 1662, Paris, France.
projective geometry. Corresponded with Pierre de Fermat on probability theory.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blaise_Pascal


1625-1686
Pietro Mengoli.
Alternative proof that harmonic series diverges. posed the famous Basel problem, Solved by Euler in 1735. In 1650 proved that the sum of the alternating harmonic series is equal to the natural logarithm of 2 .
 https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pietro_Mengoli


1646-1716 • Michel Rolle. Born 21 April 1652, Died 8 November 1719 (aged 67) Paris, Kingdom of France
French mathematician. Rolle's theorem (1691). Apparently he also knew about Gaussian elimination. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Michel_Rolle

1655-1705 • Jacob Bernoulli. Born in Basel, Switzerland.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jacob_Bernoulli


1667-1754 • Abraham de Moivre.
French mathematician known for de Moivre's formula. worked on the normal distribution and probability theory. Was Friend of Newton.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abraham_de_Moivre


1667-1748 • Johann Bernoulli. Born in Basel, Switzerland.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Johann_Bernoulli


1676-1754 • Jacopo Francesco Riccati. Born 28 May 1676 Venice, Italy, Died 15 April 1754 Italy(aged 77).
Named for the Riccati ODE
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jacopo_Riccati



1669 - Isaac Newton becomes Chair of Mathematics in Cambridge when Isaac Barrow vacates this position for Newton. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Isaac_Newton

1669
Isaac Newton.
Writes major Work on Calculus. "De analysi" or "On Analysis by Equations with an infinite number of terms". First time the series for $\sin (x)$ and $\cos (x)$ derived. Also gives Quadrature rules for first time. This work was actually published in 1711. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/De_analysi_per_aequa tiones_numero_terminorum_infinitas
1671. James Gregory. Finds power series for $\arctan (x)$

June 13, 1676 • Newton sends famous letter to H. Oldenburg, containing first announcement of binomial theorem using negative and fractional exponents.

## http://www.newtonproject.ox.ac.uk/view/texts/norm alized/NATP00197

1676 - Isaac Newton. epistola prio letter Newton sends to Leibniz giving for first time account of the Binomial series expansion

1682-1716 • Roger Cotes. Born: July 10, 1682, Burbage, United Kingdom, Died: June 5, 1716, Cambridge, United Kingdom.
Apparently Cotes knew of $e^{i \pi}=-1$ before Euler.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roger_Cotes


1684 - Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz.
Publish first paper on differential calculus. "A new method for maxima and minima, and also tangents, which is impeded neither by fractional nor by irrational quantities, and a remarkable type of calculus for this".
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gottfried_Wilhelm_Le Ebniz

1685-1731 • Brook Taylor. Born 18 August 1685, Edmonton, England. Died 29 December 1731 (aged 46) London, England. Taylor's theorem, Taylor series. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brook_Taylor


1687 . Isaac Newton. First edition of Principia Mathematica published.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Philosophi\�\�_Nat uralis_Principia_Mathematica
 mathematical-treasure-maclaurins-treatise-on-fIu xions

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Colin_Maclaurin

1690-1764 • Christian Goldbach. Born March 18, 1690 Prussia, Died November 20, 1764 (aged 74) Moscow, Russian Empire.
Goldbach's conjecture: Every even integer greater than 2 can be expressed as the sum of two primes.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Christian_Goldbach https://explainingscience.org/2019/09/01/the-goldb ach-conjecture/

1692-1770 • James Stirling. Born May 1692, Scotland. Died 5 December 1770 (Aged 78) Edinburgh, Scotland
Stirling numbers, Stirling permutations, Stirling's approximation.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James_Stirling_(math ematician) https://hemarino18.wixsite.com/jamesst erling

1700-1782 • Daniel Bernoulli. Born: Feb. 8, 1700, Groningen, Netherlands Died: March 17, 1782, Basel, Switzerland.
Applications of mathematics to mechanics, fluid mechanics, and work in probability and statistics.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Daniel_Bernoulli


1701-1761 • Thomas Bayes. Born 1701 London, England. Died 7 April 1761 (aged 59), Kent, England. statistician. Bayes' theorem.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thomas_Bayes


1704-1752 • Gabriel Cramer. Born 31 July 1704 Geneva. Died 4 January 1752 (age 47), France
Cramer rule. (1750). Solution to the St. Petersburg Paradox . Treatise on algebraic curves (1750).

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gabriel_Cramer
1705 • Jacob (James) Bernoulli. Died in Basel, Switzerland
Leonhard Euler. Born April 15, 1707 in Basel, Switzerland. Many contributions. Graph theory, number theory, series expansion, integration, analysis, complex numbers. Hypergeometric series.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leonhard_Euler


1713-1765 • Alexis Clairaut. Born 13 May 1713[1] Paris. Died 17 May 1765 (aged 52) Paris
Clairaut's theorem. gravitational three-body problem
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alexis_Clairaut


1713
Isaac Newton. Second edition of Principia Mathematica published.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Philosophi\�\�_Nat uralis_Principia_Mathematica


1736-1813 • Joseph-Louis Lagrange. Born 25 January 1736, Died 10 April 1813 (aged 77) Paris, France.
Lagrange equations. Succeeded Euler as director of mathematics at Prussian Academy of Sciences in Berlin. Lagrange's treatise on analytical mechanics. Classical mechanics. Variational calculus. Number theory.
 E

1746 - d'Alembert discovers the solution to wave equation named after him.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wave_equation
1748 - Leonhard Euler.
Publishes text "Introduction to analysis of infinite".
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Introductio_in_analy sin_infinitorum


Jan. 1, 1748 • Johann Bernoulli. Died in Basel, Switzerland.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Johann_Bernoulli
1749-1827 • Pierre-Simon Laplace. Born: March 23, 1749, Beaumont-enAuge, France Died: March 5, 1827, Paris, France.
Laplace's equation, and the Laplace transform. Wrote fivevolume Mécanique Céleste


A9canique_c\%C3\%A91este


1752-1833 • Adrien-Marie Legendre. Born Sep. 18 1752, in Paris, France. French mathematician.
Legendre polynomials. Legendre transformation.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adrien-Marie_Legendr E


1765-1822 • Paolo Ruffini. Born September 22, 1765 Italy, Died May 10, 1822 (aged 56) Italy.
First proof (AbelRuffini theorem) that quintic (and higherorder) equations cannot be solved by radicals. Ruffini's rule. group theory. probability. quadrature of the circle. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paolo_Ruffini


1768-1830 • Joseph Fourier. Born March 21,1768 in Auxerre, France. Most famous for of Fourier series, and Harmonic analysis. Discovery of Greenhouse effect.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joseph_Fourier


1768-1822 • Jean-Robert Argand. Born July 18, 1768 Geneva, Died August 13, 1822 (aged 54) Paris.
Argand diagram in complex analysis, the first rigorous proof of the Fundamental Theorem of Algebra.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jean-Robert_Argand https://prabook.com/web/jean-robert.argand/2202845


1776-1831 • Sophie Germain. Born 1 April 1776, France. Died 27 June 1831 (aged 55) Paris, France.
Elasticity theory (grand prize Paris Academy of Sciences). Worked on Fermat's Last Theorem. correspondence with Lagrange, Legendre, and Gauss
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sophie_Germain


1777-1855 • Carl Friedrich Gauss. Born in Brunswick, Germany. Born April 20, 1777.
Many contributions to Mathematics and Prime number theory. first satisfactory proof of the fundamental theorem of algebra. Quadratic reciprocity law. Full systematic treatment of Hypergeometric series. Hypergeometric function.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carl_Friedrich_Gauss
1781-1840 • Siméon Denis Poisson. Born 21 June 1781, France. Died 25 April 1840 (aged 58)
memoirs on the theory of electricity and magnetism. Applied mathematics. Poisson PDE named after him.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sim\�\�on_Denis_Po isson


Sep. 18, 1783 - Leonhard Euler. Died in Saint Petersburg, Russia
https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/15567379/leonh ard-euler

Oct. 29, 1783 • Jean le Rond d'Alembert. Died. Paris, France
1784-1846 • Friedrich Wilhelm Bessel. Born 22 July 1784 Germany. Died 17 March 1846 (aged 61) Russia.
Distance from the sun to another star by the method of parallax. Bessel functions.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Friedrich_Bessel


1785-1836 • Claude-Louis Navier. Born 10 February 1785, France. Died 21 August 1836 (aged 51) Paris
Known for NavierStokes equations.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Claude-Louis_Navier


1789-1857 • Augustin-Louis Cauchy. Born August 21, 1789 Paris, France. Foundation of analysis, complex number theory.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Augustin-Louis_Cauch リ


1793-1841 • George Green. Born 14 July 1793, Died 31 May 1841. England. Green function, Green's theorem.


1802-1829 • Niels Henrik Abel. Born 5 August 1802 Norway. Died 6 April 1829 (aged 26) Norway.
First complete proof demonstrating the impossibility of solving the general quintic equation in radicals. Elliptic functions. Abelian functions.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Niels_Henrik_Abel


1803-1855 • Jacques Charles François Sturm. Born 29 September 1803 Geneva. Died 15 December 1855 (aged 52) Paris Sturm-Liouville form of ODE.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jacques_Charles_Fran反C3\�ois_Sturm


1804-1851 • Carl Gustav Jacob Jacobi. Born December 10, 1804, Potsdam, Germany, Died Feb. 18, 1851, Berlin, Germany.
German mathematician. Elliptic functions, dynamics, differential equations, determinants, and number theory. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carl_Gustav_Jacob_Ja cobi


1805-1859
Johann Peter Gustav Lejeune Dirichlet. Born, 13 Feb. 1805, Duren, French Empire.
Analytic number theory, formulated conditions for Fourier series convergence.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peter_Gustav_Lejeune Dirichlet

1805-1865 • William Rowan Hamilton. Born: August 4, 1805, Dublin, Ireland. Died Sep. 2, 1865, Dublin, Ireland. Irish mathematician. Optics, classical mechanics and algebra, Hamiltonian mechanics. Quaternions. Hamiltonian equations.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Rowan_Hamilt TH


1809-1882 • Joseph Liouville. Born 24 March 1809, France. Died 8 September 1882 (aged 73) Paris, France
number theory, complex analysis, differential geometry and topology. Sturm-Liouville form of ODE.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joseph_Liouville

1809-1877 • Hermann Grassmann. Born 15 April 1809 Poland. Died 26 September 1877 (aged 68), German Empire.
First known appearance of linear algebra and the notion of a vector space. First axiomatic presentation of arithmetic, use of the principle of induction. Grassmann's color law. Exterior algebra.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hermann_Grassmann
1810-1893 • Ernst Kummer. Born 29 January 1810 Sorau, Prussia. Died 14 May 1893 (aged 83) Berlin, Germany.
Hypergeometric series, Fermat's last theorem. Kummer extensions of fields.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ernst_Kummer



Évariste Galois. Born: Oct. 25, 1811, Bourg-la-Reine, France Died: May 31, 1832, Paris, France. Galois theory: necessary and
sufficient condition for a polynomial to be solvable by radicals. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/\�\�variste_Galois


1815-1897 • Karl Weierstrass. Born, Oct. 31, 1815. Ennigerloh, Germany. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Karl_Weierstrass


1821 • Augustin-Louis Cauchy. the Cours danalyse, to accompany his course in analysis at the Ecole Polytechnique https://www.maa.org/press/periodicals/convergence/ mathematical-treasure-cauchy-s-cours-d-analyse


Arthur Cayley. Born: August 16, 1821, Richmond, United Kingdom. Died: Died: Jan. 26, 1895, Cambridge, United Kingdom. Algebra.
CayleyHamilton theorem, Cayley's theorem.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arthur_Cayley


1822-1901 • Charles Hermite. Born 24 December 1822. Died 14 January 1901 (aged 78) Paris.
Famous for Hermite polynomials and Hermite interpolation, spline, quadratic forms, elliptic functions and algebra. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charles_Hermite



Marius Sophus Lie. Born: December 17, 1842, Nordfjordeid, Norway. Died: Died: Feb. 18, 1899, Oslo, Norway. Norwegian mathematician.
Theory of continuous symmetry, study of geometry and differential equations. differential topology.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sophus_Lie


1843-1921 - Karl Hermann Amandus Schwarz. Born 25 January 1843 Prussia. Died 30 November 1921 (aged 78) Berlin, Germany. CauchySchwarz inequality. Improved the proof of the Riemann mapping theorem.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hermann_Schwarz


1844 • Joseph Liouville proved the existence of transcendental numbers

1845-1918 • Georg Cantor. Born: March 3, 1845, Saint Petersburg, Russia Died: Jan. 6, 1918, Halle (Saale), Germany. Set theory. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Georg_Cantor


1849-1917 • Ferdinand Georg Frobenius. Born 26 October 1849 Berlin. Died 3 August 1917 (aged 67) Berlin.
Differential equations (Frobenius series). first full proof for the CayleyHamilton theorem. FrobeniusStickelberger formulae https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ferdinand_Georg_Frob enius


1849-1925 • Felix Klein. Born 25 April 1849, Germany. Died 22 June 1925 (aged 76) Germany.
Group theory, complex analysis, non-Euclidean geometry. Died: Jan. 6, 1918, Halle (Saale), Germany. Set theory. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Felix_Klein


1851 - Joseph Liouville.
Publish paper showing for first time a transcendental number $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{10^{k!}}$
http://mathshistory.st-andrews.ac.uk/Biographies/L Fouville.htmI

1854-1912 • Henri Poincare, Born April 29,1854. Died July 17, 1912
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henri_Poincar\�\�

Feb. 23, 1855 • Carl Friedrich Gauss Died in Gottingen, Germany
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carl_Friedrich_Gauss
1856-1941 • Émile Picard.Born 24 July 1856 Paris, France. Died 11 December 1941 (aged 85) Paris, France
French mathematician. Picard iteration. differential equations. Picard's little theorem. algebraic topology.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/\�\�mile_Picard


1856-1894 • Thomas Joannes Stieltjes. Born 29 December 1856, Netherlands. Died 31 December 1894 (aged 38), France. continued fractions.
RiemannStieltjes integral.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thomas_Joannes_Stiel tjes


May 23, 1857 • Augustin-Louis Cauchy Died. Sceaux, France
May 5, 1859 • Johann Peter Gustav Lejeune Dirichlet. Died (aged 54), Gottingen, Kingdom of Hanover

1857-1918 • Aleksandr Mikhailovich Lyapunov. Born June 6, 1857, Russian Empire. Died November 3, 1918 (aged 61) Ukrainian People's Republic.
stability theory of a dynamical system.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aleksandr_Lyapunov

1859-1929 • Karl Heun. Born 3 April 1859, Germany; died 10 January 1929, Germany.
Heun's equation, Heun special function, Heun's method. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Karl_Heun


1861-1947 • Alfred North Whitehead. Born 15 February 1861, England. Died 30 December 1947 (aged 86) Cambridge, Massachusetts, US.
mathematical logic. Wrote Principia Mathematica with Bertrand Russell.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alfred_North_Whitehe ad

1861-1935 • Ivar Otto Bendixson. Born August 1, 1861, Stockholm Sweden. Died November 29, 1935 (aged 74) Stockholm Sweden.
PoincaréBendixson theorem.
"The PoincaréBendixson theorem, which says an integral curve which does not end in a singular point has a limit cycle, was first proved by Henri Poincaré but a more rigorous proof with weaker hypotheses was given by Bendixson in 1901" "In 1902, he derived Bendixson's inequality which puts bounds on the characteristic roots of matrices" https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ivar_Otto_Bendixson

1862-1943 • David Hilbert. Born: Jan. 23, 1862, Königsberg. Died: Feb. 14, 1943, Göttingen, Germany.
German mathematician. Invariant theory, calculus of variations, commutative algebra, algebraic number theory, Spectral theory of operators and its application to integral equations, mathematical physics.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/David_Hilbert


1864-1909 • Hermann Minkowski. Born: June 22, 1864, Aleksotas, Kaunas, Lithuania. Died: Jan. 12, 1909, Göttingen, Germany. German mathematician.
Geometry of numbers. Mathematical physics. Theory of relativity.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hermann_Minkowski
1870-1951 • Abraham Cohen. Born 11 Sep 1870, Died 25 Apr 1951 (aged 80)

Professor of Mathematics, Johns Hopkins University. Published "AN INTRODUCTION TO THE LIE THEORY OF ONE PARAMETER GROUPS WITH APPLICATIONS TO THE SOLUTION OF DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS" and "The Differential Equation" book.
https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/195027970/abra ham-cohen

1875 - Karl Weierstrass.
Paul duBois Reymond publishes account of Karl Weierstrass pathological function which is continuous at every point but differentiable nowhere. Karl first discovered this function in the 1860 's. If $a \geq 3$ is an odd integer and if $0<b<1$ such that $a b>1+\frac{3 \pi}{2}$ then the function $f(x)=\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} b^{k} \cos \left(\pi a^{k} x\right)$ is such.
G. H. Hardy. English mathematician. Born: Feb. 7, 1877, Cranleigh, United Kingdom. Died: December 1, 1947, Cambridge, United Kingdom.
Number theory and mathematical analysis
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/G._H._Hardy


1879-1955 • Albert Einstein. Born: March 14, 1879, Ulm, Germany. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Albert_Einstein


1893-1945 • Stefan Banach. Born 30 March 1892 Poland, Died 31 August 1945 (aged 53), Ukraine.
modern functional analysis, Linear Operators, Banach spaces. 1932 book, Theory of Linear Operations.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stefan_Banach
Feb. 19, 1897 • Karl Weierstrass Died, Berlin, Germany
1898-1962 • Emil Artin. Born March 3, 1898 Vienna, Austria-Hungary, December 20, 1962 (aged 64) Hamburg, West Germany. From wikipedia
"He is best known for his work on algebraic number theory, contributing largely to class field theory and a new construction of L-functions. He also contributed to the pure theories of rings, groups and fields."

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Emil_Artin
1903-1957 • John von Neumann. Born: December 28, 1903, Budapest, Hungary Died: Feb. 8, 1957, Bethesda, USA. physics and computer science.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_von_Neumann


1906-1978 • Kurt Gödel. Born: April 28, 1906, Austria-Hungary. Died: Jan. 14, 1978, Princeton, NJ.
Incompleteness theorems.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kurt_G\�\�del


1913-1996 • Paul Erdos. Hungarian mathematician. Born: March 26, 1913, Budapest, Hungary. Died: Sep. 20, 1996, Warsaw, Poland. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paul_Erd\�\�s


1917-2010 • Mary L. Boas. Born March 10, 1917 Washington. Died February 17, 2010 Seattle, Washington Most known for her book Mathematical Methods in the PhysicalSciences


1955 - Albert Einstein. Died: April 18, 1955, Princeton Medical Center, NJ

## 3 Reference

1. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Writing_of_Principia_Mathematica
2. https://blogs.uoregon.edu/scua/2019/02/04/isaac-newtons-work-on-calculu s-de-analysi-1711/
3. Book: The Calculus Gallary. by William Dunham. Princeton Press 2005. https://www. britannica.com/biography/James-Gregory
4. A history of Mathematics, by Florian Cajori, 1919.
5. Images, thanks to https://en.wikipedia.org and https://archive.org and https://www.maa.org and https://cosmosmagazine.com
