MATHEMATICS

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Why study mathematics in France?

France boasts a centuries-old tradition of outstanding contributions to mathematics, as evidenced by the many international prizes awarded to French mathematicians. Illustrious names include François Viet (16th century), René Descartes (17th century), Jean d'Alembert and Joseph Fourier (18th century), Henri Poincaré, Evariste Galois and Charles Hermite (19th century). Since 1950, France has been standing out with 14 Fields medallists, making it the most rewarded country alongside the United States. Winners include Laurent Schwartz (1950), Jean-Pierre Serre (1974), René Thom (1958), Alexandre Grothendieck (1966), Alain Connes (1982), Jean-Christophe Yoccoz (1994), Laurent Lafforgue (2002), Wendelin Werner (2006), Cédric Villani and Ngô Bảo Châu (2010), as well as French-Brazilian medallist Artur Avila (2014).

Careers

The scope for the application of mathematics has been steadily increasing and now covers all sectors of the economy: transport, meteorology, climatology, economics, sociology, environment, etc. Furthermore, mathematics is used in every research field (physics, computer science, biology, chemistry, geology) for data analysis (statistics, graphical representation) and modelling purposes.

Mathematical engineers possess cutting-edge theoretical and analytical skills and are therefore eagerly sought after. Outside the academic and public research sectors, there is a high demand for mathematicians in the private and industrial sectors, such as banking, insurance (design of financial products) and high-technology industries (development of new products and technologies), which recruit top-level researchers and engineers.

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Relevant keywords: modelling – statistics – geometry – algebra – arithmetic – physics – astrophysics – meteorology – applied mathematics…

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CNRS (National Scientific Research Centre), National Institute of Mathematics http://www.cnrs.fr/insmi
French Mathematical Society (SMF)   http://smf.emath.fr
French Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics (SMAI)   http://smai.emath.fr
Institute of Advanced Scientific Studies http://www.ihes.fr
INRIA (French Institute for Research in Computer Science and Automation) http://www.inria.fr

Videos

INRIA video library http://videotheque.inria.fr/videotheque/categories
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