

Mathematics library news 1 March 2007

How the Library can help the Mathematics Department

Middleton Library serves the LSU Mathematics Department by getting you the journals and books you need. Let us know! Getting new journal subscriptions generally requires freeing up money from cancelled journals, since these would be ongoing expenses. Collection Development is looking into getting the new *Journal of Topology*, and the inexpensive *Geometry and Topology* and *Algebraic Geometry and Topology*. The best journals are often not the most expensive.

Digitization projects

The Cataloging and Serials Departments are working to put open access journals in the Library catalog so references to these can be easily found. East Asian, European, and Latin American journals in many fields are being retrospectively digitized, or in ongoing open access publication. Check out the archives at the Göttinger Digitisierungszentrum at <http://gdz.sub.uni-goettingen.de/de/index.html> and NUMDAM at <http://www.numdam.org/?lang=en>



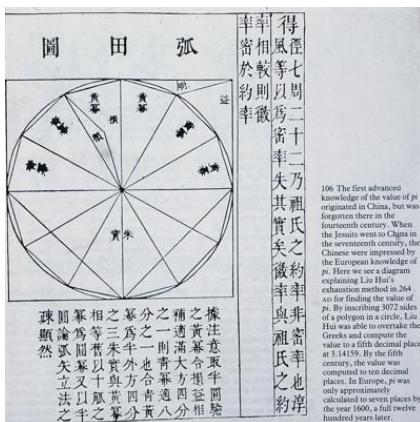
M. C. Escher
Interlaced Hexagons

The Basic Library List

Mathematics Association of America's Basic Library List (<http://www.maa.org/bll2/index.htm>) is intended to point to standard and classic works, or lively expositions, so that college faculty and students can more easily broaden their expertise and studies. Check out the MAA's BLL. The BLL is currently being incorporated into MAA Reviews online as part of MathDL at <http://mathdl.maa.org/mathDL/19/>. So it will be more easily updated in the future, but the old list is the place to start. Is there any book in your area that you think should be on the list and isn't?

Your Mathematics Librarian

Your Mathematics Librarian, Aaron Lercher, has recently moved to Baton Rouge from Buffalo, and has also made a recent career move from Philosophy to Librarianship. He'd enjoy a conversation about philosophy of mathematics. Email: alerche1@lsu.edu



Liu Hui's exhaustion of the circle, 264 AD

106 The first advanced knowledge of the value of π originated in China, but was forgotten there in the fourth century. When the Jesuits were in China in the seventeenth century, the Chinese were impressed by the European knowledge of π . Here we see a diagram explaining Liu Hui's exhaustion method in 264 AD for finding the value of π . By inscribing 3072 sides of a polygon in a circle, Liu Hui was able to overtake the Greeks and compute the value to a fifth decimal place at 3.14159. By the fifth century, the value was computed to ten decimal places. In Europe, π was only approximately calculated to seven places by the year 1600, a full twelve hundred years later.

See the next page for a Mathematics Subject class breakdown of LSU faculty publications

Publications by LSU Mathematics Department in Math Reviews, by MSC-class, 1997-2007

