



MathSciNet is a comprehensive database covering worldwide mathematical literature. It contains signed reviews and bibliographic data from Mathematical Reviews and Current Mathematical Publications from January 1940 to the present. It references journals, conference proceedings, and books of mathematics research with some links to full text articles and documents.

Getting Started

Open a web browser. Click in the location box and type **www.ams.org/mathscinet**

You do not need a password when accessing MathSciNet from any Cardiff University networked computer.

Searching

Full Search

Click on **Full Search** and use the pulldown menus to select a search field. Enter relevant search terms into one or more of the blank boxes on the search screen.

You can combine terms to make more precise enquiries by selecting Boolean operators from the pull down menus. **AND** will find references where both words or phrases appear. **OR** will find all references that include any one of the search terms. **NOT** will exclude any reference containing the search term; this feature should be used with great care. For example, to find a particular article use the **Author/Related** field **AND** the **Title** field. To find all articles by an individual author use only the **Author/Related** field. To truncate a word or find variant spellings use the wildcard symbol *****.

Scroll down the page and use the drop down menus to select a date range or publication year. You can also select to search for specific types of document such as journals or proceedings. If you do not make any selections the entire database

will be searched. Click on the **Start Search** button.

Basic Search

You may find that for many enquiries a basic search gives acceptable results. Click on the **Basic Search** button or use the **Quick Search** feature on the Home Page. Enter search terms into the single box. You can still use Boolean operators as long as the search terms appear in the same search field, or you select **Anywhere** on the pull down menu. Click on the **Start Search** button.

Search Author Database

To identify all published forms of an author's name and retrieve all the author's papers click on **Authors** in the blue menu box on the left. You can get a list of all works by the author or combine the author's name with other search criteria.

Enter an author name or portion of a name in the form *lastname, initial**. Use the ***** symbol as a wildcard anywhere in the name if you are unsure of the precise spelling; for instance, *Ste*ens* will find Stevens or Stephens. Click on the **Start Search** button or press **Enter**. A list of matching author names and their variations will be retrieved.

To obtain a list of works by an author, select an author name by clicking the circle next to the name. Then click the button labelled **View All Items by Selected Author**. To limit the search further, click on **Combine Author with Full Search**.

Viewing the results

MathSciNet searches produce results in two stages: a Headline List and then either individual reviews, or, using marked records, groups of reviews or citations. The Headline List gives brief details of each record including the Mathematical Review number, Author, Title and Volume information.

Reviews

An expert in the field will have reviewed the majority of articles. To display the review from the Headline List, click on **Linked PDF** to launch Adobe Acrobat. Alternatively click on the MR number at the beginning of the reference to display the selected review in HTML format. The bibliographic citation, the review text, the name of the reviewer (if the review is signed) and in some cases a citation list will be displayed. Each Review incorporates links to additional information, including links to the Mathematics Subject Classification, Author Names, Journal or Series and the Reviewer Name.

Full text

If the full text is available it will be shown by a blue box marked **Article**. Click on this blue button to link directly to the online article at the publisher or journal's Web site. In some cases a blue button marked **Journal** will be displayed which will link directly to the journal's homepage. Access to the full text of an article may be dependent on Cardiff University having a subscription to the journal.

Saving and printing

Marking references

You will need to **Mark** the references that you want to save or print. Click on the checkbox by the side of each record that interests you. Scroll to the top of the screen and use the pull down menu showing Reviews (HTML) to change the format. Your selection will depend upon whether you want to retrieve Reviews or Citations. Then click on the **Retrieve Marked** button. The list can then be printed or saved using the **File** menu at top left of your screen.

Clipboard Feature

The results of multiple searches can be added to the Clipboard, then downloaded or displayed as one file. To add individual items to the clipboard, click on the link to **Add citation to clipboard**. Up to 500 items can be collected over multiple searches. All items will be lost after 2 hours of Clipboard inactivity. To view the contents click on **View Clipboard**. To save items in the clipboard click on the **Save All** button and use the browser's **File** menu to specify a file name and drive destination (**A** for diskette, **H** for your filespace on the network).

Search Journals Database

The journals database covers all journals indexed by Mathematical Reviews and Current Mathematical Publications since 1985. Use this feature to view the contents of any or all issues of a named journal. Click on **Journals** in the blue menu box on the left. Enter the full journal title or an abbreviation and click **Start Search**. To find the full text click on the journal title, scroll down and click on **List Issues for this journal**. Click on the issue number that you require.

Browsing

MathSciNet allows you to browse journals indexed in the two most current issues of Current Mathematical Publications (CMP). Click on **Browse Current Journals** and select **Browse full list from CMP**. You will see an alphabetical list of journals in the issue of CMP selected. Click on a journal name to view bibliographic data for that journal. Click on a journal issue number to view the list of indexed items from that issue.

Logging Out

There is no formal logout procedure; either click on the Home button or close the browser as usual.

For further information or assistance contact the Senghennydd Library

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