

# MathGate Update

<http://www.mathgate.ac.uk>

Greig Fratus  
The University of  
Birmingham

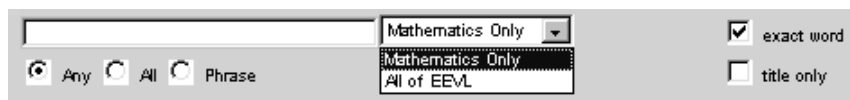
[g.j.fratus@bham.ac.uk](mailto:g.j.fratus@bham.ac.uk)

## New MathGate Look and Feel



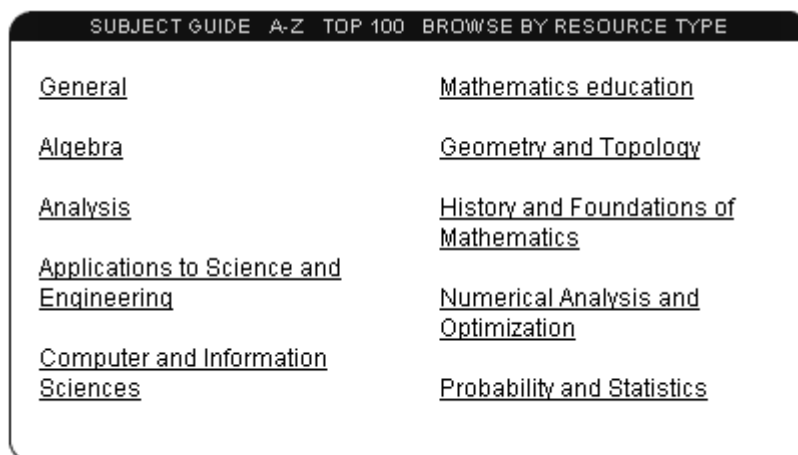
Those of you who are regular users of the MathGate website will have noticed some changes in the last six months. MathGate is now responsible for providing the mathematics section of EEVL – the Internet Guide to Engineering, Mathematics and Computing. MathGate can still, however, be reached via the URL <http://www.mathgate.ac.uk>

The new search facility offers more options, including the opportunity to search for computing and engineering resources as well as mathematics by choosing “All of EEVL” from the drop-down list (if you want more subject options, such as physics and chemistry, see the Resource Discovery Network at <http://www.rdn.ac.uk>). The “title only” option allows the user to display the results without the description. “Any”, “All” or “Phrase” allows the user to conduct “or”, “and” or “phrase” searches.



Browsing by subject is still available, along with browsing by:

- Resource Type - including electronic books and journals, resource guides, software, learning material and courseware
  - A-Z - an alphabetical listing of mathematical subjects
  - Subject Heading – a breakdown showing the subsections of the top-level subject headings that appear on the top page.
- using the options at the top of the browse section:



The MathGate web site is at:  
<http://www.mathgate.ac.uk>

The site also features links to other services for the user on the right-hand side, including the Secondary Homepage project in the UK (see also Math-Net call opposite) and the Internet Mathematician (free “teach yourself” tutorial on Internet information skills for mathematicians).

In order to improve the service please send any comments, suggestions or ideas to: [mathgate@bham.ac.uk](mailto:mathgate@bham.ac.uk)

### Websites of the Month

A recent innovation on the CTI-Maths email discussion list is the website of the month feature. The websites of the month for April and May were:

**April:** Alice Interactive Mathematics (AIM)  
<http://mat-nt2.bham.ac.uk:8080/>

The School of Mathematics and Statistics at the University of Birmingham have been using the AIM web-based system to deliver graded tests with mathematical content. AIM uses Maple as the engine for test delivery and it is available free of charge. The website at Birmingham provides examples of tests, a syntax practice quiz, help pages and a link to documentation about AIM that includes lists of websites and courses using AIM, student comments, and a paper on using Maple and the web to grade mathematics test. Some areas of the website are restricted to local users only.

**May:** The Electronic Library of Mathematics  
<http://www.maths.soton.ac.uk/EMIS/ELibM.html>

Provided as part of the European Mathematical Society’s European Mathematics Information Service this site offers *free access* to electronic material including journals, proceedings, monographs, lecture notes, and classical works. Articles are available in HTML, PostScript and PDF formats. There are many mirror sites (above is the UK one) and a list of additions and changes is available along with the criteria for inclusion.

**Your Favourites:** What useful or interesting sites with a mathematical flavour do you know of? Please send your favourites to [mathgate@bham.ac.uk](mailto:mathgate@bham.ac.uk)

- What's New
- Top 100
- UK Maths Departments and Institutions
- Worldwide Maths Departments and Institutions
- Current Awareness
- Secondary Home Pages
- Events
- Jobs & Recruitment
- News
- Internet Mathematician
- Learning & Teaching Resources
- LTSN Maths, Stats & OR Network
- University Science & Technology Librarians Group (USTLG)
- ResourceFinder

## Call to all mathematics institutions to install Math-Net Pages

*Recommended by the Executive Committee of the IMU on April 12, 2002*

Almost every mathematics department or research institute has a homepage that provides basic information about people and activities in the department. In order to be useful to those outside, the homepage should have an easily recognisable, clear, and intuitive structure. Unfortunately, while many of the current homepages are beautifully designed, they differ dramatically in both structure and content. The International Mathematical Union (IMU) wants to improve this situation and help users to find high-quality mathematical information.

The Math-Net Page for departments or research institutes provides a way to standardize the presentation of basic information about the department. The Math-Net Page is not meant to replace a nicely designed homepage, but rather to serve as a “secondary homepage” with a uniform and intuitive structure. The uniform structure allows users to find information easily and reliably.

Based on the recommendation of its Committee on Electronic Information and Communication, the IMU asks every mathematics institution throughout the world to create a Math-Net Page, to install a prominent link to that page from its primary homepage, and to maintain its Math-Net Page in the future.

The Math-Net Page for mathematics departments and research institutes is the result of an intensive international effort. Further information can be found at “Launching the Math-Net Page”, see <http://www.math-net.org/launching-Math-Net.html>

MathGate is responsible for coordinating the efforts to establish Math-Net style secondary homepages in the UK. For more details of progress so far see <http://www.mathgate.ac.uk/shp.htm>

If you are interested in establishing one at your institution and need any assistance please feel free to email MathGate at:

**[mathgate@bham.ac.uk](mailto:mathgate@bham.ac.uk)**