



## **LEONHARD EULER**

If Gauss is the Prince, Euler is the King. Living from 1707 to 1783, he is regarded as the greatest mathematician to have ever walked this planet. It is said that all mathematical formulas are named after the next person after Euler to discover them. In his day he was ground breaking and on par with Einstein in genius. His primary (if that's possible) contribution to the field is with the introduction of mathematical notation including the concept of a function (and how it is written as  $f(x)$ ), shorthand trigonometric functions, the 'e' for the base of the natural logarithm (The Euler Constant), the Greek letter Sigma for summation and the letter 'i' for imaginary units, as well as the symbol pi for the ratio of a circles circumference to its diameter. All of which play a huge bearing on modern mathematics, from the every day to the incredibly complex.

As well as this, he also solved the Seven Bridges of Koenigsberg problem in graph theory, found the Euler Characteristic for connecting the number of vertices, edges and faces of an object, and (dis)proved many well known theories, too many to list. Furthermore, he continued to develop calculus, topology, number theory, analysis and graph theory as well as much, much more – and ultimately he paved the way for modern mathematics and all its revelations. It is probably no coincidence that industry and technological developments rapidly increased around this time.

You can find out more about Leonhard Euler and his works [HERE](#).

Many thanks to M. R. Sexton who wrote the full online article which can be found [here](#)