

Email, Tuesday, Nov. 12

Attached please find a memoir of Thursday's class. I include below some web references to materials that may be of interest in connection with our further discussions.

-Scott

The full text of Hilbert's 1900 address is available (in English) at:
<http://aleph0.clarku.edu/~djoyce/hilbert/problems.html>.

Alan Turing's 1936 paper, On computable numbers, with an application to the Entscheidungsproblem is available at:

http://www.cs.virginia.edu/~robins/Turing_Paper_1936.pdf.

Sections 1 and 9 of the paper give an analysis of the notion of mechanical computation and provide evidence of various kinds for the Church-Turing Thesis: every mechanically computable function is computable by a Turing machine.

In a 1956 letter to John von Neumann, Kurt Goedel formulated a question which is now regarded as among the most significant mathematical problems of our time. The letter is available (in German, with English translation) at:

<http://www.cs.princeton.edu/~chazelle/courses/BIB/goedel-letter.pdf>.