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On the theorem of G. Grünwald and J. Marcinkiewicz

Péter Vértesi

Rényi Mathematical Institute of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences Budapest, Hungary

In 1910, exactly hundred years ago, were born two outstanding mathematicians (in alphabetical order) the Hungarian Géza Grünwald and the Polish Józef Marcinkiewicz. But we must note some other similarities between them. They proved in the same year (1935) the first version of their famous result (as today called) the Grünwald–Marcinkiewicz Theorem . Both improved this first version and got the final form already in the next year; the theorem was a part of their PhD dissertation. And, finally, both were killed during the second world war: Géza Grünwald become a holocaust victim in 1942 while Józef Marcinkiewicz died in 1940 in the Katyń massacre.

Paraphrasing what Antoni Zygmund (who was a teacher, a friend and a collaborator of Józef Marcinkiewicz) wrote, we may say that the short period of their mathematical activity left a definite imprint on mathematics. Considering what they might have done one may view their early death as a great blow to mathematics.









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