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The history of the Lviv mathematical school

Abstract. We shall present the rich and very interesting history of the Lvov mathematical school, from its early years (1600's) through the end of the Second World War. We shall mention several famous mathematicians who worked at the University of Lvov, among them Kazimierz Kuratowski, Waclaw Sierpinski, Stanislaw Mazur and Stefan Banach. In particular, we shall present the history of the famous Scottish cafe in Lvov and the Scottish Problem Book, which was born there, on the initiative of Stefan Banach. We shall also give an account of the difficult war times in Lvov, describing the difficulties which in particular Stefan Banach had to live through to survive the occupation.