

org is an online platform, collecting, describing, presenting and generating documents of all sorts. It documents documents.

Your path through the collection lead along Mould, Another letter from abroad, Straight in the morning, curvy in the afternoon, Market, 12M m3 [8/8] Heating, Tipp-Ex, Crash (2), Roofing (2), Quarry, I64.762/EDK/YDW, Crocodile Copy, Original Copy, We Welcome Comments, Dust, Croûton d'Or, Album, APOTD, Thunder Afar

What constitutes a 'document' and how does it function?

According to the *Oxford English Dictionary*, the etymological origin is the Latin 'documentum', meaning 'lesson, proof, instance, specimen'. As a verb, it is 'to prove or support (something) by documentary evidence', and 'to provide with documents'. The online version of the *OED* includes a draft addition, whereby a document (as a noun) is 'a collection of data in digital form that is considered a single item and typically has a unique filename by which it can be stored, retrieved, or transmitted (as a file, a spreadsheet, or a graphic)'. The current use of the noun 'document' is defined as '*something* written, inscribed, etc., which furnishes evidence or information upon any subject, as a manuscript, title-deed, tomb-stone, coin, picture, etc.' (emphasis added).

Both 'something' and that first 'etc.' leave ample room for discussion. A document doubts whether it functions as something unique, or as something reproducible. A passport is a document, but a flyer equally so. Moreover, there is a circular reasoning: to document is 'to provide with documents'. Defining (the functioning of) a document most likely involves ideas of communication, information, evidence, inscriptions, and implies notions of objectivity and neutrality – but the document is neither reducible to one of them, nor is it equal to their sum. It is hard to pinpoint it, as it disperses into and is affected by other fields: it is intrinsically tied to the history of media and to important currents in literature, photography and art; it is linked to epistemic and power structures. However ubiquitous it is, as an often tangible thing in our environment, and as a concept, a document *deranges*.

the-documents.org continuously gathers documents and provides them with a short textual description, explanation, or digression, written by multiple authors. In *Paper Knowledge*, Lisa Gittelman paraphrases ‘documentalist’ Suzanne Briet, stating that ‘an antelope running wild would not be a document, but an antelope taken into a zoo would be one, presumably because it would then be framed – or reframed – as an example, specimen, or instance’. The gathered files are all documents – if they weren’t before publication, they now are. That is what the-documents.org, irreversibly, *does*. It is a zoo turning an antelope into an ‘antelope’.

As you made your way through the collection, the-documents.org tracked the entries you viewed. It documented your path through the website. As such, the time spent on the-documents.org turned into this – a new document.

This document was compiled by _____ on 07.02.2022 22:48, printed on _____ and contains 18 documents on 38 pages. (<https://the-documents.org/log/07-02-2022-3776/>)

the-documents.org is a project created and edited by De Cleene De Cleene; design & development by atelier Haegeman Temmerman.

the-documents.org has been online since 23.05.2021.

Notes

- De Cleene De Cleene is Michiel De Cleene and Arnout De Cleene. Together they form a research group that focusses on novel ways of approaching the everyday, by artistic means and from a cultural and critical perspective.
www.decleenedecline.be / info@decleenedecline.be
- This project was made possible with the support of the Flemish Government and KASK & Conservatorium, the school of arts of HOGENT and Howest. It is part of the research project *Documenting Objects*, financed by the HOGENT Arts Research Fund.

Sources

- Briet, S. *Qu'est-ce que la documentation?* Paris: Edit, 1951.
- Gittelman, L. *Paper Knowledge. Toward a Media History of Documents.* Durham/ London: Duke University Press, 2014.
- *Oxford English Dictionary Online*. Accessed on 13.05.2021.



Flanders
State of the Art



HOGENT
howest

At a dental practice, the white Alligat[®]-powder is mixed with the right amount of water to get a mouldable dough that is pressed upon a patient's teeth. After thirty seconds, the Alligat[®]-dough stiffens and takes on a rubber-like quality. At that point, still white, it must be removed from the patient's mouth. Over the next few hours, the mould turns increasingly pink as the substance becomes less humid. Now, it can be used as a mould to create a positive master cast of the patient's teeth.

Outside the dental practice, the powder's possibilities remain to be fully explored.

Notes



Sources

- First published as part of De Cleene De Cleene. 'Amidst the Fire, I Was Not Burnt', *Trigger (Special issue: Uncertainty)*, 2. FOMU/Fw:Books, 25-30



type
photograph

date
27.01.2022

filename
_44A3429.tif

size
36,81 MB

author
De Cleene De Cleene

category
manual, medicine, packaging, repair, replica/copy

22:40:22

Because an acquaintance of the family was a missionary, the postage stamp collection had a large quantity of stamps from the Philippines. You had to boil water, hold the empty envelope above it, wait until the glue and the missionary's saliva loosened and evaporated, and then gently peel off the stamp. Then, it was put on a piece of pink blotting paper. Once dry, the stamp was slid into a tailor-made booklet.

Between a Horta building's facade and King Baudouin's portrait, there are exotic fish, religious scenes, butterflies, and advertisements for NGOs.

Mango is the Philippines' national fruit. Pope John Paul II visited it in 1995. There was a guerrilla unit in Northwest Pampanga during WWII.



type	date	filename	size	author
scan	23.01.2022	2022-01-22_213134.png	27,7MB	Arnout De Cleene

category
animal, architecture, book, collecting, fruit, sticker

22:41:17

On a pile of fresh hospital sheets, near the radiator, the tangerine curtains and the black marble window sill (the window looks out over the parking lot), underneath the two-day-old bouquet of flowers and next to a pile of magazines with a handwritten note on top (about a syrup that relieves slime and tastes like oranges), lie two sheets of paper.

Earlier that day the physiotherapist had come by. Twice. Once in the morning and once in the afternoon. He had each time drawn the first line, as an example. A straight line in the morning, a curvy line in the afternoon.

With a ballpoint pen my grandfather, who is recovering from an accident, diligently copied the examples (31 in the morning, 5 in the afternoon).



type
photograph

date
09.01.2022

filename
IMG_9441.HEIC

size
862 KB

author
Michiel De Cleene

category
family, manual, medicine, parking, replica/copy

22:41:18

K. says that the stall where he usually buys fruit has already been packed up. But he is not worried about the quality of the fruit the other vendor sells. He gestures encouragingly.

Five signs of type-1, eleven of type-2 and two of type-3 are visible. Four of type-2 (two visible, two deduced) and two of type-3 retain two vehicles.

Notes

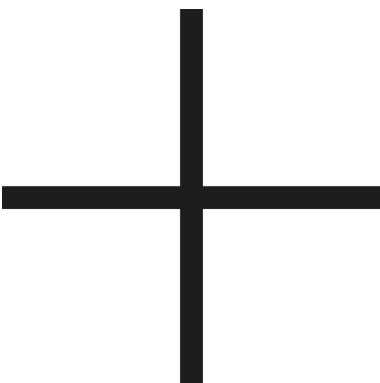
1.



2.



3.



- Márk Redele pursues projects that fundamentally relate to architecture and its practice but rarely look like architecture. www.markredele.com



type
photograph

date
26.12.2021

filename
market_.jpg

size
3,82 MB

author
Márk Redele

category
automobile, economy, food, fruit, landscape, manual, parking, precipitation, sign

22:43:29

Shortly after crossing the Thur the couple reaches their car. They're freezing. As the sun sets they drive through the mountainous landscape. The heating hurts their fingers.

The next day, they return, but the scene looks different. It's warmer. The Thur appears to flow faster.



type	date	filename	size	author
photograph	07.12.2021	IMG_0518b.jpg	4,38 MB	Michiel De Cleene

category
automobile, family, landscape, parking

22:43:35

A white Mercedes van inserts in front of me in a traffic jam near Antwerp. The back of the van has been altered in several ways: a latch was added to the door,¹ a footstep was bolted to the bumper, a couple of tie-wraps are holding up the lights on the left side.² Traffic is moving slow. There is no Mercedes logo.³ Some parts have been retouched with white paint that differs slightly from the rest of the bodywork,⁴ not unlike a tipp-ex'ed document.

Notes

- 1 Maybe the original locking mechanism no longer functions, or, perhaps, the owner wants to add a padlock to the doors at night.
 - 2 Maybe a corroded screw caused the lights to come loose, or a slight collision.
 - 3 Someone might have stolen it. Mercedes stars are often stolen, although mostly from the hood.
 - 4 Maybe to counter corrosion, to conceal a mark someone made on the van or to cover up a fixed dent.
- Legislation concerning the publication of someone else's licence plate on the internet and the demand to blur it, is somewhat ambiguous.



type	date	filename	size	author
photograph	05.07.2021	IMG_7538.HEIC	714 KB	Michiel De Cleene

category
automobile, crash, impact, insurance, sticker

22:43:43

Near Avenue 61 on an artificial island close to Seef, a truck is being towed after the driver lost control over the vehicle and flipped it onto its side. A warm wind blows in from the Persian Gulf.

A police officer signals us to come closer. 'Why are you taking pictures?' he asks. 'This is just an accident. You have to delete the pictures from your phone. Now.' After checking the pictures-folder on our phones, he gets in his car, drives a few metres, stops the car and rolls down his window. 'And don't do it again!' he yells. Then he drives off, raising a cloud of sand in his wake.

Notes

Photograph taken and recovered from my trash bin on 18.12.2020.



type	date	filename	size	author
photograph	08.05.2021	IMG_5071.jpeg	2,71MB	Michiel De Cleene

category
Bahrain, crash, data storage, drought, government, interference, mistake, parking, sand, technology

22:43:55

Five white boulders close off a shortcut for motorists who attempt to cut the bend in the road. The southernmost roof's pitch runs opposite to the landscape's slope. The lower roofline is, therefore, only about one meter above a small, triangular patch of grass which is hidden from view by a hedge. In summer, when the roofing gets hot and soft, text and drawings get pressed or carved into it.



type	date	filename	size	author
screenshot	14.04.2021	Schermafbeelding 2021-05-05 om 22.37.00.png	16,98MB	Michiel De Cleene

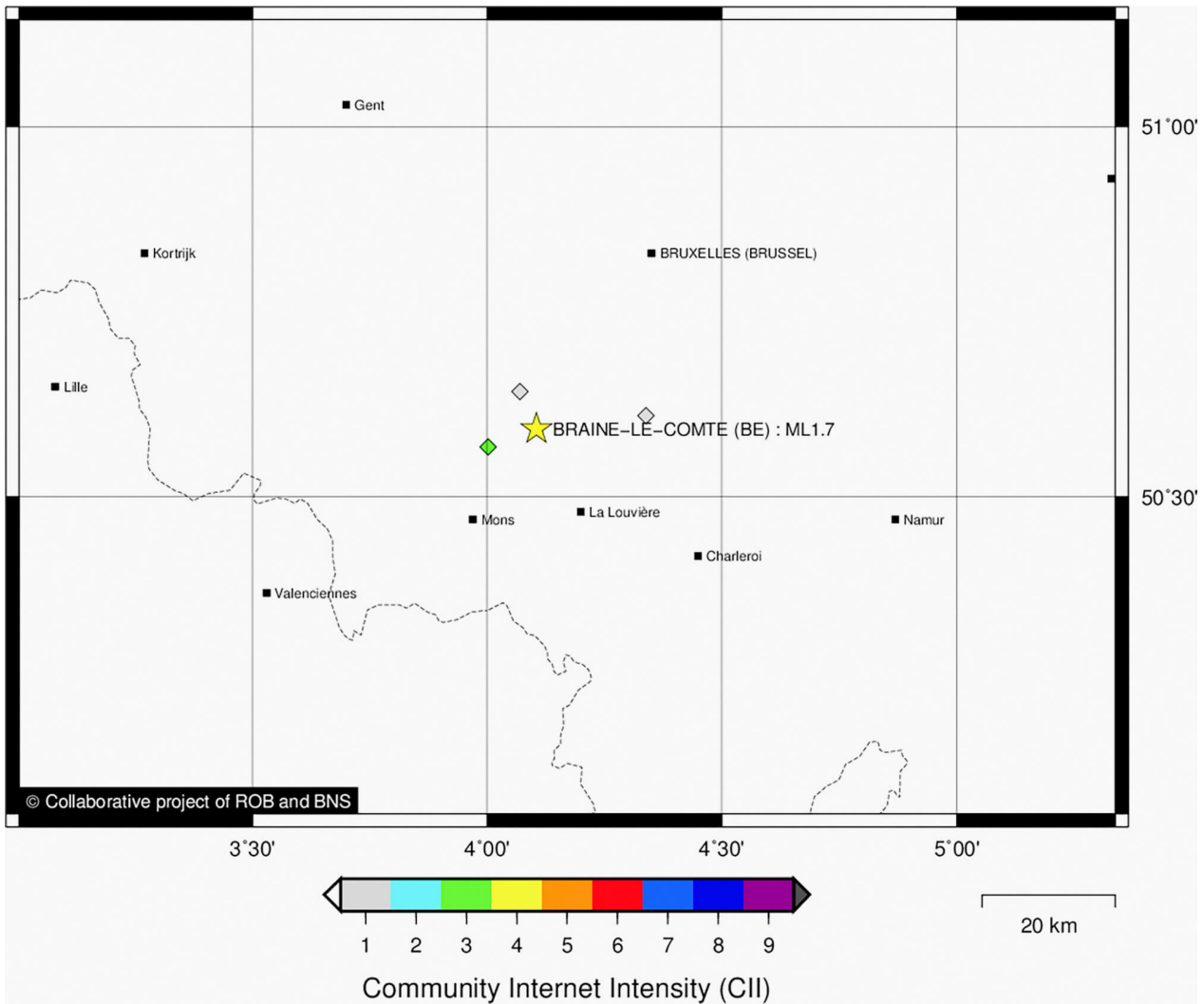
category
automobile, crash, landscape, map/plan, parking, roofing, sign

22:44:02

On May 6th 2020, 14h06 and 31 seconds, the Belgian Seismological Institute records an earthquake with a 1,7 magnitude in the region of Braine-Le-Compte. Three reactions from people in the neighbourhood, filed by the Institute, confirm the official seismological recordings. The Institute's website classifies the earthquake as a 'quarry blast'.

Sources

<http://seismologie.be/nl/seismologie/aardbevingen-in-belgie/en130qj1o>



type
screenshot

date
16.02.2021

filename
9980.png

size
45KB

author
Arnout De Cleene

category
data storage, interference, map/plan, scale, seismology, technology

22:44:12

An architect in Z. receives a reminder. 'Please send, as soon as possible, the plans of the construction before the damage.' The reminder was sent by the Ministry of Reconstruction, in 1951. The architect's address in Z., as mentioned in this file, is nowadays a house adjacent to Saloon Redbarn, a hall used for activities organized by a club of country and western-aficionados.

Sources

Semi-translucent paper, typoscript, stamps, handwritten notes and signature, from the archive of architect O. Clemminck, file 'Remi Van Bockstael'

F8. VIII. 1951

MINISTERIE VAN WEDEROPBOUW Technische Diensten zijn
 voorlopig gevestigd te Gent,
 Lange Violettenstraat, 1

GENT, de
 St. Pieters Aalststraat, 60

Provinciale Directie voor
 Oorlogsschade van Cost-Vlaanderen
 Technische Dienst.
 N^o I64.762/EDK/YDW.
 (Gelieve dit nummer in het antwoord te vermelden)

De bureau's der Prov Directie zijn
 voor het publiek toegankelijk op
 alle werkdagen van 9 u. tot 12 u.
 De Provinciale Directeur ontvangt
 enkel op uitnodiging.

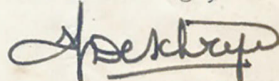
BIJLAGE Mijneer,

Betreft : Dossier nr. 4.001.623 - VAN BOCKSTAL Remi
 Hoekstraat, 14 - ZEVENEKEN

Ten einde het in rand vermeld dossier te kunnen afwerken,
 verzoek ik U mij, ten spoedigste, het plan van bedoeld complex
vóór de beschadiging te laten geworden.

Hoogachtend,

Dhr. CLEMMINCK Omer
 - Architect -
 Dorp 77
ZAFFELARE

Namens de Minister :
 Vr. de Directeur P. VAN ROYWEGHEN
 De Adviseur-Deskundige,

 H. DE SCHRYVER.

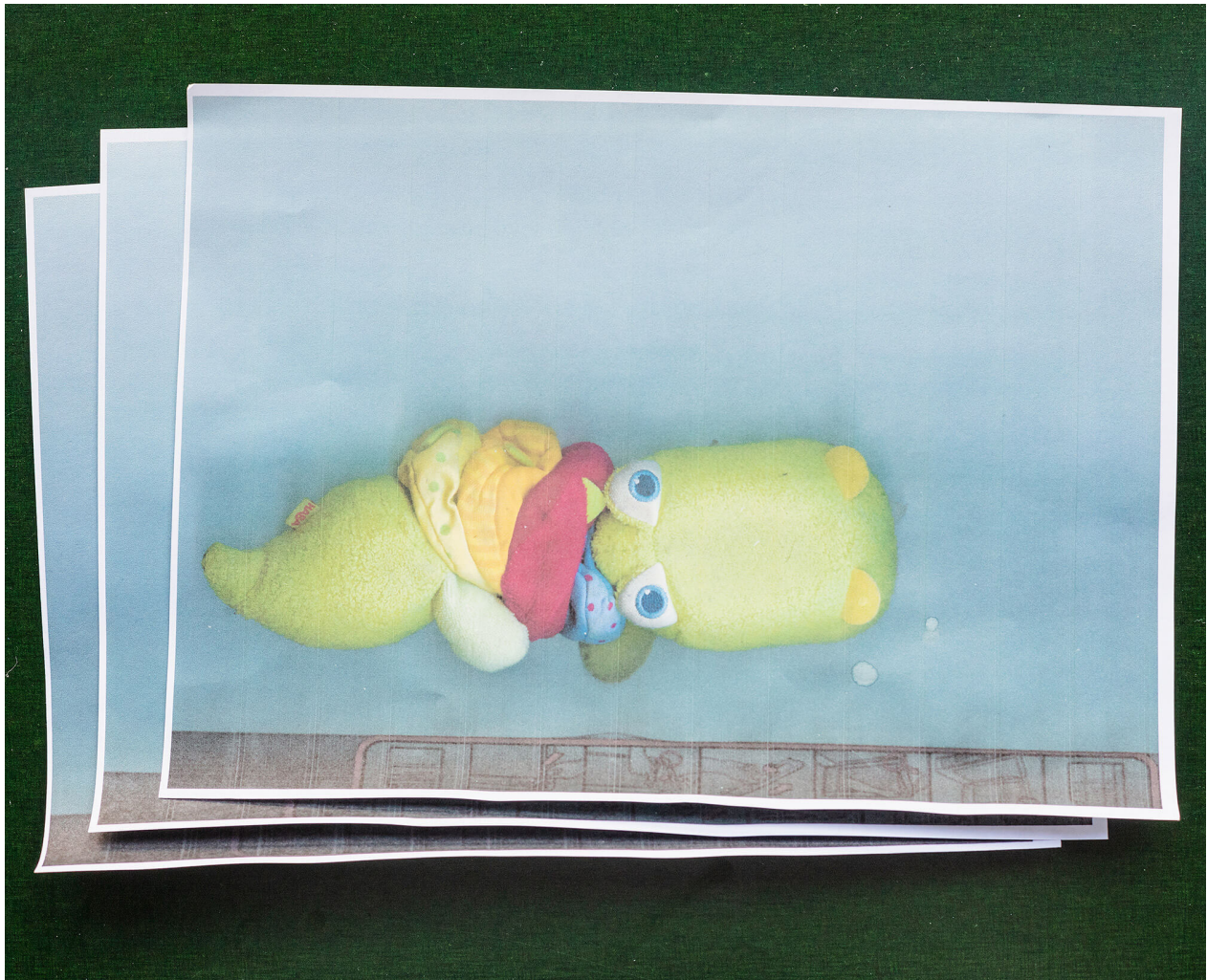
391 H

type	date	filename	size	author
scan	14.12.2020	Ministerie_van_wederopbouw.pdf	1MB	Arnout De Cleene

category
 architecture, house, archive, map/plan, O. Clemminck, government, insurance

22:44:22

Our one year old's favourite toy he's not supposed to play with is the *HP Officejet Pro L7590 All-in-one* in my office. I have given up on forbidding him to play with it. We have a new game: he brings me one of his other toys, we put it on the flatbed, close the lid – as far as possible –, press the button 'START COPY – COLOR' and wait for the print to come out of the machine. When we place the original onto the copy, he laughs. So far we have copied his blue pacifier, his planet-earth-bouncy-ball and his rattling crocodile.



type
photograph

date
16.02.2021

filename
_44A8728.dng

size
50,04MB

author
Michiel De Cleene

category
animal, archive, decoration, house, replica/copy, technology, trompe l'oeil, family

22:44:39

On Wednesday, May 9, 2018 at 2:23:14 PM Koh Elaine starts the thread *original or original copy* on the The Free Dictionary by Farlex's forum.

'Is "original copy" correct or should it be "original"? Thanks.'

The seventh reply to Elaine's question is Wilmar's on Thursday (his was preceded by towan52, georgew, NKM, Koh Elaine, Sarrriesfan, ChrisKC, Ashwin Joshi).

'An original copy IS the original.

Folks usually call the document first created the original, but some will say original copy. If I run that original thru the copy machine, I end up with two copies (yes, I said copies) of the same thing – the original and the duplicate of it (in terms of content). This is how the term is commonly used.

If your writing or conversation depends heavily on understand the difference, I would recommend using the terms original and duplicates. There are many times when that is very important, in that the original must be retained by a particular party, and the duplicates are marked as such and distributed or stored as required depending on the document and the circumstance.

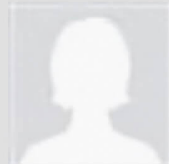
If you are just trying to make sure that you have enough copies to distribute to everyone at the company meeting this afternoon, use whatever terms trips your trigger. But, if you want to ensure that you keep custody of the original, so that you can make additional duplicates (copies) when additional people attend, then be more specific about the words you use.

OH, and, please, in the future, include some context with your question. Asking if "word" is correct doesn't go very far in supplying a reasonably useful response.'

Sources

https://forum.thefreedictionary.com/postst182102_original-or-original-copy.aspx

Wilmar (USA) 1M



Rank: Advanced Member

Joined: 6/4/2015

Posts: 5,721

Neurons: 1,278,032

Location: Vinton, Iowa, United States

type	date	filename	size	author
screenshot	16.02.2021	Schermafbeelding 2021-02-16 om 11.08.01.png	45KB	Michiel De Cleene

category
archive, mistake, replica/copy, technology

Robert Nemiroff and Jerry Bonnell's lesser known project (R.N. and J.B. being the creators of Astronomy Picture of The Day), was making websites containing over a million of digits of square roots of irrational numbers, e.g. seven. 'They were computed during spare time on a VAX alpha class machine over the course of a weekend. [...] We believe these are the most digits ever computed for the square root of seven on or before 1 April 1994.' Elsewhere, R.N. states: 'They are not copyrighted and we do not think it is legally justifiable to copyright such a basic thing as the digits of a commonly used irrational number.' If one wanted to get a copy of the 10 million digits of the square root of the number e R.N. and J.B. computed in their spare time, one can send an email to R.N. at nemiroff@gssc.gsfc.nasa.gov.

Sources

- <https://apod.nasa.gov/htmltest/gifcity/sqrt7.1mil>
- https://apod.nasa.gov/htmltest/rjn_dig.html
- <https://apod.nasa.gov/htmltest/rjn.html>

What follows are the first 1 million digits of the square root of 7. Actually, slightly more than 1 million digits are given here. These digits were computed by Robert Nemiroff (George Mason University and NASA Goddard Space Flight Center) and checked by Jerry Bonnell (University Space Research Association and NASA Goddard Space Flight Center). They were computed during spare time on a VAX alpha class machine over the course of a weekend. We do NOT guarantee the accuracy of these digits. Although these digits have been checked once we encourage others to check them as well. We believe these are the most digits ever computed for the square root of seven on or before 1 April 1994. If anyone is aware of more digits we ask them to please alert us of their existence. We have computed at least 10 million digits of the square root of two as well as several digits of the number e and the square roots of other numbers. These are available on this mosaic server (URL: <http://antwrp.gsfc.nasa.gov/htmltest/rjn.html>). We welcome comments.

- Robert Nemiroff and Jerry Bonnell

The square root of seven =

2.6457513110645905905016157536392604257102591830824501803683344592010688232302
83627760392886474543610615064578338497463095743529888627214784427390555880107722
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81811461309087647378659562433057994798128163230705483650107715617946361191553454
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type	date	filename	size	author
screenshot	01.05.2021	Schermafbeelding 2021-05-01 om 16.44.39.png	340KB	Arnout De CTeene

category
astronomy, archive, data storage, irrational numbers, mathematics

Ten years ago, in November, I drove up to Frisia – the northernmost province of The Netherlands. I was there to document the remains of air watchtowers: a network of 276 towers that were built in the fifties and sixties to warn the troops and population of possible aerial danger coming from the Soviet Union. It was very windy. The camera shook heavily. The poplars surrounding the concrete tower leaned heavily to one side.

I drove up to the seaside, a few kilometers farther. The wind was still strong when I reached the grassy dike that overlooked the kite-filled beach. I exposed the last piece of film left on the roll. Strong gusts of wind blew landwards.

Months later I didn't bother to blow off the dust that had settled on the film before scanning it. A photograph without use, with low resolution, made for the sake of the archive's completeness.

The dust on the film appears to be carried landwards, by the same gust of wind lifting the kites.



type
photograph

date
06.09.2021

filename
LWT-Oudemirdum0002.tif

size
28,17 MB

author
Michiel De Cleene

category
architecture, archive, data storage, landscape, sea, wind

22:45:29

The archive of O. Clemminck, architect, was preserved in a box of croutons – by him, the historian who gave it to my father, or someone else (it contains a letter written by Clemminck's widow asking a client to pay the bill her husband had sent). The croutons had a flavor of fine herbs and, a stamp on the box with the plans in it says, should have been consumed before April 1987.



type
photograph

date
14.01.2022

filename
_MG_7420.JPG

size
6MB

author
Arnout De Cleene

category
architecture, archive, data storage, food, O. Clemminck, packaging

22:45:34

At the State Archive in Kortrijk, I am leafing
through a 1955 photo album of the construction of
the provisional church in Lokeren by the famous
furniture company Kunstwerkstede De Coene.
Gigantic wooden, prefabricated beams structure
the building. It is cold. An old man in a grey suit
shuffles between the racks to look up the date of
birth of his great great grandmother. Snow covers
the unfinished provisional roof. A bus passes,
I reckon, through the pouring rain.



type	date	filename	size	author
audio	22.12.2020	VP100184.MP3	1,8MB	Arnout De Cleene

category
archive, architecture, book, data storage, De Coene, precipitation

22:45:40

THIS IS A RUSH TRANSCRIPT. THIS COPY MAY NOT BE IN ITS
FINAL FORM AND MAY BE UPDATED.

MILES O'BRIEN, *CNN Anchor*

Now this Astronomy Picture of
the Day goes back as far as
the popularization of the Internet.
The discovery of what is now
Netscape, if you will. Let's take a
look at the guys behind it.
It's an art gallery of astronomy,
featuring explosive supernovas,
deep black holes, flaring comets,
and breathtaking earth views.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

O'BRIEN (*voice-over*) Every day since the web
was in its infancy, two enthusiastic
astronomers have posted a new image to
Astronomy Picture of the Day.

ROBERT J. NEMIROFF,
NASA Astrophysicist

I think that a lot of these would look great in a
gallery. They're very different, there's a lot of
different colors involved, there's a lot of
different contrasts, a lot of different textures.
And, it has the added bonus of being scienti-
fically interesting. It's scientifically true.

O'BRIEN Robert Nimiroff and Jerry Donnell (ph)
choose the images based on their
educational value, newsworthiness,
or just plain beauty.

NEMIROFF

I mean, there's a 'wow' factor here. I usually
know within a second or two of seeing a
picture whether it's a sure thing for
The Astronomy Picture of the Day, because I
just say 'Wow, what is going on there?'

O'BRIEN Every image is archived on the site.
Underneath each picture is a brief
explanation so that the site is not just
eye candy but educational, as well.
Including images that give us a new
perspective.

NEMIROFF

Recently, people put together a bunch of
pictures from the moon in this great
panorama. You can look all the way around in
the circle and see what the astronauts saw.
The face on Mars, which the best explanation
is, it's just a rock formation, but there's a lot
of conspiracy people out there who think it's
more, and the picture of the earth at night.
And, I think it's one of our most
popular images.

O'BRIEN Some images come from telescopes
around the world. Others from the
Hubble Telescope, peering deep into
space. Others, from amateur photo-
graphers, an artist's renditions of black
holes too distant for detail.

NEMIROFF

And you can just look at it and feel that
you're there.

O'BRIEN Many people take the images from the
site and post them as wallpaper on their
computers, or, create a slideshow
screensaver.

NEMIROFF

Our biggest demographic is the intelligent
professional who works at some company and
has a computer on the desk, has a web
browser, and they check us out. We've got e-
mail that we're many people's morning cup of
coffee.

O'BRIEN Whether you're a space junkie or just
enjoy looking up at the sky, Astronomy
Picture of the Day is worth the visit.

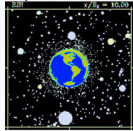
Sources

- <https://apod.nasa.gov/apod/ap950616.html> (original post: June 16, 1995)
- <http://transcripts.cnn.com/TRANSCRIPTS/0209/21/smn.06.html>

Astronomy Picture of the Day

The sky is filled with breathtaking pictures, many of which are available on the World Wide Web. Each day we feature a different picture of some part of our fascinating universe, along with a brief explanation written by a professional astronomer.

Today's Picture:



Explanation:

If the Earth could somehow be transformed to the ultra-high density of a [neutron star](#), it might appear as it does in the above computer generated figure. Due to the very strong gravitational field, the neutron star distorts light from the background sky greatly. If you look closely, two images of the constellation Orion are visible. The gravity of this particular neutron star is so great that no part of the neutron star is blocked from view - light is pulled around by gravity even from the back of the neutron star.

We keep an [archive](#) file.

Astronomy Picture of the Day is brought to you by [Robert Nemiroff](#) and [Jerry Bonnell](#). Original material on this page is copyrighted to Robert Nemiroff and Jerry Bonnell.

type	date	filename	size	author
screenshot	11.01.2021	Schermafbeelding 2021-01-12 om 21.54.58.png	225KB	Arnout De Cleene

category
astronomy, archive, encyclopaedia, physics

22:45:45

It's 21:49 on Tuesday May 4th 2021. I'm sifting through the folders of a back-up drive. When I reach Archief2A/2017/wigny donder, the subfolder contains 103 items (97 DNG-files, 1 JPEG-file and 5 PSD-files). The photographs are all very similar. They show the silhouette of the same tree and hills, the red light of the telecommunications mast on the left and the orange glow of the street's sodium lights. The thunderstorm moves from right to left. _44A3920 is the only exposure (10 seconds) that recorded lightning bolts.

I looked up *heat lightning*, also known as *silent lightning*, *summer lightning*, or *dry lightning*, which is simply cloud-to-ground lightning that occurs very far away, with thunder that dissipates before it reaches the observer. On YouTube I watched: *Top 10 Dangerous Lightning Strikes Thunder recorded on Camera (HIGH VOLTAGE!!)* followed by *Lightning Strikes at the 2019 U.S. Women's Open*. It's 22:07, I am doubtful at first but become convinced I can hear thunder afar.



type	date	filename	size	author
photograph	04.05.2021	_44A3920.psd	449,09MB	Michiel De Cleene

category
archive, astronomy, data storage, landscape, precipitation, technology

22:47:02

