Carl Gustav Jacob Jacobi

Canonical name	CarlGustavJacobJacobi
Date of creation	2013-03-22 16:49:51
Last modified on	2013-03-22 16:49:51
Owner	PrimeFan (13766)
Last modified by	PrimeFan (13766)
Numerical id	6
Author	PrimeFan (13766)
Entry type	Biography
Classification	msc 01A55
Synonym	Jacques Simon Jacobi

Carl Gustav Jacob Jacobi (1804 - 1851) Jewish-German mathematician best known for the Jacobian matrix and the Jacobi symbol.

The second son of a successful banker, young Carl was home-schooled until the age of 12, when he entered the Potsdam high school. Four years after earning a degree from Berlin University in 1825 and converting to Catholicism, Jacobi became a mathematics professor there and taught for a dozen years. He read Greek and Latin fluently, and was quite familiar with the work of `http://planetmath.org/EulerLeonhard`Leonhard Euler. In the late 1820s, Jacobi did significant work on elliptic functions in relation to fractions, attracting the interest and praise of `http://planetmath.org/CarlFriedrichGauss`Carl Friedrich Gauss and Adrien-Marie Legendre. In 1843, Jacobi went on a vacation to Italy, beginning his retirement.

A lunar crater is named after Jacobi.