

1114-01-99

Stephan Ramon Garcia* (stephan.garcia@pomona.edu), Department of Mathematics,
Pomona College, 610 N College Ave, Claremont, CA 91711. *Wetzel's problem, Paul Erdős, and the
continuum hypothesis: a mathematical mystery.*

In 1963, Paul Erdős provided a stunning solution to Wetzel's Problem in complex variables. But who was Wetzel and how did his problem find its way to Erdős? Tracing the path that this problem took, from its birth to its resolution, was a mathematical mystery. A burnt out car on the streets of Chicago appeared to mark the end of the trail. An enigmatic manuscript, written by unknown hands, prompted even more questions. . . (Joint work with Amy L. Shoemaker). (Received August 15, 2015)