Early research on matrix iterations: the Italian contribution

M. Benzi
Department of Mathematics and Computer Science,
Emory University,
Atlanta, Georgia, USA
benzi@mathcs.emory.edu

In this talk I will review some early work on iterative methods for solving linear systems by Italian mathematicians during the 1930s, with particular attention to the contributions of Lamberto Cesari (1910–1990) and Gianfranco Cimmino (1908–1989). I will also provide some background information on Italian applied mathematics and especially on Mauro Picone’s Istituto Nazionale per le Applicazioni del Calcolo, where most of this early numerical work took place. Finally, I will illustrate the influence of Cimmino’s work on modern and current research.