This talk discusses a critical infrastructure need of the mathematical sciences, namely the access to the legacy of scholarly research published in the journals devoted to the mathematical sciences over the last three and a half centuries.

We put this in the context of a strategy for global science, in particular for the role of the mathematical sciences in the science enterprise. This role is to enrich an already deep and broad fundamental science and engineering knowledge base, to develop a globally engaged workforce of scientists, engineers, and well-prepared citizens, as well as to provide a widely accessible science and engineering infrastructure.

We describe current efforts to capture the world's scholarly mathematical literature. A major undertaking is the coordination under the umbrella of the International Mathematical Union of the many digitization efforts proceeding across the world.