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Erdős-Bacon number

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The *Erdős-Bacon number* of a mathematician or an actor is the sum of their <http://planetmath.org/ErdHosNumber> Erdős number and their Bacon number. Not many professional mathematicians have had film rôles. However, a few important ones have done consulting work for Hollywood films about mathematicians, such as *A Beautiful Mind*. For example, William Timothy Gowers, who has Erdős number 4, was a consultant for *Proof*, with Gwyneth Paltrow in the lead rôle. Paltrow was in *se7en* with Endre Hules, who was in *Apollo 13* with Kevin Bacon. Thus Gowers has an Erdős-Bacon number of 7. Daniel Kleitman, consultant for *Good Will Hunting*, has an even smaller Erdős-Bacon number, 3, since he co-authored a paper with Erdős and the film included Minnie Driver, who starred with Bacon in *Sleepers*. The smallest likely Erdős-Bacon number would probably be 2, if an Erdős co-author consulted for a movie starring Bacon. It's also possible that Kevin Bacon could co-author a mathematical paper with an Erdős co-author, but this appears unlikely.