The SUMO Speaker Series for Undergraduates

Thursday, April 3 4:15-5:05, Room 380C

(Food Provided)

PACKING PRIMES Professor Solomon Friedberg Boston College



Abstract

Prime numbers are the building blocks of all whole numbers, and the basis for modern applications such as sending credit card numbers over the internet securely. In this talk I will describe ways that the prime numbers, though individually distributed erratically, accumulate into regular patterns when packed together. In looking at this, we will find out about links between prime numbers and the numbers "e" and "pi", which seem to have nothing to do with primes whatsoever.

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