

Math News

Vol. XXII, No. 2

Oct. 2007

Mathematics Offerings

The following courses will be offered in Spring 2008. Registration begins on October 29.

Math 236	Calculus I	8:00- 8:50 AM	MTRF	Revennaugh
		2:00- 2:50 PM	MTRF	Forsythe
Math 237	Calculus II	11:00- 11:50 AM	MTRF	Hughes
		2:00- 2:50 PM	MTRF	Hughes
Math 238	Calculus III	11:00- 11:50 PM	MTRF	Barnet
Math 380	Introduction to Probability and Statistics	12:00- 12:50 PM	MWF	Michael
Math 432	Differential Equations	10:00- 10:50 AM	MWF	Forsythe
		11:00- 11:50 AM	MWF	Forsythe
Math 452	Linear Algebra II	2:00- 3:15 PM	TR	Hegde
Math 461	History of Mathematics	10:00- 10:50 AM	MWF	Hughes
Math 470	Mathematical Models	12:30- 1:45 PM	TR	Barnet
Math 482	Applied Nonparametric Statistics	12:30- 1:45 PM	TR	Hegde

Upcoming Seminar on Probabilitee**

Dr. Jacob (Jesse) Siehler will present a seminar on "Calculus, Dice, and Probabilitee," on Friday, November 9, from 3 – 4 p.m. Dr. Siehler graduated from FSU in 1997 with a degree in mathematics. He is currently an Assistant Professor of Mathematics at Washington & Lee University in Lexington, VA.

Dr. Siehler will discuss how a simple game of rolling a die until the number showing decreases (2, 4, 4, 5, 3 - Stop!) leads to an interesting statistical question about the average length of a monotone run occurring in a random process. He'll show attendees how some familiar tools from calculus can be brought to bear on a die-rolling game that is apparently discrete in nature, and in the process, uncover a surprising fact about the run-lengths for continuous random variables as well. Students at the Calculus III level and above should find it understandable and interesting.

**Dr. Siehler assures us that this misspelling of probability is intentional.

October Puzzle: The Rice Cooker

Dan is camping out by a clear mountain stream and decides to make some rice. The cooking directions ask for 1 quart of water, but Dan has only a 7-quart jug and an 11-quart jug. He hates dry rice and he hates sticky rice. How can he measure out exactly 1 quart of water?

KME Meeting

The next KME meeting will be Wednesday, November 14, from 6 to 7 p.m. in DH202. Dr. Barnet will present the second part of his talk: "Shrinking a Curve by the Heat Equation." Pizza will be served.

Career Day Report

On Friday, October 19, Dr. Ray Machado was our guest speaker at the Mathematics Career Day. Dr. Machado graduated from FSU with a double major in Mathematics and Chemistry: he later earned a Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering. Dr. Machado currently works at Air Products & Chemicals, Inc., a Fortune 500 company located in Allentown, PA.

In his talk, Dr. Machado encouraged students to seek out Summer internships and to consider getting a double major in order to broaden their experience for future employment and/or graduate school applications. Summer internships can be found in government, industry, and research programs by using web searches, talking to professors, and contacting Human Resource/Public Relations departments at companies in which you are interested.

Dr. Machado thinks that there will be an increasing demand for statisticians, in areas such as product development, process control, and data mining. Entry-level salaries typically range from \$40,000 to \$70,000 depending your education level.

Applied Mathematics courses are extremely useful for working in industry, and students were encouraged to considered an advanced degree in another field (e.g., engineering or economics). Dr. Machado also stressed the importance of communication skills, and he said that both initiative and team work were important.

Answer to September's Puzzle

Puzzle: Arrange eight 8's into integers in such a way that their sum is 1,000.

Solution: $888 + 88 + 8 + 8 + 8 = 1,000$.