

Thursday at 4pm in the Nesbitt Room
Free Pizza and Pop

How to Multiply Martin Strauss

Abstract for 15 September 2011

How do computers multiply large numbers, quickly? Grade-school multiplication of two big numbers takes a lot of work. Remarkably, the Fast Fourier Transform algorithm makes multiplication (on a computer) almost as easy as addition. We also discuss related problems, such as quick evaluation of a degree 99 polynomial on 100 points, quickly finding the unique degree 99 polynomial through a given set of 100 points, and modular remaindering of numbers and polynomials.

