

# Michigan Math Club

Thursday at 4pm in the Commons

Free Pizza and Pop

## Mersenne Primes and Elliptic Curves

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Abstract for 7 April 2011

The largest prime numbers known to man are primes of the form  $2^n - 1$ , the so called Mersenne primes. I'll explain the simple and efficient Lucas-Lehmer primality test for Mersenne numbers. I'll compare this test, which was proposed in the 19th century, with a similar primality test which was recently discovered and which uses points on elliptic curves.

