Michigan Math Club

Thursday at 4pm in East Hall 2851
(Nesbitt Room) Free Pizza and Pop

Logistical Chaos

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Abstract for 12 Jan. 2012

The logistic map $f(x) = a\,x(1-x)$ is a simple nonlinear model for the growth of a population. It is governed by a single real parameter "a". Depending on the value of the parameter, the long term behavior of the system can be either "tame" or "chaotic". I will explain what these terms mean and discuss some interesting mathematical results about this model.