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

Shuffling Cards Sufficiently

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How many riffle shuffles are needed to randomize a deck of cards? Wonderful work of Bayer and Diaconis in 1992 showed that at least seven riffle shuffles are needed, and that seven produces sufficient randomness. Their work changed the practice of casinos in shuffling cards. This talk will explore the ideas behind their work.