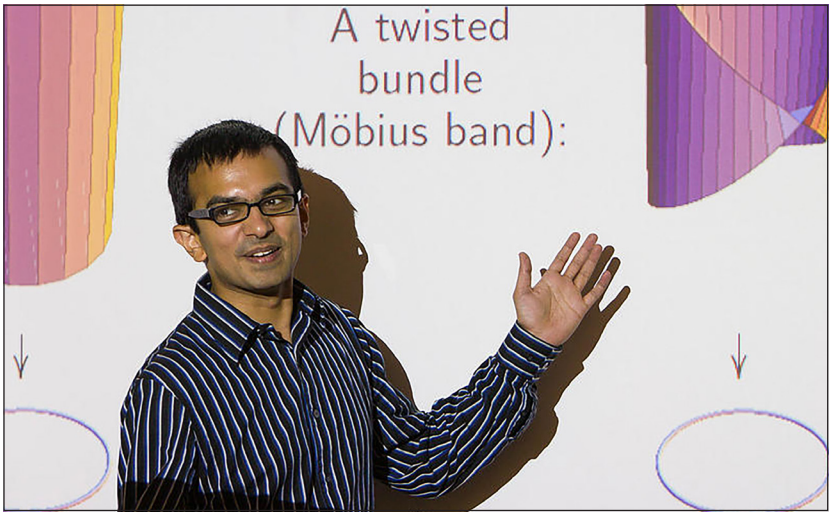
The √Radical

Mondays @ 5PM ▪ Lockett Hall 3rd Floor Lounge
September 19, 2016



Dr. Pramod Achar

Courtesy of math.lsu.edu

Executive Board

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Suggestion of the Week:

Take a 7000 level course during your junior/senior year in preparation for graduate school.

Your Math Club President,
Chandler McArthur

Q&A with Dr. Pramod Achar

Chandler McArthur: Was there some moment of revelation when you decided that you wanted to devote your life to math?

Dr. Pramod Achar: When I took point-set topology. I happened to take it instead of a Differential Equations course I was planning to take. I didn't go into college planning to be a math major. I had good grades in calculus, but it wasn't that fun. Then, I took topology, and it just blew my mind.

CM: What is the thing you wish people knew about math?

PA: Math is about finding patterns and looking for systematic explanations for things. In high school, most people learn that "math" is getting a number for an answer. Getting a number is important, but what's more important is the logic behind why what you did works.

CM: What piece of advice would you give a budding math major?

PA: One piece of advice – not just for budding math majors or majors at all, but even for established mathematicians – is to learn some math outside your interest. You might like it, and having a broader perspective makes you a better mathematician.

Mathematician of the Week: Srinivasa Ramanujan

Indian mathematician Ramanujan is world-renowned for his genius contributions to mathematics.

He conceived one of the closest ever approximations to pi from a dream where he was visited by Hindu goddess Namagiri.

$$\frac{1}{\pi} = \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{9801} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(4n)!(1103 + 26390n)}{(n!)^4 396^{4n}}$$

He also discovered "mock modular functions" which were later improved upon and used by physicists to calculate the entropy of black holes.

Dr. Susanne Brenner
Courtesy of siamcentral.mst.edu

Computational Mathematics Talk

Tuesday, September 20 @ 3:30PM
Digital Media Center Room 1034

Topics: ancient and modern computational instruments and mathematical algorithms, the role of mathematics in computing including real life examples, information on career opportunities, and the LSU computational mathematics concentration

LSU Math Club T-shirt Competition

- Winner gets a free T-shirt
- Design rules: math-related, includes "Math Club" on the shirt (can be in logo), and for front and back design, logo is preferred on the front of the t-shirt
- Design is due by the end of the semester