



Department of Mathematics and Statistics

COLLOQUIUM

Tuesday, January 14, 2014

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Moocs and Bioinformatics

Abstract: In October I attended a meeting organized by the AMS Committee on Education that had a focus on moocs and blended learning. Moocs, massive open on-line courses, have attracted much attention in recent years and several are now available in the area of mathematics and statistics. I will show some excerpts of two moocs I heard about in DC and will talk about where this idea may be headed. Another current buzzword is Informatics, a multi-disciplinary area that NAU is interested in developing on its campus. I know very little about bioinformatics but will talk about some of the things I have learned through a mooc I signed up for in the Fall, specifically the application of some of the counting methods we teach in MAT 226: Discrete Mathematics.

4:10* – 5:00 pm

Adel Math Bldg, Room 164

(refreshments at 3:45)

ACGT Seminar:

Tuesday, January 14, 12:45 – 2:00 pm, AMB 164. Speaker: Nandor Sieben (NAU undergrad), Title: Boundedness of weak animal achievement games. Abstract: Weak animal achievement games are played on an infinite chessboard. The maker and the breaker alternately mark cells of the playing board with their own colors. The maker wins if he can mark a set of cells congruent to a given goal polyomino in finitely many steps. The breaker wins otherwise. I will attempt to prove that if the maker has a winning strategy for a given goal animal, then he also has a winning strategy on a finite subboard. every scrambled 2 by 2 board can be solved in 5 moves or less.

Applied Math Seminar (AMS) will not meet.

Friday Afternoon Undergraduate Mathematics Seminar (FAMUS) will not meet, due to the holiday weekend.

* There will be a colloquium organizational meeting, where we will set the semester schedule, from 3:50 – 4:10 pm.