Jonathan Borwein

Jonathan Borwein is currently Laureate Professor at the Priority Research Centre for Computer-Assisted Research Mathematics and its Applications at the University of Newcastle, Australia. He is a pioneer and a leading expositor of the emerging field of experimental mathematics. A past president of the Canadian Mathematical Society and the recipient of numerous awards, he is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, the American Mathematical Society, and the Australian Academy of Science.

Owens Lecture

The Owens Lecture is named for the late Owen G. Owens, a former Professor of Mathematics at Wayne State University. The Lecture is supported by the Owens Fund, which was established by the family of Professor Owens. Previous speakers have included eminent mathematicians from around the world representing a wide array of interests.

Abstract

Motivated by the growing desire to visualize large mathematical data sets, and our desire especially in number theory, we offer and illustrate various "visual" tools for representing floating point numbers as planar (or three dimensional) walks and for quantitatively measuring their "randomness".

What to expect: some interesting ideas, many beautiful pictures (including a 108-gigapixel picture of π), and some easy-to-understand maths.

What you won’t get: too many equations, difficult proofs, or any "real walking".

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