# Mathematics Department Cornell University 



# K-12 Education \& Outreach Committee Report 

## August 2011 - July 2012

Committee Members

Dan Barbasch (Chair)
Robert Connelly
David Henderson
Mary Ann Huntley
Yulij Ilyashenko
Edward Swartz

## Overview

During the 2011-2012 academic year the Mathematics Department continued its tradition of offering a wide variety of outreach activities. Most of these activities were led by faculty members, graduate students, and undergraduate students in Mathematics and the Center for Applied Mathematics (CAM). The outreach targets mathematics teachers and students at local schools at all grades, with primary emphasis on the secondary level (grades 7-12).

This report is organized around two major areas of focus - teacher development activities and outreach to the local community. Compared with past years, this year there has been increased attention on assessing the outreach activities and obtaining information about ways to improve the outreach activities. This information is included in the report.

A summary of the outreach activities that were offered over the past year is in Appendix A. Altogether, 68 people offered outreach activities that were sponsored by the Mathematics Department. An alphabetical list of these people is in Appendix B. Appendix C contains this list sorted by outreach activity.

The K-12 Education and Outreach Committee has put a proposal forward to the faculty in the Mathematics Department to establish two outreach awards. One award is for graduate students, and the other is for faculty. These awards will recognize the important contributions made by people in the Department to K-12 education and outreach to the local community. The faculty will vote on this proposal in Fall 2012.

Beginning in Fall 2012 there will be some major changes to mathematics education, both locally and nationally, that will affect our professional development offerings from the Mathematics Department. Ithaca City School District has adopted Singapore Math as its elementary school textbook series. The content and pedagogical approach of these books is quite different than the Everyday Math books that have been used by the district's teachers over the past several years. In addition, all grades K-12 New York State teachers, and teachers in most other states across the country, will begin implementing the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics (CCSS-M). ${ }^{1}$ For the 2011-12 school year, both instruction and assessments will remain focused on the New York State Learning Standards in Mathematics that were approved in 2005; however, it is expected that every teacher will implement at least one Common Core-aligned instructional unit this academic year. At the start of the 2012-13 school year, it is expected that all mathematics instruction will be aligned to the Common Core, and students will be assessed using tests that are aligned with the CCSS-M starting in the 2012-13 school year.

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## 1. Teacher Development Activities

The Department of Mathematics and the Center for Applied Mathematics assists mathematics teachers and students at several local schools at all grades, with primary emphasis on the secondary level (grades 7-12). Faculty, graduate students, and undergraduate students participated in several teacher development activities over the past year. Each is described in more detail on the following pages.

## A. MATH 5080: Mathematics for Secondary School Teachers

During the 2011-2012 academic year, the Mathematics Department hosted four full-day Saturday professional development workshops for secondary mathematics teachers. Attendance at the workshops ranged from 12-27 people per session. Over the course of the year, workshop participants included 46 people ( 22 teachers from 13 different schools, 18 faculty and students from two colleges/universities, and 6 others).

Table 1. MATH 5080 Attendees, 2011-2012

| AFFILIATION | Number of Participants |
| :--- | :---: |
| Auburn High School | 1 |
| Chenango Valley High School | 1 |
| Cornell University | 15 |
| DeWitt Middle School | 1 |
| Fayetteville-Manlius High School | 1 |
| Ithaca College | 3 |
| Ithaca High School | 4 |
| Lansing Middle School | 3 |
| Math \& Physics Exploration | 2 |
| Moravia High School | 1 |
| Parametric Technology Corporation | 1 |
| Retired (Ithaca High School) | 1 |
| Roland Park School (Baltimore) | 1 |
| Skaneateles High School | 1 |
| Susquehanna Valley Elementary School | 1 |
| Susquehanna Valley Middle School | 2 |
| TST BOCES | 1 |
| Union-Endicott High School | 4 |
| Waverly High School | 1 |
| Other (independent consultant) | 1 |

At the April $21^{\text {st }}$ workshop we celebrated David Henderson's contributions to mathematics education in general, and to the local mathematics education community in particular. Some photos from the event are below.


Severin Drix (Ithaca High School) with David Henderson


David Henderson with David Bock (retired, Ithaca HS, Cornell)


David Henderson with Eric Robinson (Ithaca College)


Dick Furnas (Cornell) with David Henderson

The syllabus and full agendas for the workshops are on the pages that follow. One presenter, Robert Morrison, graduated from Cornell University with a major in mathematics (Class of 1956).

Cornell University<br>K-12 Education and Outreach, Mathematics Department

## MATH 5080

## Mathematics for Secondary School Teachers

 (aka "Saturday Workshops for Teachers")Fall 2011 - Spring 2012

## Instructor Information

Dr. Mary Ann Huntley
Office: 216 Malott Hall
Phone: (607) 255-5529
E-Mail: huntley@math.cornell.edu

## Course Information

Meeting Room: 406 Malott Hall
Meeting Time: $9 \mathrm{am}-2: 30 \mathrm{pm}$
Meeting Dates
Fall 2011: Oct. 1 \& Nov. 19
Spring 2012: to be determined

## Course Overview

Since 1985, during each academic year the Cornell Mathematics Department has offered a series of four full-day workshops for secondary mathematics teachers. Other people who are interested in issues related to the teaching and learning of secondary mathematics (e.g., mathematics preservice teachers, mathematics undergraduate and graduate students, and mathematicians) are also welcome to attend. During workshop sessions participants examine principles underlying the content of the secondary school mathematics curriculum, including connections with the history of mathematics, technology, and mathematics education research. Prior to each workshop a detailed agenda will be posted online (www.math.cornell.edu/Community/community.html). Participation at one workshop is not prerequisite to attending another.

## Registration, Credit, and Costs

To register for a workshop, send e-mail to or phone the instructor indicating your interest. There are two options for receiving credit for MATH 5080.

1. Teachers may receive 1 Cornell University graduate credit for attending three of the four workshops offered during an academic year. This option entails registering for the course during the spring semester, which includes paying a $\$ 100$ registration fee and completing paperwork from the Office of Continuing Education.
2. Teachers qualify for $5 \frac{1}{2}$ in-service hours per workshop. For this option, there is no cost for attending the workshops.

## Special Notes

Free parking on Saturdays is available on campus along Tower Road and also in the parking garage that is two blocks away from Malott Hall. (For more information about parking, please see: http://www.transportation.cornell.edu/tms/cms/parking/maps). Prior to any workshop meeting, please let the instructor know if you require any special accommodations.

## Cornell University

## K-12 Education and Outreach, Mathematics Department

MATH 5080<br>Mathematics for Secondary School Teachers October 1, 2011<br>9:00 am - 2:30 pm<br>406 Malott Hall

8:45-9:00 Welcome (juice and bagels provided)
9:00-9:15 Introductions
9:15-12:00 Getting a Grip on the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics
Eric Robinson (Ithaca College) \& Mary Ann Huntley (Cornell University)
Come learn more about the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics (CCSSM)! What is different about this set of standards compared with past reforms? Why is there so much excitement concerning the "Standards for Mathematical Practice?" What are some resources for implementing the CCSSM? What's the buzz about the NYS assessments in 2014 that will be aligned with the CCSSM?

12:00-12:30 Lunch (provided)
12:30-1:30 The Mathematics of Magic Tricks
John Maceli (Ithaca College)
Many card tricks are based on properties of numbers. Several examples will be provided that you can try with your students.

1:30-2:30 Fostering Collaborations between Local Mathematics Teachers and the Cornell Mathematics Department Mary Ann Huntley \& Dan Barbasch (Cornell University)
This session will consist of a discussion between K-12 teachers and mathematicians about how to better target our outreach resources. We will solicit your ideas about ways we can collaborate and how our mutual interests can be met. Come share your views!

RSVP to Mary Ann Huntley by noon on Wed., Sept. 28 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ if you plan to attend. E-mail: huntley@math.cornell.edu Phone: (607) 255-5529

# Cornell University <br> K-12 Education and Outreach, Mathematics Department 

MATH 5080<br>Mathematics for Secondary School Teachers<br>November 19, 2011<br>9:00 am - 2:30 pm<br>406 Malott Hall

8:45-9:00 Welcome (juice and bagels provided)
9:00-9:15 Introductions
9:15-11:00 Digital Natives \& the NTCM Communication Standards Chris Hartmann (PTC)
From their phones to their laptops, today's students (aka "Digital Natives") demonstrate facility using keyboards to communicate their ideas, their feelings, and their homework. Mathcad Prime, a whiteboard environment designed for scientific and mathematical communication, enables users to combine text, numeric and symbolic calculations, data tables, graphs, and symbolic tools in a single document. This hands-on workshop will focus on ideas for using Mathcad Prime to improve students' mathematical and scientific communication skills, as recommended in NCTM's Principles and Standards for School Mathematics (2000). What could your students do with a word processor that had a graphing calculator built into it? You will find out in this workshop!

## 11:00-12:15 Allowing Children to Understand Math Irvin M. Miller \& Robert L. Morrison (Math \& Physics Exploration)

This session will focus on demonstrating how elementary mathematics lessons are intertwined with middle- and high-school topics. We will show how to introduce proofs and teach effective study and learning techniques. A mechanical implementation of the $3 \times 3$ magic square will be used as a model.

## 12:15-12:45 Lunch (provided)

## 12:45-2:15 Reaching Recalcitrant High School Students Irvin M. Miller \& Robert L. Morrison (Math \& Physics Exploration)

In this session we will discuss how rate problems provide a foundation for geometry and fractions, and how the binomial expansion and the distributive rule ties mathematics together. We will take the binomial expansion into trigonometry, geometry, algebra, and calculus, thus showing the importance of complex numbers. We will augment this with a discussion of how the magic square develops productive habits for studying, learning, and thinking.

2:15-2:30 Wrap Up
RSVP to Mary Ann Huntley by 5 PM on Wed., Nov. $16^{\text {th }}$ if you plan to attend. E-mail: huntley@math.cornell.edu Phone: (607) 255-5529

## Cornell University

## K-12 Education and Outreach, Mathematics Department

MATH 5080<br>Mathematics for Secondary School Teachers<br>March 10, 2012<br>9:00 am - 2:30 pm<br>406 Malott Hall

8:45-9:00 Welcome (juice and bagels provided)

## 9:00-9:15 Introductions

9:15-11:00 You are so mean! What mean do you mean?! Severin Drix (Ithaca High School) \& Mircea Pitici (Cornell University)
The most common means (arithmetic, geometric, harmonic, quadratic) are many centuries old and ubiquitous in mathematics, from elementary uses to more advanced applications. Here we will look at the means from several perspectives; we define the means and explore their connections with geometry, music, algebraic inequalities, equations-and even mention some unsolved problems involving the means.

## 11:00-12:00 Helping Students see the Beauty in Mathematics Lee Kaltman (DeWitt Middle School)

We all love math—that's why we teach it. Unfortunately, our students don't always feel the same way. Over the past seven years Lee has taught sixth-grade mathematics in two distinctly different school districts. He will share specific strategies he has used with students who have a predisposition to disliking math.

12:00-12:30 Lunch (provided)

## 12:30-2:15 Mathematical Models: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly Alexander Vladimirsky (Cornell University)

Mathematical modeling provides a natural gateway into mathematics for students who might otherwise be uninterested in the subject. From a non-mathematician's point of view, models are useful only if they help to answer specific questions about the modeled ("real-world") systems. Thus, in designing models, it is crucial to be aware of their range of applicability and the modeling/simplification artifacts. In the second half of this session, Alex will present a gallery of models (e.g., severed nerves and motion of fingers; energy release in nuclear explosions; patterns in gas convection; flocking of birds; different methods of rounding and their effect on congressional elections; cell divisions and soap bubbles; pedestrian traffic and stability of bridges).

RSVP to Mary Ann Huntley by Wednesday, March $7^{\text {th }}$ if you plan to attend. E-mail: huntley@math.cornell.edu Phone: (607) 255-5529

## Cornell University

## K-12 Education and Outreach, Mathematics Department

MATH 5080<br>Mathematics for Secondary School Teachers<br>April 21, 2012<br>9:00 am - 2:30 pm<br>406 Malott Hall

8:45-9:00 Welcome (juice and bagels provided)

## 9:00-9:15 Introductions

## 9:15-10:45 Education of a Model Student Tim Novikoff (Cornell University)

While working as a PhD student in applied math at Cornell, former high-school math teacher Tim Novikoff created a popular flashcard-based iPhone app for studying vocabulary words. For the app he devised a simple algorithm to determine the exact sequence of flashcards shown to the user. Pondering the algorithm led him to ask novel questions about constructing mathematical sequences that satisfy certain constraints. Tim will present the accessible results of the mathematical investigation, including some puzzle-like mathematical questions that came out of it.

## 11:00-12:30 Look in Your Experiences for the Meanings of Mathematics David Henderson (Cornell University)

David believes that the meaning of everything in mathematics comes from our human experiences; and, thus, we should look to our experiences to find meanings of mathematics. School textbooks and state standards still routinely provide definitions that block students' access to meanings; e.g., a popular high school geometry text defines "rotation" as "the product of two reflections over intersecting lines." In this talk, David will provide other examples and discuss how the experiences of mathematicians are needed to help school mathematics change its definitions and rules to bring out meanings, especially meanings that translate well to higher mathematics and various applications.

12:30-1:00 Lunch (provided)

## 1:00-2:30 Surfing the Data Deluge <br> Math Awareness Month Public Lecture-228 Malott Hall Paul Velleman (Cornell University)

Drowning in data?! Come hear Paul Velleman, author of popular high-school textbooks and software packages for statistics, talk about how to stay on top of the data deluge.

RSVP to Mary Ann Huntley by 2 pm Friday, April $13^{\text {th }}$ if you plan to attend. E-mail: huntley@math.cornell.edu Phone: (607) 255-5529

## B. Other Professional Development Activities

## i. The Algebra Project

David Henderson (Math Department) continued his work writing special experientialbased high-school curriculum materials and working with teachers across the country as part of The Algebra Project, which serves students who are performing in the bottom quartile on state and national tests. His geometry curricular materials have been used in NY, CA, OH, MI, IL, MD, SC, FL, VA, and MS. For more detail about Henderson's work with the Algebra Project and its curriculum materials, see http://www.math.cornell.edu/~henderson/AP/index.html.

## ii. Cornell University - Ithaca City School District Networking and Resource Fair

Mary Ann Huntley (Math Department) served on the planning committee, and participated in the inaugural Cornell University - Ithaca City School District Networking and Resource Fair. The fair was held at Ithaca High School on October 7, 2011. The purpose of the fair was to increase teachers' awareness of and promote effective utilization of outreach personnel and resources at Cornell. All Ithaca City School District teachers were required to attend. An article about the fair is online (http://www.news.cornell.edu/stories/Oct11/ResourceFair.html).

## iii. Ithaca City District-Wide Math Committee

Mary Ann Huntley (Math Department) served on the Ithaca City District-Wide Math Committee. This working group reviewed critical data to better understand overall mathematics student achievement in grades PreK-12 and to consider recommendations to positively impact mathematics achievement in the district. The work accomplished by this group was shared with the Board of Education's subcommittee for Curriculum and Instruction.

## iv. Advising Students

Mary Ann Huntley (Math Department) discussed career options and advised several undergraduate and graduate students who are interested in pursuing careers teaching mathematics.

## 2. Outreach to the Local Community

Faculty, graduate students, and undergraduate students participated in a wide range of activities serving the local community. Each is described in more detail on the following pages.

## A. Mathematics Tutoring

As outlined in Table 2, Mary Ann Huntley (Math Department) organized tutoring at six local schools and one prison. ${ }^{2}$ Tutoring was offered in a variety of formats (e.g., inclass tutoring, after-school tutoring, and one-on-one).

Table 2. Tutoring Sites and Structure

| Site | Structure |
| :--- | :--- |
| Belle Sherman Elementary School | - In-class tutoring <br> - After-school SIFE Program (a program, run by <br> Cornell's Cooperative Extension, for Students <br> with Interrupted Formal Educations) |
| Ithaca High School | - In-class tutoring <br> - Math Labs (an extra period of mathematics for <br> those students who did not perform well on the <br> prior year's standardized test) |
| MacCormick Secure Facility | • In-class tutoring |
| Newfield Central Schools <br> (Middle \& High Schools) | - After-school tutoring |
| New Roots Charter School | - 1-1 or 1-2 tutoring |
| South Hill Elementary School | - 1-1 tutoring for a student performing above <br> grade level |

Tutors benefited in two ways from our working relationship with Cornell's Public Service Center (PSC). First, to overcome the challenge of transportation to sites that are not accessible by walking or by using TCAT, people who tutored at the MacCormick Secure Facility borrowed a PSC van for transportation to and from that site. ${ }^{3}$ Second, one undergraduate took advantage of PSC's America Counts Program, in which federal work study students who work with students (two-thirds of whom are in $9^{\text {th }}$ grade or below) can tutor for their work-study assignment.

As outlined in Table 3, the tutors included 18 people: one faculty member, six graduate students, and 11 undergraduates. They spent approximately 135 hours tutoring local students. An ongoing challenge is the small number of students who show up to receive tutoring. To address this problem, we request increased communication with the teachers and administrators who serve as on-site coordinators.

[^1]Table 3. Mathematics Tutors

| Name | Status | Field | Semester | Tutoring Site | Hours |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Xiaodong Cao | Faculty | Math | Spring 2012 | Belle Sherman (in class) | 3 |
| Chi-Kwong (Alex) Fok | Graduate Student | Math | Spring 2012 | Newfield | 4 |
| Sarah lams | Graduate Student | CAM | Spring 2012 | Belle Sherman (in class) | 5.5 |
| Kyle Wilson | Graduate Student | CAM | Spring 2012 | South Hill | 12 |
| Ka Yue (Daniel) Wong | Graduate Student | Math | Spring 2012 | MacCormick | 9 |
| Chenxi Wu | Graduate Student | Math | Spring 2012 | Ithaca High (Math Lab) | 1.5 |
| Steven Zimmerman | Graduate Student | Atmospheric Sciences | Spring 2012 | MacCormick | 9 |
| Ye An | UG Junior | Math | Fall 2011 | Ithaca High (Math Lab) | 2.25 |
| Brittany Dombrowski | UG Junior | Math, Economics | Spring 2012 | Ithaca High (Math Lab) | 32 |
| Melissa Fiore | UG Junior | Math, Economics | Spring 2012 | Ithaca High (Math Lab) | 7.5 |
| Brandon Hartstein | UG Senior | Math | Spring 2012 | MacCormick | 6 |
| Katherine McCulloh | UG Senior | Math | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Fall 2011, } \\ & \text { Spring } 2012 \end{aligned}$ | Belle Sherman (SIFE Program) | 22.5 |
| Benjamin Nachman | UG Senior | Math, Physics, Economics | Fall 2011 | Belle Sherman (SIFE Program) | 6 |
| Andrew Peterson | UG Junior | Economics | Spring 2012 | Belle Sherman (in class) | 5.5 |
| Eric Primozic | UG Sophomore | Math | Spring 2012 | New Roots | 5 |
| Steven Santos | UG Senior | Math, Physics | Spring 2012 | New Roots | 6 |
| Andrew Simon | UG Junior | Math, Economics | Spring 2012 | Ithaca High (Math Lab) | 6.75 |
| Keyi Wu | UG Freshman | Math | Spring 2012 | Ithaca High (in class) | 0.75 |

Surveys are administered to tutors at the beginning and end of each semester. Before tutoring begins, tutors are asked what they hoped to gain by participating in the tutoring program. Responses included wanting to help others, learning more about and giving back to the community surrounding Cornell, and obtaining teaching experience. At the end of the semester they are asked about the ways in which they benefited from participating in the tutoring. Responses included getting a sense of fulfillment while having fun helping others learn mathematics, learning how to explain elementary concepts to younger children, and having an opportunity to revisit content they had not seen in many years.

## B. Ithaca High School Senior Seminar

The Senior Seminar is a class on advanced mathematics designed for students who have taken most of the mathematics classes available at Ithaca High School. It meets at the high school for one period during school hours three days a week. The purpose of the Senior Seminar is to introduce students to topics that they would typically not see until college, and to increase the number of high school students who major in mathematics in college. This year's Senior Seminar was funded by the Mathematics Department, the Center for Applied Mathematics, and the NSF-funded outreach grant (EMSW21-MCTP: High-School Outreach Programs, NSF Award \#0602193). Dan Barbasch (Math Department) organized the seminar and observed occasionally.

There are two major activities of the Senior Seminar. The first part consists of three graduate students each teaching an eight week mini course. Descriptions of the mini courses offered by the graduate students in 2011-2012 are outlined in Table 4.

## Table 4. Senior Seminar Topics, Instructors, and Course Descriptions

[^2]The second major activity of the Senior Seminar consists of the high-school students doing projects under the direction and with the mentoring of the graduate students. The projects are proposed and supervised by the Senior Seminar instructors. While by no means new research, the projects enable students to explore topics of interest.

The Senior Seminar culminates in oral presentations of the project results. In past years these presentations were held at Ithaca High School. To increase interactions between the high-school students and members of the Cornell Math Department, this year the presentations were held at Cornell on Saturday, May 19. Altogether 22 people attended the event. Two photos and the agenda from the event are shown below.


Ithaca High School Senior Seminar Participants

1st Row
Emmett Kotlikoff, Max Yavitt, Daniel Lee

2nd Row
Kengo Onishi, Austin
Nielsen, Anwar Omar, Lucas
Hahn, Severin Drix (teacher)
3rd Row
Mark Cerenzia, Mircea Pitici, Anoop Grewal (graduate student mentors)


Ithaca High School students Max Yavitt \& Kengo Onishi explain catenoid soap surfaces
http://chronicle.cornell.edu/
Jason Koski/University Photography

# 2012 Ithaca High School Senior Seminar Student Research Presentations 

Saturday, May 19, 2012<br>10:00 am - 2:30 pm<br>406 Malott Hall

10:00-10:05 WelcomeSeverin Drix (Ithaca High School)Mary Ann Huntley (Cornell University)
10:10-10:40 Central Limit TheoremDaniel Lee (Ithaca High School)Mark Cerenzia (Cornell University)
10:45-11:35 Catenoid Soap Surfaces
Kengo Onishi \& Max Yavitt (Ithaca High School) Anoop Grewal (Cornell University)
11:45-12:15 Lunch (provided)
12:25-1:15 ArbelosAustin Nielsen \& Emmett Kotlikoff (Ithaca High School)Mircea Pitici (Cornell University)
Minimum Distance on the Temperature-Distorted DiskAnwar Omar \& Lucas Hahn (Ithaca High School)Anoop Grewal (Cornell University)
2:15-2:30 Final RemarksSeverin Drix (Ithaca High School)Edward Swartz, Mircea Pitici, \& Anoop Grewal (Cornell University)

RSVP to Mary Ann Huntley by 4 pm Tuesday, May $15^{\text {th }}$ if you plan to attend. E-mail: huntley@math.cornell.edu Phone: (607) 255-5529

## C. Mathematics Awareness Month

This year's theme for Math Awareness Month was "Mathematics, Statistics, and the Data Deluge." Consistent with this theme, Paul Velleman (Associate Professor, Department of Social Statistics, School of Industrial and Labor Relations) gave a public lecture on April 21, 2012 entitled, Surfing the Data Deluge. Approximately 35 people attended the lecture, which was planned to coincide with the final workshop of the semester for local mathematics teachers (MATH 5080). The public lecture was videotaped. The flyer for the event and an article that was published in the Cornell Chronicle are shown below.


Paul Velleman, Cornell University

## Surfing the Data Deluge

Are you worried that you might drown in the data deluge? A few insights can help you stay afloat. You need to understand:

- How to look at data,
- Why randomness is better than certainty,

- How to protect yourself from the most dangerous equation in history,
- Why statistics is about ethics,
- That surfing the data deluge can be fun,
- That this year's "Math Awareness Month" theme isn't about math.

1:00 PM - Bache Auditorium - 228 Malott Hall
Join us outside the auditorium at 2:15 PM for refreshments after the talk.

## CHRONICLEONLINE

April 25, 2012

## Statistics professor helps navigate the 'data deluge'

## By Farhan Nuruzzaman

Humanity is generating massive amounts of data, and extracting useful information from this deluge is extremely challenging, said Paul Velleman, associate professor of social statistics, at a public lecture April 21 in celebration of National Math Awareness Month.

In his lecture, "Surfing the Data Deluge," Velleman noted that in 2005, approximately 1 billion gigabytes of data were generated. Just five years later, it was eight times that amount. This massive


Jason Koski/University Photography Statistician Paul Velleman explains the methods researchers use to sift through the enormous amounts of data being generated. mushrooming of information will soon overwhelm our ability to store the data, Velleman said.

One way to make sense of all this data is through data mining, which uses statistical methods and computer algorithms to discover patterns. However, Velleman pointed out that without meaningful questions to guide it, data mining isn't very helpful.

A better alternative would be to "surf the deluge" and to learn to think statistically, which humans don't do naturally, he continued. Thinking statistically is often counterintuitive, he said, and can require effort.

One case where statistics can be confusing is in presidential election polls, Velleman said, as different polls give different results for predicted winners. While Gallup predicts that Mitt Romney will win the election, NBC and the Wall Street Journal predict Barack Obama.

Why do these polls give conflicting results? Individuals, samples, statistical methods and polling organizations all vary, and these can account for the discrepancies often observed in poll results, Velleman said.

To effectively examine polls, one should look at who was sampled, the size of the sample and how the question was worded, he said. For instance, respondents are more likely to reply affirmatively to a question asking whether they favor "President Obama" over whether they favor "Obama," he said.

Another area where statistical thinking can be revealing is in selecting lottery numbers, for which people often develop strategies. For instance, Velleman noted that people often use "hot" numbers -- numbers that have come up recently, or "lucky" numbers.

Velleman pointed out the futility of this approach, because the set of lottery numbers isn't just random, but is an independent event.
"There's no way pingpong balls can remember what was selected in any previous time, and either be 'hot' or be 'due' or be more random or less random," he said. "Every possible collection of five eligible numbers is equally likely."

Statistical thinking isn't about mathematical ability, Velleman concluded, but it does require thinking in ways that often don't come naturally to people. He noted that Mark Twain said he was "beguiled" by figures, leading to his oft-quoted "There are three kinds of lies: lies, damned lies and statistics." Velleman said he believes Twain was referring to an alternate definition of "beguile": "to win and hold somebody's attention, interest or devotion."
"I like to think that Twain was beguiled by arranging his figures because he discovered the truth in his data," Velleman said. "I hope that you, too, will be beguiled by statistics."

Farhan Nuruzzaman '12 is a writer intern for the Cornell Chronicle.

Also to celebrate Mathematics Awareness Month, the Mathematics Department partnered with Ithaca High School on its annual t-shirt design contest. Thirty-five highschool students submitted designs and faculty at the high school voted for their favorites. The five designs receiving the most votes were brought to Cornell (https://plus.google.com/photos/109954598780598648262/albums/5725324604201992 497?banner=pwa), where faculty, students, and staff voted for their favorite. The winning design, shown below, was developed by Ithaca High School student Sofia Escobedo-Tejado.


## D. EMSW21-MCTP: High School Outreach Programs (NSF Award \#0602193)

PI: Mary Ann Huntley (Math Department)
Co-PIs: Dan Barbasch, Kenneth Brown, Edward Swartz, Maria Terrell (Math Department)
This NSF-funded project is part of the Enhancing the Mathematical Sciences Workforce in the 21st Century (EMSW21) program, which has as its goal to increase the number of well-prepared U.S. citizens, nationals, and permanent residents who pursue careers in the mathematical sciences and in other NSF-supported disciplines. Within the EMSW21 program, this grant is part of the Mentoring through Critical Transition Points (MCTP) program. This was the final year of the grant. Major activities during the past year include the following.

1. Ithaca High School Senior Seminar (see pp. 11-13)
2. Revision \& Dissemination of Math Explorer's Club Activities

The Math Explorer's Club (MEC) activities are an online repository of independent self-contained modules that are geared toward advanced middleand high-school students. Based on feedback from teachers, three types of changes were deemed necessary in order to increase use of the activities in classroom and after-school settings. First, introductory material needs to be written to introduce the core content of the activities and to lighten the reading load. Second, the online material must be made into worksheets that teachers can print and distribute to students. Third, the activities must be correlated with the Common Core State Standards - Mathematics (CCSS-M).

To accomplish this, Jasdeep Singh Hundal (undergraduate computer science major) organized a team of undergraduates (Benjamin Greenman, Anthony Hawkins, Xing Lu, Robert Ravier, Yipu Wang, and Wendy Zeng) to do the rewriting. They chose to revise four of the activities: KenKen Puzzles, Fast Computations, Mathematics of Distance, and Error Correcting Codes.

Mary Ann Huntley (Math Department) recruited three teachers to test the revised materials: Francesca Crannell (Lansing Middle School), Benjamin Kirk (Ithaca High School), and Christine Klee (Cohen Middle School, Elmira). Feedback has been obtained, and the activities are being further revised by the undergraduates during Summer 2012. The revised modules will be posted online.

A book, entitled Adventures in Everyday Mathematics, is based on topics from the MEC activities. This book is being published by Princeton University Press. The editor of the book is Benjamin Lundell (Ph.D., 2011), and chapters are authored by former doctoral students Jason Anema (Ph.D., 2012), Jennifer Biermann (Ph.D., 2011), Saul Blanco-Rodriguez (Ph.D., 2011), Christopher Cunningham (Ph.D., 2011), Peter Luthy (Ph.D., 2012), Russ Thompson (Ph.D., 2011), and Gwyneth Whieldon (Ph.D., 2011).

## E. Johns Hopkins University's Center for Talented Youth

On October 22, 2011, Cornell University's Department of Mathematics and Center for Applied Mathematics (CAM) hosted a Johns Hopkins University Center for Talented Youth (JHU CTY) Family Academic Program. The target audience was grades 7-10 students, and every student was required to be accompanied by at least one parent/guardian. In all, 100 people attended the event -53 students and 47 parents/guardians. They came from seven states in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic regions of the United States: NJ (38), NY (31), MD (8), VA (7), MA (6), CT (6), and PA (4). The cost for attending was $\$ 95$ per person, plus associated travel expenses.

Keynote talks were given by Math Department faculty members Ravi Ramakrishna (What is Calculus?) and Timothy Healey (The Bernoullis, Euler, and the Beginnings of Calculus in Structural Mechanics). Graduate students offered three break-out sessions. ${ }^{4}$

- Networks All Around - Kathryn Sullivan (organizer), Diarmuid Cahalane, Isabel Kloumann, Dana Warmsley (CAM)
- Chaos! - Matthew Holden (organizer), Sumedh Joshi, Elizabeth Wesson, Kyle Wilson (CAM)
- Tilings - Anna Bertiger (organizer), Adam Bjorndahl, Robert Kesler, Laura Escobar Vega (Math)

Every student and every parent/guardian attended each break-out session, with roughly 15-20 participants attending each session. Parallel sessions were offered for students and parents/guardians-as each student cycled through the break-out sessions, their parent/guardian attended the same sessions but in a different room.

As part of its ongoing program evaluation, JHU CTY administered a general survey to all participants. Altogether, 81 surveys were returned, 40 from students ( $77 \%$ response rate) and 41 from parents/guardians ( $87 \%$ response rate). An indication of the program's success is captured by participants' responses to Question 4 on this survey, which asked, "Would you recommend this program to another CTY family?" The responses to this question were overwhelmingly positive, with $97.5 \%$ of students and $90 \%$ of parents/guardians saying they would recommend this program to another family.

In order to obtain detailed feedback from participants about their experiences throughout the day, the graduate student organizers administered surveys to students, parents/guardians, and presenters. A detailed report on findings is available upon request.

[^3]
## F. Cornell Math Puzzle Nights

Anastasia Raymer (Visiting Assistant Professor of Mathematics) organized monthly puzzle sessions on the first Thursday of every month during the Spring 2012 semester. During these sessions, Anastasia, together with volunteers from Cornell's Math Club, provided middle- and high-school students with a fun, enthusiastic, non-competitive environment in which to explore mathematics and to practice creative problem solving. A wide variety of puzzles were available, including some intended to expose students to new mathematical ideas. During these sessions, students were encouraged to interact with each other, as well as with the undergraduates, in brainstorming and coming up with solutions. Anastasia developed a website for this outreach activity (http://www.math.cornell.edu/~araymer/Puzzle/PuzzleNights.html). Students who attended the sessions ranged from grades 6-12. Between 2-8 students attended each session. Surveys were administered to students at the conclusion of some of the puzzle sessions. Students reported that they found the puzzles interesting and that they learned some new mathematical content.

Some flyers advertising the puzzle nights are shown below. Articles about the Math Puzzle Nights were published in the Ithaca Journal and Cornell Chronicle.


## CHRONICLEONLINE

Feb. 13, 2012

## Math Club hosts high schoolers for monthly puzzle night

## By Linda B. Glaser

Cornell's Math Club knows how to have a good time. Twice a month, the club gathers for pizza and math puzzles, cookies and camaraderie, in the fifth-floor lounge in Malott Hall. On Feb. 2, area high school students joined club members for an evening of recreational puzzles that featured rambunctious elves, mice-gobbling cats and broken toasters. The club now plans to make this a monthly outreach event.
"We wanted to give high school students a way to engage with math in a warm and welcoming atmosphere," said Tasia Raymer, visiting assistant professor of math, who suggested inviting local students.

Lansing student Shiloh Worthington said she'd been having some trouble with math and thought Puzzle Night could be useful. "It was really fun," Worthington said. "These kinds of problems are more creative than what we usually do in school. If math were more like this, I'd like it better."


Robert Barker/University Photography Visiting professor Tazia Raymer explains a math puzzle to ore oll Hall
high school students during the Math Club Puzzle Night in Mallott Hall.


Robert Barker/University Photography Math Club Puzzle Night at Mallott Hall

Former club president
Richard Gustavson '11, a mathematics graduate student at the City University of New York, recalled that the first Puzzle Night he presided over drew a big, enthusiastic crowd, which didn't surprise him. "It's a fun exercise, and it's great for the mind," said Gustavson. "When you're doing puzzles, you're really doing what mathematicians do. It's a whole different way of thinking."
Timothy Riley, assistant professor math and club adviser, said that the puzzles also help develop critical thinking beyond math. "Puzzles stretch the imagination. They often have ingenious or quirky solutions so you have to think in original ways, and they can be doorways to grander ideas." He pointed out that puzzles have even inspired new areas of research, such as the famous Seven Bridges of Königsberg problem; its solution laid the foundations of graph theory and anticipated the field of topology.

All are welcome to Puzzle Nights, which occur every other week during the semester. "This is a socia gathering as well as an intellectual exercise," said club president Nathan Jacobson '13. "People are encouraged to talk amongst themselves and discuss what they think the solution would be."
Jacobson double majors in math and philosophy because of his deep interest in logic, which he said forms the foundation of both math and philosophy. "Many people view math as computation and nothing more, but I feel that what's really crucial are the interesting proofs and truths you can discover through mathematics," he said. "The Math Club allows people to come and see that side of math."

Jacobson was quick to point out that there's nothing wrong with computation; it's what drives science and engineering. "But some people think if they're bad at computation they must be bad at math, when really there's this whole other layer to mathematics that they might be perfectly good at, and they'll never know if they don't try it."

Other Math Club activities include faculty talks, career info sessions, social events and guest lecturers. Last year's highlights featured student presentations on mathematical typesetting as well as a talk by associate professor Tara Holm, who used square dancing to introduce key ideas in topology.
"We like to integrate undergrads, grads and faculty for activities, and the Math Club is a place where this happens," said Riley.

Linda B. Glaser is staff writer for the College of Arts and Sciences
Typical problems presented at Puzzle Night
Puzzle 1: In making breakfast, Julie wants one piece of toast and her little brother wants two. Their toaster fits two pieces of bread at a time but only toasts one side of each slice. They want both sides toasted so Julie has to remove each slice, turn it over and toast again. It takes one minute for the toaster to toast one side of each slice of bread in the toaster. It took Julie four minutes to toast all three slices. When she put the toast on the table her brother complained, "Why did you do it the slow way when you know l'm hungry?" Julie wonders if it is possible to toast both sides of three slices of bread in less than four minutes? Is it? If so, how?

Puzzle 2: Tim's grandma makes him an apple pie. He knows that with one straight cut he can divide the pie into two pieces, and that if he make a second straight cut he can divide the pie into four pieces. Tim looks at the pie after making two straight cuts and observes that he can produce at most seven pieces of pie with a third straight cut. What is the largest number of pieces of pie Tim will have after making six straight cuts?

Solutions are available at http://www.math.cornell.edu/~araymer/Puzzle/PuzzleNights.html

## G. 4-H Career Explorations Program

For 90 years, Cornell Cooperative Extension's 4-H Youth Development program has conducted an annual event for youth on the Cornell University campus. The purpose of this program, now called 4-H Career Explorations, is to provide students with exposure to academic fields and career exploration, to develop leadership skills, to provide hands-on experience in a college setting, and to introduce youth to Cornell University. This three-day event has two grade-specific tracts: University U for youth entering grades 8-9 and Focus for Teens for youth entering grades 10-12.

This year Danielle Toupo (graduate student, CAM) and Kristen Pueschel (graduate student, mathematics), led the Math Department's contribution to the University U program in a session entitled "Hands-On Math." On June 27-28, 2012, they hosted six groups of approximately 15 students each. During each session they discussed careers in mathematics and participants did two activities. The first focused on optimization (the problem was a variation of the traveling salesman problem), and the second focused on the concepts of mean, median, and probability (participants played a game similar to the popular television show "Deal or No Deal").


## 4-H Career Explorations

Danielle Toupo (graduate student, CAM) \& Kristen Pueschel (graduate student, mathematics)

## H. Other Outreach to the Local Community

## i. Presentation to Lansing High School Math Club

On March 2, 2012, Richard Rand (Math Department) gave a presentation to the Lansing High School Math Club entitled "The Ancient Egyptian Value of $\pi$ : An ancient mystery solved." It focused on the fact that the Ancient Egyptian value of $\pi$ was $\frac{256}{81}$, not $\frac{22}{7}$, the value that we often use as an approximation nowadays. He explained the mystery as to how they got this value and shed some light on it by looking at an ancient Egyptian papyrus. The talk was designed to be understandable by any high-school student. Approximately 40-50 people attended the talk, including about four adults. The students gave Richard an apple pie, and he donated to the school library a copy of the book A History of Pi.

## ii. Communicating Mathematics to the Public

Over the past year, Steven Strogatz (Math Department) spoke at Cornell, gave invited lectures, appeared on radio, had press coverage, and engaged in other outreach activities. These are listed below.

- Cornell Lectures and Service Events
- 9/14/11 - Faculty Salon with Tanner Dean's Scholars, College of Arts and Sciences
- 9/21/11: "Doing Math in Public," Bethe Ansatz, Bethe House
- Invited Lectures
- 10/11/11 - "Sync," Butler University, Woods Science Lecture Series
- 2/3/12 - "Social Networks that Balance Themselves," Math Dept., University of Rome "La Sapienza"
- 2/28/12 - "Sync", Physics Dept., University of Rome "La Sapienza"
- 5/4/12 - "Social Networks that Balance Themselves," Mathematics Dept., Oxford University
- Radio
- 8/22/11 - Big Picture Science Radio Show, "Swarm in here - or is it just me?"
Part 1: Steve Strogatz on Sync
Part 5: Chaos and Complexity
- 10/4/11 - RadioLab, "Loops," WNYC, National Public Radio
- Press Coverage
- 8/12/11 - "Orchestrated chaos: market correlations skyrocket this week," Market Watch
(http://blogs.marketwatch.com/thetell/2011/08/12/orchestrated-chaos-market-correlations-skyrocket-this-week/)
- 9/30/11 - F. Manjoo, Slate Magazine, "Will robots steal your job?" (http://www.slate.com/articles/technology/robot invasion/2011/09/robot invasion can computers replace scientists .html)
- 11/11/11 - "RIDM 2011: A Simple Rhythm (but an intriguing one)," Montreal Gazette
(http://blogs.montrealgazette.com/2011/11/11/ridm-2011-a-simple-rhythm-but-an-intriguing-one/)
- 1/24/12 - "New model shows how often to review material for flashcard programs," Cornell Chronicle
(http://www.news.cornell.edu/stories/Jan12/ModelStudent.html)
- 1/23/2012 - "Algorithmic Education (including the Mathematics of Cramming)," Wired
(http://www.wired.com/wiredscience/2012/01/algorithmic-education/)
- 1/24/2012 - "Research team applies mathematical modeling and algorithms to learning process," PhysOrg
(http://www.physorg.com/news/2012-01-team-mathematicalalgorithms.html)
- 2/3/12 - "An Israeli professor's 'Eureqa' moment," Haartez http://www.haaretz.com/weekend/magazine/an-israeli-professor-s-eurega-moment-1.410881
- Outreach
- 4/22/11 - Seed Magazine
(http://seedmagazine.com/content/article/starting over/)


## iii. Exhibit at the 2011 NY State Fair (4-H Youth Development Building)

Diarmuid Cahalane (CAM graduate student) organized an exhibition in the 4-H Youth Development Building at the 2011 NY State Fair. In developing and staffing the exhibit, Diarmuid worked with other CAM graduate students (Matt Holden, Sarah lams, Isabel Kloumann, Rocio Ruelas, and Maarika Teose) and computer science graduate students (Eoin O'Mahony and Vasu Raman). They teamed up with the Institute for Computational Sustainability and their manager, Megan McDonald, who purchased materials and organized the use of some Computer Science Department computers for demonstrations.

The overarching theme of the exhibit was that mathematics can be applied to unexpected areas, especially to help understanding when simple intuition fails us. There were four main components to the exhibit.

1. A chaotic double pendulum;
2. The Monty Hall game - a game show involving a counter-intuitive application of probability theory to arrive at the best strategy;
3. A computer game called "Lumber Rescue," which is under development by Dave Schneider, who is in systems engineering and is working on several educational games with a sustainability theme; and
4. A "coloring station," where younger children completed coloring puzzles.

Most of the visitors to the exhibit were parents with children, but there were also some groups of two to five adults with no children, and some children just wandering by. The graduate students found that they needed to be able to pitch to either age group and also to both simultaneously. People really enjoyed the Monty Hall "gameshow," but despite most of them not understanding the mathematics, they were at least convinced that it would be useful to think mathematically about this counter-
intuitive problem. The pendulum was also a big success because the presenters were able to set up a "what will happen" question about chaotic systems and have the children posit a theory before using the pendulum to do the experiment to answer the question.

## iv. Ithaca High School Math Team

Chenxi Wu (graduate student, Math Department) assisted Fred Deppe (math teacher) in coaching the Ithaca High School Math Team. Chenxi attended five practice sessions during the Spring 2012 semester. The team participated in the New York State Mathematics League (NYSML) competition, which was held April 28, 2012 at the Susquehanna Valley High School in Conklin, NY. The team took last place (out of 11 teams) in the Division A competition. The team suffered from having only six members. (A full team consists of 15 people.) The team lost many points on the individual round, but earned 44/50 points in the power round. According to Fred Deppe, "They did pretty good, all things considered."

This year the IHS Math Team endured major challenges. Students have competing demands on their time (e.g., the Math Team meetings are held the same time as the Code Red Robotics Team Meetings). Another challenge is the Ithaca Math Circle, another group of youth in the Ithaca area that prepares for math contests.

## v. AMC Competition

On February 22, 2012 the Math Department offered the 10B and 12B American Mathematics Contests (AMC), sponsored by the Mathematical Association of America. Jason Anema (graduate student, mathematics) administered the exams. Eleven students from Ithaca High School and Cascadilla School sat for the exam. Three students took the 10B exam, and eight students took the 12B exam.

## vi. Partner School - Tucson, AZ

During Fall 2011 Mary Ann Huntley (Math Department) was contacted by Suzi Hileman, ${ }^{5}$ a volunteer working with an $8^{\text {th }}$-grade math teacher in the Amphitheater School District in Tucson, AZ. Most of the students at the school are immigrants with little experience in higher education, yet the goal is to send each one to college. The math department at the school chose the lvy League as their theme, and the $8^{\text {th }}$ grade class chose to partner with Cornell University. We planned to provide mentoring and activities for the students. Lucien Clavier (graduate student, mathematics) and Jasdeep Hundal (undergraduate computer science major) provided written responses to questions that the eighth-graders posed, including choosing math/science as a field of study, college life, and their hometowns. We had planned to pilot the revised Math Explorer Club activities with this group of students, but this did not happen due to staffing changes at the school.

[^4]
## Appendix A: Summary of Mathematics Outreach Activities

| Activity | Dates | Description |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| New York State Fair 4-H Building | $\begin{aligned} & 9-2-11 \& \\ & 9-5-11 \end{aligned}$ | Over-arching theme: Math can be applied to unexpected areas, especially to aid in understanding when simple intuition fails us. Activities included the following: chaotic double pendulum, Monty Hall game, "Lumber Rescue" (a computer game under development by Dave Schneider), and a coloring station for younger children. <br> Diarmuid Cahalane, Matt Holden, Sarah lams, Isabel Kloumann, <br> Rocio Ruelas, Maarika Teose (CAM Grad Students) <br> Eoin O'Mahony, Vasu Raman (CS Grad Students) |
| MATH 5080 Saturday Workshop for Math Teachers | 10-1-11 | Getting a Grip on the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics <br> Mary Ann Huntley (Math Dept.), Eric Robinson (Ithaca College) <br> The Mathematics of Magic Tricks <br> John Maceli (Ithaca College) <br> Fostering Collaborations between Local Mathematics Teachers and the Cornell Mathematics Department <br> Dan Barbasch, Mary Ann Huntley (Math Dept.) |
| CU-ICSD Networking \& Resource Fair Ithaca High School | 10-7-11 | Approx. 600 teachers in the lthaca City School District attended the Resource and Networking Fair at Ithaca High School to learn about Cornell resources. <br> Mary Ann Huntley (Math Dept.) |
| Johns Hopkins University Center for Talented Youth <br> Family Academic Program | 10-22-11 | Keynote Talks <br> What is Calculus? <br> Ravi Ramakrishna (Math Dept.) <br> The Bernoullis, Euler, and the Beginnings of Calculus in Structural Mechanics <br> Tim Healey (Math Dept.) <br> Break Out Sessions <br> Networks All Around <br> Kathryn Sullivan, Diarmuid Cahalane, Isabel Kloumann, Dana <br> Warmsley (CAM Grad Students) <br> Chaos! <br> Matt Holden, Sumedh Joshi, Elizabeth Wesson, Kyle Wilson <br> (CAM Grad Students) <br> Tilings <br> Anna Bertiger, Adam Bjorndahl, Robert Kesler, Laura Escobar <br> Vega (Math Grad Students) |
| MATH 5080 Saturday Workshop for Math Teachers | 11-19-11 | Digital Natives \& the NTCM Communication Standards <br> Chris Hartmann (Parametric Technology Corporation) <br> Reaching Recalcitrant High School Students <br> Irvin M. Miller \& Robert L. Morrison (Math \& Physics Exploration) |
| School Tutoring | Fall 2011 | Students with Interrupted Formal Education (SIFE), an after-school program of the Cooperative Extension of Tompkins County @ Belle Sherman Elementary School <br> Katie McCulloh, Ben Nachman (Undergrads) <br> Math Labs @ Ithaca High School <br> Ye An (Undergrad) |
| Senior Seminar Ithaca High School | Fall 2011 | Special Curves <br> Mircea Pitici (Education Grad Student) <br> Axiomatic Development of Probability <br> Mark Cerenzia (Math Grad Student) |
| Ithaca City DistrictWide Mathematics Committee | Fall 2011 | Review critical data to better understand overall math student achievement PreK-12 \& consider recommendations to positively impact math achievement in the district. <br> Mary Ann Huntley (Math Dept.) |


| Partner School Tucson, AZ | Fall 2011 | Provide mentoring and activities to students at Amphitheater School District in Tucson, AZ. <br> Lucien Clavier (Math Grad Student) \& Jasdeep Hundal (Undergrad) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Math Puzzle Night Cornell University | 2-2-12 | Middle- and high-school students explore mathematics \& practice creative problem solving <br> Anastasia Raymer (Math Dept.) \& Undergraduate Math Club |
| AMC Competitions Cornell University | 2-22-12 | High-school students took the 10B \& 12B AMC Exams Jason Anema (Math Grad Student) |
| Math Puzzle Night Cornell University | 3-1-12 | Middle- and high-school students explore mathematics \& practice creative problem solving <br> Anastasia Raymer (Math Dept.) \& Undergraduate Math Club |
| Lansing High School Math Club | 3-2-12 | The Ancient Egyptian Value of $\pi$ Richard Rand (Math Dept.) |
| MATH 5080 Saturday Workshop for Math Teachers | 3-10-12 | You are so Mean! What do you mean? <br> Severin Drix (Ithaca High School) \& Mircea Pitici (Education Grad Student) <br> Helping Students see the Beauty in Mathematics <br> Lee Kaltman (DeWitt Middle School) <br> Mathematical Models: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly <br> Alexander Vladimirsky (Math Dept.) |
| Math Puzzle Night Cornell University | 4-5-12 | Middle- and high-school students explore mathematics \& practice creative problem solving <br> Anastasia Raymer (Math Dept.) \& Undergraduate Math Club |
| MATH 5080 Saturday Workshop for Math Teachers | 4-21-12 | Education of a Model Student <br> Tim Novikoff (CAM Grad Student) <br> Look in Your Experiences for the Meanings of Mathematics <br> David Henderson (Math Faculty) <br> Surfing the Data Deluge <br> Paul Velleman (ILR Faculty) |
| Math Awareness Month Public Lecture | 4-21-12 | Surfing the Data Deluge Paul Velleman (ILR) |
| Math Puzzle Night Cornell University | 5-3-12 | Middle- and high-school students explore mathematics \& practice creative problem solving <br> Anastasia Raymer (Math Dept.) \& Undergraduate Math Club |
| Senior Seminar Ithaca High School | 5-19-12 | High-school student research presentations Mark Cerenzia (Math Grad Student), Anoop Grewal (TAM Grad Student), Mircea Pitici (Education Grad Student) |
| 4-H Career Explorations Cornell University | $\begin{aligned} & 6-26-12 \\ & 6-27-12 \end{aligned}$ | University U Program Danielle Toupo (CAM Grad Student), Kristen Pueschel (Math Grad Student) |
| School Tutoring | Spring 2012 | Belle Sherman Elementary School (Students with Interrupted Formal Education (SIFE), an after-school program of the Cooperative Extension of Tompkins County) <br> Katie McCulloh (Undergrad) <br> Belle Sherman Elementary School (in-class tutoring) <br> Xiaodong Cao (Math Dept.), Sarah lams (CAM Grad Student), <br> Andrew Peterson (Undergrad) <br> Ithaca High School (Math Lab tutoring) <br> Brittany Dombrowski (Undergrad), Melissa Fiore (Undergrad), <br> Andrew Simon (Undergrad), Chenxi Wu (Math Grad Student) <br> Ithaca High School (in-class tutoring) <br> Keyi Wu (Undergrad) <br> MacCormick Correctional Facility (in-class tutoring) <br> Brandon Hartstein (Undergrad), Ka Yue (Daniel) Wong (Math Grad |


|  |  | Student), Steven Zimmerman (Atm. Sci. Grad Student) <br> New Roots Charter School (1-1 or 1-2 tutoring) <br> Eric Primozic (Undergrad), Steven Santos (Undergrad) <br> Newfield High School (after-school tutoring) <br> Chi-Kwong (Alex) Fok (Math Grad Student) <br> South Hill Elementary School (1-1 tutoring) <br> Kyle Wilson (CAM Grad Student) |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Senior Seminar <br> Ithaca High School | Spring 2012 | Calculus of Variations <br> Anoop Grewal (TAM Grad Student) |
| Math Team <br> Ithaca High School | Spring 2012 | Participate in practice sessions in preparation for the NY State <br> Mathematics League competition <br> Chenxi Wu (Math Grad Student) |
| MEC Activities | Spring 2012 | Revise absset of the online Math Explorers' Club activities. <br> Jasdeep Singh Hundal, Benjamin Greenman, Anthony Hawkins, Xing <br> Lu, Robert Ravier, Yipu Wang, Wendy Zeng (Undergrads) <br> Francesca Crannell, Benjamin Kirk, Christine Klee (Teachers) |

Appendix B: People who Offered Outreach Activities (sorted alphabetically)

| Name | Position | Major/Department | Outreach Activity |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Ye An | Undergraduate Junior | Math Major | Math Tutoring |
| Jason Anema | Graduate Student | Mathematics | AMC Competition |
| Dan Barbasch | Faculty | Mathematics | MATH 5080 |
| Anna Bertiger | Graduate Student | Mathematics | JHU CTY |
| Adam Bjorndahl | Graduate Student | Mathematics | JHU CTY |
| Diarmuid Cahalane | Graduate Student | CAM | NYS Fair, JHU CTY |
| Xiaodong Cao | Faculty | Mathematics | Math Tutoring |
| Mark Cerenzia | Graduate Student | Mathematics | Senior Seminar |
| Lucien Clavier | Graduate Student | Mathematics | Partner School in Tucson, AZ |
| Francesca Crannell | Teacher | Lansing Middle School | Math Explorers Club Activities |
| Brittany Dombrowski | Undergraduate Junior | Math \& Economics Major | Math Tutoring |
| Severin Drix | Math Teacher | Ithaca High School | MATH 5080 |
| Melissa Fiore | Undergraduate Junior | Math \& Economics Major | Math Tutoring |
| Chi-Kwong (Alex) Fok | Graduate Student | Mathematics | Math Tutoring |
| Benjamin Greenman | Undergraduate Junior | ILR | Math Explorers Club Activities |
| Anoop Grewal | Graduate Student | TAM | Senior Seminar |
| Chris Hartmann | Academic Program Manager | Parametric Technology Corp. | MATH 5080 |
| Brandon Hartstein | Undergraduate Senior | Math Major | Math Tutoring |
| Anthony Hawkins | Undergraduate Sophomore | Physics Major | Math Explorers Club Activities |
| Timothy Healey | Faculty | Mathematics, Mechanical \& Aerospace Engineering | JHU CTY |
| David Henderson | Faculty | Mathematics | MATH 5080, The Algebra Project |
| Matthew Holden | Graduate Student | CAM | NYS Fair, JHU CTY |
| Jasdeep Singh Hundal | Undergraduate Senior | Computer Science Major | Math Explorers Club Activities, Partner School in Tucson, AZ |
| Mary Ann Huntley | Faculty | Mathematics | MATH 5080, CU-ICSD Fair, Ithaca District Math Committee, Advising Students |
| Sarah lams | Graduate Student | CAM | NYS Fair, Math Tutoring |
| Sumedh Joshi | Graduate Student | CAM | JHU CTY |
| Lee Kaltman | Math Teacher | DeWitt Middle School | MATH 5080 |
| Robert Kesler | Graduate Student | Mathematics | JHU CTY |
| Benjamin Kirk | Teacher | Ithaca High School | Math Explorers Club Activities |
| Christine Klee | Teacher | Cohen M.S. (Elmira Hts) | Math Explorers Club Activities |
| Isabel Kloumann | Graduate Student | CAM | NYS Fair, JHU CTY |
| Xing Lu | Undergraduate Junior | Math \& Economics Major | Math Explorers Club Activities |
| John Maceli | Faculty | Ithaca College Math Dept. | MATH 5080 |
| Katherine McCulloh | Undergraduate Senior | Math Major | Math Tutoring |
| Irvin Miller | Volunteer (retired from IBM) | Math \& Physics Exploration | MATH 5080 |
| Robert Morrison | Volunteer (retired from IBM) | Math \& Physics Exploration | MATH 5080 |
| Benjamin Nachman | Undergraduate Senior | Math, Physics, \& Economics Major | Math Tutoring |


| Timothy Novikoff | Graduate Student | CAM | MATH 5080 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Eoin O'Mahony | Graduate Student | Computer Science | NYS Fair |
| Andrew Peterson | Undergraduate Junior | Economics Major | Math Tutoring |
| Mircea Pitici | Graduate Student | Education | MATH 5080, Senior Seminar |
| Eric Primozic | Undergraduate Sophomore | Math Major | Math Tutoring |
| Kristen Pueschel | Graduate Student | Mathematics | 4-H Career Explorations |
| Ravi Ramakrishna | Faculty | Mathematics | JHU CTY |
| Vasu Raman | Graduate Student | Computer Science | NYS Fair |
| Richard Rand | Faculty |  <br> Aerospace Engineering | Lansing HS Math Club |
| Robert Ravier | Undergraduate Junior | Math Major | Math Explorers Club Activities |
| Anastasia Raymer | Faculty | Mathematics | Puzzle Nights |
| Eric Robinson | Faculty | Ithaca College Math Dept. | MATH 5080 |
| Rocio Ruelas | Graduate Student | Computer Science | NYS Fair |
| Steven Santos | Undergraduate Senior | Math \& Physics Major | Math Tutoring |
| Andrew Simon | Undergraduate Junior | Math \& Economics Major | Math Tutoring |
| Steven Strogatz | Faculty |  <br> Aerospace Engineering | Communicating Mathematics to <br> the Public |
| Kathryn Sullivan | Graduate Student | CAM | JHU CTY |
| Maarika Teose | Graduate Student | CAM | NYS Fair |
| Danielle Toupo | Graduate Student | CAM | 4-H Career Explorations |
| Laura Escobar Vega | Graduate Student | Mathematics | JHU CTY |
| Paul Velleman | Faculty | ILR | MATH 5080, Math Awareness |
| Alexander Vladimirsky | Faculty | Mathematics | MATH 5080 |
| Yipu Wang | Undergraduate Junior | Math \& Computer Science <br> Major | Math Explorers Club Activities |
| Dana Warmsley | Graduate Student | CAM | JHU CTY |
| Elizabeth Wesson | Graduate Student | CAM | JHU CTY |
| Kyle Wilson | Graduate Student | CAM | JHU CTY, Math Tutoring |
| Ka Yue (Daniel) Wong | Graduate Student | Math | Math Tutoring |
| Chenxi Wu | Graduate Student | Math | Math Tutoring, IHS Math Team |
| Keyi Wu | Undergraduate Freshman | Math Major | Math Tutoring |
| Wendy Zeng | Undergraduate Sophomore | Math \& Economics Major | Math Explorers Club Activities |
| Steven Zimmerman | Graduate Student | Atmospheric Sciences | Math Tutoring |
|  |  |  |  |

## Appendix C: People who Offered Outreach Activities (sorted by activity)

| Name | Outreach Activity | Position | Major/Department |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Dan Barbasch | MATH 5080 | Faculty | Mathematics |
| Severin Drix | MATH 5080 | Math Teacher | Ithaca High School |
| Chris Hartmann | MATH 5080 | Academic Program Manager | Parametric Technology Corp |
| David Henderson | MATH 5080 | Faculty | Mathematics |
| Mary Ann Huntley | MATH 5080 | Faculty | Mathematics |
| Lee Kaltman | MATH 5080 | Math Teacher | DeWitt Middle School |
| John Maceli | MATH 5080 | Faculty | Ithaca College Math Dept. |
| Irvin Miller | MATH 5080 | Volunteer (retired from IBM) | Math \& Physics Exploration |
| Robert Morrison | MATH 5080 | Volunteer (retired from IBM) | Math \& Physics Exploration |
| Timothy Novikoff | MATH 5080 | Graduate Student | CAM |
| Mircea Pitici | MATH 5080 | Graduate Student | Education |
| Eric Robinson | MATH 5080 | Faculty | Ithaca College Math Dept. |
| Paul Velleman | MATH 5080, | Faculty | ILR |
| Alexander Vladimirsky | MATH 5080 | Faculty | Mathematics |
| David Henderson | The Algebra Project | Faculty | Mathematics |
| Mary Ann Huntley | CU-ICSD Fair | Faculty | Mathematics |
| Mary Ann Huntley | Ithaca District Math Committee | Faculty | Mathematics |
| Mary Ann Huntley | Advising Students | Faculty | Mathematics |
| Ye An | Math Tutoring | Undergraduate Junior | Math Major |
| Xiaodong Cao | Math Tutoring | Faculty | Mathematics |
| Brittany Dombrowski | Math Tutoring | Undergraduate Junior | Math \& Economics Major |
| Melissa Fiore | Math Tutoring | Undergraduate Junior | Math \& Economics Major |
| Chi-Kwong (Alex) Fok | Math Tutoring | Graduate Student | Mathematics |
| Brandon Hartstein | Math Tutoring | Undergraduate Senior | Math Major |
| Sarah lams | Math Tutoring | Graduate Student | CAM |
| Katherine McCulloh | Math Tutoring | Undergraduate Senior | Math Major |
| Benjamin Nachman | Math Tutoring | Undergraduate Senior | Math, Physics, \& Economics Major |
| Andrew Peterson | Math Tutoring | Undergraduate Junior | Economics Major |
| Eric Primozic | Math Tutoring | Undergraduate Sophomore | Math Major |
| Steven Santos | Math Tutoring | Undergraduate Senior | Math \& Physics Major |
| Andrew Simon | Math Tutoring | Undergraduate Junior | Math \& Economics Major |
| Kyle Wilson | Math Tutoring | Graduate Student | CAM |
| Ka Yue (Daniel) Wong | Math Tutoring | Graduate Student | Math |
| Chenxi Wu | Math Tutoring | Graduate Student | Math |
| Keyi Wu | Math Tutoring | Undergraduate Freshman | Math Major |
| Steven Zimmerman | Math Tutoring | Graduate Student | Atmospheric Sciences |
| Mark Cerenzia | Senior Seminar | Graduate Student | Mathematics |
| Anoop Grewal | Senior Seminar | Graduate Student | TAM |
| Mircea Pitici | Senior Seminar | Graduate Student | Education |
| Paul Velleman | Math Awareness Month | Faculty | ILR |


| Francesca Crannell | Math Explorers Club Activities | Teacher | Lansing Middle School |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Benjamin Greenman | Math Explorers Club Activities | Undergraduate Junior | ILR |
| Anthony Hawkins | Math Explorers Club Activities | Undergraduate Sophomore | Physics Major |
| Jasdeep Singh Hundal | Math Explorers Club Activities | Undergraduate Senior | Computer Science Major |
| Benjamin Kirk | Math Explorers Club Activities | Teacher | Ithaca High School |
| Christine Klee | Math Explorers Club Activities | Teacher | Cohen M.S. (Elmira Hts) |
| Xing Lu | Math Explorers Club Activities | Undergraduate Junior | Math \& Economics Major |
| Robert Ravier | Math Explorers Club Activities | Undergraduate Junior | Math Major |
| Yipu Wang | Math Explorers Club Activities | Undergraduate Junior | Math \& Computer Science Major |
| Wendy Zeng | Math Explorers Club Activities | Undergraduate Sophomore | Math \& Economics Major |
| Anna Bertiger | JHU CTY | Graduate Student | Mathematics |
| Adam Bjorndahl | JHU CTY | Graduate Student | Mathematics |
| Diarmuid Cahalane | JHU CTY | Graduate Student | CAM |
| Timothy Healey | JHU CTY | Faculty | Mathematics, Mechanical \& Aerospace Engineering |
| Matthew Holden | JHU CTY | Graduate Student | CAM |
| Sumedh Joshi | JHU CTY | Graduate Student | CAM |
| Robert Kesler | JHU CTY | Graduate Student | Mathematics |
| Isabel Kloumann | JHU CTY | Graduate Student | CAM |
| Ravi Ramakrishna | JHU CTY | Faculty | Mathematics |
| Kathryn Sullivan | JHU CTY | Graduate Student | CAM |
| Laura Escobar Vega | JHU CTY | Graduate Student | Mathematics |
| Dana Warmsley | JHU CTY | Graduate Student | CAM |
| Elizabeth Wesson | JHU CTY | Graduate Student | CAM |
| Kyle Wilson | JHU CTY | Graduate Student | CAM |
| Anastasia Raymer | Puzzle Nights | Faculty | Mathematics |
| Kristen Pueschel | 4-H Career Explorations | Graduate Student | Mathematics |
| Danielle Toupo | 4-H Career Explorations | Graduate Student | CAM |
| Richard Rand | Lansing HS Math Club | Faculty | Mathematics, Mechanical \& Aerospace Engineering |
| Steven Strogatz | Communicating Mathematics to the Public | Faculty | Mathematics, Mechanical \& Aerospace Engineering |
| Matthew Holden | NYS Fair | Graduate Student | CAM |
| Matthew Holden | NYS Fair | Graduate Student | CAM |
| Sarah lams | NYS Fair | Graduate Student | CAM |
| Isabel Kloumann | NYS Fair | Graduate Student | CAM |
| Eoin O'Mahony | NYS Fair | Graduate Student | Computer Science |
| Vasu Raman | NYS Fair | Graduate Student | Computer Science |
| Rocio Ruelas | NYS Fair | Graduate Student | Computer Science |
| Maarika Teose | NYS Fair | Graduate Student | CAM |
| Chenxi Wu | IHS Math Team | Graduate Student | Math |
| Jason Anema | AMC Competition | Graduate Student | Mathematics |
| Lucien Clavier | Partner School in Tucson, AZ | Graduate Student | Mathematics |
| Jasdeep Singh Hundal | Partner School in Tucson, AZ | Undergraduate Senior | Computer Science Major |


[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ http://www.corestandards.org/assets/CCSSI_Math\%20Standards.pdf

[^1]:    ${ }^{2}$ In recent past, none of these sites had previously participated in our mathematics tutoring program.
    ${ }^{3}$ Drivers must have had their license for at least three years and go through a short training.

[^2]:    Seminar 1 (9/20/11-11/10/11): Special Curves
    Instructor: Mircea Pitici (Graduate Student, Education) We explored various special curves, with an emphasis on geometric elements; occasionally we also studied the algebraic and trigonometric properties, and pointed out the importance of the curves in applications, for instance in the theory and construction of mechanisms. All along we considered other curves related to a given curve, such as pedal curves and envelopes. We started off with a unified view of conics offered by projective geometry, mentioning several major closure theorems (due to Pascal, Brianchon, Poncelet) and a potpourri of side results. We continued by examining in detail the cycloid, a few particular epicycloids and hypocycloids (cardioid, astroid, deltoid, nephroid), and various spirals. Pressed by time, we mentioned cursorily some of the properties of limaçon, lemniscates, and ovals.
    Seminar 2 (11/15/11-1/19/12): Axiomatic Development of Probability
    Instructor: Mark Cerenzia (Graduate Student, Mathematics)
    This seminar presented the axiomatic approach to probability theory so that students could learn how mathematical machinery is built and applied. We began with a brisk introduction to relevant set theory in order to state the three axioms of probability (i.e., the definition of a measure space). We then derived typical properties one would expect when computing probabilities and showed how the framework helps us avoid pitfalls that both laymen and professionals often make. This led naturally into other core concepts, such as independence, conditional probability, Bayes' Formula, and random variables along with their important quantities (variance and expectation). Deriving everything formally from the axioms was the main feature and focus of this development.
    Seminar 3 (1/31/12-3/27/12): Calculus of Variations
    Instructor: Anoop Grewal (Graduate Student, TAM)
    We started off with the historical beginning of the subject with the famous Brachistochrone problem by Johann Bernoulli. The general solution by Euler and Lagrange was derived and discussed next. We discussed many famous applications of calculus of variations in engineering and physics, including geodesics on the plane, cylinder and sphere; Lagrangian formulation of mechanics; and the catenary curve as minimum potential energy solution.

[^3]:    ${ }^{4}$ These topics are the same as those presented at prior JHU CTY events. This was a deliberate decision, as this year Mary Ann Huntley focused on mentoring the graduate students in program evaluation, rather than having the graduate students develop new activities.

[^4]:    ${ }^{5}$ Suzi Hileman survived a gunshot wound in Tucson with Representative Gabrielle Giffords on January 8, 2011. Her mentoring program grew out of this experience with Representative Giffords. Suzi Hileman is a Cornell graduate (HuEd '73) and Gabrielle Giffords did her Fulbright work at Cornell University.

