NEWSLETTER

Department of Mathematics & Statistics

Issue No. 7/03 **Friday, 2 May 2003**

This Week:

PUBLICATION ACCEPTED

Rudge, A D, Chase, J G, Shaw, G M and Wake, G C (2003). "Improved Agitation Management in Critically Ill Patients Via Feedback Control of Sedation Administration," World Congress on Medical Physics and Biomedical Engineering, Sydney, Australia, August 24-29, 2003.

Graeme Wake

BOOK CHAPTER

D. Bryant, A. McKenzie and M. Steel The size of a maximum agreement subtree for random binary trees. In BioConsensus American Mathematical Society 2003.

Mike Steel

ANNOUNCEMENT: MATHS IN INDUSTRY COMES TO NZ

The executive of ANZIAM (= Australian and New Zealand Industrial Applied Mathematics) unanimously approved the holding of the Australian (now Australasian!!) Mathematics in Industry Study Groups in New Zealand in 2004 and 2005. The first will be held at University of Auckland, 26th-30th January 2004, and will be arranged from the Centre for Mathematics in Industry, Massey University Albany.

Graeme has agreed to be Director for these as part of his role as Adjunct Professor of Industrial Mathematics at Massey University Albany.

Graeme Wake

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to David Byatt and Gabriela Popa who have been awarded departmental research funds ($1200 and $1500) towards international conferences in July where they will present talks.

Mike Steel

FULLY FURNISHED HOUSE FOR RENT

Mid-June to mid-September. Three bedroom, fully-furnished character house in quiet street in lower Cashmere. $250 per week, plus power and phone. Contact Mike Steel.

Mike Steel

DEPARTMENTAL VISITORS

Current Visitors	Organisation	Room No.	Ext. No.	
Dr. Wim **Hordijk**	Santa Fe Institute	720	8337	
Assoc. Prof. Peter **Lockhart**	Massey University	616	8876	

NEWSLETTER PROBLEM

$\sqrt{308642}$ = 555.555577777777333333351111110222222271999990133335...

This is a fascinating but sporadic pattern.

Can it be mere coincidence; or is there some hidden "reason" for this?

Bill Taylor

MATHEMATICIAN JOKES

A mathematician went insane and believed that he was the differentiation operator. His friends had him placed in a mental hospital until he got better. All day he would go around frightening the other patients by staring at them and saying "I differentiate you!"

One day he met a new patient; and true to form he stared at him and said "I differentiate you!", but for once, his victim's expression didn't change. Surprised, the mathematician marshalled his energies, stared fiercely at the new patient and said loudly "I differentiate you!", but still the other man had no reaction. Finally, in frustration, the mathematician screamed out "I DIFFERENTIATE YOU!" The new patient calmly looked up and said, "You can differentiate me all you like: I'm ***e*** to the ***x***."

The functions are sitting in a bar, chatting (how fast they go to zero at infinity etc.). Suddenly, one cries "Beware! Derivation is coming!" All immediately hide themselves under the tables, only the exponential sits calmly on the chair.

The derivation comes in, sees a function and says "Hey, you don't fear me?"
"No, I am ***e*** to ***x***", says the exponential self-confidently.
"Well" replies the derivation "but who says I differentiate along ***x***?"

Molly