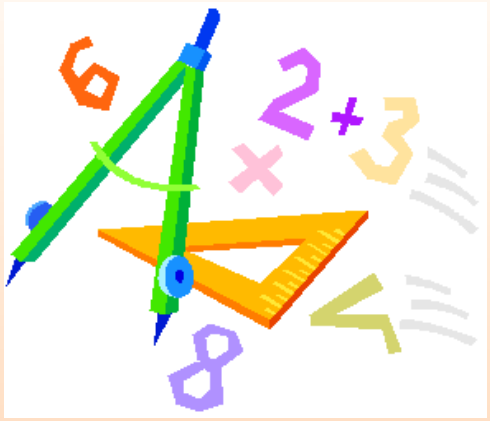


MATH HOUR @ UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

A MATH LECTURE FOR GRADES 6-10

sites.math.washington.edu/~mathcircle/mathhour

UW Seattle campus

Johnson Hall
Room 102

Pavel Etingof

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Why Did the Sun Rise on February 29 in 1996 and 2000, but Not in 1900?

Abstract: Why do 22/7 and 355/113 approximate π so much better than other fractions with similarly sized denominators? Continued fractions, which are fractions inside fractions, explain it. They also lead to the golden ratio and Fibonacci numbers, and even help us design calendars. All you need for this talk is curiosity and a little experience with fractions.

November 22, 2026
Sunday, 1-2pm