

Undergraduate Colloquium in Mathematics
Thursday, February 16nd 2PM-3PM
STV 325

The Futurama Theorem

Akman, Devin

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Imagine there's a machine that lets people swap minds. Unfortunately, once the swap is complete, the brain's immune response prevents the same people from switching back. After many switches, is it possible to restore everyone's minds to their original bodies? This unusually mathematical scenario occurs in none other than the TV show Futurama. I will prove the theorem presented in the episode 'The Prisoner of Benda' and discuss some optimality results.



