

A FOCUS ON MATHEMATICS SEMINAR

Close Enough: Solving Equations Iteratively

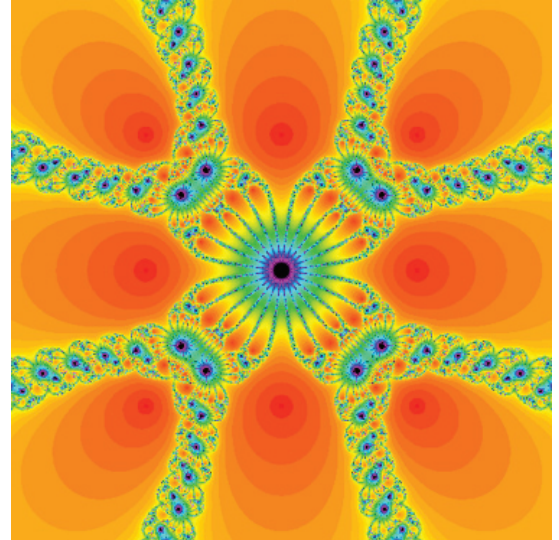
Presenters:

Matt Chedister, Waltham High School

Paul Blanchard, Boston University

Most graphing calculators come with some type of equation solver. You enter an equation and perhaps a guess for the solution, press a button, and out pops the solution. How is this done? Does the solver always work? What happens if the equation does not have a solution?

Paul Blanchard and Matt Chedister will lead us through an exploration of the equation solver to see how it works. We will also investigate alternative ways to solve equations using iterative algorithms. Along the way we will encounter both chaos and fractals. Join us in our search for solutions and bring a graphing calculator if you have one. **All teachers of all grade levels are invited.**



$$z^8 + 3z^4 = 4$$

Date: Monday, February 4, 2008
Time: 3:00 – 6:00 p.m.
Location: Waltham High School
3rd Floor Lecture Hall (#339)
617 Lexington Street, Waltham

Deadline for registration is January 30. To register, please email Karina Dymina at kdymina@edc.org.

Refreshments will be served from 3:00 to 3:20. The seminar will begin promptly at 3:30. For directions to Waltham High School, please visit www.focusonmath.org.

Focus on Mathematics is a unique partnership of mathematicians and educators from Boston University, Education Development Center, Inc., UMass Lowell, Lesley University, and five Greater Boston school districts: Arlington, Chelsea, Lawrence, Waltham, and Watertown.



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