



GOOD NEWS, EVERYONE

Mathematical Writers from *The Simpsons* and *Futurama*



MSRI's Archimedes Society invites you to this **FREE** public event
Sunday, October 16, 2005 • 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Valley Life Sciences Building's Chan Shun Auditorium
(Rm. 2050) at UC Berkeley



Did you know that *The Simpsons* and *Futurama* contain hundreds of mathematical and scientific references? Join in on a conversation with writers David X. Cohen, Ken Keeler, and Jeff Westbrook, as we discuss their mathematical backgrounds and some favorite references from the shows, along with the representation of mathematics in Hollywood.

David X. Cohen has a Bachelor's Degree in physics from Harvard University and a Master's Degree in theoretical computer science from UC Berkeley – all of which material he has now forgotten. A longtime writer for *The Simpsons*, he left to develop *Futurama* with Matt Groening, where he was the executive producer and head writer. He has won Emmy Awards for his work on both shows.

Ken Keeler has a PhD in applied mathematics from Harvard University and worked at Bell Labs before switching careers to write for David Letterman. After moving to Hollywood he wrote for both *The Simpsons* and *Futurama* and has won Writer's Guild and Emmy Awards.

Jeff Westbrook has a PhD in computer science from Princeton University. He was an associate professor of computer science at Yale University and also worked at AT&T Labs before writing for *Futurama*. He has been writing for *The Simpsons* since 2004.

Moderator

Sarah J. Greenwald has a PhD in mathematics from the University of Pennsylvania. She is an associate professor at Appalachian State University and a 2005 Mathematical Association of America Alder Award winner for distinguished teaching, including her use of popular culture in the classroom. For more information on mathematics in *The Simpsons* and *Futurama*, see simpsonsmath.com.

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