



# Pacific Institute *for the* Mathematical Sciences

PIMS MONTHLY CONNECTION | **September 2020**



## Hello from PIMS

As we enter the fall term, we continue to be amazed by PIMS' robust community!

Effective September 1, Weiran Sun (Simon Fraser University) will be joining us as a PIMS Site Director. She is taking over for Ben Adcock (Simon Fraser University). We thank Ben for his service and welcome Weiran. Click [here](#) to learn more.

Last month we wrapped up our third instalment of Diversity in Math. Over 100 high school and undergraduate students, volunteers and presenters came together for 2 weeks to participate in a virtual math camp, while increasing underrepresented groups in STEM. The finale was a presentation by John Mighton, JUMP Math, on: [All Things Being Equal: Why Math is the Key to a Better World](#).

We are thrilled with the new initiatives and budding collaborations we see emerging through our virtual world, while moving forward with excellence in research.

Sincerely,  
The PIMS Team

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## FEATURE EVENTS

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[2020 Cascade Topology Seminar](#)

**September 26 - 27: Novel Techniques in Low Dimension CRG**

The Cascade Topology Seminar is a semi-annual conference hosted in the Pacific Northwest and Western Canada. It features topology of all kinds.

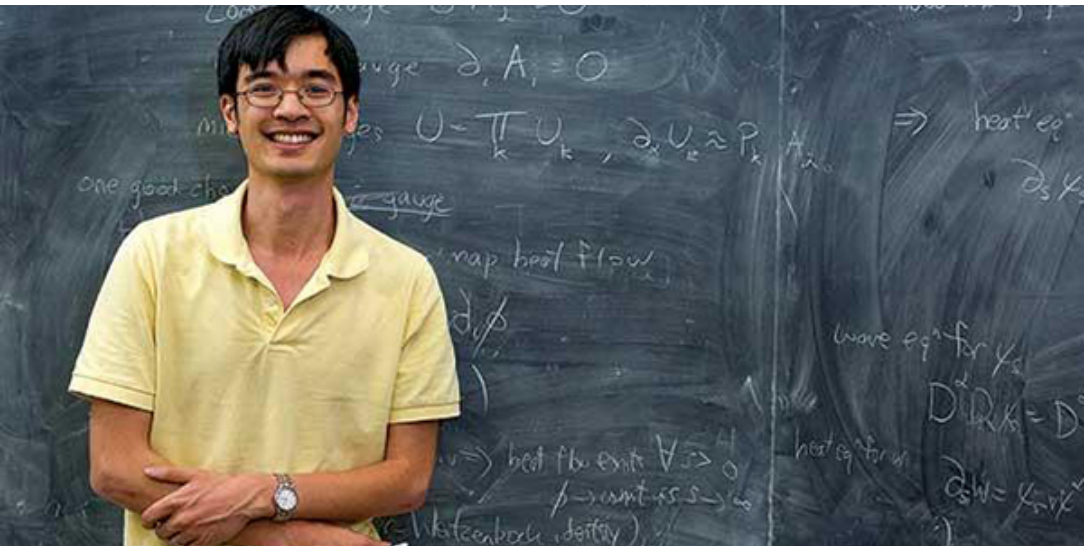
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[quanTA Seminar: Conformal field theories and quantum phase transitions: an entanglement perspective](#)

**September 30: Quantum Topology and its Applications CRG**

The first speaker will be Dr. William Witczak-Krempa of the Université de Montréal. His talk will be "Conformal field theories & quantum phase transitions: an entanglement perspective". The talk is intended for both mathematics and physics audiences and is part of the PIMS CRG in Quantum Topology and its Applications.



[Remembering Richard Guy](#)

**October 1 - 4, hosted virtually by the University of Calgary**

**October 1, 2020 Richard and Louise Guy Lecture**

**Dr. Terence Tao: *The notorious Collatz conjecture***

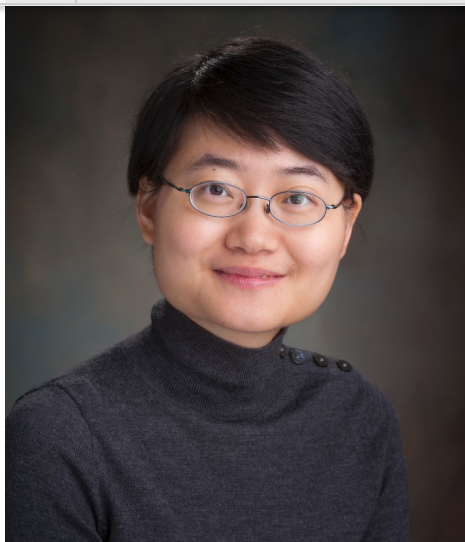
Start with any natural number. If it is even, divide it by two. If instead it is odd, multiply it by three and add one. Now repeat this process indefinitely. The Collatz conjecture asserts that no matter how large an initial number one starts with, this process eventually reaches the number one (and then loops back to one indefinitely after that).

For more lectures and PIMS resources, please visit [mathtube.org](http://mathtube.org)

[Click below for all events | September 2020](#)

Scientific

**NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**



## PIMS Welcomes a New Site Director!

Effective September 1, Professor Weiran Sun will join PIMS as a site director.

Professor Weiran Sun is an associate professor in the Department of Mathematics at Simon Fraser University. Broadly, Professor Sun's area of research is in applied analysis and partial differential equations. Her research interests are focused on kinetic theory with models arising from physics and biology. Click [here](#) to learn more.

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## Director Search

As PIMS' current director James Colliander has chosen not to seek a renewal of his term, we are now inviting applications for the position of director. The position is for a term of up to five years, to commence on July 1, 2021. More details can be found [here](#).

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## Call for Proposals: January 2021 Graduate Courses

As part of a pilot project, we invite proposals for graduate courses in the mathematical sciences to be offered in the Spring/Winter 2021 term (January - June 2021) during the 2020-2021 academic year to be selected for designation as PIMS Network-wide graduate courses. Courses will be advertised and promoted throughout the member universities and departments.

Proposals should focus on the plans for course dissemination (e.g. live-streaming, recording, or both, etc.). It is expected that students from PIMS member universities in Canada will be able to register for the courses through the Western Deans Agreement. In particular, we hope to amplify the variety of expertise in the mathematical sciences and promote courses beyond core graduate offerings. Submissions are due **September 30, 2020**. Click [here](#) to learn more.

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## PIMS Invites 2021 Activity Proposals

PIMS invites applications for support of activities in the mathematical sciences to occur after April 1, 2021, with submissions being due **October 1, 2020**. For a full listing of eligible activities, submission procedure, application forms and more information, click [here](#).

**Please note:** There is a change in procedure for seminar funding in the 2020-2021 funding cycle. Applications for PIMS supported seminars for the 2020 - 2021 academic year should be submitted by **September 15, 2020**. More details can be found [here](#).

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## PIMS COMMUNITY RECENT PUBLICATIONS

1. Karpukhin, M., & Stern, D. L. (2020). [Min-max harmonic maps and a new characterization of conformal eigenvalues](#). *arXiv preprint arXiv:2004.04086*.
2. Qi, F. (2020). [Meromorphic open-string vertex algebras and modules over two-dimensional orientable space forms](#). *arXiv preprint arXiv:2001.02318*.
3. Drimbe, D. (2020). [Solid ergodicity and orbit equivalence rigidity for coinduced actions](#). *AarXiv preprint arXiv:2003.03708*.

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## ABOUT PIMS

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The Pacific Institute for the Mathematical Sciences (PIMS) was created in 1996 to promote discovery, understanding and awareness in the mathematical sciences. PIMS

has expanded from the mathematics community of **Alberta** and **British Columbia** to include **Washington State**, **Saskatchewan** and **Manitoba**. We are proponents of mathematical **collaboration with industry**, **innovation in mathematics education** from K-12 to graduate level initiatives, **public outreach** and **partnerships** with similar organizations around the globe. We fund Collaborative Research Groups, Post-Doctoral Fellowships, individual events, and competitive prizes in mathematics.

## FOLLOW US!



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