Mathematics/Combinatorics Seminar

BEWARE!



GREMLINS ARE LURKING IN YOUR COMPUTER ALGEBRA SYSTEM

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Wednesday, March 14, 2007 @ 1:00 Math Conference Room (Tyler 219)

Summary

Potential sources of error in computer algebra systems are examined. The problems considered include software bugs, theoretical and practical limits of computation, indeterminate forms, spurious solutions, sets of measure zero, and branch cuts. The mathematical concepts and related system implementation issues are illustrated with peculiar, often amusing, results from Maple, Mathematica, and Derive.