Number theory, partitions, q-series and related research
$(npqr^2)$

SEMINAR

On Brent-Salamin Algorithm for π

Chan Heng Huat
National University of Singapore

Date: 5th August 2013 (Monday)
Time: 2.30 – 3.30 pm
Venue: MME Journal Room, NIE7 #03-16
`http://math.nie.edu.sg/pctoh/Gettinghere.jpg`

Abstract:

The Gauss' "Arithmetic-Geometric Mean" two-term recurrence is defined by

$$a_{n+1} = \frac{a_n + b_n}{2} \quad \text{and} \quad b_{n+1} = \sqrt{a_n b_n},$$

where $0 < b_0 \leq a_0$. In 1976, R. Brent and E. Salamin discovered independently an efficient algorithm for computing π using Gauss' "AGM" recurrence. The Brent-Salamin algorithm states that if $a_0 = 1, b_0 = 1/\sqrt{2}$ and

$$\pi_n = \frac{2a_n^2}{1 - \sum_{j=0}^{n} 2^j (a_j^2 - b_j^2)},$$

then π_n increases monotonically to π. In this talk, we will give a proof of the Brent-Salamin algorithm and present some new algorithms. One of our algorithms is the following: Let $\breve{a}_0 = 1$ and $\breve{b}_0 = 1/\sqrt{2}$. Let

$$\breve{a}_{n+1} = \frac{\breve{a}_n + 3\breve{b}_n}{4}, \; \breve{b}_{n+1} = \sqrt{\frac{\breve{b}_n(\breve{a}_n + \breve{b}_n)}{2}}$$

and

$$\breve{\pi}_N = \frac{2\sqrt{2}\breve{a}_N}{1 - \sum_{j=0}^{N} 2^j (\breve{a}_j - \breve{b}_j)}.$$

Then $\breve{\pi}_N \mapsto \pi$.

Organized by: Mathematics and Mathematics Education, NIE
Contact: Toh Pee Choon (peechoon.toh@nie.edu.sg)