

Mathematics Colloquium

How mathematics allows you to shop online safely

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Friday, May 19, 2023
4:10 – 5 pm
Building 180, Room 112

Abstract

Everytime you pick up your phone to send a text, shop at amazon, or any other situation that involves transmitting information privately, you are using mathematics. In this talk we will learn the differences between symmetric and asymmetric encryption. We will look at some simple ways of encrypting information, as well as discuss how public key exchange is currently done. This talk is aimed squarely at students!

About the speaker: Jim received his PhD from the University of Michigan in 2005 under the guidance of Chris Skinner. He held the positions as a VIGRE Arnold Ross Assistant Professor at the Ohio State University and the Olga Taussky - John Todd Instructor of Mathematics at Caltech, before moving to Clemson University where he was a faculty member for 10 years. He was the Gorenstein Visiting Associate Professor of Mathematics at CUNY - Queens College in 2015-16. He relocated from Clemson University to Occidental College in 2018 to become chair of the Department of Mathematics. He is currently a professor at Occidental College.