

For Immediate Release  
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**\*\*\*Media Advisory\*\*\***

## **Math + “The Simpsons”**

### ***TV comedy writers examine math in today’s pop culture***

BERKELEY, California – The Archimedes Society of the Mathematical Sciences Research Institute (MSRI) invites the public to attend a free forum with writers from “The Simpsons” and “Futurama” -- David X. Cohen, Ken Keeler, and Jeff Westbrook -- who all have advanced degrees in either mathematics or computer science. The panelists’ freewheeling conversation, moderated by Sarah J. Greenwald, will examine the role of math in the long-running “Simpsons” series.

The discussion begins at 2 p.m. on Sunday, October 16, in the Valley Life Sciences Building’s Chan Shun Auditorium on the UC Berkeley campus.

“It’s remarkable that mathematicians have infiltrated the heart of a show like ‘The Simpsons,’ ” said MSRI Director David Eisenbud. “The math jokes are wonderfully subtle.”

- What:** “Good News, Everyone! Mathematical Writers from the Simpsons and Futurama”
- Who:** Forum with writers from “The Simpsons” and “Futurama” on math and comedy
- Why:** To explore math’s influence on popular culture
- When:** Sunday, October 16, 2005, 2 p.m.
- Where:** Chan Shun Auditorium (Rm. 2050), Valley Life Sciences Building, UC Berkeley
- Cost:** Free!

MSRI is one of the world’s premiere centers for research in the mathematical sciences, and has been advancing mathematical research through workshops and conferences since its founding in 1982. More than 1700 mathematical scientists visit MSRI each year, many for substantial periods.

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