

RSE @ Schools

Maths is BEST or BIG is Beautiful

Professor Adam McBride
Dept of Mathematics,
University of Strathclyde



Maths is BEST

The last 30 years have been a *Golden Age* for Mathematics. Old problems have finally been solved after hundreds of years, while many new areas have sprung up in response to the needs of other disciplines. The subject can reasonably be described as the language of modern Business, Engineering, Science and Technology (BEST). This talk will try to justify this claim but will also include results which are simply elegant and beautiful. No specialist knowledge is required.

BIG is beautiful

This talk might be described as *an excursion into the world of very large numbers*. More precisely, we shall meet some rather large positive integers, which have cropped up recently in a variety of mathematical problems. Magic Squares, Sudoku, secret codes and a dodgy chip all make an appearance.



Suitability: S1/S2 Standard Grade Higher

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Photos courtesy of Professor McBride