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**OfficeHours\_IS31\_20160414\_Seg05.pdf**

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**Setting: mild classroom**

**Participants: I1 (glasses, female), IS31 (black vest) I2 (behind camera, female)**

0:00

XXX: I1: ok  
XXX so  
XXX since you're  
XXX uh mentioning<sup>↑</sup> (.) about applying- (.)  
XXX since you're mentioning applying your field  
XXX to things  
XXX like  
XXX airplanes<sup>↑</sup>  
XXX and like  
XXX testing against wind but then you're also mentioning  
XXX like equation stuff,  
XXX IS31: [ah  
XXX I1: [like  
XXX uh  
XXX what type of knowledge goes into your field?  
XXX so like (.1)  
XXX so you said it's engineering,  
XXX it's- you-doesn't engineering (.1) PhD?  
XXX IS31: uh:  
XXX I1: or-  
XXX IS31: you mean  
XXX [AMS it's AMS,  
XXX IS31: [uh I am  
XXX yea AMS  
XXX um (.) uh:  
XXX yea  
XXX maybe,  
XXX in the mechanical engineering department  
XXX they also (.) do some (.1) similar research  
XXX and: the:  
XXX necessary knowledge may be (.)  
XXX you should be familiar with (.1) uh  
XXX partial differential equations and uh (.)  
XXX something about computer science  
XXX I1: ok  
XXX computer science  
XXX IS31: [yea because you: we- we- we need to program in computer  
XXX I1: [mechanical engineering (.)

XXX [ok  
XXX IS31: [and we need to understand how (.) this program  
EXC uh  
EXC scute  
EXC uh  
EXC executes°  
XXX ((nods)) yea  
XXX I1: ok  
XXX so you guys are (.) applied math (.1)  
XXX **just regular math**↑  
XXX do you need to know like regular (.1)  
XXX IS31: [uh  
XXX I1: [theoretical (.) [math too?  
XXX IS31: [yea theoretical math are:  
EXC uh: (.1)  
EXC learning about theory ((laughs))  
EXC uh actually  
EXC uh: the  
EXC the  
EXC the name applied math  
EXC uh  
EXC uh: they are: (.2) mainly  
EXC uh  
EXC the main mean- the main (.1)  
XXX range of applied math is only about (.) how to solve  
partial  
XXX differential equations  
XXX I1: ((leans back)) ((mouths oh))  
XXX th-th-though we call them applied mathematics  
EXC but  
EXC the  
EXC the (.1) uh:  
EXC I mean  
XXX a-at least (.) in many universities  
XXX in applied math (.) department  
EXC the professors (.1) uh main task (.) a-  
EXC or main research a-  
EXC uh (.1)  
EXC uh error is about (.1) solving  
XXX partial differential equations°  
XXX I1: oh::=  
XXX IS31: =yea  
XXX uh various (.) kinds of (.) partial differential equations  
XXX I1: really,  
XXX IS31: yea though in Stony Brook↑

XXX uh there are many other: (.1) aspects (.) in: (.) in this  
XXX department  
XXX but (.)  
XXX uh  
XXX typically (.)  
XXX applied math just mean (.) solving partial differential  
XXX equations ((chuckling))  
XXX yea=  
XXX I1: =I didn't know that  
XXX I feel educated  
XXX ok  
XXX I almost minored in AMS  
XXX now (.) I'm kind of ((incomprehensible))  
XXX I2: I-I have a really:  
XXX really naive question  
XXX why is partial differential equations that important?  
XXX IS31: oh ok  
XXX I1: ((laughs))  
XXX I2: you're going to laugh at my question ((chuckling))  
XXX IS31: no no  
EXC uh: (.1)  
EXC uh  
EXC because, (.1)  
EXC um  
XXX almost all (.1)  
XXX I mean like physical roles are (.) uh (an inherent) roles  
XXX they are always (pressed) in partial differential equations  
XXX because  
XXX uh:  
XXX the- the simple equations are t-  
XXX because we- we need to (.1) study the change  
XXX ((I1 slightly nods))  
XXX for example like the change of water↑  
3:00  
XXX and the- I m-I mean no- not (.) the change of temperature,  
XXX I1: mhm  
EXC IS31: or the change of (.)  
EXC uh:  
EXC your: (.) velocity↑ [(.) or so on  
XXX I1: [mhm  
XXX IS31: uh  
XXX and uh  
XXX if you- (.1)  
XXX I think if you have learned calculus you should know that  
XXX the derivatives (.)

XXX just mean: the changing rate  
XXX I1: yea [yea yea  
XXX IS31: [right,  
XXX yea  
XXX I1: yea=  
XXX IS31: =so  
XXX that's why: almost all roles (.) will involve (.)  
XXX derivatives  
XXX and uh (.1)  
XXX once there are more than one variable  
XXX it will become partial derivatives  
XXX so that's why (.1) almost all programs are related by some  
XXX (.) partial differential equations  
XXX I1: what makes this different from like physics?  
XXX IS31: u:m  
XXX the:  
XXX ph- physics they are:  
XXX they just want to: get (.) the (.1)  
XXX like such roles  
XXX like such (.) differential equations  
XXX but they don't care much about how to solve them  
EXA they think oh that's a task for (.) mathematicans ((does  
not XXX pronounce it "mathematician"))  
XXX I1: oh  
XXX IS31: yea ((laughs))  
XXX I1: oh  
XXX ok  
XXX ((both laugh))  
XXX IS31: ah  
XXX I1: ((mouths oh))  
XXX ok=  
XXX IS31: =uh maybe the:  
XXX in the beginning  
XXX I mean like uh  
XXX uh:  
XXX three or four hundred years ago  
XXX uh  
XXX the science (.)  
XXX is not (.)  
XXX well uh developed  
XXX and one person can (.)  
XXX do: physics and math  
XXX uh: simultaneously  
XXX but now as there are so: much knowledge  
XXX um

XXX so everyone (.1) n- nobody can learn (.) s- all the (.)  
XXX aspects°  
XXX so they should (.) all have their own (.) objects  
XXX so for physics they (.)  
XXX their main: objective is to discover (.) new (.)  
XXX things  
XXX new rules  
XXX but (.) they are not very:  
XXX um  
XXX focused on (.1) how to solve such equations  
XXX I1: ((mouths oh))  
XXX IS31: yea.  
XXX I2: huh  
XXX I1: wow  
XXX I2: I have a crazy question I'm gonna ask  
XXX ok  
XXX so  
XXX if you say partial differential equations take into  
XXX account very many different variables↑  
XXX and (.) it's meant to: (.) account for change  
XXX IS31: mm ((affirmative))  
XXX I2: right,  
XXX IS31: ((mouths yea))  
XXX I2: now can (.) can these sort of equations (.)  
XXX uh solve social science problems  
XXX let's say we are now facing the presidential election  
XXX I1: ((nods)) mhm  
XXX I2: right?  
XXX there are so many variables  
XXX we don't know who is going to win  
XXX I'm afraid some peo- you know  
XXX I'm scared of some of the candidates  
XXX but (.1)  
XXX so  
XXX uh  
XXX let's say we know all the variables  
XXX we know the voters' socioeconomic background↑  
XXX their voting history:↑  
XXX their-  
XXX you know there's some variables  
XXX is (.1) can AMS (.) help us (.) predict↑  
XXX for example what the (.) election outcome might be? (.1)  
XXX Krystal [does that sound like a fair question?  
XXX I1: [oh  
XXX uh maybe?

XXX [is it-it sounds kind of di-  
XXX IS31: [I-I- (.) I understand  
XXX uh s- ((looks to I2 then to I1))  
XXX so yea  
XXX ok  
XXX so:  
XXX yea I know-  
XXX uh first uh  
XXX there is a trend that the  
6:00  
XXX **social science**↓ want to use  
XXX (quantitative matter)  
XXX in their own (.) aspects  
XXX but (.)  
XXX um  
XXX actually  
XXX though many people think that math is (.) difficult  
XXX ((I1 nods))  
XXX uh compared to many other: (.)  
XXX uh:  
XXX I mean subjects  
XXX **but actually in social science**↓  
XXX the questions are:  
XXX why (.) social science don't (.1) use many quantitative  
XXX matters now is that (.1) the programs in social science are  
XXX too: (.) difficult  
XXX ((I1 nods))  
XXX to deal with  
XXX because  
XXX for (.) example like in: physics  
XXX I1: ((nods))  
XXX IS31: a function only depend on:  
XXX uh we say many  
XXX that is just mean more than one  
XXX I1: [yea  
XXX IS31: [but  
XXX actually it's not very many  
XXX just uh like three,  
XXX or two,  
XXX I1: mhm  
XXX IS31: or four  
XXX like so on  
XXX but (.) as professor mentioned  
XXX ((motions to behind I2))  
XXX in social science there are many: (.) too many (.1)

XXX variables  
XXX uh  
XXX maybe bi- millions↑  
XXX or like so on  
XXX and we don't know the (.1)  
XXX uh  
XXX accurate (.) relation between the- the  
XXX I1: ok ((nods))  
XXX IS31: for example  
XXX I2: ((understanding)) mm  
XXX IS31: uh in physics  
XXX uh:  
XXX the: (.1) the force between two objects  
XXX they can be:  
EXA ((incomprehensible)) by their mass↑ (.)  
XXX and [their distance  
XXX I1: [yea yea yea ok  
XXX I learned about that=  
XXX IS31: =but  
EXC now (.1) in social science (.)  
EXC we (.) don't know (.) what the (.)  
EXC like  
EXC what your:  
EXC uh vote decision are (.1)  
EXC uh determined by like your:  
XXX education↑ (.) or your: income or so on  
EXC w-we can't (.1) uh get the:  
XXX actual accurate relation  
XXX I1: ok  
XXX IS31: so we  
XXX there is no (pd) so  
XXX how to solve ((laughs))  
XXX yea  
XXX I2: m:  
XXX I1: oh yea  
XXX that makes sense because it can be like  
XXX oh yea  
XXX you seem like a person from this background  
XXX so you're gonna vote for this person but really  
XXX they had like a friend  
XXX or something else [affected them but that just changes  
XXX IS31: [yea yea  
XXX I1: everything=  
XXX IS31: =yea  
XXX so



XXX so the social science are (.) something that  
XXX really really very (.) sophisticated  
XXX much more sophisticated than natural science  
XXX I1: ok  
XXX so because the variables aren't so  
XXX like  
XXX well defined,  
XXX they're not like discrete variables,  
XXX it's hard to (.)  
XXX it would be hard to predict (.1) what people (.) are doing,  
XXX is that- was- is that what you were saying?  
XXX IS31: yea and I: and uh (.) what I want to (.) emphasize is that  
XXX we don't know (.) the (.1) accurate function now  
XXX I1: ok  
XXX IS31: yea  
XXX I1: that makes sense  
XXX IS31: yea  
XXX I1: ok  
XXX IS31: and uh  
XXX yes, (.) there are some (.)  
XXX now there are some maybe (.)  
XXX maybe used for (.) (matters) to predict  
XXX uh th-that's based not on partial differential equations  
XXX they are just based on  
XXX uh: statistical matters  
EXC that is we just uh:  
EXC uh (.) give some probability  
XXX I1: ((nods))  
XXX [ok  
XXX IS31: [but  
XXX you know  
XXX uh (.) pd is (.) the- the  
XXX the idea of pd are that everything in the future↓  
XXX are: determined by it's present (.1) uh conditions  
9:00  
XXX I1: [ok  
XXX I2: [what's- what's PDE?  
XXX IS31: uh [partial differential equation  
XXX I1: [(mouths/quietly says)) partial differential  
XXX equation  
XXX I2: oh  
XXX I1: ok  
XXX I2: sorry  
XXX I1: [I heard it I was like  
EXC IS31: [a- a- a- and and: the:

EXC           and the:  
EXC           and uh: statistical matter are: based on  
EXC           uh  
XXX           a different (.) idea  
XXX           that is we (.) can't (.) predict accurate (.) future  
XXX           (.) conditions  
XXX           we just g- give some  
XXX           maybe most likely (.) result  
XXX           yea  
XXX           maybe that's more useful in social science  
XXX           I'm not sure  
XXX I1:       oh ok