

New and Noteworthy

Superior Beings

If They Exist, How Would We Know? Game-Theoretic Implications of Omnipotence, Omniscience, Immortality, and Incomprehensibility
Steven Brams, New York University

Superior Beings is an extraordinary book ...
► **American Scientist**

Brams has performed a service in demonstrating that rational analysis need not stop where issues involving faith and emotion begin. ► **New Scientist**

Nowadays game theory is being applied to an array of subjects, from finance and economics to law, political science and natural science to name a few. In 1983, Brams applied game theory to theology in his book **Superior Beings** to create a masterful work that posed provocative questions about religion from a game theorist's viewpoint. This second edition includes all of the rigorous, yet comprehensible and fascinating applications of game theory from the previous edition, but with a new, modern look and feel.

2nd Edition. 2007. approx. 202 pp., 32 illus. Softcover
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A Course in Enumeration

Martin Aigner, Freie Universität Berlin, Germany

Combinatorial enumeration is a readily accessible subject full of easily stated, but sometimes tantalizingly difficult problems. This book leads the reader in a leisurely way from the basic notions to a variety of topics, ranging from algebra to statistical physics. Its aim is to introduce the student to a fascinating field, and to be a source of information for the professional mathematician who wants to learn more about the subject. The book is organized in three parts: Basics, Methods, and Topics. There are 666 exercises, and as a special feature every chapter ends with a highlight, discussing a particularly beautiful or famous result.

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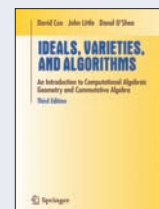
Approval Voting

Steven Brams,
New York University and
Peter C. Fishburn

Approval Voting proposes a compelling way to elect some 500,000 officials in public elections. Under this system voters may vote for, or approve of, as many candidates as they like in multicandidate elections.

Since the publication of the first edition of this book, its arguments in favor of an election reform practically unknown in 1983 have stood the test of time. Perhaps the proof of the pudding lies in the adoption of approval voting by about a dozen professional societies—several with tens of thousands of members—and their generally favorable experience with it. After a generation of discussion and debate on the subject, the authors remain convinced that Approval Voting is as relevant today as it was when rigorous analysis and systematic empirical research on this election reform began more than 30 years ago.

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Ideals, Varieties, and Algorithms

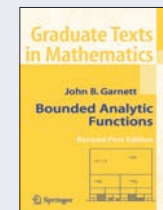
An Introduction
to Computational Algebraic
Geometry and Commutative Algebra

David A. Cox, Amherst College, Massachusetts; **John Little**, College of the Holy Cross, Massachusetts; and **Donal O'Shea**, Mt. Holyoke College, Massachusetts

I consider the book to be wonderful. ... The exposition is very clear, there are many helpful pictures, and there are a great many instructive exercises, some quite challenging ... offers the heart and soul of modern commutative and algebraic geometry. ► **The American Mathematical Monthly**

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John Garnett,
University of California,
Los Angeles

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► **From the Citation for the 2003 Leroy P. Steele Prize for Exposition.**

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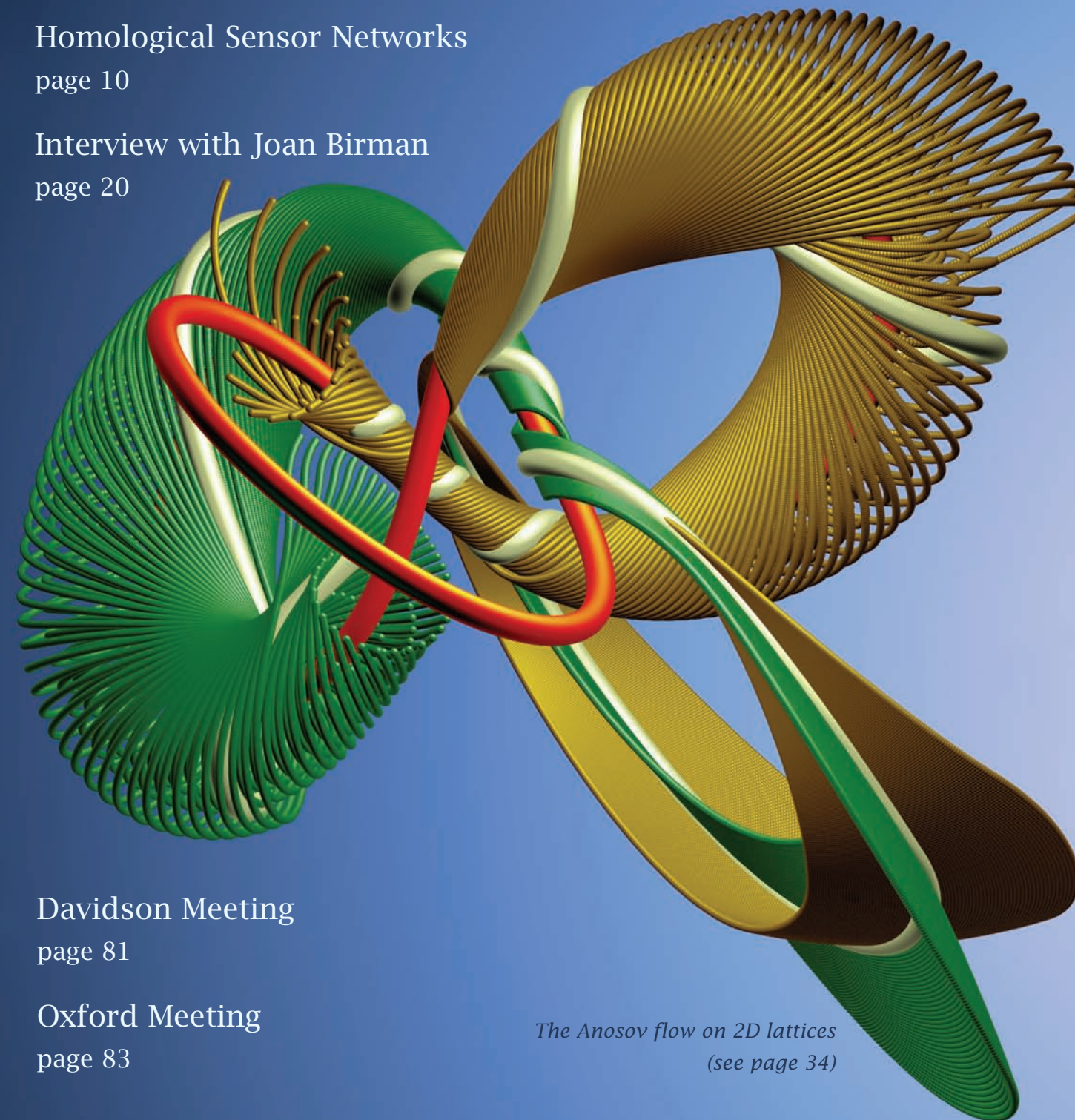
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