



TexMATYC News

Texas Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges

Winter 2011

President's Message

Greetings Colleagues,

Soon we will be in Frisco to experience the excitement, collegiality, and learning experiences that will be presented to us at our annual TCCTA/TexMATYC Conference. I invite everyone to attend and discover the outstanding program TexMATYC executive board prepared for us in cooperation with Sharon Sledge, TCCTA Math Section Chair. We will meet at the Embassy Suites Hotel and Convention Center on March 1-3, 2012.



The conference speakers will provide us a wealth of wide-ranging programs including combining developmental mathematics and academic courses and statistics, the latest from the coordinating board that affects teaching of Mathematics at Texas community colleges, various round up table discussions regarding students' success and learning outcomes in introductory mathematics courses, summer bridge programs, cost of tuition, integrating learning projects, and math and music. The TexMATYC/TCCTA conference schedule is posted at: <http://www.tccta.org/events/convention2012/programs12.html>.

Show your respect for your colleague, your profession, and yourself by nominating an outstanding teacher for the TexMATYC Teaching Excellence Award. This statewide prestigious award is given each year to a deserving individual who is an exceptional teacher and a valued member of the profession. Nominees must have a minimum of five years teaching experience, with the last two years acquired in Texas. In addition, the nominees' primary assigned duties must be delivering instruction in an associate's degree program. TexMATYC awardee will receive the TexMATYC's lifetime membership and will be nominated to the national AMATYC Teaching Excellence Award. Submit a nomination today at the TexMATYC website!

Thank you for being a valued member of your Texas Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges.

Raja Khoury, Collin College
TexMATYC President

AMATYC Conference Highlights

By Honey Kirk, AMATYC 2011 Local Events Coordinator

We did it! Texas successfully hosted the annual AMATYC Conference on November 10-13, 2011 at the Hilton Austin. More than 1,200 colleagues from all over the United States and Canada experienced our hospitality, barbeque, margaritas, warm weather and

Contents:

PAGE 3: A Program Reviewer's Perspective – PAGE 4: Graphing Calculator Apps –PAGE 6: Math iPhone and iPad Apps – PAGE 8: Domain and Range Video, Joke of the Month, Contact Information



city sights. Great raves and reviews are still coming in from participants who enjoyed the professional development gained from the sessions and workshops as well as the fun found in free time exploring the city of Austin.

Give a round of applause to those whose hard work made the conference successful: the TexMATYC board members, Anne Praderas and her Austin colleagues, and the rest of the Texans making up the local events committee.

We were Shootin' for the Stars and it seems everyone agrees we made it!



Honey Kirk



TexMATYC Executive Ed Bock, Sharon Sledge, Honey Kirk, Heather Gamber, Paula Wilhite, Raja Khoury. Absent Habib Far.

Comments from some first-time attendees:

"Project Access provided me with an opportunity for preparation and continued professional development as well as an avenue to brainstorm on resolving challenges faced in today's classroom." Devika Lalsinghani, Lone Star College – Tomball, Project ACCESS fellow



"The variety and high quality of presentations made it hard for me to decide which one to attend. A pleasant dilemma! I brought back many great ideas, instructional methods and projects to implement on my own classes; to share with my colleagues and to improve our math club. It was interesting and inspirational to chat with fellow teachers from other states and to learn from them what they do differently at their colleges," –Chinyoung Bergbauer, Lone Star College – Cy Fair



"I was a first-time attendee at AMATYC, and since this is only my second year in education, I haven't

attended many conferences. Sharing ideas with seasoned faculty was rewarding because the sharing was reciprocal. I feel I learned even more than I taught, and I'm eager to bring that knowledge into the classroom. Attending the exhibit hall was an equally rewarding experience. I had the chance to meet authors and hear about new content from primary sources. I also learned about great software, learning systems and graduate programs – I even picked up some holiday gifts by purchasing some unique puzzles.” – Nelson Carter, San Jacinto College.



Austin Community College's band performs

A Program Reviewer's Perspective

By Martha Morrow Chalhoub, Professor of Mathematics at Collin College

Austin's AMATYC conference had close to 300 proposal submissions that all reviewing committee members had to read and rate within a month's period. The selection process consists of a multi-step, confidential review where all proposals are carefully considered. If you are contemplating submitting a proposal to an upcoming conference, here are some tips to keep in mind.

1. **Visualize your presentation** – Carefully consider the time element (50 minute presentation, 2-hour workshop, or poster session), the format of your presentation, level of audience participation, relevancy of the topic, and particular area of interest. Is your topic fresh and innovative? Will it be interesting to many or a select few? Is it data or research-supported? Will your talk be inspiring? Try to be flexible and have a Plan B in place in case of last minute changes (missing cables, no-shows, bigger/smaller room, time of day).
2. **Be original** – There tends to be a lot of repetition. Very few higher level math proposals get submitted. Don't hesitate to share your research with this captive audience.
3. **Keep the proposal short and sweet** – Short, well-worded, carefully thought-out, captivating proposals are most appreciated. Avoid too many details and rambling statements. Catchy yet direct titles, clear stated goals/outcomes along with short vitae will do the trick in capturing your reader's attention. Have someone else proofread your proposal before submission and be receptive to feedback.
4. **Make sure your submission is timely and non-commercial** – Similar submissions may be chosen over yours simply because they got there first. Absolutely no commercial plug-ins allowed. These types of presentations have their own category and cost attached to them.
5. **Walk the talk** – Don't disappoint your audience by not carrying through with what you said you would do in the presentation. Your evaluations will reflect this disappointment. Spend time reflecting on exactly how you will be spending the time allotted. Infect others with your enthusiasm.

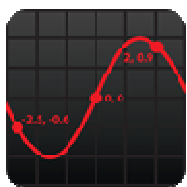
6. **If at first you don't succeed, try, try again!** Do not be discouraged if your proposal does not get chosen. In order to provide a wide variety of talks in the various areas of interest, some great submissions may be passed over. Submission dates and the individual's presentation history (first-time presenters versus seasoned ones) also play an important role. Definitely submit again next year. Bear in mind that a high quality program takes a team and you may be the most important member!

Graphing Calculator Apps for the *iPhone*, *iPod Touch* and *iPad*

by Marv Bittinger author of *Mathematics Textbooks* for Pearson Education.

If you are able, you may want to download one or more of the following Apps for iTunes Store. These are my best choices.

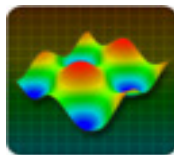
1) *iPlot*: \$0.99



2) *Graphicus*: \$1.99



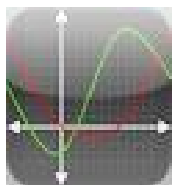
3) *My Calculator Pro*: \$3.99



4) *Graphite (iPhone Only)*: \$2.99



5) *Graphing Calculator HD*: \$1.99 <Appcylon>



6) *Quick Graph*: \$1.99



7) *Math Pac & Stats Pac: Androide & Blackberry Full Version* \$14.99; available on Apple Jan 2012. Free App, Brief Version, next week. See the video at:

<http://mobilecaltronics.com/math-pac-plus-tutorial-videos.html>

8) Bonus App: *There is an App that does regression and regression: Data Analysis.*

Nine Ideal Criteria:

- 1) Graph Visual appeal
- 2) Intersect Feature: roots, inters
- 3) Table Maker
- 4) Calc Features: Max Min
- 5) Calc Features: Graphs, Derivs,
- 6) Calc Features: 3D
- 7) Calc Features: Integration
- 8) Regression
- 9) Cost

Nine Ideal Criteria (*iPlot*):

- 1) Graph Visual appeal *
- 2) Intersect Feature trace, Apply*
- 3) Table Maker - No
- 4) Calc Features: Max Min *
- 5) Calc Features: Graph Derivs *
- 5) Calc Features: ~3D
- 7) Calc Features: Integration *
- 8) Regression No
- 9) Cost: \$0.99

Nine Ideal Criteria (*Graphics*): * = Yes

- 1) Graph Visual appeal *
- 2) Intersect Feature *
- 3) Table Maker - No
- 4) Calc Features: Max, Min & Points of Inflection, quickest of all *
- 5) Calc Features: Graph Derivs, Tangent lines, Implicit, parametric eqns.
- 6) Calc Features: ~3D
- 7) Calc Features: Integration - No
- 8) Regression No
- 9) Cost: \$1.99

Nine Ideal Criteria (*My Calc Pro*):

- 1) Graph Visual appeal *
- 2) Intersect - Yes, see Options*
- 3) Table Maker - No
- 4) Calc Features: Max Min, Options*
- 5) Calc Features: No derivs
- 6) Calc Features: 3D*
- 6) Calc Features: Integration - No
- 7) Regression No
- 8) Cost: \$3.99

Nine Ideal Criteria (*Graphite*):

- 1) Graph Visual appeal *
- 2) Intersect Feature-tap, drag*
- 3) Table Maker - NO
- 4) Calc Fs: Max Min tap, drag*
- 5) Calc Features: No derivs
- 6) Calc Features: No 3D
- 6) Calc Features: Integ tap, drag*
- 7) Regression NO
- 8) Cost: \$2.99

Nine Ideal Criteria (*GraphCalcHD*):

- 1) Visual appeal: Can't adjust line weight.
- 2) Intersect Feature - x,y Two Fcns
- 3) Table Maker YES!
- 4) Calc Features: Max, Min
- 5) Calc Features: No derivs
- 6) Calc Features: No 3D
- 6) Calc Integration - No
- 7) Regression No
- 8) Cost: \$2.99

Nine Ideal Criteria (*Quick Graph*):

- 1) Graph Visual appeal **
- 2) Intersect Feature-trace only *
- 3) Table Maker - NO
- 4) Calc Features: Max, Min trace only
- 5) Calc Features: Graphs derivs, no formula needed, code it in.
- 6) Calc Features: 3D **
- 7) Calc Integration - NO
- 8) Regression NO
- 9) Cost: \$1.99

Nine Ideal Criteria (*Math Pac*):

- 1) Graph Visual appeal *
- 2) Intersect Feature: Roots, Zeros*
- 3) Table Maker - YES, beside graph
- 4) Calc Features: Max, Min*
- 5) Calc Features: Derivs, Limits*
- 6) Calc Features: No 3D, coming
- 7) Calc Integration - Yes*
- 8) Regression - YES**
- 9) Cost: \$14.99

(*MathPac*), Extras:

- 10) Full matrix algebra
- 11) Parametric, Polar
- 12) Calculations, Real & Complex
- 13) Sequences
- 14) Many probability & stats features.
- 15) Factors quadratics.
- 16) Time Value of Money (TVM) solver.
- 17) There is StatPac App as well - extra.
- 18) Transform any list using fcn of grapher. List operations. Lists to matrix (not on TI).

Math iPad and iPhone Apps

Updated 9/27/2011.

iPad apps in apps store

(+++ indicates an app for both iPhone and iPad)

1. Free Graphing Calculator, William Jockusch (Free) +++
2. Free Graphing Symbolic Calculator – PocketCAS lite , Daniel Alm & Thomas Osthege (Free) +++
3. Graphing Calculator 3D, Alterme Inc. (\$0.99) +++
4. Graphing Calculator HD, Appcylon LLC (\$1.99)
5. Scientific Graphing Calculator, William Jockusch +++
6. Calc Pro HD Free- The Top Mobile Calculator, Panoramic Software Inc. (Free)
7. Calc Pro HD – The Top Mobile Calculator, Panoramic Software Inc. (\$7.99)
8. Symbolic Calculator HD, Voxeloid Kft. (\$1.99)
9. MyCalculator Pro, Pomegranate Software (Free) +++
10. Quick Graph, Colombiamug (Free) +++
11. Free Spreadsheet, Luminant Software, Inc (Free) +++
12. My Grapher HD – Multipurpose Graphing Calculator, Base 12 Innovations (\$0.99)
13. Calculator+, xNeat.com (\$0.99)
14. SpaceTime for iPad, Pomegranate Software (\$19.99)
15. Pi Cubed, Sunset Lake Software (\$9.99) +++
16. Equations – Scientific Calculator, Chris Long (\$4.99) +++
17. Everyday Math, Big Blue Clip, LLC (\$0.99) +++
18. MathGraphics, Francisco Valbuena (\$1.99)
19. Math Graphing XL, KyberVision Consulting, R & D (\$9.99)
20. Math Prep Guru, Allen Resources, Inc. (Free) +++
21. fxPad, Chirsoft (\$1.99) +++

22. Student Tools, Epsilon Company PTe Ltd (\$0.99)
23. MathCast: College Algebra Graph Calc, Relentless Entertainment (\$14.99) +++
24. Mega Calc, Bruno Lima (\$0.99) +++
25. Beauty of Math – Chapter 1, Easy 8 Software (Free)
26. IntroToGraphCalc, Relentless Entertainment (\$3.99) +++
27. MiniMod Algebra One HD, E. Skills Learning, LLC (\$8.99)
28. Math Graph for iPad, The Bear Flag Republic (\$2.99)
29. Math Graph Pro for iPad, The Bear Flag Republic (\$3.99)
30. Math 3D Graph, The Bear Flag Republic (\$3.99)
31. SophistimaCalc HD, Marovada (\$4.99)
32. Minimod Algebra Two HD, E. Skills Learning, LLC (\$8.99)
33. Patterns XL, KyberVision Consulting, R & D (\$9.99)

iPhone apps in apps store

(+++ indicates an app for both iPhone and iPad)

1. Graphing Calculator, Appcylon LLC
2. Graphing Calculator+, xNeat.com (\$2.99)
3. Free Graphing Calculator, William Jockusch (Free) +++
4. RK-83: Scientific Graphing Calculator, Nic Westlake (\$0.99)
5. Graphing Calculator 3D, Alterme Inc (\$0.99) +++
6. Free Graphing Symbolic Calculator – PocketCAS lite , Daniel Alm & Thomas (Free) +++
7. Scientific Graphing Calculator, William Jockusch +++
8. ND0 RPN Graphing Calculator, Naive Design (Free)
9. Graphing Calculator Pro, deftapps.com (\$0.99)
10. Graphing Calculator Pro Free, deftapps.com (Free)



11. Calculator AXL – Graphing Calculator, Avantar LLC (\$7.99)
12. Nano Graphing Calculator, Bill Chen (Free)
13. Scientific Calculator, OpenStack inc. (\$0.99)
14. Scientific Calculator+, xNeat.com (\$1.99)
15. Calc Pro Free – The Top Mobile Calculator, Panoramic Software Inc. (Free)
16. Symbolic Calculator, Voxeloid Kft. (Free)
17. Graphicus – Graphing Calculator, Serafim Chekalkin (Free)
18. RK-89: Symbolic Graphing Calculator, Nic Westlake (\$19.99)
19. Calc Pro – The Top Mobile Calculator, Panoramic Software Inc. (\$7.99)
20. My Calculator Pro, Pomegranate Software (Free) +++
21. Power Graph, Avantar LLC (\$4.99)
22. Easy Tip Calculator, Nate Chiger (\$0.99)
23. Quick Graph, Colombiamug (Free) +++
24. Graph It, Tezmo (\$2.99)
25. Free Spreadsheet, Luminant Software, Inc (Free) +++
26. Pi Cubed Lite, Sunset Lake Software (Free)
27. Space Time, Pomegranate Software (\$19.99)
28. My Grapher – Multipurpose Graphing Calculator (\$0.99)
29. MAlc Pro, Marcio Almeida (\$4.99)
30. Looptek Graphing Calculator, LoopTek (\$0.99)
31. Pi Cubed, Sunset Lake Software (\$9.99) +++
32. ND1 Advanced Scientific Calculator, Naïve Design (\$5.99)
33. Vector Calculator G, Simon Sung (\$1.99)
34. Math Graphing, KyberVision Consulting (\$4.99)
35. Everyday Math, Big Blue Clip, LLC (\$0.99) +++
36. Graphite, Julian Panetta (\$2.99)
37. Evaluate, Lithium Cube (Free)
38. GraphCalc, Alex Shipman (Free)
39. Math Prep Guru, Allen Resources, Inc. (Free) +++
40. Equations – Scientific Calculator, Chris Long (\$4.99) +++
41. MathCast: Colleg Algebra Graph Calc, Relentless Entertainment (\$14.99) +++
42. fxPad, Chirsoft (\$1.99) +++
43. uCalc, Creative Mindset Software (Free)
44. Calculator Plus+, S Lee (\$0.99)
45. SciCal, ROBEN Software Inc. (Free)
46. DataPlot, Ryan Abrams (\$1.99)
47. Patterns, KyberVision Consulting (\$4.99)
48. Grapher, Ricardo Diaz (\$0.99)
49. Mega Calc, Bruna Lima (\$0.99) +++
50. advCalc, 4:05am Software, LLC (\$0.99)
51. IntroToGraphCalc, Relentless Entertainment (\$3.99) +++
52. EasyGraph, IdeaStorm Software (\$0.99)
53. uCalc+, Creative Mindset Software (\$0.99)
54. MiniMod Algebra Two, E. Skills Learning, LLC (\$8.99)
55. MiniMod Algebra One, E. Skills Learning, LLC (\$8.99)

Submitted by Judy Beecher



Conference proposals are being accepted electronically through the AMATYC website at www.amatyc.org through February 1, 2012.



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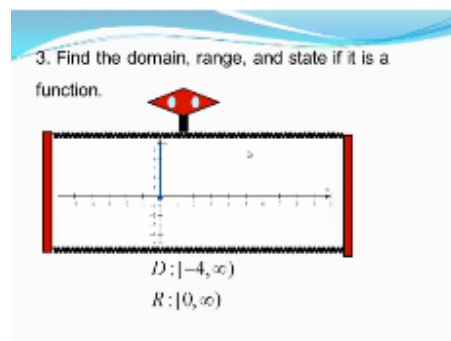
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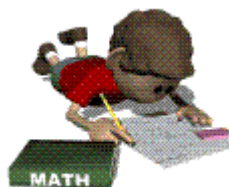
Domain & Range Video

Created by Nelson Carter of San Jacinto College

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RGnv3e_48Oc&feature=related



Joke of the Month



Teacher: John, why are you doing your math multiplication on the floor?

John: You told me to do it without using tables!

Got News?

If you know of any exciting news in mathematics, have it published in your TexMATYC newsletter. Submit articles to Heather Gamber at heather.a.gamber@lonestar.edu.

Visit us at www.texmatyc.org