

Euler's Identity

The secret of the Universe?

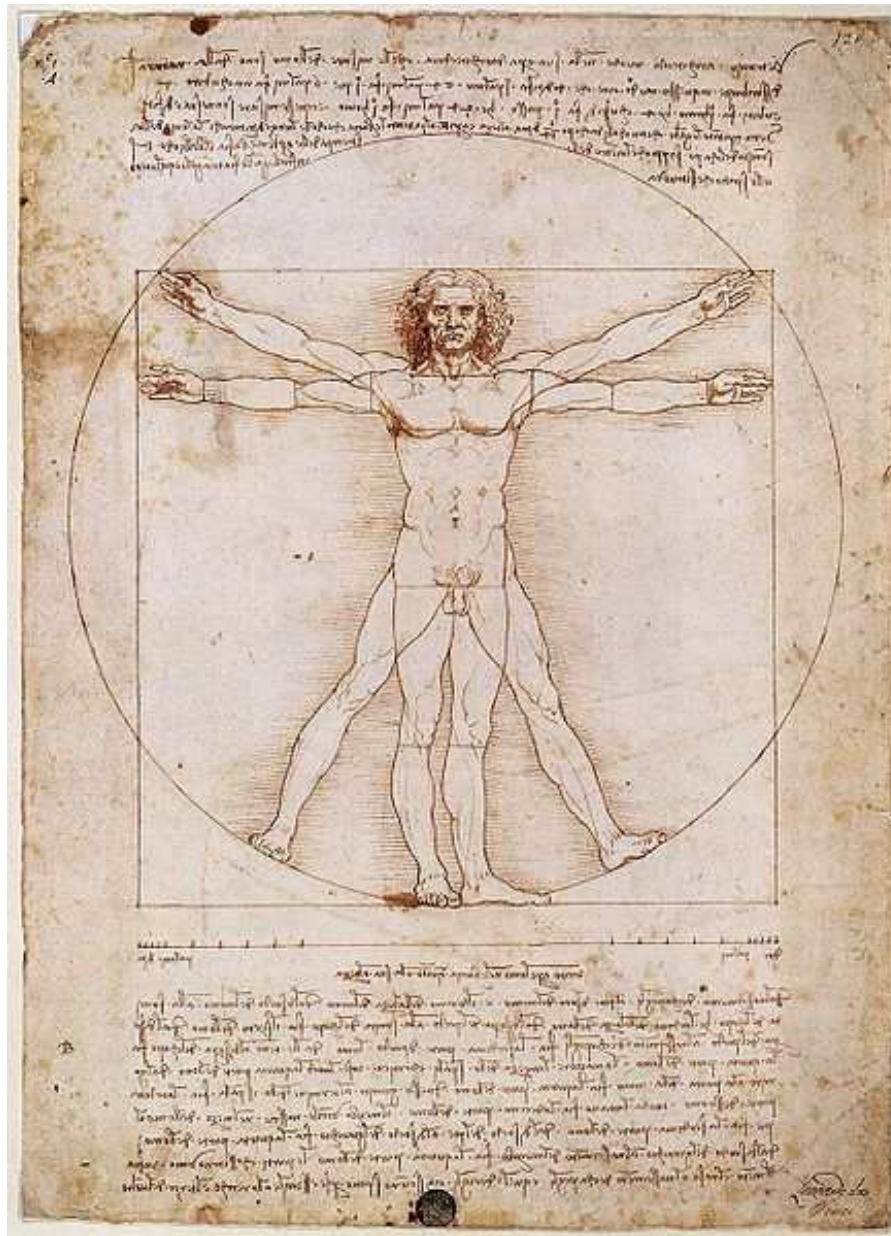
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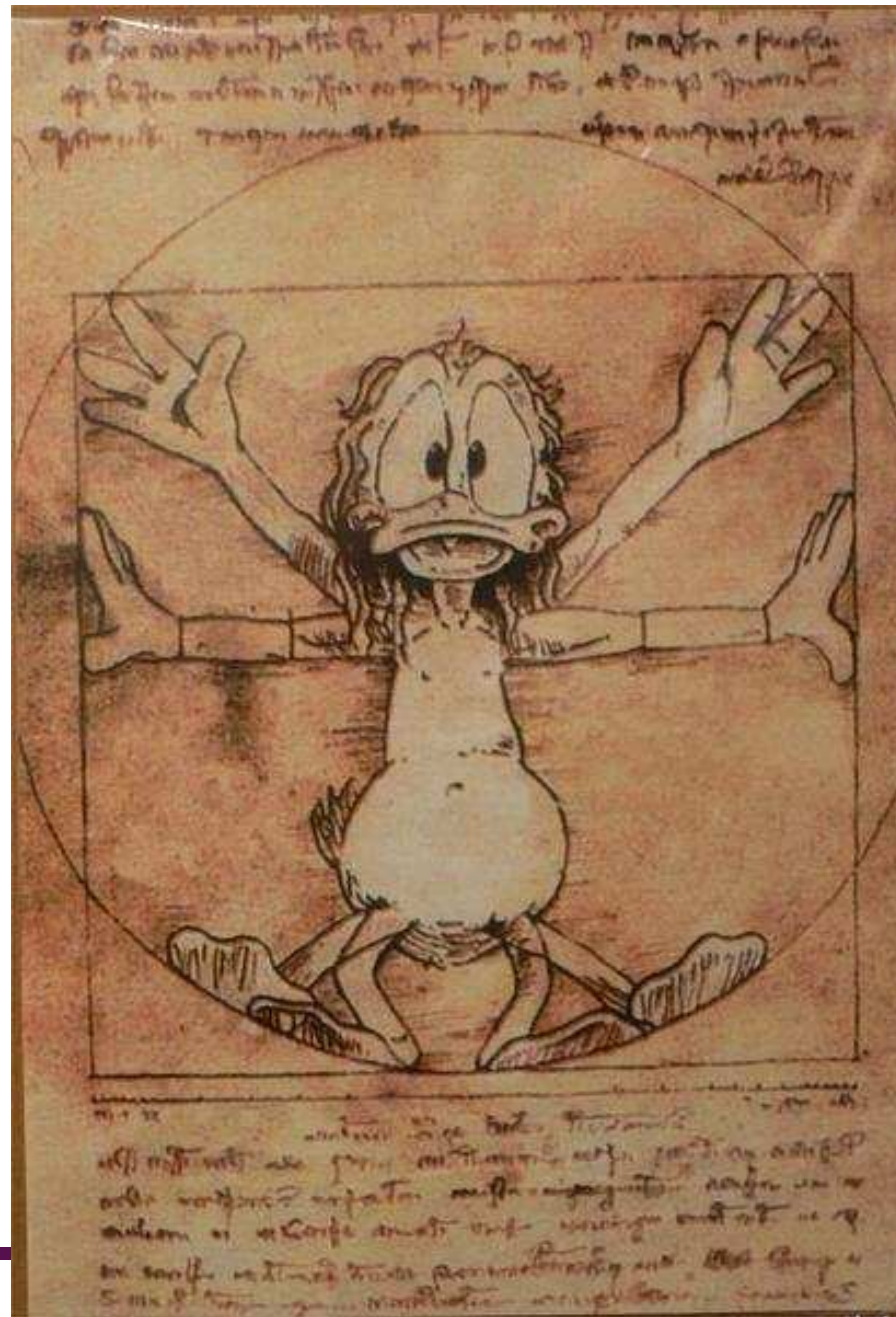
School of Mathematical Sciences
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June 8, 2011

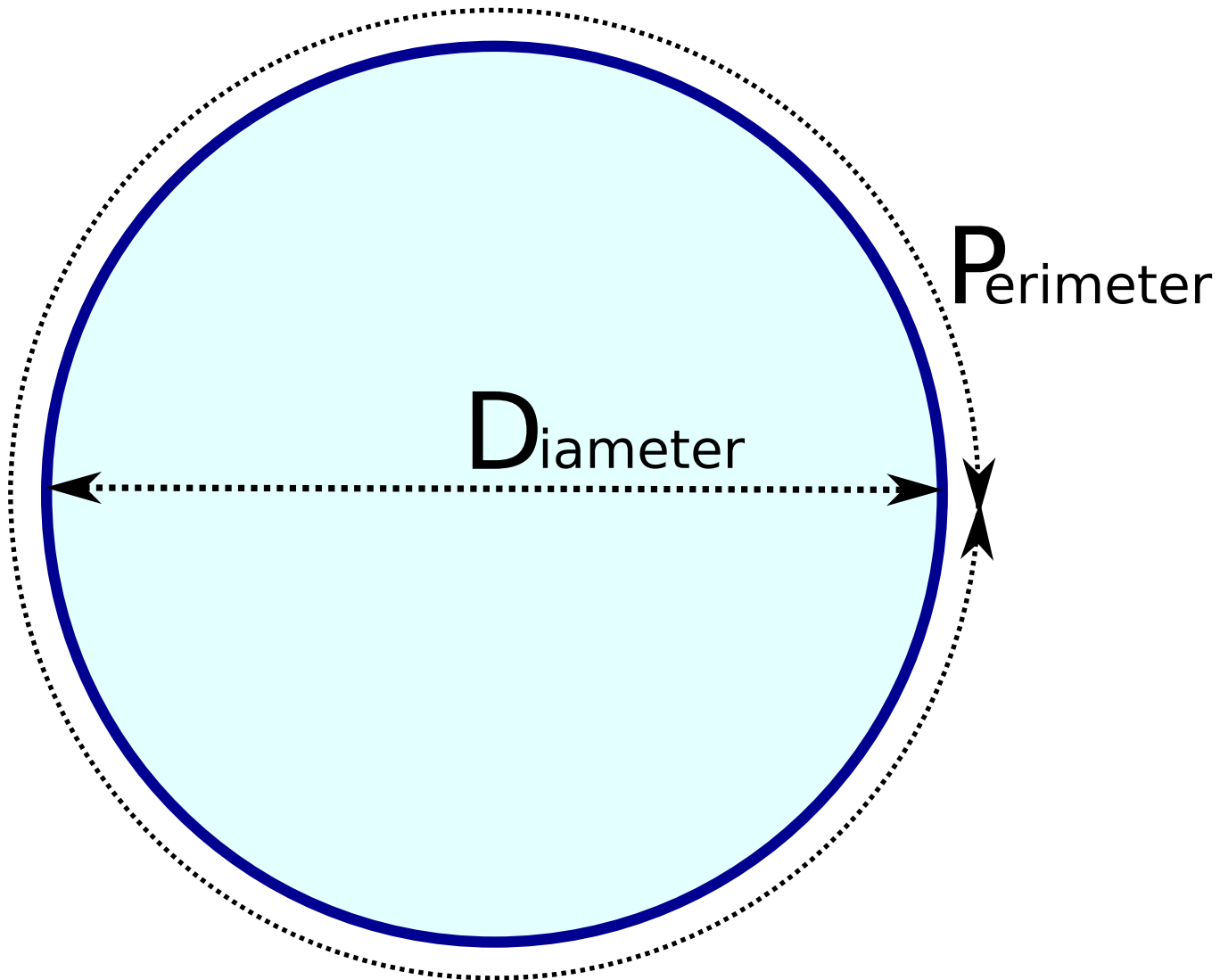
Maths as an Art



Maths as an Art



$$\pi = P/D$$



$\pi =$

$$\pi = \frac{22}{7}$$

$\pi =$

~~$\pi = \frac{22}{7}$~~

$\pi =$

$$\pi = \frac{355}{113}$$

$\pi =$

$$\pi = \frac{355}{113}$$

$\pi =$

$$\pi = 3.141592$$

Mnemonic

How I wish I could recollect pi

$\pi =$

~~$\pi = 3.141592$~~

$\pi =$

$\pi = 3.141592653589793115997963468544$

This value comes from a popular mathematical computer program called Matlab.

$\pi =$

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Matlab only gets about 15 decimal places right!

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places right!

Can we do better?

$\pi =$

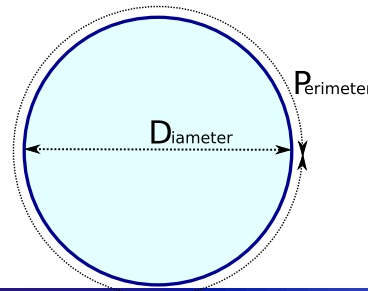
$\pi =$ 3.141592653589793238462643383279502884197169399375105820974944592307816
40628620899862803482534211706798214808651328230664709384460955058223172
53594081284811174502841027019385211055596446229489549303819644288109756
65933446128475648233786783165271201909145648566923460348610454326648213
39360726024914127372458700660631558817488152092096282925409171536436789
2590360011330530548820466521384146951941511609 ...

- Mathematicians have worked out π to a trillion decimal places
- The digits never end, and never repeat!

- π is an **irrational** number
 - it isn't a exact integer fraction
 - i.e., $\frac{m}{n}$ will always be an approximation
- π is a **transcendental** number
 - loosely, this means there isn't any finite way of representing it using integers
 - i.e., you can't "square the circle"
 - a computer can never hold the true value of π
- there is only one good, short representation of π

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$$\pi = \frac{P}{D}$$



Euler's number e

- Euler's number is another **transcendental number**

$$e = 2.71828182845904523536028747135 \\ 266249775724709369995\dots$$

- Appears in lots of places, e.g.,
 - formula for population growth
 - random processes
 - radioactive decay
- In 2004, Google announced that they would raise \$2,718,281,828,

Squares and square roots

squares

$$2^2 = 2 \times 2 = 4$$

$$3^2 = 3 \times 3 = 9$$

$$3.4^2 = 3.4 \times 3.4 = 11.56$$

$$(-1)^2 = -1 \times -1 = 1$$

square roots

$$\Rightarrow \sqrt{4} = 2$$

$$\Rightarrow \sqrt{9} = 3$$

$$\Rightarrow \sqrt{11.56} = 3.4$$

$$\Rightarrow \sqrt{-1} = ???$$

- When we square numbers, we always get a positive number, so we can't take the square root of a negative number!

Squares and square roots



squares

square roots

$$2^2 = 2 \times 2 = 4$$

\Rightarrow

$$\sqrt{4} = 2$$

$$3^2 = 3 \times 3 = 9$$

\Rightarrow

$$\sqrt{9} = 3$$

$$3.4^2 = 3.4 \times 3.4 = 11.56$$

\Rightarrow

$$\sqrt{11.56} = 3.4$$

$$(-1)^2 = -1 \times -1 = 1$$

\Rightarrow

$$\sqrt{-1} = ???$$

- When we square numbers, we always get a positive number, so we can't take the square root of a negative number!
- Or can we?

- The strangest number for today is

$$i = \sqrt{-1}$$

- It isn't a **real** number
 - Its **imaginary**
 - You can't have i coconuts
 - But you can work with i like a normal number
 - ◆ you can add it
 - ◆ you can multiply it

$$3i + 4i = 7i \quad \text{and} \quad i^2 = i \times i = -1$$

Combining them

- Logically, you can operate with all of these numbers
- However, you might expect you only get a mess
- So let's take an example:

$$e^{i\pi} = ???$$

- multiple e by itself $i\pi$ times
- Any guesses?

Euler's identity

$$e^{i\pi} = -1$$

Application

- Take a signal $f(t)$
- Then its Fourier transform is

$$F(s) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t) e^{i\pi st} dt$$

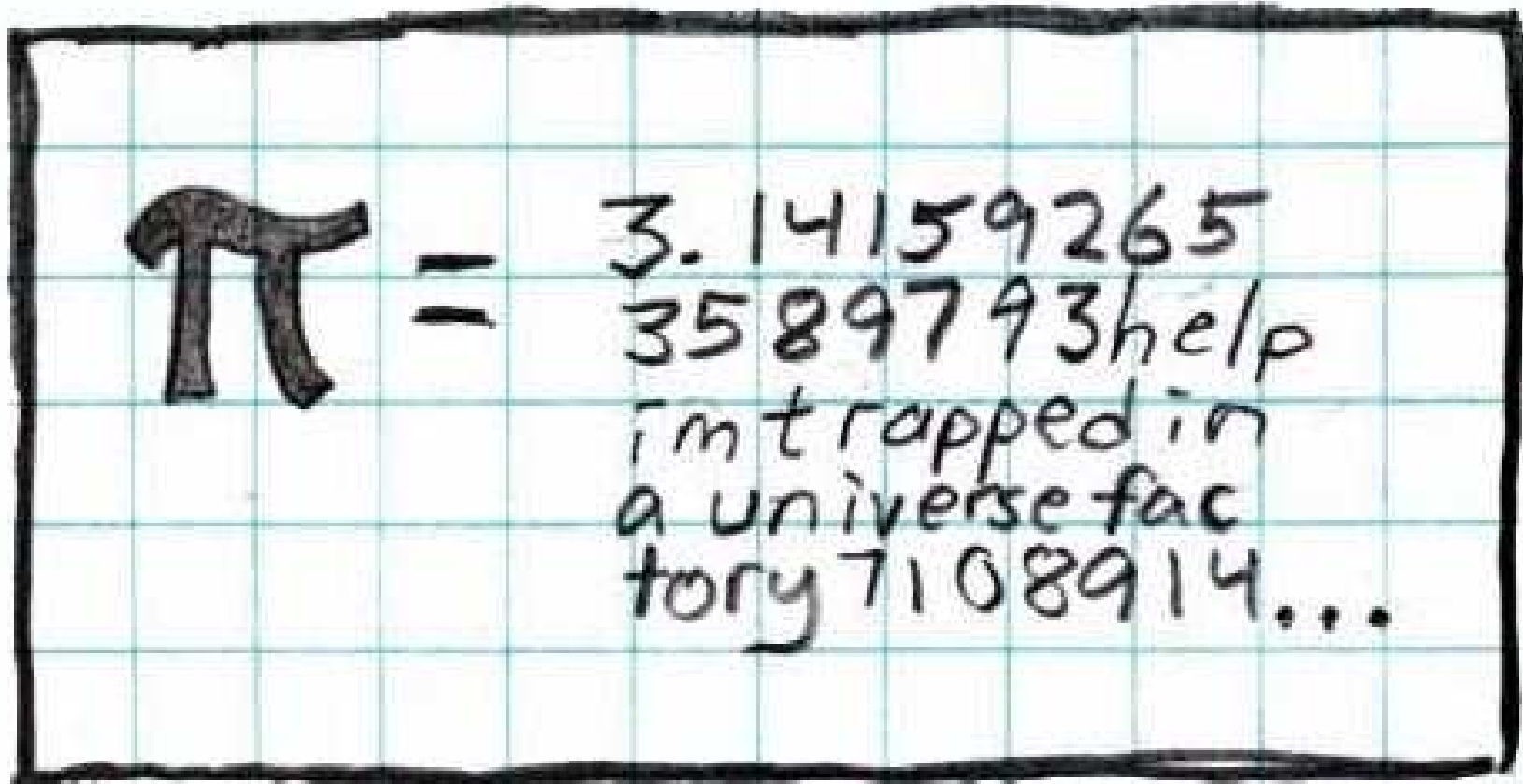
- The Fourier transform is one of the key parts of Signal Processing

Applications

Without **Signal Processing** your phone wouldn't work, or your digital camera, or your Mp3 player (to list just a few)



The End



<http://xkcd.com/10/>

Euler (pronounced "Oiler")



15 April 1707 -
18 September 1783

- Swiss, but lived in St. Petersburg, Russia, and in Berlin, Prussia.
- one of the most prolific mathematicians of all time
- major contributions to
 - complex analysis
 - geometry
 - calculus
 - graph theory
 - mechanics
 - fluid dynamics
 - astronomy

"Read Euler, read Euler, he is our teacher in all things,"

Pierre-Simon Laplace

Jean Baptiste Joseph Fourier



March 21, 1768 —
May 16, 1830

- son of a tailor (in Auxerre, France)
 - 12th of 15 children
- involved in the French revolution
 - at one point was arrested
- 1798 Fourier joined Napoleon's army in its invasion of Egypt as scientific adviser
 - helped in archaeological explorations.
- 1802 made Prefect of Grenoble
 - work on heat propagation, and **Fourier series**
- survived Napoleon's arrest, and return, and exile