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DIMACS WORKSHOP on ALGORITHMIC MATHEMATICAL ART



Bahman Kalantari Department of Computer Science Rutgers University

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Once there was nothing. Not even time. But 13.7 billion years ago it seems that this nothing became everything

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Michio Kaku (Theoretical Physicist) (in a PBS Science program on the origin of Time) Once there was nothing. Not even time. But 13.7 billion years ago it seems that this nothing became everything when a **tiny dot** of infinite density spontaneously expanded at a phenomenal rate giving birth to the universe, including time.

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Polynomiography is a game of hide-and-seek with a bunch of dots on a painting canvas.

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There are endless possibilities to explore.

There are endless images and discoveries waiting to be unveiled.

POLYNOMIOGRAPHY



A BLENDING of ART, MATH, SCIENCE






PHOTOGRAPHY versus POLYNOMIOGRAPHY





PHOTOGRAPHY versus POLYNOMIOGRAPHY



PHOTOGRAPHY versus POLYNOMIOGRAPHY

- Photographer
- Camera(Lenses)

PHOTOGRAPHY versus POLYNOMIOGRAPHY

- Photographer
- Camera(Lenses)
- Subject

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- Software(Algorithms)
- Polynomial Equations

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A. No, but you should be warned that you may end up liking math in the process.

Q. Is there an age limit on playing this game?

A. Yes, with appropriate development of the software the recommended age is between 5 and 125.

Let's Play Hide-and-Seek

Let's Play Hide-and-Seek

Let's Take Two Dots





Hiding Equation: $x^2 - 2 = 0$.





A *polynomiograph* of the equation $x^2 - 2 = 0$.





Another polynomiograph of the equation $x^2 - 2 = 0$.

Let's Play Hide-and-Seek Again

Let's Play Hide-and-Seek Again

Let's Take Three Dots





Polynomial Equation: $x^3 - 1 = 0$.




A polynomiograph of
$$x^3 - 1 = 0$$
.



A polynomiograph of $x^3 - 1 = 0$. Can we create other images from this equation?



A polynomiograph of $x^3 - 1 = 0$. Can we create other images from this equation? Yes, many more ...















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For a 3D animation based on $x^3 - 1$ see YouTube: "Rise of Polynomials" at www.polynomiography.com

Polynomial Equation

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A polynomial is a linear combination of integral powers of a variable z,

$$p(z) = a_n z^n + a_{n-1} z^{n-1} + \dots + a_1 z + a_0 = 0$$

where $a_n, a_{n-1}, \ldots, a_1, a_0$ are numbers called *coefficients*. $a_n \neq 0$, and *n* is called the *degree* of the polynomial.

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Examples.

$$p(z)=z-5=0.$$

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Examples.

$$p(z)=z-5=0.$$

$$p(z) = z^2 - 2 = 0.$$

$$p(z) = 7z^{45} - 25z^{36} + 43z^8 - 5z^6 + 2z - 9 = 0$$

Solution to Polynomial Equation ("root," or "zero")

Example.

$$p(z) = z^2 - 2 = 0.$$

Solutions (root, zero):

$$z = \sqrt{2} = 1.414...$$

 $z = -\sqrt{2} = -1.414...$

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Zero of Polynomial has Dual Nature



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- These discoveries took a few centuries!


$$p(z) =$$

$$z^{6} + (1.92 - 1.2i)z^{5} + (-.2362 - 4.2545i)z^{4} +$$

$$(-11.4353 - 1.7346i)z^{3} + (8.638 + 11.8811i)z^{2} +$$

$$(32.5353 - 13.6329i)z + (-14.3137 - 8.9646i) = 0.$$

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Fundamental Theorem of Algebra



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Number of roots = Degree of Polynomial

(with possible multiplicity).

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Example. $p(z) = 5z^{17} - 4z^3 - 21$ has 17 roots.

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Number of roots = Degree of Polynomial

(with possible multiplicity).

Example. $p(z) = 5z^{17} - 4z^3 - 21$ has 17 roots. $p(z) = z^3 - 1$ has 3 roots.

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Many have investigated the root-finding problem:

The **Sumerians**, the **Babylonians**, the famous Persian mathematician and poet **Omar Khayyam**, the most famous mathematicians of the past such as **Euler**, **Newton**, **Lagrange**, **Descartes**, **Galois**, **Abel**, **Gauss**, **Caley**, **Shröder**; and the great contemporary mathematicians such as Hermann Weyl, and **Steve Smale**.

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It has even inspired the study of Newton's method in the complex plane and more general rational functions by **Fa-tou**, and **Julia** whose work in turn inspired **Mandelbrot** who coined the famous term **fractal**.

$$z = \frac{b}{a}$$

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and quadratic equation $az^2 + bz + c = 0$:

$$z=\frac{-b\pm\sqrt{b^2-4ac}}{2a}.$$

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And for degree five and higher there is no GENERAL formula!

Really, even the quadratic formula is not useful if we are trying to approximate square-root of numbers such as squareroot of 2.

$$10z^{48} - 11z^{24} + 1 = 0$$

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Is this a nice polynomial?

A Polynomiograph of $10z^{48} - 11z^{24} + 1 = 0$



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$$N(z) = z - \frac{p(z)}{p'(z)}$$

$$N(z) = z - \frac{p(z)}{p'(z)} = z - \frac{a_n z^n + a_{n-1} z^{n-1} + \dots + a_1 z + a_0}{na_n z^{n-1} + (n-1)a_{n-1} z^{n-2} + \dots + a_1}$$

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Given any seed z_0 , Newton's iteration is defined as:

$$z_{k+1} = N(z_k), \quad k = 1, 2, \dots$$

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 θ is a root of p(z) if and only if it is a *fixed point* of N(z), i.e.

$$N(\theta) = \theta.$$

$$z_{k+1}=z_k-\frac{z_k^2-2}{2z_k}$$

$$z_{k+1} = z_k - \frac{z_k^2 - 2}{2z_k} = \frac{z_k^2 + 2}{2z_k}.$$

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Suppose $z_0 = 2$, then

$$z_1 = \frac{2^2 + 2}{4} = 1.5,$$

$$z_{k+1} = z_k - \frac{z_k^2 - 2}{2z_k} = \frac{z_k^2 + 2}{2z_k}$$

Suppose $z_0 = 2$, then

$$z_1 = \frac{2^2 + 2}{4} = 1.5,$$
 $z_2 = \frac{(1.5)^2 + 2}{2 * 1.5} = 1.416.$

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Suppose $z_0 = 2$, then

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Suppose $z_0 = 1 + 2i$, where $i = \sqrt{-1}$, can we still compute Newton's iterations?

$$z_1 = \frac{z_0^2 + 2}{2z_0}$$

$$z_1 = \frac{z_0^2 + 2}{2z_0} = \frac{(1+2i)^2 + 2}{2*(1+2i)} =$$

$$z_1 = \frac{z_0^2 + 2}{2z_0} = \frac{(1+2i)^2 + 2}{2*(1+2i)} = \frac{1+4i+4i^2+2}{2+4i}$$

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$$=\frac{14+12i}{20}$$

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$$=\frac{14+12i}{20}=0.7+0.6i.$$
Take an object.

Take an object.

Do something with it.

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Take an object.

Do something with it.

Then do something else.



Do something with it.

Then do something else.

Jasper Johns



Move it somewhere else.

Move it somewhere else.

Then somewhere else.

Move it somewhere else.

Then somewhere else.

Then somewhere else.

Move it somewhere else.

Then somewhere else.

Then somewhere else.

Then somewhere else ...

More Points and Artistry:



























Some Quotes

"Lose your fear of math with computer graphics that displays the beauty and symmetry hidden within algebraic equations."

DISCOVER Magazine ... on polynomiography

"Over the centuries, mathematicians have developed a variety of methods of solving equations. Bahman Kalantari of Rutgers University has developed visualization software that brings the process of finding the roots of a polynomial equation into the realm of design and art."

Ivars Peterson SCIENCE NEWS

"Professor Kalantari's work combines in a very striking way mathematics and visual arts. His work on 'polynomiography' is very original and pretty."

Cumrun Vafa Professor of Physics, Harvard

"Bahman Kalantari's work on Polynomiography is visually striking and provides profound insight into root finding algorithms.

In future generations, I expect that visualization of mathematical algorithms will become an expected part of mathematical research.

Bahman Kalantari's skills are here now and we can enjoy the beautiful results as he has applied them to Polynomiography."

Cliff Reiter Professor of Mathematics Lafayette College, Pennsylvania

"The visual results are often elegant. This method has led [Kalantari] to develop a new and powerful method of artistic creation, ..., a playful and instructive technique where mathematics helps art, which gratefully, comes to support mathematics."

Claude Bruter Professor of Mathematics, U. of Paris

"Polynomiography ... has an enormous and fruitful field of applications in visual arts, education and scientific research..."

Vera W. de Spinadel President of International Mathematics & Design Association, Argentina

Alexandria Munger (age 14, a middle schooler at Girls Plus Math Camp., Illinois)

"I didn't know math could make such beautiful images."

A 9 year old boy (Rutgers Day, April 25th, 2009)

What is a Polynomial Equation and What is it Good For?

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What is the **Reimann Hypothesis problem**? What is an open problem? Why is there a million dollar prize on it?

Linear equation Middle school word problems

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When a math problem asks you to find the value of x, the goal is to isolate x, by doing things to both sides of the equation –until x is all by itself on one side and there is a number on the other side - and that number is your answer.

Danica McKellar author of best selling book MATH DOESN'T SUCK

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Danica is right, but in most real-life problems we need to solve equations which are not linear...motion, business,

Why Is Solving Polynomial Equations Important?

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The very ideas of abstract thinking and using mathematical notation are largely due to the study of polynomial equations.

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The very ideas of abstract thinking and using mathematical notation are largely due to the study of polynomial equations.

Furthermore, solving polynomial equations has historically motivated the introduction of some fundamental concepts of mathematics ...

Victor Pan, an internationally recognized leader in the field of computer science

A Futuristic Love Story



A Futuristic Love Story

(Setting: A street in a city in the world)



MAN: Yes Modemoiselle, you will find one at any of the roots of $x^3 - 1$.

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WOMAN: Thank you! That's very romantic.

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MAN: May I invite you to dinner at your favorite restaurant?

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WOMAN: Thank you! That's very romantic.

MAN: May I invite you to dinner at your favorite restaurant?

WOMAN: (After a pause) I cannot promise, but my favorite restaurant's location is a solution to this polynomial:

The man falls in love.

The man falls in love.

He uses Polynomiographaphy to create an art piece from it.

The man falls in love.

He uses Polynomiographaphy to create an art piece from it.

In the process he discovers a unique shape in the solutions.

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And knowing the restaurant locations now he desperately searches for her and eventually finds her, sitting alone.

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He uses Polynomiographaphy to create an art piece from it.

In the process he discovers a unique shape in the solutions.

And knowing the restaurant locations now he desperately searches for her and eventually finds her, sitting alone.

He presents her the artwork:



They decide to get married.

They decide to get married.

And have

They decide to get married.

And have $(1+2\sqrt{-1}) \times (1-2\sqrt{-1}) = 5$ children.

They decide to get married.

And have
$$(1 + 2\sqrt{-1}) \times (1 - 2\sqrt{-1}) = 5$$
 children.

FIN

First: solving a polynomial equation could be romantic.

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Second: solutions of a polynomial equation are like locations on a map.

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Second: solutions of a polynomial equation are like locations on a map.

Third: we can hide any bunch of locations behind a single polynomial equation.

Fourth: polynomiography can turn any equation, scary looking or not, into a beautiful image.
Moral of The Story:

First: solving a polynomial equation could be romantic.

Second: solutions of a polynomial equation are like locations on a map.

Third: we can hide any bunch of locations behind a single polynomial equation.

Fourth: polynomiography can turn any equation, scary looking or not, into a beautiful image.

Fifth: solving polynomial equations could be a beautiful experience.

There are many ways.

There are many ways.

Infinitely many ways.

There are many ways.

Infinitely many ways.

No polynomial is uncool under polynomiography.

There are many ways.

Infinitely many ways.

No polynomial is uncool under polynomiography.

You can select a polynomial through its coefficients.

There are many ways.

Infinitely many ways.

No polynomial is uncool under polynomiography.

You can select a polynomial through its coefficients.

You can select a polynomial through the location of its roots and by click of the mouse.

There are many ways.

Infinitely many ways.

No polynomial is uncool under polynomiography.

You can select a polynomial through its coefficients.

You can select a polynomial through the location of its roots and by click of the mouse.

You can even convert an ordinary number into a polynomial:

$$3x^8 + 8x^7 + 7x^6 + 6x^5 + 2x^4 + 4x^3 + 7x^2 + 3x + 0$$

$$3x^8 + 8x^7 + 7x^6 + 6x^5 + 2x^4 + 4x^3 + 7x^2 + 3x + 0$$

One can capture infinitely many polynomiographs of this single equation.

$$3x^8 + 8x^7 + 7x^6 + 6x^5 + 2x^4 + 4x^3 + 7x^2 + 3x + 0$$

One can capture infinitely many polynomiographs of this single equation.

Here is one:





Could this lead to a futuristic ID number?



Could this lead to a futuristic ID number?

At the very least polynomiography's ability to encrypt ordinary numbers visually encourages the youth to take an interest in numbers and polynomials in the process of which they will learn and discover many properties of these and many other concepts of math.

Polynomiography In Media





SIGGRAPH Quarterly (cover)





Princeton University Mathematics (cover)





World Scientific, "POLYNOMIAL ROOT-FINDING and POLYNOMIOGRAPHY"





Art-Math Proceedings (cover)

physicsworld.com

BEAUTIFUL MATTER

Symmetry is central to modern physics. Source: Bahman Kalantari/Science Photo Library

Back to article

physicsworld.com



Symmetry is central to modern physics. Source: Bahman Kalantari/Science Photo Library

Back to article

Physicsworld





Muy-Interesante (popular science magazine of Spain)





Tiede (popular science magazine of Finland)





Accromath (U. of Montreal University magazine)





creative computer scientist-would ask.

ument comparint sciences—Record acc. Entre Bahmas Matanzi, na associator professor of comparing accentration of a science and accentration of sciences and accentration of comparing accentration of comparing accentration of sciences and scie Polynomias an defined as "linear combinations of integral powers of a variable," such as x-1.) make polynomiography available to the public in the

hat if you could use a computer to turn equations color them using our own personal artistry," into deazing, colorful design? That's the kind of says. Kolenteri. "Just as with photography and greation only a comparts colordis—a particularly periorize, with percice one gets to be butter and

"We can 'shoot pictures' of polynomials and then meantime, check it out at www.polynomioprochy.com





Enter Bahman Kalantari, an associate professor of fundamental algebraic function, into patterns, kind of decorative fabric (Polynomials are defined as "linear combinations - Patents are now pending for softmare that will "We can 'shoot pictures' of polynomials and then meantime, check it out at ww

hal if you could use a computer to turn equations color them using our own personal artistry." into dazzling, colorful designs? That's the kind of says Kalentari. "Just as with photography and opestion only a computer scientist-a particularly painting, with practice one gets to be batter and

Shown above is Kalantari's "Mathematics of a computer science at Rutgers University in New Heart," The possibilities are limitless, he says. "You Brunswick. His answer: "polynomiography"-a can design images that would look wonderful as computer art form created by turning polynomials, a abstract painting, greeting cards, upholstery or any

of integral powers of a variable," such as x-1.) make polynomiography available to the public. In the

New Jersey Savvy-Living

BOOKS & ARTS

The roots of complex problems

Featless Symmetry: Exposing the Hidden Patterns of Nambers

Princeton University hese 2005 302 524/95, £15/95

Timothy Govers If you ask somebody who knows a Ritiemathe-

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The more size thinks about this quantity, there are corrected with (does not) have an amount in that, the quantity does not really made proving that there will be a size of the size base of the proof to this. If a size y comptution of the there are also a size of the size of the random with the size of the size of the size have of the there in the size of the size of the size of the proof to this. If a size of the size this samelees, write the size of the size of the size of the proof the size of the si

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NEW IN PAPERBACK

The Exclusion Creation	in brief, and gorous turn
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by Michael Ruse (Hankard	be necessary to greasers the
University Press, 20.95, €14.40,\$16.95)	catastrophic climatic changes caused by an increase in
"In this book, Russalims not	atmospheric calcordioxide."
to attack but to understand.	Types Mich, Nature 440,
Resiductive wisely turns to	399-870(2006).
history - specifically to	
the history of evolutionary	Thinking W2h Animals:
theory," john Heday Smoke,	New Perspectives on
Networ 40 3, 015-616 (2005).	Anthropemerphism edited by Lorraine Dacton
The Revence of Gala	& Gross Mitman (Columbia
by James Lovelock	University Press, \$25, £163
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There exists will have been all that dipply, curves were important, but it is not at all division for the definition here why they should be. Its for a better undicristant ding. I turned to II section only to find that the answer is it defined.

meetings. There are less question-begging answers later in the book, but by then the going is namer tough. But that was just a digression. In general

All have to prevail the second second

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Aniter 438, 425-436 (2005)
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> animal cognition and the continuity bet excelutions and animalimical." Juliette Clarton-Binde, Notain 434, 958–959 (2005). Terrers of the Table: The

BOOKS & ARTS

The roots of complex problems

Featless Symmetry: Exposing the Hidden

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NEW IN PAPERBACK

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Polynomic gapls such as this one, Acrobab, are created using mathematical knowles.

Automorphisms such as this are the 'karof a mathematical object (which happens to be these I nonsitions take place will vary from -1 is ?" By contrast, it is possible to distin- out that understanding these symmetries

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But that was just a digression. In general

difficult topic and making it, if not fully acces-Timothy Gowers is at the Centre for Mathematical Sciences, University of Cambridge Wilbertoke Road, Cambridge CBD OWB, UK








Rutgers Graduate Catalog (cover)





Rutgers First-Year Seminars Catalog (cover)

Also featured in New Jersey media and more

Polynomiography In Schools





First-Year Seminar Polynomiography students (and their cake)





With New Jersey Randolph Middle School Students





Girls Plus Math Camp 6-8th graders (Western Illinois University, Macomb IL)





Young polynomiographer at work, discovering math and art.





Alexandia returns to the camp for second time. Her request last year was to raise the camper age limit to 14, otherwise she could not attend. First time camper are as enthusiastic.





A happy camper smiles as she has discovered much beauty behind math and its potentials...





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"I have never seen anything like it before and it's very fun to do."

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"I want to know how all those numbers could make such cool pictures. It seems more interesting now."

"I learned new ways to motivate my student."

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"Gives me ideas to pursue for Discrete Math Curriculum!"

Polynomiography In Art

Polynomiography In Art

First A Gallery Tour








Death







Mathematics of a Heart















Waltz



Eiffel Tower







Shaping a Heart



Party on the Brooklyn Bridge









Abstract Hearts









Acrobats in Paris





Polynomiography In Exhibitions





Exhibition at Rutgers Art Library





Exhibition can also be viewed with 3D glasses





Rutgers' President McCormick visits The Exhibition




Polynomiography Artwork of Montgomery High School Students, Using a Demo Software





Polynomiography In Design

Polynomiography In Design

Designing A Carpet



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A Girl with a Secret



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Artists and Polynomiography

Artists and Polynomiography

Can We Connect Artists with Polynomiography?







Klee and Polynomiography

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Picasso and Polynomiography

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Making US Flag through Polynomiography- Inspired by Jasper Johns

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Evolution of Stars and Stripes

Endless Designs with a Single Polynomial

Endless Designs with a Single Polynomial

Acrobats



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Can it appeal to little kids?

Can it appeal to little kids?

Can it appeal to Hollywood?

Can it appeal to little kids?

Can it appeal to Hollywood?

Can it lead to games?





"Just give me a bunch of dots I will make Picasso jealous!"



"Just give me a bunch of dots I will make Picasso jealous!" **Ms. Poly** (Master of Polynomiography)

















They call me Z.T. Is Popularization of Polynomiography Possible?