

Shape of the Earth, Motion of the Planets and the Method of Least Squares

Speaker: Professor Probal Chaudhuri
Indian Statistical Institute, India
Date: Thursday, 20 March 2014
Time: 6:30 - 7:30 pm
Venue: LT31, Block S16, Level 3
Faculty of Science
National University of Singapore
10 Lower Kent Ridge Road
Singapore 117546



Free Admission Abstract

In the 18th century, while dealing with astronomical and geodesic measurements, scientists were confronted with a statistical problem, which in those days was described as "the problem of combining inconsistent equations". People who worked on this problem and contributed towards its solutions include Boscovich, Euler, Gauss, Laplace and Legendre among many others. I shall discuss the history of the problem and how it eventually led to the invention of the method of least squares.

About the Speaker

Probal Chaudhuri is a Professor at the Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata. He did his undergraduate and post-graduate studies at the same Institute and received his PhD in Statistics from the University of California at Berkeley. Before returning to India to join the Indian Statistical Institute, he was a faculty member of the University of Wisconsin at Madison. He is an elected fellow of all three national science academies in India.

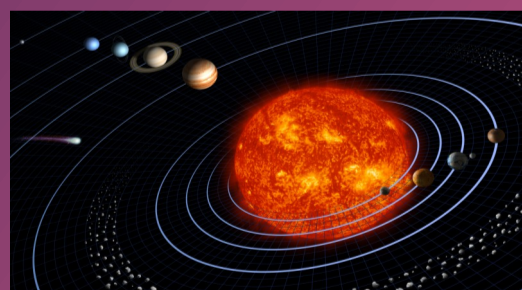
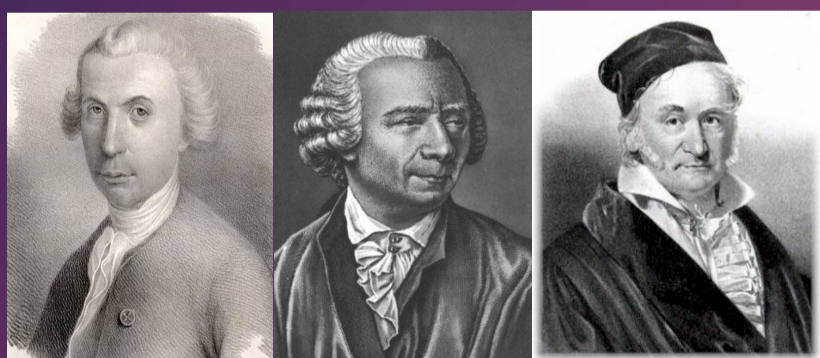


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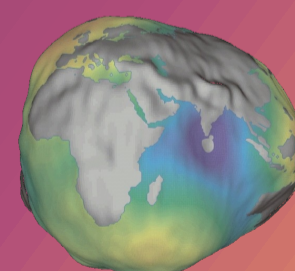


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