



The Math Colloquium  
Department of Mathematics  
San José State University



## Hans Johansen Washington Mutual

*Why is Excel the #1 software application  
for business?*

NOVEMBER 12, 2008, MH320

**Abstract:** Despite 100 years of management theory, most business executives are still uncomfortable applying simple linear regression. In this talk we will cover areas where that may be changing — where mathematical thinking is supporting more effective corporate analysis, planning and decision making. We will use simple analogies and examples from engineering that suggest better mathematical approaches to common business problems.

*Background:* Basic familiarity with linear algebra, calculus and statistics is required. Some experience with business and engineering problems is useful.

*About the speaker:* Hans Johansen received his Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering from the University of California, Berkeley, focusing on algorithms in computational fluid dynamics. He is currently Chief Architect for Washington Mutual (now part of JP Morgan Chase), focusing on technology strategy, innovation and governance.

SNACKS IN MH331B AT 2:30 PM

TALK STARTS AT 3 PM

For more information, see our full schedule at:

<http://www.math.sjsu.edu/~hsu/colloq/>