



The Math Colloquium  
Department of Mathematics  
San José State University



## Jim Foster

### *Linear Algebra Blasts Off into Orbit*

APRIL 13, 2011, MH320

**Abstract:** The speaker will present interesting applications of Linear Algebra used in the design, launch and operation of earth satellites. These applications are drawn from his 25 years in the aerospace industry and 10 years of teaching Linear Algebra. The applications are not found in Linear Algebra textbooks or classes.

*Background:* It will be useful but not essential for students to have had one course in Linear Algebra.

**About the speaker:** Jim Foster has worked 25 years at Lockheed Martin Space Division in Sunnyvale, CA. He has been involved in the design, construction, launch, and ground support of commercial, civilian, and military satellites, emphasizing attitude control, attitude determination, and system analysis. He also has taught Linear Algebra for 10 years in the Applied Mathematics Department of the Engineering Graduate School at Santa Clara University. He obtained his Ph.D. in mathematics at the University of Southern California.

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/>