



The Math Colloquium  
Department of Mathematics  
San José State University



# Vladimir Drobot

## SJSU

*Golomb rulers*

APRIL 20, 2011, MH320

**Abstract:** What is the smallest number of inch marks on a ruler that allows us to measure all integral distances? This question motivates our survey of Golomb rulers, perfect rulers, and minimal rulers — different types of rulers for allowing the most measurements with the smallest number of marks.

*Background:* This talk can be understood and appreciated by any student who has completed a discrete math course at a sophomore level.

**About the speaker:** Vladimir Drobot received his Ph.D. in Mathematics in 1967 from the University of Illinois. He taught at SUNY Buffalo, Santa Clara University, and SJSU in the Math and/or Computer Science Departments. After explaining things for 40 years, he felt he finally understood the stuff himself well enough, so he retired in 2007.

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/>