Analytic Combinatorics for the Masses

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Abstract

In the 21st century, most professors are still teaching in virtually the same way they were taught and their teachers were taught, stretching back at least to the 19th century. This situation is likely to change, and soon. Technology is transforming (if not threatening to overwhelm) higher education, as MOOCs and online content become widely available. University students seeking to learn a topic who now have little if any choice are about to be presented with a vast array of choices. What student would not want to swap a tired professor writing slowly on a chalkboard for a well-produced series of videos and associated content, given by a world leader in the field? This imminent change raises a host of fascinating and far-reaching questions. This talk will address a few of these questions, but focus on one in particular: Can an advanced subject such as Analytic Combinatorics be taught effectively online?