

Decision Processes Colloquia

Monday, November, 8, 2021

Where: 370 JMHH

When: 12:00 – 1:00 pm

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The Bible Code Puzzle and its Solution.

ABSTRACT:

A paper of Witztum, Rips and Rosenberg in this journal in 1994 made the extraordinary claim that the Hebrew text of the Book of Genesis encodes events which did not occur until millennia after the text was written. In reply, we argue that Witztum, Rips and Rosenberg's case is fatally defective, indeed that their result merely reflects on the choices made in designing their experiment and collecting the data for it. We present extensive evidence in support of that conclusion. We also report on many new experiments of our own, all of which failed to detect the alleged phenomenon.

The codes purportedly recorded events that occurred centuries after the Bible was written. I will present the puzzle, and its solution, in which I was involved. A scientific "whodunnit".