

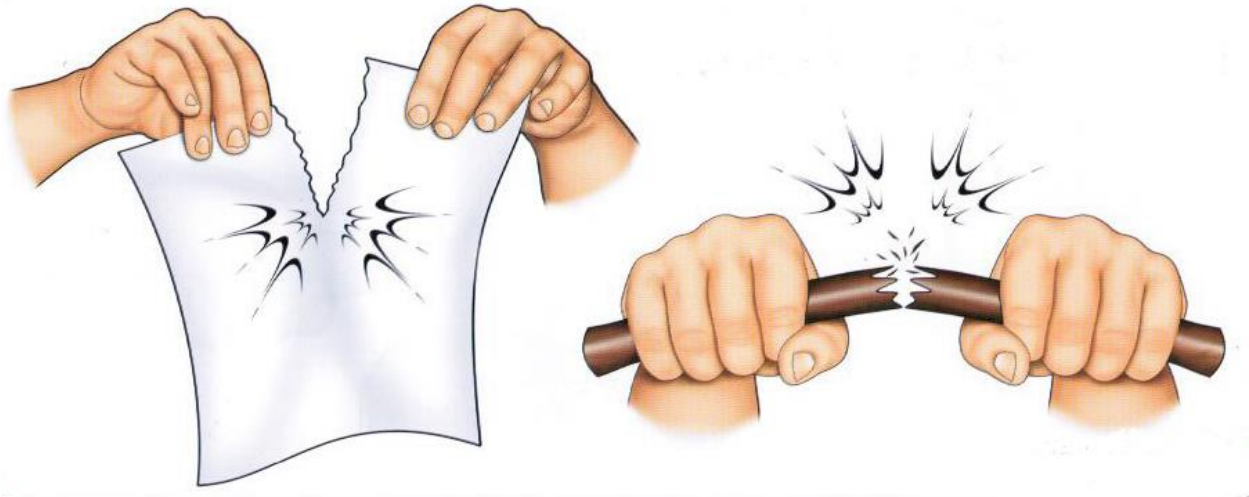
# The SUMO Speaker Series for Undergraduates

Thursday, January 8th

4:15-5:05, room 380C

(Food Provided)

Stick-breaking and factoring



Professor Akshay Venkatesh

## Abstract:

Take a stick, break it in two at a random break-point, discard the left-hand piece and repeat. We will discuss the statistics of this process (e.g., how likely that all the pieces are at most one-tenth the length of the original stick?) and explain why the answer plays a vital role in all algorithms to factorize large integers.

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