

# Numbers and Nature

A symposium to celebrate the life and legacy of Mitchell J. Feigenbaum.

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Thursday, June 2, 2022

Lecture Hall 6-120

**8:30 Registration**

**9:00 Welcome**

Daniel Rothman – *Professor of Geophysics and Co-Director of the Lorenz Center, MIT-EAPS*  
Gemunu Gunaratne – *Moore's Professor of Physics, University of Houston*

## MORNING LECTURE SESSION 1

**9:10 Maps and Shapes**

L. Mahadevan – *Professor of Physics, de Valpine Professor of Applied Mathematics, and Professor of Organismic and Evolutionary Biology, Harvard*

### Geometry, Topology, and Electrophysiology

Adam Cohen – *Professor of Chemistry, Chemical Biology, and Physics, Harvard*

### Mitchell's Role in Chaos *(Presented via Zoom)*

Albert Libchaber – *Detlev W. Bronk Professor of Physics, Rockefeller University*

**10:40 Coffee Break | Chipman Room, 6-104**

## MORNING LECTURE SESSION 2

**11:00 Ein Sturm im Wasserglas**

Björn Hof – *Professor of Physics, IST Austria*

### Hydrodynamics and Microbes

Alex Petroff – *Professor of Physics, Clark University*

### Life and Death of Turbulence *(Presented via Zoom)*

Nigel Goldenfeld – *Swanlund Chair, Center for Advanced Study Professor of Physics, UC San Diego*

**12:30 Lunch on your own**

## AFTERNOON LECTURE SESSION 1

**2:00 Optics, Vision, and Evolution After Mitchell Feigenbaum**

Jean-Pierre Eckmann – *Professeur Honoraire, University of Geneva*

### The DeltaCELT Rattleback and Anamorphic Images

Ken Brecher – *Professor of Astronomy and Physics, Emeritus, Boston University*

### Stories of Fluids and Light *(Presented via Zoom)*

Reymond E. Goldstein – *Schlumberger Professor of Complex Physical Systems, Univ. of Cambridge*

### Mathematics, Computation, and Nature

Stephen Wolfram – *Founder and CEO, Wolfram Research*

**4:00 Coffee Break | Chipman Room, 6-104**

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**KEYNOTE LECTURE**

**4:30 Four Illusions**

Sir Michael Berry – *Melville Wills Professor of Physics (Emeritus), University of Bristol*

**6:00 Public Reception | Ida Green Lounge, 9th Floor, Building 54**

**7:30 Dinner | Morss Hall, Walker Memorial, Building 50 – by invitation, preregistration required**

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Friday, June 3, 2022

Lecture Hall 6-120

**8:30 Registration**

**MORNING LECTURE SESSION 1**

**9:00 Turbulence, From Newton's Quadratic Law of Drag to Mitchell Feigenbaum and Recent Times**

Yves Pomeau – *Emeritus Research Director, French National Centre for Scientific Research*

**Broken Symmetries in Living Systems**

Nikta Fakhri – *Thomas D. and Virginia W. Cabot Career Development Professor, MIT-Physics*

**Overcoming the Random Closed Packed Barrier: Crystallization in Granular Media**

*(Presented via Zoom)*

Harry Swinney – *Professor Emeritus, University of Texas at Austin*

**10:30 Coffee Break | Chipman Room, 6-104**

**MORNING LECTURE SESSION 2**

**11:00 Singularity in a Teacup – When Nature Gives Infinity**

Dwight Barkey – *Professor of Mathematics, University of Warwick*

**Vortex Sheets and Turbulent Statistics *(Presented via Zoom)***

Sasha Migdal – *Research Professor of Physics, NYU*

**Venus as a Potentially Habitable Planet**

Sara Seager – *Class of 1941 Professor of Planetary Science, Professor of Physics, and Professor of Aeronautics and Astronautics, MIT-EAPS, Physics and AeroAstro*

**12:30 Lunch on your own**

**AFTERNOON LECTURE SESSION 1**

**2:00 Encoding Patterns in Single-Cell Locomotion: Oscillations, Synchronization, and Excitability**

Kirsty Wan – *ERC Starting Grantee, Senior Lecturer, University of Exeter*

**The Mysteries of Gaps and Pile-Ups at Planetary Resonances**

Renu Malhotra – *Louise Foucar Marshall Science Research Professor and Regents Professor of Planetary Sciences, University of Arizona*

**Neural Manifolds for Control of Movement** *(Presented via Zoom)*

Sara A. Solla – *Professor of Neuroscience and Physics, Northwestern*

**3:30 Coffee Break | Chipman Room, 6-104**

**AFTERNOON LECTURE SESSION 2**

**4:00 Hydrodynamic Quantum Analogs**

John Bush – *Professor of Applied Mathematics and Fluid Dynamics, MIT-Math*

**Shocks and Surprises: Screening of Elasticity by Plastic Charges in Amorphous Solids**

Itamar Procaccia – *Barbara and Morris L. Levinson Professorial Chair in Chemical Physics, Weizmann Institute of Science*

**Glassy Dynamics in Earth's Carbon Cycle**

Dan Rothman – *Professor of Geophysics and Co-Director of the Lorenz Center, MIT-EAPS*

**5:30 Adjourn**

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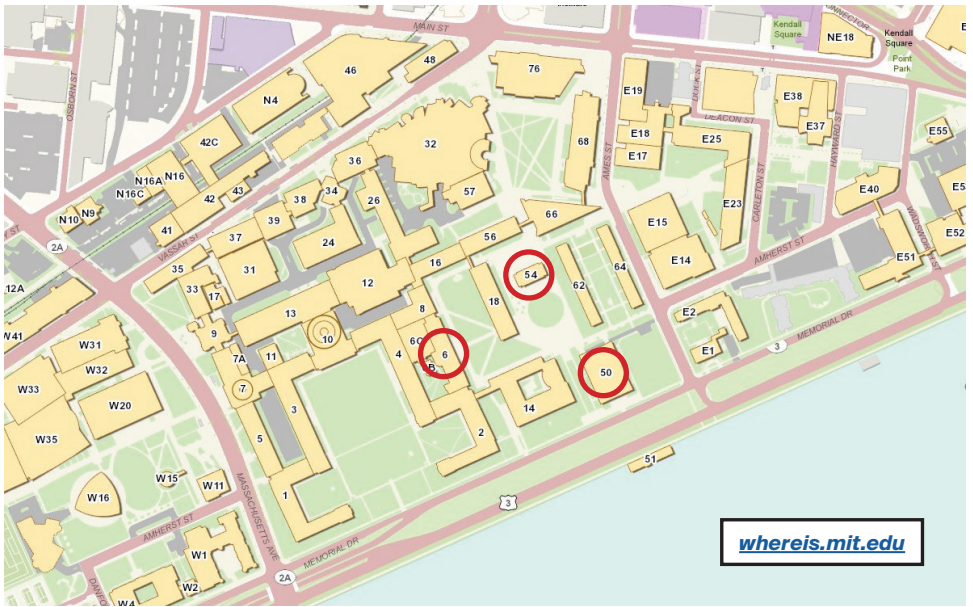
**SUGGESTED WALKING DISTANCE LUNCH SPOTS**

Fast / Casual

- **Forbes Café** » Stata Center, Building 32
- **Vester** » Kendall Square, 73 Ames Street
- **CAVA** » Kendall Square, 82 Ames Street
- **Clover Food Lab** » Kendall Square, 355 Main Street
- **Café Luna** » 612 Main Street
- **Sweetgreen** » 201 Galileo Galilei Way

Sit-Down / Table Service

- **Catalyst** » 300 Technology Square, Main Street
- **Mex Taqueria** » 500 Technology Square, Main Street
- **Area 4** » 500 Technology Square, Main Street
- **Sulmona** » 608 Main Street
- **Amelia's Trattoria** » 111 Harvard Street
- **Black Sheep** » Kendall Square Hotel, 350 Main Street

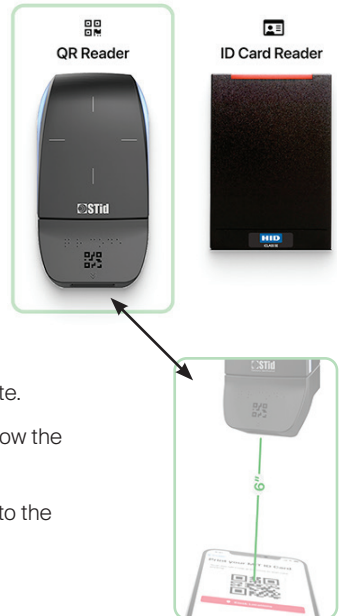


**Non-MIT Attendees – Tim Ticket registration and Covid health attestation required for campus access.**

Using your smartphone, scan this QR code to be taken to MIT’s Tim Ticket website. Follow these steps to complete your Tim Ticket registration:



- Click or tap on Visitor.
- Enter your mobile number and click Send OTP to receive a one-time PIN code via SMS.
- Enter the PIN code you received and tap Login.
- Enter your contact details and complete the health attestation.
- The app will display a private QR code for you to scan at the electronic readers stationed outside building entrances to gain access.
- Present your Tim Ticket QR code below the scanner. You can display your QR code from the MIT Tim Tickets mobile application or by printing it out from the [visitors.mit.edu](http://visitors.mit.edu) website.
- Scan your QR code by holding your phone at least 6 inches below the scanner, with the QR code face up.
- Do not hold your phone in front of the of the scanner, too close to the scanner, or with the screen facing away from the scanner.



**You must repeat the health attestation each day prior to visiting campus.**

**Questions? Email Alma Pellecer: [pellecer@mit.edu](mailto:pellecer@mit.edu)**