



## Invitation to Workshop on “Motivating Mathematics Teaching Through Real-Life Examples”

### Overview

Most educators would agree that motivating abstract mathematical concepts through real-life examples would make high-school students more receptive. However, using such examples raises some new issues:

- How should one choose appropriate examples?
- Is the non-mathematics context of the examples important?
- Where can one find such examples and the necessary background material?
- How can a teacher deal with students with diverse interests (or lack of)?
- How can such an approach be adopted in the limited time available?
- How much time and effort does a teacher need to prepare such examples?
- How should a teacher deal with difficult follow-up questions related to the Real-life examples?
- If such questions are not in the final examinations, why bother introducing them in class?

### Programme

- 10am Sign-in by participants
- 10.15 “The difficulties of using real-life examples in mathematics teaching, and some possible solutions”—A talk by Dr. Rajesh R. Parwani.
- 10.45 Q/A (including questions sent in advance by teachers during registration)
- 11.15 Round-table discussion
- 11.45 Conclusion
- 12 nn Close of workshop.

### Details

1. Organiser: Simplicity Research Institute, Singapore ([www.simplicitysg.net](http://www.simplicitysg.net)).
2. Date: 30 August 2014 (Sat)
3. Time: Starts at 10am (sign in), ends at 11.45am
4. Venue: International Plaza, Singapore 079903, 10 Anson Road, Office #13-13
5. Transport: Tanjong Pagar MRT. Parking in building or along Peck Seah Street.

### Registration

1. Required but free. **ALL high-school mathematics teachers are welcome! (You don't need this invitation to register).**
2. Limited to 35 participants on a first registered, first reserved basis.
3. Please send an email from your official school/MOE account to [wkshop@simplicitysg.net](mailto:wkshop@simplicitysg.net)  
**Subject:** register  
**Body:** Your full name and  
The name of your school
4. Registered participants may email advance questions before the workshop. These will be discussed during the Q/A and roundtable sessions

### Facilitator' profile

Dr. Rajesh R. Parwani is a scientist with 25 years of research experience, specialising in quantum theory. He has taught university level modules in quantitative reasoning, multi-disciplinary science and physics, and mentored students from high-school to graduate school. Recently he co-authored two books: *Integrated Mathematics for Explorers*, and *Real World Mathematics*. He provides research and education consultancy through the Simplicity Research Institute. His detailed profile is on SRI's website.



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