

**BI-CO MATHEMATICS
COLLOQUIUM**

**Professor Keith Burns
Northwestern University**

*“A simple proof of Sharkovsky’s
theorem”*

Monday, November 19, 2007

Talk at 4:15 – Park 338
Tea at 3:45 – Park 355, Math Lounge

Abstract:

Sharkovsky's theorem completely describes which sets of integers can be the least periods of the periodic points that arise when we iterate a continuous map of an interval to itself. The theorem has two remarkable features. Firstly it is amazing that one can say anything of this nature. Secondly the proof is simple, certainly simple enough to be understood by undergraduates.

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