

Who's #1 ?

Can a Simple Ranking Algorithm Answer College Football's Toughest Question?

Almost every year multiple teams believe they have a legitimate argument to be college football's national champion. Even with human input and complicated formulas, agreement is rare. We look at a model that is simple enough for discussion and use in the classroom, but accurate enough to provide a reasonable ranking of 120 college teams. The algorithm supplies opportunities for classroom investigation into the modeling process, convergence of iterative methods, and other topics in linear algebra. It also provides some illumination as to why the ranking problem in college football is so difficult. Variations of the algorithm will be discussed as time allows.

Speaker: Brian Hollenbeck
Mathematics
Emporia State University

Time: Friday, Feb. 20
4-4:50 pm

Place: Room 309, Haag Hall
UMKC

Refreshments will be served. Please Announce to Your Classes.

Organizer: Richard Delaware, delawarer@umkc.edu
The talks assume only undergraduate mathematics. For more details check
<http://cas.umkc.edu/math/> (See News and Events page)