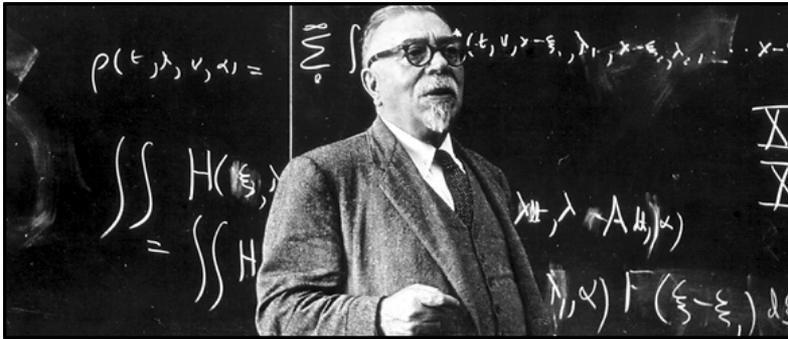


Today in Math History...



-26 November 1894

Norbert Wiener born...
in Columbia, Missouri.

Norbert Wiener was an American theoretical and applied mathematician. He is perhaps best known as the founder of cybernetics.

Cybernetics is the study of feedback and derived concepts such as communication and control in living organisms, machines and organizations. Its focus is how anything (digital, mechanical or biological) processes information, reacts to information, and changes or can be changed to better accomplish the first two tasks. A more philosophical definition, suggested in 1956 by Louis Couffignal, one of the pioneers of cybernetics, characterizes it as “the art of ensuring the efficacy of action.”