

ANNOUNCEMENT

Science Centre Singapore
cordially invites you to

Science in the Café

on
Thursday, 9 April 2009 at 7:00pm
to be held in
The Newton Room
Science Centre Singapore
with

Asst/Prof Mandar Chitre

Head, Acoustic Research Laboratory, Tropical Marine Science Institute
National University of Singapore

on

The Good, The Bad, & The Noisy

Please see below for more information.

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Attendance is free of charge but pre-registration is required.
Reservations are accepted on a first-come-first-served basis due to limited seating.
Please make your reservations by directly replying to this Announcement,
or, online through <http://www.science.edu.sg/ssc/CafeMain.htm>
at least 2 days before the event.

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*We will retain your e-mail addresses so that
we may inform you of future Science Centre events & activities.
If you wish to have your address removed from our list, please inform us.
Thank you.*

The Good, The Bad & The Noisy

Snapping shrimps are perhaps the noisiest of creatures that live in warm shallow waters around the world. Although snapping shrimps are only a few centimetres in size, they compete with sperm whales and beluga whales for the title of the loudest animals in the sea! Why they produce such loud noises is only vaguely understood, but it is certain that the noise they produce has a big impact on underwater acoustic sensing for both nature and man. Although traditional acoustic sensing systems have considered snapping shrimps as undesirable noise sources for decades, some novel acoustic cameras can use the noise to “see” underwater in pitch darkness. Perhaps snapping shrimps are also instrumental in keeping the reefs alive by functioning as underwater navigational beacons for fish larvae. In this café, let’s explore these and many other interesting facets of the cacophony that snapping shrimps produce.

Mandar Chitre

... is currently the Head of the Acoustic Research Laboratory at the Tropical Marine Science Institute. He is an Assistant Professor at the Department of Electrical &

Computer Engineering, NUS. His research interests include ambient noise imaging, underwater acoustic communications, autonomous underwater vehicles, emergent behaviour of complex systems and computational biology. To complement his many research endeavours, he spent 5 years in industry as the Chief Technology Officer of a regional telecommunications software company. Apart from professional interests, Mandar has a passion for photography, computers, scuba diving, chilli, wine, contract bridge, and racket sports.

He has a long relationship with snapping shrimps. They have not only been the subject of endless but fascinating discussions, but also been instrumental in helping him get through his bachelor's degree, master's degree and his PhD!

<http://www.chitre.net/>

<http://www.arl.nus.edu.sg/web/people/mandar>
