962-J1-637 Stacey A Rodman\* (marodman@augustana.edu), Mathematics Department, Augustana College, 639 38th Street, Rock Island 61201. *Using Mathematica labs to encourage students to explore the underlying concepts.* Preliminary report.

Mathematica can be used to create labs that allow the student to explore math concepts that would normally be obscured by calculations. Students get a better feel for a topic if given the opportunity to repeatedly change different aspects and immediately see the effect of their choices. We will look at files illustrating concepts in such classes as Differential Equations, Multivariable Calculus, Linear Algebra. (Received September 18, 2000)