

Translating: From Arabic to Zulu

The current pace of document creation (on the Internet, for example) is much greater than the capacity of human translators, which makes *machine translation* a necessity. Machine translators use probability, statistics and graph theory in combination with databases of hundreds of millions of words and phrases in many languages to achieve good translations efficiently. Thus, mathematics, often called the universal language, also forms a bridge between languages.

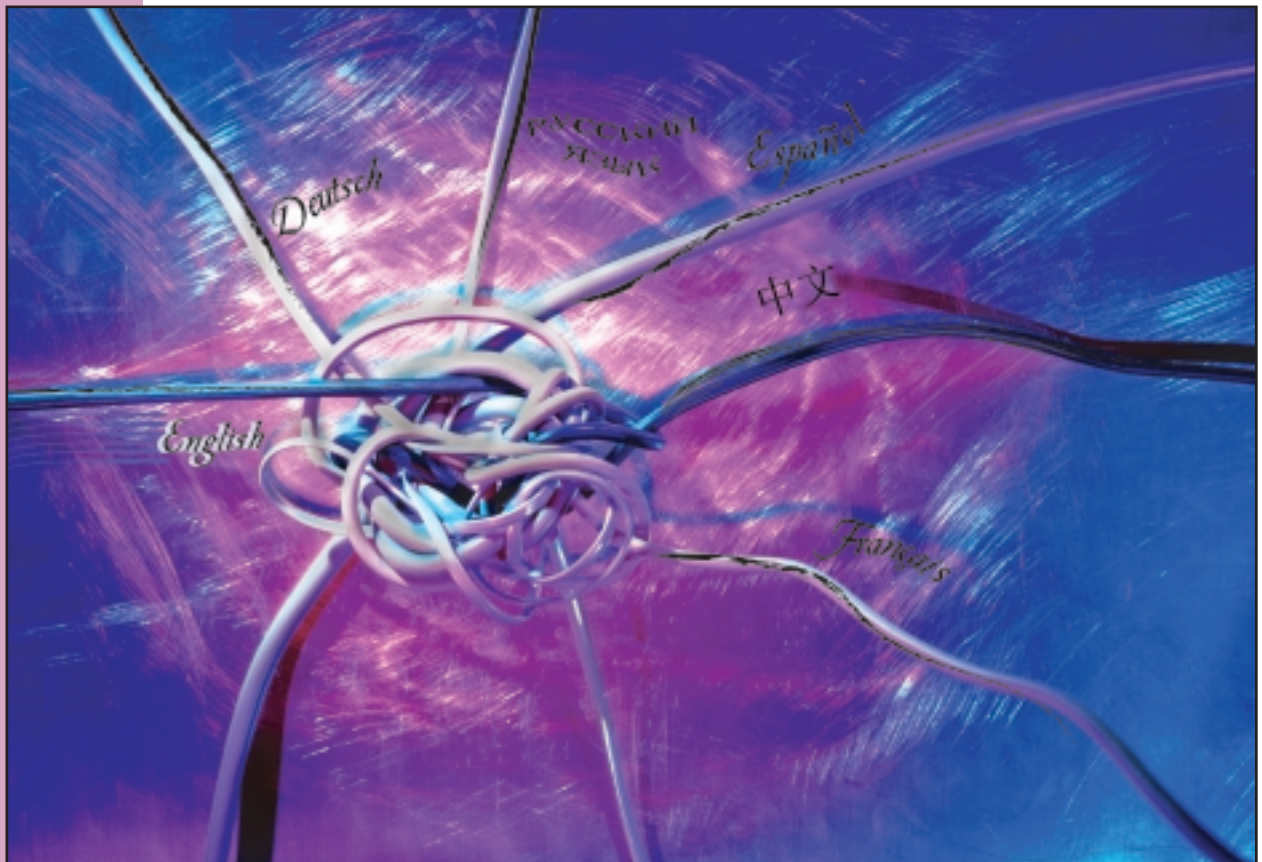


Image courtesy of University of Toronto Libraries.



The **Mathematical Moments** program promotes appreciation and understanding of the role mathematics plays in science, nature, technology, and human culture.

www.ams.org/mathmoments