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From : Michael Atiyah <M.Atiyah@ed.ac.uk>
Sent : Saturday, November 19, 2005 10:18 AM
To : "C. K. Raju" <c_k_raju@hotmail.com>
Subject : Re: functional differential equations



MIME-Version: 1.0
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X-Message-Info: JGTYoYF78jEHjJx36Oi8+Z3TmmkSEdPtflB7P/ybN8=
User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Windows; U; Windows NT 5.1; en-US; rv:1.4) Gecko/20030624 Netscape/7.1 (ax)
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Dear Professor Raju,

Thank you for your message and my apologies for this late reply.

There is certainly some overlap in our ideas about the relevance of retarded differential equations to physics, but my own ideas are still fluid and far from settled. If they converge to anything sensible I will pass them on to you.

While I was in Santa Barbara, California, my attention was drawn to Feynman's thesis (just recently published under that title by World Scientific Press - author Laurie Brown). Retarded and advanced differential equations arise there in the context of the dynamics of charged particles and you might find the discussion interesting.

Michael Atiyah



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