

Cal Poly Department of Mathematics

Puzzle of the Week

April 2-8, 2010

1000 light bulbs are connected to 1000 switches, all placed in a very long row, all initially switched off. Person 1 goes and flips the switch on every light, then person 2 flips the switch on every second light, then person 3 flips the switch on every 3rd light, and so on.

After person 1000 finishes how many bulbs are switched on?

Solutions should be submitted to Morgan Sherman:

Dept. of Mathematics, Cal Poly

Email: sherman1 -AT- calpoly.edu

Office: bldg 25 room 310

before next Friday. Those with correct and complete solutions will have their names listed in next week's email announcement. Anybody is welcome to make a submission.