GIRIJANANDA CHOWDHURY UNIVERSITY

28 MARCH 2024

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NEWS BULLETIN

BENFORD'S LAW: THE FASCINATING WORLD OF DIGITS WITHIN NUMBERS

AZARA, March 28: The Department of Mathematics organised a seminar on 'Digits within Numbers in Scientific and Real Data' in the university premises on 21 March, 2024. Prof. Alex Ely Kossovsky specializes in Physics and Pure Mathematics at the State University of New York, Stony Brook and in Applied Mathematics and Statistics at the City University, New York. Prof. Kossovsky is the author of the books "Benford's Law", "Studies in Benford's Law", "Small is Beautiful" and "The Birth of Science". He is the inventor of a patented mathematical algorithm used in data fraud detection and analysis and is considered by some to be the world's leading expert on the topic of Benford's Law in mathematics and its many scientific and forensic applications.

Dr. Madhumita Mahanta felicitating Prof. Alex Ely Kossovsky.

If the leading digits 1-9 had an equal probability of appearing in our data, then each of them would have occurred 11.1% (i.e. 100/9) of the time. Intriguingly, however, approximately 30% of numbers in most large data sets start with 1 and only around 5% start with 9. This regular pattern in the recurrence of digits has been used by analysts to detect fraud in financial records, tax returns, poll data and other decision-making documents. If the data in these large data sets do not follow this pattern, it is considered a red flag and the data is often regarded as suspicious.

The objective of the lecture was to provide a method for the challenging task of deciding whether a given data set might have been invented in a fraudulent way or appeared authentic and real. This is done not by examining the numbers themselves, but surprisingly, rather by investigating the digital proportions within the numbers of the data set. The technique relies on Benford's Law, a statistical law referring to the consistent and predictable relative proportions of digits occurring within typical real-life data. Students, research scholars and faculty members of the university and other colleges attended the seminar.

Prof. Alex Ely Kossovsky speaking on Benford's Law.

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A WORKSHOP ON BASIC C PROGRAMMING

AZARA, March 28: A workshop on “Basic C Programming” was organized on 23rd March, 2024 for the students of Electrical Engineering, Girijananda Chowdhury University. The workshop mainly focused on the fundamentals of C programming for students of Electrical Engineering. The primary objective of the workshop was to furnish participants with a robust understanding of C programming to enable them to proficiently apply their knowledge and programming skills in the realm of Embedded Systems.

C is a general-purpose programming language created by Dennis Ritchie at the Bell Laboratories in 1972. It is one of the most popular programming languages, primarily because it is used as a fundamental language in the field of computer science. C++, another popular programming language, was originally developed as an extension of C, and both languages have almost the same syntax.

A total of nine students from the Electrical Engineering department participated in the event. The workshop mainly aimed to empower students with the foundational skills necessary for navigating the intricacies of programming, particularly in the context of Embedded Systems.

Students learning the basics of the C programming language at the workshop.

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EXCURSION TO SHILLONG: DISCOVERING ACADEMIC & CULTURAL DIMENSIONS

AZARA, March 28: The Department of English and Foreign Languages, Girijananda Chowdhury University embarked on an educational excursion to Shillong, the picturesque capital of Meghalaya, India. The delegation of faculty members and students visited North Eastern Hill University (NEHU), The English and Foreign Languages University (EFLU), Regional Campus, Shillong and Sports Authority of India (SAI). They visited Don Bosco Museum, Bamboo Village, Golf Course and Laitlum to experience the unique charm and beauty of the region. The breathtaking Laitlum Canyons in the East Khasi Hills are a favorite hotspot for travellers and mountain trekkers.

The trip provided students with an deeper understanding of academic environment, cultural diversity, linguistic heritage and the rich natural beauty of the region. The excursion proved to be a remarkable experience for both faculty members and students alike. The delegation had the opportunity to explore various academic institutions as well as immerse themselves in the scenic beauty of the region. Such experiences play a crucial role in broadening perspectives and nurturing a holistic approach to education.

Faculty members and students visiting SAI, NEHU and EFLU in Shillong.