

TURING'S TIGER

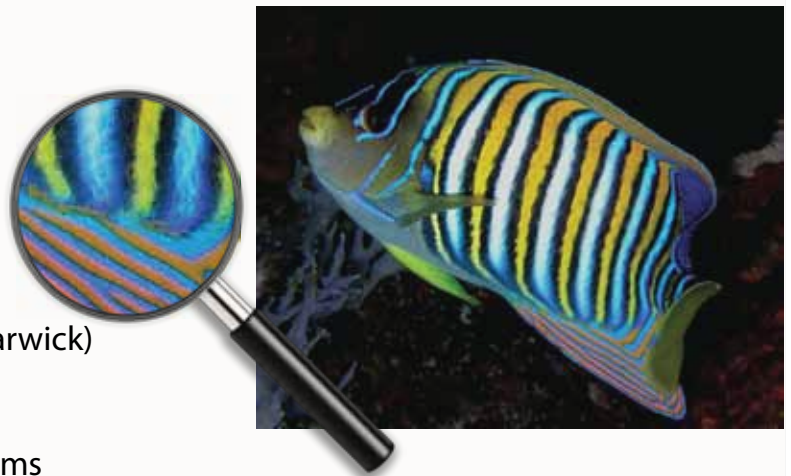
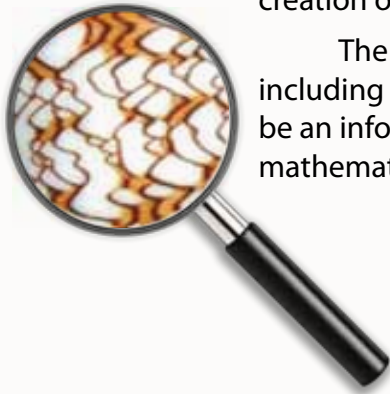
Ian Stewart, FRS



2012 is the centenary of the birth of Alan Turing. Turing is best known for his wartime code-breaking work at Bletchley Park and his fundamental contributions to computer science and artificial intelligence, but he was also a pioneer of mathematical biology.

Many animals have striking markings: spots on a leopard, stripes on a tiger. How do they arise? In the early 1950s, Turing showed his colleagues a drawing with irregular black-and-white patches, asking them whether they agreed that it looked like a cow. In 1952 he published 'the chemical basis of morphogenesis', in which he proposed a mechanism for the creation of animal markings.

The resulting patterns are remarkably similar to those found on many animals, including convoluted stripes on fish and intricate patterns on seashells. The talk will be an informal, highly illustrated discussion of these Turing patterns in both mathematics and biology, with no technicalities.



Date: **Monday 19th November 2012**

Time: **6.30pm**

Venue: **MS.02, Zeeman Building**

(Mathematics & Statistics, University of Warwick)

Refreshments will be served in the Main Atrium,
Zeeman Building after the lecture.

For more details see www.warwick.ac.uk/go/wplms

Warwick Public Lectures in Mathematics and Statistics are aimed
at a general audience