

# What did Polya Know about One Way Functions and Quantum Randomness

Steve Meyer - Pragmatic C Software Corp  
(sjmeyer@pragmatic-c.com)

## I. Problem background observation from Leonid Levin paper.

Cf. 'The tale of one way functions' (available from his home page) and the speculations in the January 2003 issue of *Journal of the ACM*.

## II. Problem area.

Problem area is foundations of mathematics of computational complexity related to undecidability, diagonalization of languages and intuitive inconsistency of probablism (Kolmogorov complexity?).

## III. Levin quotation:

The importance of [the randomness part of one-way functions] comes from their use in generating perfectly random bits from a small random seed  $s$ . In the case of permutation  $f$ , such generators are straightforward:

$$g_s(i) = b(f^i(s)), i = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$