Vasily Strela, a former student of Strang's who is now at Drexel University, was one of the conference organizers.

Gilbert Strang, with Abdul-Qayy Khaliq of Western Illinois University.

Two of the conference organizers—Alan Edelman of MIT (left), and former Strang student Hermann Matthies (middle), now of the Technical University of Braunschweig— are shown below with Andrew Wathen of Oxford University (an early leader of the SIAM United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland Section).

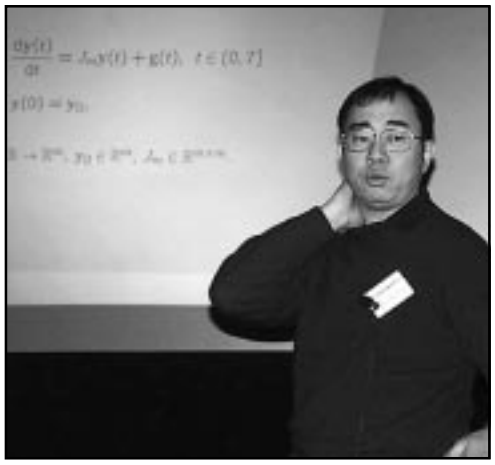
Perspectives in Applied Mathematics: A Conference in Honor of Gil Strang

Keynote speaker Peter Lax of the Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences, New York University; the title of his talk was "Multiple Eigenblues."

As SIAM president, Gilbert Strang has been an energetic (and well-traveled) spokesperson, constantly looking for ways to draw new people from all over the world into SIAM. On December 3 and 4, at just about the midpoint of his two-year term, the tables were turned as students, friends, and colleagues from far and near made their way to MIT's Media Lab for a two-day conference held to celebrate his 65th birthday.

The conference was organized by a group of colleagues and students, past and present. The speakers discussed a variety of topics of current interest in applied mathematics, with the emphasis on results that have been motivated by Strang's work. As the conference Web site (www-math.mit.edu/~gsfest) makes clear, one of his most important results is "$\hat{\phi}(\omega)$ must have zeroes of order p at all frequencies $\omega = 2\pi n$, $n \neq 0$." Shown here are a few of the organizers and speakers; the titles of all the talks, and additional photographs, can be found on the Web.

Friend and colleague Lin Qun of the Institute of Systems Sciences, Academia Sinica, Beijing, China.



Raymond Chan of the Chinese University of Hong Kong (the current vice president of the East Asia Section of SIAM).

Kai Borre of Aalborg University, Denmark, is the co-author, with Strang, of Linear Algebra, Geodesy, and GPS, published in 1997 by the Wellesley–Cambridge Press.