

2019  
NZ Rutherford Lecture

# Logic, Maths and Modern Society



## Professor Rod Downey FRSNZ Logician

Victoria University of Wellington

We are living in the most mathematical age of all time, because of computers.

The massive computational power at our disposal has driven innovation in all aspects of modern society such as science, medicine, and social development – the impact of computing is extraordinary.

A main contributor to the evolution of computing power is a branch of mathematics called Logic. But what is Logic and how does it contribute to advancing technology?

Rod Downey, Professor of Mathematics and 2018 Rutherford Medal winner, chronicles the story of Logic to then consider some of the deepest and most important issues of modern mathematics and computing – what can we compute and what can't we compute, and why?



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**DUNEDIN**  
University of Otago  
Castle 1 Lecture Theatre

**Wednesday 20 March, 5:30pm**

All welcome. Free admission.

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