



Wavelet theory helped LIGO to detect gravitational waves.

like a fairy tale,” Meyer said in a 2011 interview (see go.nature.com/2n71lot). “I felt I had finally found my home.”

By 1986, Meyer had created the first set of wavelets that were at least as powerful as Fourier’s waves (P. G. Lemarié & Y. Meyer *Rev. Matem. Iberoam.* **2**, 1–18; 1986). And in the following years, while at the University of Paris Dauphine, he acted as the hub of a network of mathematicians, engineers, physicists and

computer scientists who seemed to make new discoveries every week, Morel recalls. “He was communicating to people who don’t even talk the same mathematical language,” says Morel. “All of these people had pieces of the puzzle.”

He adds that a “nice, clean, general theory emerged” that included, and improved on, the tools used to make Fourier analysis more practical — for example, showing that tools for processing signals could also compress data.

Meyer’s desire to cross disciplines stemmed from his childhood in colonial Tunis: he was “obsessed”, he said in the 2011 interview, by wanting to cross ethnic frontiers.

People who know Meyer describe a man of generosity and rectitude, Morel says. He leads an ascetic life, split between office and home, where he lives with his wife, and is “the most welcoming” and “modest person”.

Indeed, on hearing the news, Meyer said: “I feel at the same time happy, surprised and slightly guilty.” ■

CORRECTIONS

The graphic in the News story ‘China seeks cosmic-ray win’ (*Nature* **543**, 300–301; 2017) erroneously gave the surface area of the surface-water Cherenkov detector as 80-m². In fact, the area is 80,000 m².

The News story ‘Ancient volcanoes exposed’ (*Nature* **543**, 295–296; 2017) wrongly said that ancient Siberian volcanic eruptions could have raised global temperatures by 7°C per year, rather than over 100 years.

The News Feature ‘A new twist on epigenetics’ (*Nature* **542**, 406–408; 2017) omitted a reference (M. J. Koziol *et al.* *Nature Struct. Mol. Biol.* **23**, 24–30; 2016) that demonstrated 6mA in mammalian cells.