Minisymposium 7 - Stochastic algorithms and Markov processes

Problem solving is often a matter of cooking up an appropriate Markov chain

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By means of a series of examples, taken from classic contributions to probability theory as well as from my own practice, I will try to convince the audience of the claim made in the title of the talk. Along the way, I will have reason to discuss topics such as coupling, correlation inequalities, and percolation.