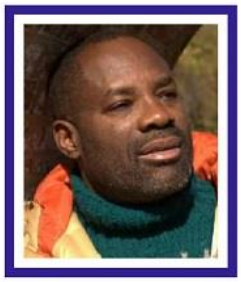

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Handwritten stories and lecture notes with heavy cross-outs tossed into the wastebasket of Philip Emeagwali. Some crumpled notes were retrieved on second thought. Some were lost to the past. They provide clues on how his vision took shape through the years. At the time of writing, his ideas were not fully formed, hence the endless drawing of arrows and crossing of awkward sentences.

For my discoveries and inventions
to become of the greatest economic benefit
to mankind, and ~~and~~ in particular,
reduce poverty
in my oil producing country of birth,
Nigeria, I had to focus
on the most important application,
which was the recovery of oil and gas
formed millions of years ago.
That recovery was important
because only about 30 percent
of the oil discovered
will be recovered. 130808 22

The application should, in turn, encode the most important equations in mathematics which were the most advanced expressions in calculus called partial differential equations. I reformulated those abstract equations to their algebraic equivalents that derived their concreteness and importance because they encoded the most important discovery in physics, namely, the 300-year-old Second Law of Motion.

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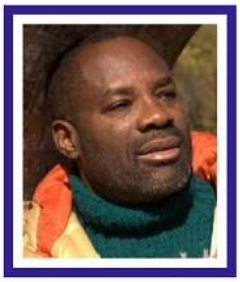
Philip “Calculus” Emeagwali in dark shirt and 2nd from right of last row with five students. Everybody in this photo addressed him as “Calculus” after his favorite book, a 568-page blue hardbound that was titled “An Introduction to the Infinitesimal Calculus” and subtitled “With Applications to Mechanics and Physics” by G.W. (George William) Caunt and published by Oxford University Press. (Photo: Saint Charles House, Christ the King College, Onitsha, Nigeria. 1971)



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