

The SUMO Speaker Series for Undergraduates

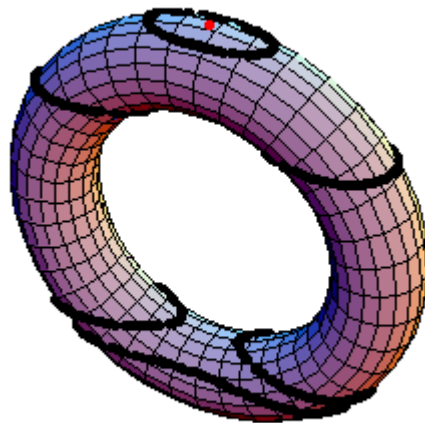
(Pizza Provided)

Wednesday, October 12th

4:15-5:05, room 380C

Morse Theory, Stratifications, and Euler Characteristic

Daniel Litt



ABSTRACT:

If one divides the real line into V points and E line segments, then $E - V$ always equals 1. Similarly, if one divides the plane into F polygons, E line segments, and P points, then $F - E + V$ always equals 2. We'll vastly generalize these ideas, using Morse theory, until we show that these sorts of alternating sums are an invariant of any nice space, called the Euler characteristic.

sumo.stanford.edu/speakers