

The SUMO Speaker Series for Undergraduates

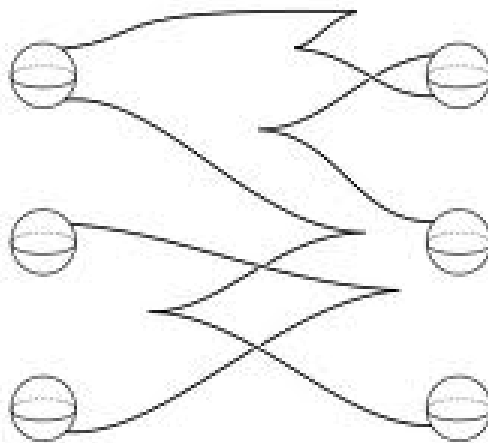
(Food Provided)

Wednesday, February 15th

4:15-5:05, room 380C

Contact Geometry and Parallel Parking

Emmy Murphy



ABSTRACT:

How much extra space do you need to park a car? In fact no extra space is necessary: as long as the parking space is as long as your car, it's always possible to park. The proof of this theorem motivates the ideas of contact geometry; a three dimensional geometry that may be used to describe classical, quantum, and optical mechanics. Legendrian curves in contact space are a special class of curves which represent physically allowable paths. If time allows we'll discuss Legendrian knot theory in contact space.

sumo.stanford.edu/speakers