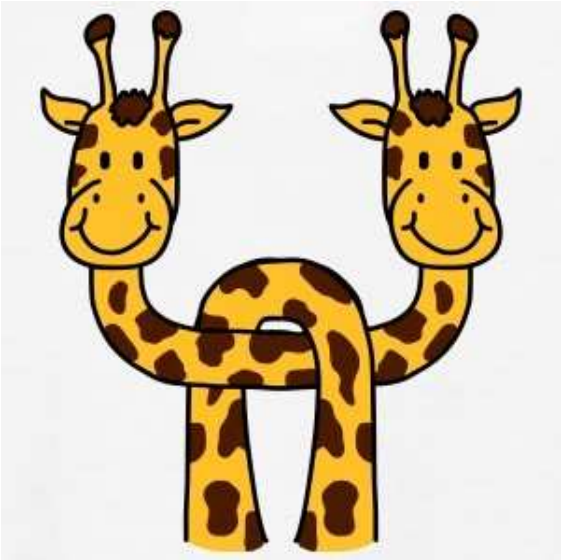
How can we tell if two *knots* are *not* the same?

Undergraduate Math Club
CORNELL UNIVERSITY



SPEAKER

Shruthi Sridhar

ABSTRACT

Take a piece of untied rope, wrap it around any way you like and stick the open ends together. This is a knot for all purposes of this talk. Except of course, the rope is massless, has zero thickness, and everything else in a physicists dream. But all mathematicians care is if 2 knots are the same knot, so we want nice properties for knots that dont change if we move the knot around in space, and wed like differentiate knots with these. These properties are called knot invariants, and well explore some important ones: tricolorability, famous knot polynomials like the Jones polynomial and other invariants from geometry and topology.

APR 24 at 4:45pm

Malott 532 ⋆ Refreshments