THE WEIZMANN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE  
FACULTY OF MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE  
Mathematical Analysis and Applications Seminar  
Room 1, Ziskind Building  
on Tuesday, Jan 06, 2015  
at 11:00

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Describing geometry and symmetry of cryo-EM datasets using algebra

Abstract:

Cryo-electron microscopy (cryo-EM) is a microscopy technique used to discover the 3D structure of molecules from very noisy images. We discuss how algebra can describe two aspects of cryo-EM datasets. First, we'll describe common lines datasets. Common lines are lines of intersection between cryo-EM images in 3D. They are a crucial ingredient in some 2D×3D reconstruction algorithms, and they can be characterized by polynomial equalities and inequalities. Second, we'll discuss how 3D symmetries of a molecule can be detected from only 2D cryo-EM images, without performing full 3D reconstruction.