

**The Weizmann Institute of Science  
Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science**

**Foundations of Computer Science Seminar**

Room 155, Ziskind Building  
on Monday, Jul 01, 2024  
at 11:15

**Noam Mazon**  
Cornell Tech

will speak on

**Incompressibility and Next-Block Pseudoentropy**

Abstract:

A distribution is  $k$ -incompressible, Yao [FOCS '82], if no efficient compression scheme compresses it to less than  $k$  bits. While being a natural measure, its relation to other computational analogs of entropy such as pseudoentropy (Hastad, Impagliazzo, Levin, and Luby [SICOMP 99]), and to other cryptographic hardness assumptions, was unclear.

We advance towards a better understating of this notion, showing that a  $k$ -incompressible distribution has  $(k-2)$  bits of next-block pseudoentropy, a refinement of pseudoentropy introduced by Haitner, Reingold, and Vadhan [SICOMP '13]. We deduce that a samplable distribution  $X$  that is  $(H(X) + 2)$ -incompressible, implies the existence of one-way functions.

Joint work with Iftach Haitner and Jad Silbak.