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The Contact Number Problem in the Plane

Given a packing of n unit disks, we want to maximize the number of touching pairs (the number of contacts) in the packing. In other words, given a set, P, of n points in the plane, with pairwise distance at least one, we want to determine the maximum number of times that two points are of distance one apart in P. In this talk we give a proof of Harborth's Theorem on the maximum contact number in the plane. Additionally, we examine the totally separable version of Harborth's Theorem.