
HUNTER SPINK, University of Toronto

Geometric additive combinatorics via α -minimality

In this talk I will introduce (gently!) α -minimality as a tool for doing additive combinatorics in geometric settings, based on joint work with Jacob Fox and Matthew Kwan.

As an application, if we remove all line segments contained in a "nice" subset $M \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ (e.g. $M = \{e^{2x^2 - e^{\log(xyz)\log(x+yz)}/3x - x^{x-y}} \leq 6\} \subset \mathbb{R}^3$), then the probability that a randomly signed sum of nonzero vectors $\sum \epsilon_i v_i$ lies in M is $n^{-\frac{1}{2} + o(1)}$, essentially matching the $O(n^{-1/2})$ bound from classical Littlewood–Offord theory for M a single point.