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Conical singularities in G_2 manifolds

I will survey some recent work on compact G_2 manifolds with isolated conical singularities. Specifically I will discuss glueing methods for their desingularization, which involves topological obstructions, as well as the deformation theory (moduli spaces) of such manifolds.

I will also briefly discuss a new construction with Dominic Joyce which could provide the first examples of such manifolds, as well as a possible new construction of smooth compact G_2 manifolds.