The Trivial Notions Seminar
Proudly Announces

Can you solve the quintic?

A talk by
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Abstract

We all know that it is impossible to compute the roots of a general polynomial of degree five or more using radicals. What if we allow, in addition, iterative processes like Newton's method? Can we then solve quintics or equations of even higher degree? I will discuss Curt McMullen's beautiful answer to this question, featuring critically finite maps, Brauer groups, resolvents, lines on a quadric and icosahedrons.

Thursday January 26$^{\text{th}}$, at 2:00 pm
Science Center 507