

William Traves U.S. Naval Academy

"Generalizing Pascal's Theorem"

Monday, October 7, 2013

Talk at 4:00 – H109 Tea at 3:30 – KINSC Math Lounge, H208

Abstract:

Pascal's Theorem gives a simple criterion to determine if six points lie on a conic curve (an ellipse, a hyperbola, or a pair of lines. I'll discuss generalizations of Pascal's Theorem involving the work of Moebius, Cayley, Bezout, and Tao. The generalization to cubic curves is only partially understood. I'll describe some open (and accessible!) problems in this area.

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