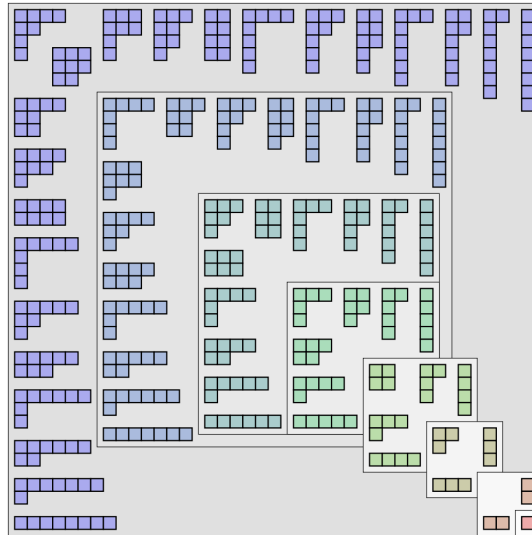


Department of Mathematics

Fall 2014 Colloquium Series



“Partitions are Everywhere!”

Ben Ford, Ph. D.

Department of Mathematics, Sonoma State University

Thursday, October 9, 2014

Behavioral and Social Sciences Building Room 204, 4 p.m.

How many ways are there to arrange 11 dots in rows of distinct length, such that each row contains no more dots than the row above it? How about in rows of odd length (but not necessarily all distinct length)? For someone whose field is abstract algebra, I spend a lot of my time trying to find clever ways to count arrangements of dots, called partitions. We'll explore the remarkable ubiquity of partitions, and look at some recent work by Ken Ono and others about patterns in partition numbers that generalizes patterns first noticed by Ramanujan in 1919.

Ben Ford is a Professor in the Sonoma State University Department of Mathematics.

**We invite you to the Pre-colloquium Tea
on the third floor of the BSS building at 3:30 on Thursday.**