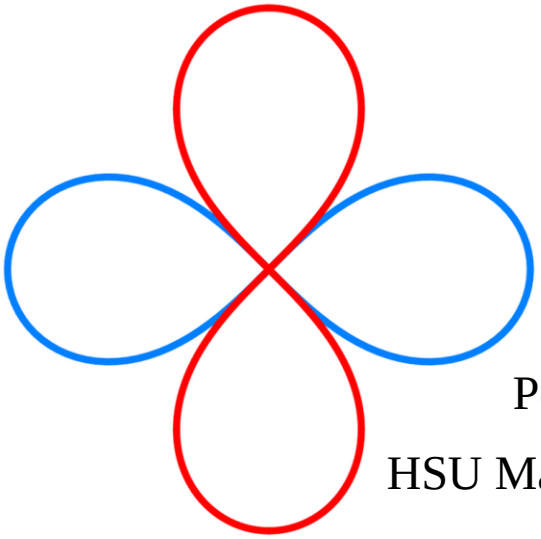
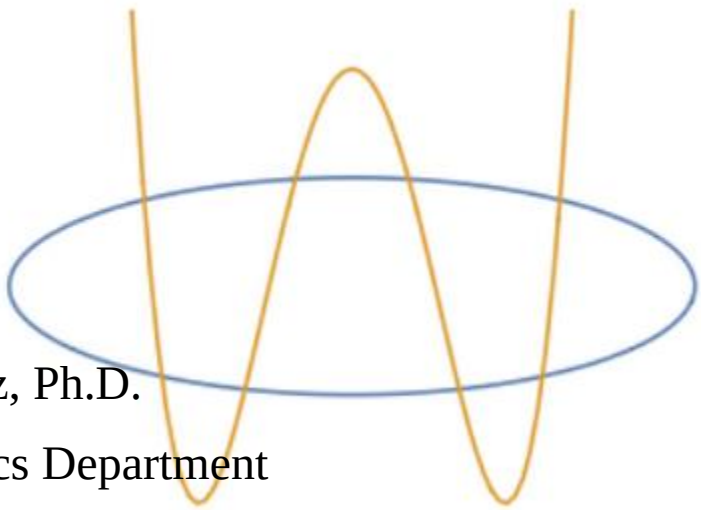
Department of Mathematics

Fall 2017 Colloquium Series

Bézout's Theorem: A Tale of Two Curves





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A polynomial equation $f(x, y) = 0$ defines a curve in the plane. For example, $x^2 + y^2 - 1 = 0$ defines the unit circle. Given two such curves, a natural problem is to count the number of points in their intersection. In this talk, I will consider this problem through lots of examples, culminating in the beautiful answer given by Bézout's Theorem. If time permits, I might also discuss an application of this theorem to elliptic curves.

Thursday, November 30, 2017

BSS 204, 4:00 pm

For more info, go to http://www.humboldt.edu/math/news-and-events/math-colloquium

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