

Lan-Hsuan Huang

UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT



UNDERGRADUATE-LEVEL TALK

presented by

The UO Chapter of the Association for Women in Mathematics

3PM Thursday, May 7
102 Deady Hall

Why are soap bubbles round?

You would be surprised if you saw a soap bubble shaped like a duck, wouldn't you? But why are all soap bubbles spherical? We will explain the mathematical model of soap bubbles, which are called "constant mean curvature surfaces". We will discuss the classical Alexandrov theorem, which says that a smooth surface with constant mean curvature that encloses a finite region of space and doesn't intersect itself has to be a sphere.

