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Abstract:

It is easy, as an outsider, to see that there is a qualitative difference between an apple and a donut. But now imagine that you are a nearsighted ant, walking around one of these surfaces: how can you be sure you are on a toroidal donut and not a spherical pastry? Happily, the tool we use to determine this called the Euler characteristic - is straightforward enough that its computation is not much beyond the ability of an ant!



Everyone is welcome to attend this undergraduate-level talk hosted by the UO Student Chapter of the Association for Women in Mathematics

