



# TOPOLOGY SEMINAR

## The Knot Group and the Alexander Polynomial

BY

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**Abstract:** In this talk, basic definitions and examples of knots and links will be given. Two knot invariants, the knot group and the Alexander polynomial will be introduced. We will classify a special class of knots, torus knots, and present an algorithm, known as the Wirtinger presentation, computing the knot group. We will give one algebraic and one topological definition of the Alexander polynomial and if time permits, we will present an easy way of computing the Alexander polynomial using Conway's Skein relations.

**Date:** May 14, 2018 Monday

**Time:** 14:40-15:30

**Place:** SA141 Mathematics Seminar Room

\* Tea and cookies will be served before the talk. All are most cordially invited.