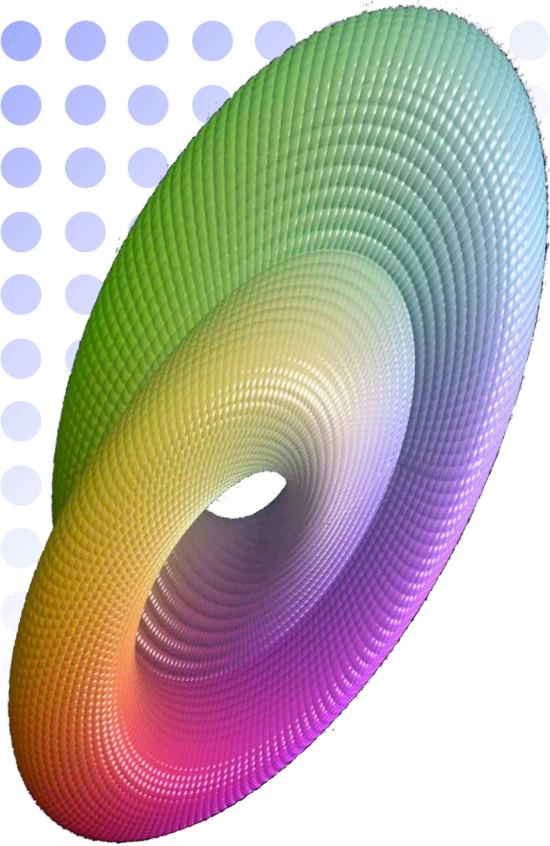# Michigan Math Club

Thursday at 4pm in East Hall 2851
(Nesbitt Room) Free Pizza and Pop

Information and Entropy

Andreas Blass

Abstract for 13 Oct. 2011

There is a clear qualitative notion of information: I get very little information from the fact that the sun rose this morning because I was expecting that anyway. I would get a lot of information if I were told my lottery ticket won. Can situations like this be modeled mathematically, to make the notion of "a lot of information" quantitative? The answer is "Yes" and I will explain that. One can then ask: Is such a measure of information good for anything? I'll give one or two examples that address that question.