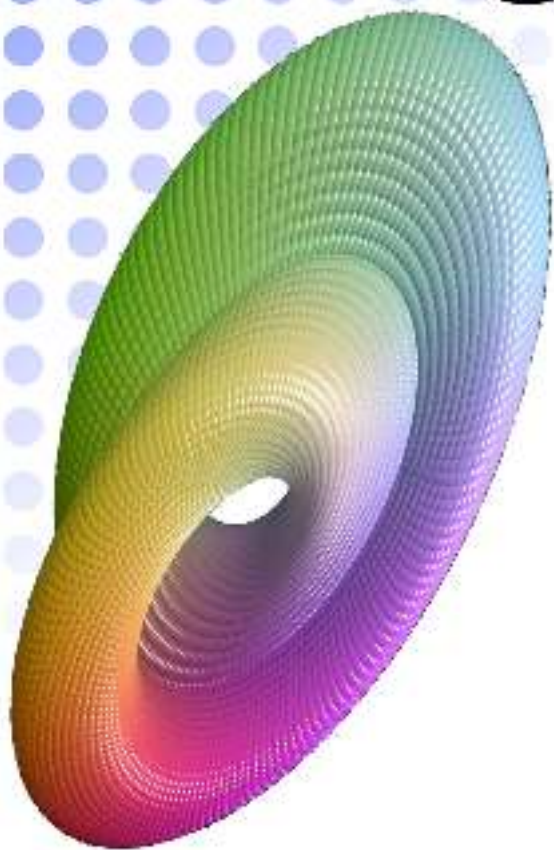


# Michigan Math Club

Thursday at 4pm in the Nesbitt Room

Free Pizza and Pop



## The story of the alternating sign matrix conjecture

Thomas Bothner

Abstract for 16 November



How many alternating sign matrices are there? This question generated considerable interest in the early 1980s displaying deep connections to enumerative combinatorics of plane partitions. We shall review the story of this connection which ultimately lead to the tour de force answer given by Zeilberger in 1996. We will also discuss Kuperberg's approach to the above question using statistical mechanics.