Michigan Math Club

Thursday at 4pm in EH1360 Pizza + pop outside afterwards!!

You get a ball, and you get a ball, everybody gets a ball!

Asaf Katz 02 November 2023



Can you cut a solid 3D ball to several pieces, rotate and compose two balls, each of which identical to the original ball you started with? While this task seems practically impossible, (most) mathematicians do know how to do so.¹ What is even more bizarre, is that all mathematicians know that it is impossible to do so for 2D disks! In this talk we will demonstrate some of the ideas behind the famous Banach-Tarski construction.

1 while some pesky minority swear it is impossible