

Michigan Math Club

Thursday at 4pm in the Commons
Free Pizza and Pop



A well-rounded discussion of spheres

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Abstract for 29 January



We will discuss some or all of the following questions, using little more than advanced calculus throughout: What is the volume of the n -dimensional sphere? What is the best way to compute this volume? Why do the powers of π jump up every two dimensions, instead of every dimension? Why are spheres in even dimensions so much different than spheres in odd dimensions? What do the rational coefficients in these volume formulae mean? Do spheres get bigger or smaller in higher dimensions? What does volume mean, anyways? What does this have to do with Riemann's zeta function?