

# Michigan Math Club

Thursday at 4pm in the Commons  
Free Pizza and Pop



## Topology of links and knots (or, how I learned to enjoy math)

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Abstract for 5 March



Ever had that frustrating experience with tangled iPod earbuds wires? It seems that no matter how careful you are as you stuff them into a pocket, the earphones always come out knotted. Is it always possible to undo the damage? We will discuss knots and some of their invariants. These will tell us whether we can untangle a knot, or not. We will start with elementary polynomial invariants and eventually will graduate to scarier sounding words.