Michigan Math Club

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

Flows and Permutohedrons

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In this talk we discuss some interesting results in linear algebra and their connection with dynamics. In particular I will discuss the *Schur-Horn theorem*, which relates the eigenvalues of Hermitian matrices to their diagonal entries, and how this is related to the theory of convex polytopes. I will also explain how it is a particular case of so-called momentum maps and how it relates some interesting dynamics -- in particular gradient and Hamiltonian flows. I will also discuss how this circle of ideas is connected to totally positive matrices -- matrices all of whose minors are positive. I will also make some general remarks on the connection of mathematics with the other sciences and the place of mathematics in the university.