Abstract

One of the main topics in invariant theory is the question of how well group orbits can be separated by invariants. In this talk we will consider subsets of an invariant ring which have the same separation capabilities as the entire ring. In fact, this concept generalizes far beyond invariant theory. Separating invariants are a loosening of the classical concept of generating invariants. We will look at some examples and exhibit results which demonstrate that separating invariants are much better behaved than generating ones.

Refreshments will be served in the Math Library Lounge, 4:00 P.M.