

Combinatorics Seminar

Friday, Oct. 15, 2004

3:00pm in Hume 331

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Orienting the free spikes

ABSTRACT

The free spikes are rather notorious in matroid theory for being rather ill-behaved, that is to say that the free spikes often show up as counterexamples. In this talk we introduce the class of matroids known as the free spikes and the concept of oriented matroids. We will enumerate the orientations of the free spikes and show that once again the free spikes are ill-behaved.