

Time: Tuesday May 3rd, 2011 2:30pm

Location: Buchanan A202

Classification of Compact Connected Surfaces

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The classification theorem for compact connected surfaces states that every such surface is homeomorphic to either a sphere, a connected sum of n tori, or a connected sum of k projective planes. In this talk I will present an algorithmic proof to this theorem which uses triangulation of surfaces to produce a planar model for them and then by manipulating and simplifying this planar model we will see that the given surface is homeomorphic to one of the desired surfaces.