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DIFFERENTIATING BETWEEN CONTACT STRUCTURES: FROM CONTACT HOMOLOGY TO ELEMENTARY INVARIANTS

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Abstract

In this talk we discuss an elementary invariant of contact structures, the mean Euler characteristic. We explain in what sense this invariant is elementary and show that it is sensitive enough to distinguish some contact structures in the same homotopy class. If time permits, we will also touch upon applications of the mean Euler characteristic in dynamics. The talk is based on joint work with Ely Kerman and Başak Gürel.

Date: Thursday, July 2, 2009
Time: 14:00
Place: IMBM Seminar Room, Boğaziçi University