

abstract

Members Seminar

Topic:

Speaker:

Affiliation:

Date:

Time/Room:

The Weil height measures the "complexity" of an algebraic number. It vanishes precisely at 0 and at the roots of unity. Moreover, a finite field extension of the rationals contains no elements of arbitrarily small, positive heights. Amoroso, Bombieri, David, Dvornicich, Schinzel, Zannier and others exhibited many infinite field extensions of the rationals with a height gap. For example, the maximal extension of any number field with abelian Galois group has this property. I will present the history of this problem and talk about a new non-abelian example and its application. The example comes from the field generated by points of finite order of an elliptic curve without complex multiplication.