Math Club Student Talk

Where do Parallel Lines meet?

...and other questions

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7PM, Math Tower P-131

Abstract

Parallel lines in the plane will never meet, but in an artist’s painting, they seem to tend to the same point on the horizon. Using the inspiration behind an artist’s idea of 'projection', we can enter the realm of projective geometry to answer this question. Along the way we will re-classify conics, and show that with the right notion of intersection, two projective conics will always meet in four points. This talk will serve as a gentle introduction into classical algebraic geometry, culminating in Bezout’s Theorem.