

Dan Freed (UT Austin)

Thursday, 27 October 2022 14:00 (30 minutes)

[Session Chair: Oliver DeWolfe (Colorado)]

“Topological symmetry in field theory”

Recently there has been lots of activity surrounding generalized notions of symmetry in quantum field theory, including “categorical symmetries”, “higher symmetries”, “noninvertible symmetries”, etc. Inspired by definitions of abstract (finite) groups and algebras and their linear actions, we introduce a framework for these symmetries in field theory and a calculus of topological defects based on techniques in topological field theory. This is joint work with Constantin Teleman and Greg Moore.