

Fachbereich C, Mathematik und Naturwissenschaften

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Im Rahmen der

## **AG** Komplexe Analysis

laden wir zu folgendem Vortrag ein:

Minimal biquadratic energy of 5 particles on the 2-sphere (Prof. Alexander Tumanov, University of Illinois, USA)

am Montag, den 5.11.2012, um 16 Uhr c.t. in Raum D.13.15.

**Abstract:** Consider n points on the unit 2-sphere. The potential energy of the interaction of two points is a function f(r) of the distance r between the points. The total energy E of n points is the sum of the pairwise energies. The question is how to place the points on the sphere to minimize the energy E. For the Coulomb potential f(r) = 1/r, the problem goes back to Thomson (1904). The results for n < 5 are simple and well known. We focus on the case n = 5, which turns out to be difficult.

In this case, the following results have been obtained:

- Dragnev, Legg, and Townsend give a solution of the problem for  $f(r) = -\log r$  known as Whyte's problem.
- Hou and Shao give a rigorous computer-aided solution for f(r) = -r.
- R. Schwartz gives a rigorous computer-aided solution of Thomson's problem.

We give a solution for biquadratic potentials.

Alle Interessenten sind herzlich eingeladen!