Combinatorics Seminar

A few steps towards the Erdos-Hajnal conjecture

Tung Nguyen Princeton University

Abstract: A cornerstone of Ramsey theory says that every graph contains a clique or independent set of logarithmic size, which is asymptotically optimal for almost all graphs. The Erd?s–Hajnal conjecture from 1977 predicts a very different situation in graphs with forbidden induced subgraphs; more precisely, the conjecture asserts that for every graph H, there exists c = c(H) > 0 such that every *n*-vertex graph with no induced copy of H has a clique or independent set of size at least n^c . This conjecture remains open, and we will discuss recent progress on it in the talk.

Tuesday, March 26, 2024, 10:00 am Mathematics and Science Center: MSC W201

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