

CCSU
DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES

COLLOQUIUM

Friday, October 16
3:00 – 4:00 PM
Maria Sanford, Room 101

SYMMETRY AND THE BANACH–TARSKI PARADOX

MARIAN ANTON

CENTRAL CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY

Abstract: This presentation traces the historical development of the Banach–Tarski paradox, from classical geometric dissection and the emergence of measure theory to the Axiom of Choice and paradoxical decompositions. Particular attention is given to the role of symmetry groups and the distinction between dimensions two and three, as later illuminated by von Neumann's theory of amenability.

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