



The Math/Stats Colloquium
Department of Mathematics and Statistics
San José State University



Zeph Landau

UC Berkeley

*A Fair Division solution to the problem of
political redistricting*

MAY 7, 2014, MH320

Abstract: In the U.S., redistricting is the practice of dividing states into electoral districts of equal population to ensure equal representation in the legislative body. Where boundaries are drawn can dramatically alter the number of districts a given political party can win. As a result, a party controlling the legislature can manipulate boundaries to win a larger number of districts, affecting the balance of power in the U.S. House of Representatives.

In this talk we present a solution to the problem of fair redistricting motivated by the ideas of fair division. This solution ensures fairness (in a rigorous way) by balancing competing interests against each other.

Background: No particular background necessary.

About the speaker: Zeph Landau is a Research Scientist in the Computer Science department at UC Berkeley. He currently is interested in questions that lie at the intersection of math, physics, and computer science motivated by the study of quantum many-body systems.

SNACKS IN MH331B AT 2:30 PM

TALKS START AT 3 PM

For more information, see our full schedule at:

<http://www.math.sjsu.edu/~hsu/colloq/>