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# An Introduction to Phased Matroids and the Phased Matroid Grassmannian

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## Abstract for the Combinatorics Seminar 2013 September 24

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Phased matroids are combinatorial objects that play the same role for the complex numbers that oriented matroids play for the real numbers. They were introduced in 2012 as a potential tool for various problems in geometry and topology. I'll discuss the state of the field, focusing on progress toward a combinatorial model for the Grassmannian  $G(r, \mathbf{C}^n)$ .

(I talked about the same material last spring, but the ideas have been clarified since then.)

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