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Shelling Polytopal 3-Balls

Abstract for the Combinatorics Seminar 2011 November 22

A shelling of a polytopal complex is an ordering of its maximal cells that proves that the polytopal complex is a ball or sphere. Not all polytopal balls and spheres have a shelling. I'll give some background on shellings and talk about Ziegler's construction of a nonshellable polytopal ball with only ten vertices.

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