COLLOQUIUM

Random Structures and Algorithms

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The study of random combinatorial structures was initiated some 50 years ago by a series of papers by Paul Erdos and Alfred Renyi. It has since grown substantially and we will survey some of the results in the area. Many of the existence questions come along with natural computational problems. These problems are usually computationally hard i.e NP-hard, but one can show that there are algorithms whose performance on these problems is much better than worst-case would suggest. We will also discuss this area of "average case analysis".

The lecture will take place in Thackeray 704 at 3:30pm.
Refreshments will start at 3:00pm.