Algebra Seminar

Equal sums of two cubes of quadratic forms: an apology

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Abstract: The topic of equal sums of two cubes has occupied number theorists and algebraists for a long time. In this talk, I will describe a one-parameter family of six binary quadratic forms f_i so that $f_1^3 + f_2^3 = f_3^3 + f_4^3 = f_5^3 + f_6^3$ and so that every pair of equal sums of two cubes arises as one of the equalities here, perhaps with terms flipped. I will name-check Euler, Sylvester and Ramanujan. My favorite single example is

 $(x^{2} + xy - y^{2})^{3} + (x^{2} - xy - y^{2})^{3} = 2x^{6} - 2y^{6}$

The famous Euler-Binet parameterization of solutions over \mathbb{Q} will be combined with point-addition of elliptic curve theory in what appears to be a novel way.

Tuesday, December 4, 2018, 4:00 pm Mathematics and Science Center: W301

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