Virtual Classes of Representation Varieties of Upper Triangular Matrices via Topological Quantum Field Theories

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Let X be an oriented closed connected surface. The set of group representations from the fundamental group of X to an algebraic group G has a structure of an algebraic variety. This variety is called the G-representation variety of X. In this talk, I will use a geometric method developed by González-Prieto, Logares, Muñoz, and Newstead to compute the virtual classes of G-representation varieties where G is the group of complex upper-triangular matrices of rank 2, 3, or 4. This is joint work with Jesse Vogel.

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