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Positively curved manifolds with isometric torus actions

Friday, November 9, 2018 2:30 PM (50 minutes)

The classification of positively (sectional) curved manifolds is a long standing open problem in Riemannian geometry. So far it was a successful approach to consider the problem under the extra assumption of an isometric group action.

In this talk I will report on recent joint work with Lee Kennard and Burkhard Wilking in this direction. Among other things we show the following: Let M be a simply connected positively curved n-dimensional manifold with $H^{odd}M, \mathbb{Q}) = 0$ and an isometric T^8 -action. Then the rational cohomology ring of M is isomorphic to the rational cohomology of one of the CROSSes $S^n, \mathbb{C}P^{n/2}$ and $\mathbb{H}P^{n/4}$.

Summary

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