

Birational geometry of algebraic varieties

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Abstract: In this talk I will try to discuss some of the notions, results, and techniques of modern birational geometry in an informal fashion.

Birational geometry has close relations with many parts of algebraic geometry (e.g., moduli spaces) and other subjects such as topology, analytic geometry, mirror symmetry, arithmetic geometry, etc. Although birational geometry is perceived as a technical area of mathematics, its most important problems are essentially classical and can be formulated in a simple language.

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