

SALZBURG MATHEMATICS COLLOQUIUM

Winter 2025/26

Peter Topping (University of Warwick)

„Curve shortening flow - old and new“

January 29, 2026

Abstract:

The curve shortening flow evolves an embedded curve in the plane (say) in order to reduce its length as quickly as possible. It is simple to visualise for non-experts and yet hosts a beautiful and often surprising theory. It is a great model for other geometric flows such as Ricci flow and yet is useful in applications in its own right.

I plan to survey some of what is known, focussing on recent work. The talk should be accessible to a general mathematician.

Thursday, **15:00-15:45**
Hörsaal 414, 1. Stock