An algebraic view of entropy

Tom Leinster University of Edinburgh

tom.leinster@ed.ac.uk

Entropy is often seen as belonging to the realm of physics or dynamical systems. However, in this talk, I will explain how entropy arises naturally from very general algebraic considerations - indeed, from the study of operads. The technical heart of this idea goes back to 1950s work on functional equations by Faddeev and others, while the modern presentation is joint work with Baez and Fritz.