MATH ENCOUNTERS

life in **CURVED SPACE:** *from* **MAGNIFYING GLASSES** *to* **GENERAL RELATIVITY**

Speaker: Steve Trettel

Wednesday, January 6, 2021

Afternoon Presentation 4:00 PM ET (New York)

Light endeavors to take the most efficient path between any two points, but matter or geometry can cause this path to bend. What would life be like in curved space? Join Steve Trettel, Szego Assistant Professor of Mathematics at Stanford University, as he identifies some telltale signs of curvature in the real world — including spooky ring-like mirages appearing in images from the Hubble space telescope - and takes us on a geometrical adventure that leads us to Einstein's great insight: that gravity is not a force, but just a consequence of living in a curved world.

Evening Presentation 7:00 PM ET (New York)

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