

Tropical Mathematics



Bernd Sturmfels

*Professor of Mathematics, Statistics
& Computer Science
University of California, Berkeley.*

Abstract

In tropical arithmetic, the sum of two numbers is their minimum and the product of two numbers is their usual sum. Many results familiar from high school algebra and geometry, including the formula for solving quadratic equations and the fact that two lines meet in one point, continue to hold in the tropics. In this lecture we learn how to draw tropical curves and why biologists might care about this.

Bernd Sturmfels is a Professor of Mathematics, Statistics, and Computer Science at the University of California, Berkeley. A leading experimentalist among mathematicians, Sturmfels has authored 10 books and 175 research articles in the areas of combinatorics, algebraic geometry, symbolic computations and their applications. He currently works on algebraic methods in optimization, statistics, and the life sciences.

**Free and Open
to the Public**

**6:00 - 7:00 p.m.
Thursday
March 25, 2010**

*Co-sponsored by the Bullitt Endowment
and the University of Louisville Department of
Mathematics*

*For more information about the Bullitt
Lectures, e-mail: math@louisville.edu,
phone: (502) 852-6826 or visit:
<http://www.math.louisville.edu/Bullitt>*

*Middleton Auditorium
Strickler Hall 101*