

Seminari de Geometria Algebraica 2012/2013 (UB-UPC)

Divendres 28 de juny a les 15 hs, aula B1 FM-UB

<http://atlas.mat.ub.es/sga>

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## Existence of contact structures

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In 1966, Chern asked: What are the topological conditions for an odd dimensional manifold to possess a contact structure? In this talk, we review the most general existence results and outline the main obstacles to give a complete answer to the question. The main characters in the game have their origin in complex projective geometry: Lefschetz pencils and open book decompositions.

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