



Department of  
Mathematical Sciences

# Colloquium

**Dr. Pamela Harris**

Associate Professor of Mathematics

**Williams College**

Thursday,  
May 5th, 2022 @  
12:30pm

Lapham Hall, N101



**Dr. Pamela  
Harris**

UW-Milwaukee  
Department of  
Mathematical Sciences

EMS Building, Room E403  
3200 North Cramer Street  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin  
5321  
414-229-4836

## On Kostant's partition function

In this talk we recall that Kostant's partition function counts the number of ways to represent a particular weight (vector) as a nonnegative integral sum of positive roots of a Lie algebra. We provide two fundamental uses for this function. The first is associated with the computation of weight multiplicities in finite-dimensional irreducible representations of classical Lie algebras and the second is in the computation of volumes of flow polytopes. We present some recent results in both of these areas including a connection to multiplex juggling and directions for future research.

**Refreshments will be served in EMS, E408 following this event.**



Visit our website for more information on other Department events: [www.uwm.edu/math](http://www.uwm.edu/math)

POWERFUL IDEAS | **PROVEN RESULTS** |®