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GENERALIZED FUNCTIONS AND GENERALIZED DERIVATIVES

A lecture by Professor Michael Beals
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ABSTRACT:

How do we make sense of the derivative of a discontinuous function? How do we make sense of the sum of a non-converging series of functions? How do we take half of a derivative of a function? And why would we want to do any of these things? The answer to that last question is, perhaps, because the physicists and mathematicians of the nineteenth century needed the results. And the resulting theory of generalized functions changed analysis in the twentieth century. We will consider how it all works.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3RD, 2022

HILL 705 AT 5:30 PM

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