# AN INTRODUCTION TO CRYSTALLIZA-TION THEORY

A simplicial cell complex K of dimension d is a poset isomorphic to the face poset of a d-dimensional simplicial CW-complex X. If a topological space M is homeomorphic to X, then K is said to be a pseudotriangulation of M. In 1974, Pezzana proved that every connected closed PL dmanifold admits a (d+1)-vertex pseudotriangulation. For such a pseudotriangulation of a PL d-manifold one can associate a (d + 1)-regular colored graph, called a crystallization of the manifold. Actually, crystallization is a graph-theoretical tool to study topological and combinatorial properties of PL manifolds. In this talk, I shall define crystallization and show some applications on PL d-Manifolds for d = 2, 3 and 4. In dimension 2, I shall show a proof of the classification of closed surfaces using crystallization. This concept has some important higher dimensional analogs, especially in dimensions 3 and 4. In dimensions 3 and 4, I shall give lower bounds for facets in a pseudotriangulation of a PL manifolds. Also, I shall talk on the regular genus (a higher dimensional analog of genus) of PL d-manifolds. Then I shall show the importance of the regular genus in dimension 4. Additivity of regular genus has been proved for a huge class of PL 4-manifolds. We have some observations on the regular genus, which is related to the 4-dimensional Smooth Poincar'e Conjecture.

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#### WHEN

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