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Re: [Fwd: Re: Some quick action is required]

Sat, February 28, 2015 6:38 pm

"Phoolan Prasad" <prasad@math.iisc.ernet.in>,"R. Balakrishnan" <mathrb13@gmail.com>

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Dear Prof. Prasad and Balakrishnan,

I just came from the CC at BHU on Diff Geometry.

I came back with a feeling that the idea of CC is really a good idea. Prof. Mukut Mani Tripathi, and Prof. B. Tiwari both attended my lectures, and I attended the lectures they delivered. About 40 students from BHU attended. One pdf came from Allahabad U.

In a way BHU (besides IISc) is one of the few places in India where diff geom courses at the master's level run regularly. But the students who join for the master's program did not have an undergrad course on curves and surfaces. So we had to often mix the discussion with: what this means for the case of curves and surfaces? How Gauss curvature in the 2-dim case, evolved from Euler's principal curvatures, and how Riemann curvature in n-dimensions, evolved from the Gauss curvature. There is no single text, in which there is such discussion.

We clarified the vague notions such as: when do two smooth plane curves have k-th order contact, can there be sphere having a second order contact at a point with a surface in E^3 , etc

I am thinking whether I should use the opportunity of this year's President's plenary to give an intro to Diff geom and make some propoganda for CCs.

RMS should thank both of you for introducing and implementing the idea of CCs, at the master's level.

Best regards,

Ravi