

Physical Mathematics Seminar

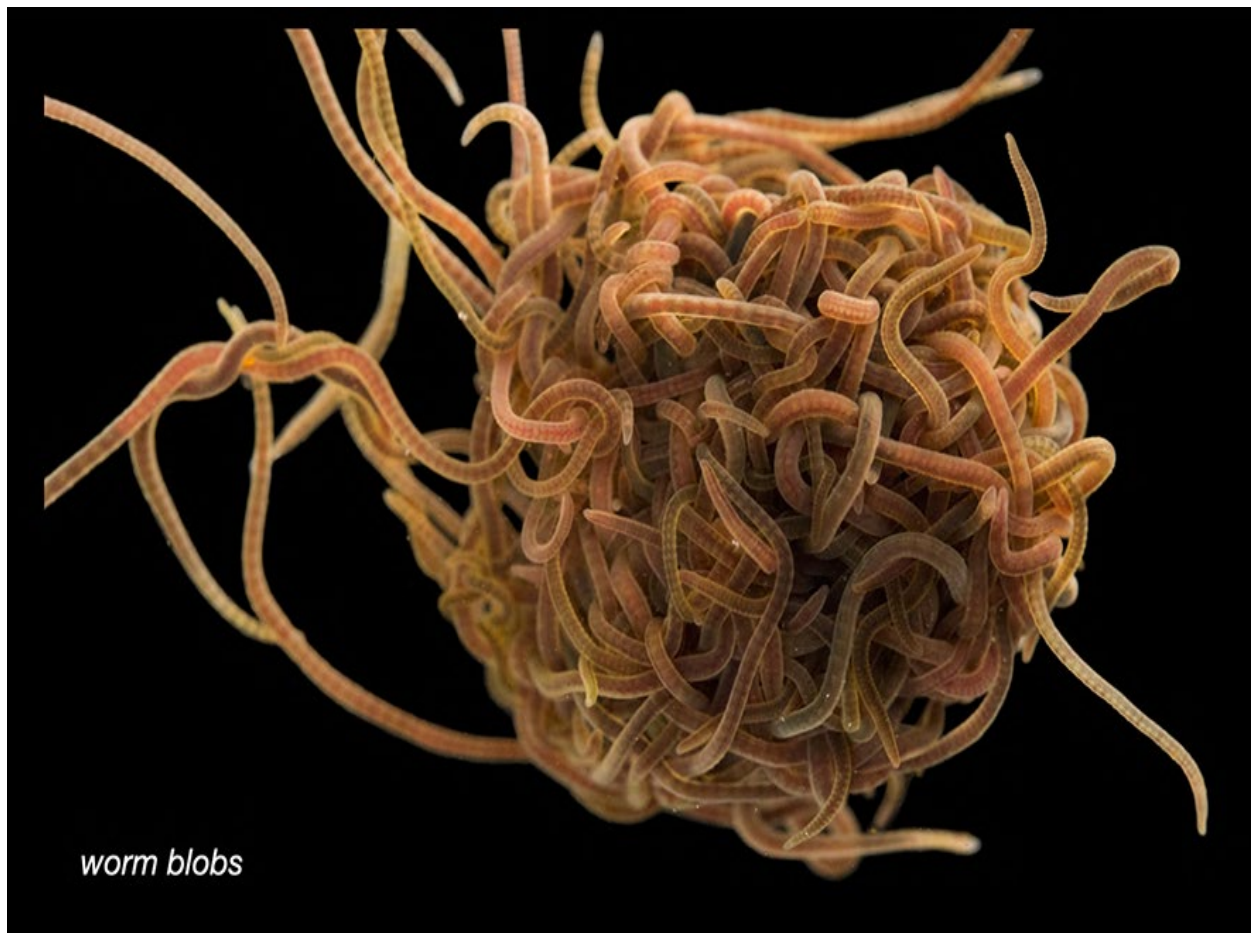
The Blob: Topologically entangled living matter

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ABSTRACT:

In this talk I will share our discoveries on why aquatic worms braid, tangle and knot with their neighbors to form extraordinary mechano-functional living blobs - the stuff of science fiction. I will discuss how these soft, squishy, and 3-D blobs rapidly morph their shape, crawl, float, climb, roll, and weave and un-weave topological tangles. Using both mathematical and robo-physical models, I will discuss our approach to rationalize the emergent dynamics of these “living entangled polymers”.



TUESDAY, APRIL 26, 2022

2:30 PM – 3:30 PM

Building 2, Room 449

<https://math.mit.edu/sites/pms/>