

Department of Mathematics, BGU

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# BGU Probability and Ergodic Theory (PET) seminar

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*On Thursday, January 7, 2021*

*At 11:10 – 12:00*

*In Online*

Guy Salomon (Weizmann Institute)

will talk about

## **Amenability, proximality, and higher order syndeticity**

Abstract: An action of a discrete group  $G$  on a compact Hausdorff space  $X$  is called proximal if for every two points  $x$  and  $y$  of  $X$  there is a net  $g_i$  in  $G$  such that  $\lim(g_i x) = \lim(g_i y)$ , and strongly proximal if the action of  $G$  on the space  $\text{Prob}(X)$  of probability measures on  $X$  is proximal. The group  $G$  is called strongly amenable if all of its proximal actions have a fixed point and amenable if all of its strongly proximal actions have a fixed point.

In this talk, I will present a correspondence between (strongly) proximal actions of  $G$  and Boolean algebras of subsets of  $G$  consisting of certain kinds of “large” subsets. I will use these Boolean algebras to establish new characterizations of amenability and strong amenability. Furthermore, I will show how

this machinery helps to characterize “dense orbit sets” answering a question of Glasner, Tsankov, Weiss, and Zucker.

This is joint work with Matthew Kennedy and Sven Raum.

**Please Note the Unusual Place!**