

# Pure Mathematics Honours

September 25, 2025

**Presented by**  
Daniel Daners



# What is pure mathematics?

- ▶ Arts?
- ▶ Philosophy?
- ▶ Science?
- ▶ Technology?

It is everything:

- ▶ Arts because we strive for elegance and completeness of statements and arguments (think of a *beautiful proof* . . .).
- ▶ Philosophy because it allows for a completely free spirit and provides a particular view of the world we live in.
- ▶ It is science in the sense that it provides an essential tool for scientists in every area of science.
- ▶ It is technology in the sense that it provides the basis of a lot of engineering and computer science.

## (Pure) mathematics

- ▶ is one of the oldest human endeavours to understand the world around us.
- ▶ is timeless: old knowledge never loses its relevance but becomes part of new insights.
- ▶ frees itself from particular applications and extracts the essential structures to provide a framework that applies to many completely different contexts.
- ▶ takes inspiration from applications (astronomy, physics, engineering, computer science, biology, economics, linguistics, . . . ) and generously returns to even more areas.
- ▶ provides tools for future not yet known applications
- ▶ provides a unique set of thinking skills and the ability to look at facts in a more rational way than most other people do.

# What to do after doing Pure Mathematics Honours?

- ▶ Do higher degree study: PhD or MPhil (locally or elsewhere)
- ▶ Take a job outside University
- ▶ Do further study (for instance education, computer science)

## What is on offer?

- ▶ Recommended units to take:
  - ▶ MATH4314: Representation Theory (Sem 1)
  - ▶ MATH4313: Functional Analysis (Sem 1)
  - ▶ MATH4312: Commutative Algebra (Sem 2)
  - ▶ MATH5320: Topics in Topology (Algebraic Topology) (Sem 2)
- ▶ Catch up on units missed in third year:
  - ▶ MATH4061: Metric Spaces (Sem 1)
  - ▶ MATH4079: Complex Analysis (Sem 1)
  - ▶ MATH4068: Differential Geometry (Sem 2)
  - ▶ MATH4069: Measure Theory and Fourier Analysis (Sem 2)
- ▶ Specialized units:
  - ▶ MATH5320: Topics in Analysis (Sem 1)
- ▶ Other worthwhile units recommended depending on interest and project
  - ▶ STAT4528: Probability Theory (Sem 1)
  - ▶ DATA5441: Networks and High-dimensional Inference
  - ▶ Applied or financial mathematics unit