



## **Prof. Dr. Helmut HOFER (Courant Institute, New York) Polyfolds**

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In the study of geometric objects two key questions usually arise. What is a neighborhood of the object and in which way are different objects somorphic? In many cases encoding the answer to this question leads to manifold or orbifold structures (One might think for example of moduli spaces).

However, there are interesting situations arising in the geometry of nonlinear problems, where one is lead to more general structures.

### **Kontakt:**

Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin . Institut für Mathematik  
SFB 647 . Unter den Linden 6 . 10099 Berlin  
Tel. +49 30 2093 1804 . Fax. +49 30 2093 2727  
sfb647@math.hu-berlin.de

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