

On the classification of algebraic space curves

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Resumo/Abstract:

While plane curves have been studied since antiquity, interest in space curves developed only in the 19th century. By the 1880s there were several large studies of space curves, including a catalogue of curves up to degree about 20. With the development of schemes in the mid 20th century came renewed interest and new methods of study for these old problems. I will give an outline of these developments, with special emphasis on how the theory of schemes has sharpened and enlarged the range of questions considered.