

Almost commuting permutations and quantified soficity

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Suppose we are given two permutations in a large symmetric group which almost commute, i.e., the support of the commutator is relatively small.

The soficity and the amenability of the group Z^2 implies that it is possible to modify these permutations and make the commute. In this talk I will explain what is the relative size of the modification of the permutations needed to achieve that, the argument is almost entirely geometric and almost does not use any group theory (joint work with Harald Helfgott)