Maximal 3-wise intersecting families

Tran Tuan
Institute for Basic Science, Korea

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Abstract: A family F of subsets of $\{1, 2, \ldots, n\}$ is called maximal k-wise intersecting if every collection of at most k members from F has a common element, and moreover, no set can be added to F while preserving this property. In 1974, Erdős and Kleitman asked for the smallest possible size of a maximal k-wise intersecting family, for $k \geq 3$. We resolve this problem for $k = 3$ and n even and sufficiently large.

This is joint work with Ben Lund, Kevin Hendrey, Casey Tompkins.