

Seminarium geometrów

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Mapping class groups of flat orbifolds, Part I: The classifying space

Abstract: Mapping class groups of closed hyperbolic surfaces have been widely studied and form a core part of geometric group theory. However, mapping class groups of higher-dimensional manifolds are in general much less well-understood.

In this talk, we will discuss mapping class of closed flat manifolds—the quotients $\mathcal{M} = \Gamma \backslash \mathbb{R}^n$ for a torsion-free discrete cocompact subgroup $\Gamma \leq \text{Aff}(n) = \mathbb{R}^n \rtimes \text{GL}_n(\mathbb{R})$ —and more generally closed flat orbifolds—the quotients $\mathcal{O} = \Gamma \backslash \mathbb{R}^n$ for a discrete cocompact subgroup $\Gamma \leq \text{Aff}(n)$. We will discuss how a mapping class group $\text{MCG}(\mathcal{O})$ can be defined (highlighting some high-dimensional phenomena that do not appear in dimension 2), and explain why the space of flat metrics on \mathcal{O} —a rough equivalent of the Teichmüller space for hyperbolic surfaces—is a model for the classifying space for proper actions of $\text{MCG}(\mathcal{O})$.

Joint work with Ana Karla García Pérez and Ingrid Membrillo Solis.

streaming via ZOOM:

Meeting ID: 967 6507 7409

Meeting password: “GS” (two letters) followed by the Euler characteristic of the closed orientable surface of genus 89.