Geometric and Asymptotic Methods in Group Theory

June 11 - June 16, 2005

MEALS

Breakfast (Continental): 7:00 – 9:00 am, 2nd floor lounge, Corbett Hall, Sunday – Thursday

*Lunch (Buffet): 11:30 am – 1:30 pm, Donald Cameron Hall, Sunday – Thursday

*Dinner (Buffet): 5:30 – 7:30 pm, Donald Cameron Hall, Saturday – Wednesday

Coffee Breaks: As per daily schedule, 2nd floor lounge, Corbett Hall

*Please remember to scan your meal card at the host/hostess station in the dining room for each lunch and dinner.

MEETING ROOMS

All lectures will be held in Max Bell 159 (Max Bell Building accessible by bridge on 2nd floor of Corbett Hall). Hours: 6 am – 12 midnight. LCD projector, overhead projectors and blackboards are available for presentations. *Please note that the meeting space designated for BIRS is the lower level of Max Bell, Rooms 155-159. Please respect that all other space has been contracted to other Banff Centre guests, including any Food and Beverage in those areas.*

SCHEDULE

Saturday

16:00   Check-in begins (Front Desk – Professional Development Centre - open 24 hours)

               Lecture rooms available after 18:00

17:30-19:30 Buffet Dinner, Donald Cameron Hall

20:00   Informal gathering in 2nd floor lounge, Corbett Hall
               Beverages and small assortment of snacks available on a cash honour-system basis.

Sunday

7:00-8:40   Breakfast

8:40-8:55   Introduction and Welcome to BIRS by BIRS Station Manager, Max Bell

9:00-9:40   Dan Segal: *Subgroups of finite index in profinite groups*
9:45-10:25 Tatiana Smirnova-Nagnibeda: *Minimizing entropy over the Outer space*

10:30 -10:50 Coffee Break, 2nd floor lounge, Corbett Hall

10:55-11:25 Dave Witte Morris: *Bounded generation of special linear groups*
11:30-12:10 Roger Alperin: *Subgroup Separability in Linear Groups*

12:15- 13:45 Lunch

13:50-14:30 Vadim Kaimanovich: *Amenability of self-similar groups and random walks with*
                                 internal degrees of freedom
14:35-15:15 Roman Muchnik: *Amenability of free Grigorchuk group*

15:20–15:40 Coffee break

15:45-16:25 Savchuk Dmytro: *Schreier graphs related to the Thompson's group*
16:30-17:10   Jim Cannon: *Dead-end elements in Thompson's group*

17:30-19:30 Dinner

19:30 – 21:30 Study hall. Topics…

Monday

7:00-9:00   Breakfast

9:00:9:40   Jason Behrstock: *Relative hyperbolicity and the mapping class group*
9:45: 10:25   Chris Hruska: *Cubulating relatively hyperbolic groups*

10:30-10:50 Coffee Break, 2nd floor lounge, Corbett Hall

10:50- 11:30 Tim Hsu: *Cubulating graphs of free groups with cyclic edge groups*
11:35 -12:15 Frederic Haglund: *Commensurability and separability for uniform lattices in*

some polygonal complexes.

12:20-13:30 Lunch

13:30 – 14:10 Olga Kharlampovich: *Equations in groups with free regular length function.*
14:15 – 14:55 Steve Pride: *Invariant Ideals for Groups*

15:00-15:25   Coffee Break, 2nd floor lounge, Corbett Hall

15:30 – 16:10   Vladimir Shpilrain: *Translation equivalence in free groups*
16:15 – 16:55   Alexei Miasnikov: TBA
17:00 – 17:40   TBA

17:45-19:30 Dinner

19:30-21:30 Study hall. Topics…

Tuesday

7:00-8:25   Breakfast

8:30-9:10   Andrzej Zuk: *Automata groups*
9:15-9:55   Benjamin Steinberg: *The spectra of lamplighters and related*
                                        groups via automata

10:00-10:25   Coffee Break, 2nd floor lounge, Corbett Hall

10:30-11:10   Balint Virag: *Torsion generators and slow random drives in Britain*
11:15-11:55   Ievgen Bondarenko: *Growth of Schreier graphs associated to*
groups
                              generated by bounded automata.

12:00 – 12:05 Group Photo; meet on the front steps of Corbett Hall

12:10-13:30 Lunch

          Free Afternoon

17:30-19:30 Dinner
19:30 – 21:30 Study hall. Topics…

Wednesday

7:00-9:00   Breakfast

9:00 - 9:40   Avinoam Mann: *Positively finitely generated groups and their zeta-functions*

9:45 - 10:25   Miklos Abert: *On chains of subgroups in residually finite groups*

10:30-10:50 Coffee Break, 2nd floor lounge, Corbett Hall

10:50- 11:30 Martin Kassabov: *Symmetric groups and Expanders*

11:35 – 12:15   Dan Segal: *Groups with polynomial index growth*

12:20-13:30 Lunch

13:30 – 14:10 Yair Glasner: *Finitely generated vs' Normal subgroups in 3-manifold groups.*

14:15 – 14:55 Graham Niblo: *An eccentric characterisation of hyperbolicity*

15:00-15:25   Coffee Break, 2ⁿᵈ floor lounge, Corbett Hall

15:30 – 16:10 Zoran Sunik: *Free-by-free right-angled Artin groups*
16:15 – 16:55 Michah Sageev: *Quasi-isometries and right angled Artin groups.*

17:30-19:30 Dinner

19:30-21:30   Study hall. Topics…

Thursday

7:00-9:00   Breakfast

9:00-11:30   Informal Discussions

11:30-13:30 Lunch

Checkout by 12 noon.

** 5-day workshops are welcome to use the BIRS facilities (2nd Floor Lounge, Max Bell Meeting Rooms, Reading Room) until 4 pm on Thursday, although participants are still required to checkout of the guest rooms by 12 noon. **