



Mathematics Colloquium

The boundary of the free splitting complex

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Abstract

An invariant of a (Gromov) hyperbolic space is its boundary. For example, the boundary of the hyperbolic plane is its circle at infinity and the boundary of a regular tree is its Cantor set at infinity.

The curve graph of a compact surface (proven hyperbolic by Masur-Minsky) is important for its isometric action by the mapping class group of the surface. Its boundary was described by Klarreich. Analogously, I will discuss joint work with Mladen Bestvina and Patrick Reynolds describing the boundary of the free splitting graph. This graph (proven hyperbolic by Handel-Mosher) is important for its isometric action by the outer automorphism group of a free group.

Wednesday, 19 April 2017, 4pm

Smith Hall 204

Tea and refreshments will be served at 3:45pm.