Banff International Research Station
for Mathematical Innovation and Discovery

Character Varieties in the Geometry and Topology
of Low-dimensional Manifolds
25 - 30 April, 2010

MEALS

*Breakfast (Buffet): 7:00 – 9:30 am, Sally Borden Building, Monday – Friday
**Lunch (Buffet): 11:30 am – 1:30 pm, Sally Borden Building, Monday – Friday
**Dinner (Buffet): 5:30 – 7:30 pm, Sally Borden Building, Sunday – Thursday
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 meal.

MEETING ROOMS

All lectures will be held in Max Bell 159 (Max Bell Building accessible by walkway on 2nd floor of Corbett Hall). LCD projector, overhead projectors and blackboards are available for presentations. *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 Banand Beverages in those areas.*

Sunday
 16:00 Check-in begins (Front Desk – Professional Development Centre - open 24 hours)
 Lecture rooms available after 16:00 (if desired)
17:30-19:30 Buffet Dinner
20:00 Informal gathering in 2nd floor lounge, Corbett Hall (if desired). Beverages and small assortment of snacks are available on a cash honor system.

Monday
8.45-9.00:   Welcome talk by BIRS Station Manager
9.00-10.00:   Peter Shalen: The character variety and the topology of 3-dimensional
                         manifolds
10.00-10.30: Coffee

10:30-11.00: Aaron Magid: Local Connectivity of Deformation Spaces of Kleinian
                         Groups
1.00-1.50:   Optional tour of the Banff Centre campus (meet in BIRS 2nd floor lounge,
                         Corbett Hall)
1.50-2.00:   Group photograph (please meet on the steps outside Corbett Hall)

2.00-3.00:   Steve Kerckhoff: Higher dimensional hyperbolic geometry
3.00-3.15:   Coffee

3:15-4:15   Stephan Tillmann: Representations of closed 3-manifold groups

4:30-5:30   Hans Boden: Connections between $SU(2)$ character varieties, gauge theory, and 3-manifold topology.

Tuesday
9:30--10:30 Peter Shalen:
10.30-11.00 Coffee

11.00-12.00   Ursula Hammenstadt: Bounded cohomology: Its construction and use

2.00-3.00   Daryl Cooper: The role of the character variety in deformations of geometric structures.
3.00-3.15:   Coffee

3:15-4:15   Melissa Macasieb: TBA

4:30-5:30   Anna Wienhard: Surface group representations in lie groups

Wednesday
9:30--10:30 Ken Bromberg: Teichmuller theory and the character variety
10.30-11.00 Coffee

11.00-12.00 Hans Boden:

Thursday
9:30--10:30   Anna Wienhard:
10.30-11.00   Coffee

11.00-12.00 Joan Porti: Regenerating hyperbolic cone 3-manifolds from dimension 2

2.00-3.00   Tsachik Gelander,   On the dynamics of Aut(F_n) on character varieties
3.00-3.15:   Coffee

3:15-4:15   Shinpei Baba   2\pi-graftings on complex projective structures

4:30-5:30   Daryl Cooper:

Friday
9:30--10:30   Yair Minsky: Primitive stability and the action of Out(Fn) on character
                        varieties
10.30-11.00   Coffee

11.00-12.00   Ken Bromberg:

Checkout by 12 noon
 ** 5-day workshop participants are welcome to use BIRS facilities (2nd Floor Lounge,
Max Bell Meeting Rooms, Reading Room) until 3 pm on Friday, although participants
are still required to check-out of the guest rooms by 12 noon. **