

TOPOLOGY SEMINAR

Guest Speaker: Dan Margalit

Georgia Institute of Technology

Date: Tuesday, March 1, 2022

Time: 2:30 PM

Location: Zoom

Zoom URL: notredame.zoom.us/j/97262637721



Lecture Title:

Nielsen-Thurston and Thurston following Bers

Abstract

The Nielsen-Thurston classification theorem in the theory of mapping class groups and Thurston's theorem in complex dynamics are cornerstone theorems in their respective fields. They give normal forms for homeomorphisms and branched covers of surfaces, respectively. In joint work with Belk and Winarski, we state an ubertheorem that contains both theorems as special cases. We prove the ubertheorem as a consequence of Teichmüller's theorem, just as Bers proved the Nielsen-Thurston classification. Our work resolves several open questions. I will aim for the talk to be accessible to a wide audience of topologists.