

Enrico Leuzinger

Title: The asymptotic Schottky problem

Abstract: Let M_g denote the moduli space of compact Riemann surfaces of genus g and let A_g be the moduli space of principally polarized abelian varieties of dimension g . The map $J : M_g \rightarrow A_g$ which associates to a Riemann surface its Jacobian is injective and the image $J_g := J(M_g)$ is contained in a proper subvariety of A_g when $g \geq 4$. The classical and longstudied Schottky problem is to characterize the Jacobian locus J_g in A_g . In the talk we address a large scale version of this problem posed by B. Farb: What does J_g look like "from far away", or how dense is J_g in the sense of coarse geometry?

Igor Belegradek

Title: Moduli spaces of metrics of nonnegative curvature

Abstract: There are analogies between open complete simply-connected manifolds of nonnegative and nonpositive curvature: in either case the structure of flats and the ideal boundary plays a prominent role, and methods of comparison geometry are fruitful. In the talk I will survey what is known on moduli spaces of metrics of nonnegative curvature on open manifolds, and relate it to cancellation phenomena in topology.