

Combinatorics Seminar

Friday May 3, 2013 at 2PM

Room MS.04

(Note the room change from last term!)

Diane Maclagan

(University of Warwick)

Combinatorics of the moduli space of phylogenetic trees

A phylogenetic tree is a tree with labelled leaves. The space of phylogenetic trees is a simplicial complex (or more generally a simplicial fan) that records the lengths of internal edges of the trees. This arose from mathematical biology but has applications in a range of areas. In this talk, after introducing this space and describing its combinatorial structure, I will focus on some geometric combinatorial questions about it that have applications in algebraic geometry to the geometry of moduli spaces of genus zero curves. Algebraic geometry will only enter at the end of the talk, and no background will be assumed.

**There will be refreshments for the attendees.
Please bring your own mugs (for coffee/tea) if possible.
Everyone is welcome.**



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