

October 9, 2012

1 PM – 2 PM, Room: A223

## **The Central Strip Lemma for Laminations of Degree $> 2$**

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Quadratic laminations of the unit disk were introduced by Thurston as a vehicle for understanding the (connected) Julia sets of quadratic polynomials and the parameter space of quadratic polynomials. The “Central Strip Lemma” plays a key role in Thurston’s classification of gaps in quadratic laminations, and in describing the corresponding parameter space. We generalize the notion of *Central Strip* to laminations of degree  $d > 2$  and prove a Central Strip Lemma for degree  $d > 2$ . We conclude with an application of the Central Strip Lemma to cubic ( $d = 3$ ) laminations, in particular to *identity return triangles*, that shows it may play a role similar to Thurston’s Central Strip Lemma in understanding higher degree laminations.

This is joint work with students: Luka Mernik (CalTech), Joseph Olson (UAB), David Cosper (UAB), and Jeffrey Houghton (UAB).