

1067-57-682

Matthew B. Day* (mattday@caltech.edu), Mathematics 253-37, Caltech, Pasadena, CA 91125.

Stable commutator length and maps from bounded surfaces to closed surfaces.

I will discuss an algorithm for computing stable commutator length in surface groups. This algorithm conjecturally always works, and definitely finds extremal surface maps whenever they exist. The algorithm uses linear programming and a combinatorial model for maps from surfaces with boundary to closed surfaces that represents surface maps as graphs. (Received September 13, 2010)