

MATHEMATISCHES FORSCHUNGSINSTITUT OBERWOLFACH

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## Noncommutative Geometry

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ABSTRACT. Noncommutative Geometry applies ideas from geometry to mathematical structures determined by noncommuting variables. This meeting concentrated primarily on those aspects of Noncommutative Geometry that are related to index theory and on the connections between operator algebras and number theory.

*Mathematics Subject Classification (2000):* 46Lxx, 19xx, 81Txx.

### Introduction by the Organisers

Noncommutative geometry applies ideas from geometry to mathematical structures determined by noncommuting variables. Within mathematics, it is a highly interdisciplinary subject drawing ideas and methods from many areas of mathematics and physics. Natural questions involving noncommuting variables arise in abundance in many parts of mathematics and theoretical quantum physics. On the basis of ideas and methods from algebraic and differential topology and Riemannian geometry, as well as from the theory of operator algebras and from homological algebra, an extensive machinery has been developed which permits the formulation and investigation of the geometric properties of noncommutative structures. This includes K-theory, cyclic homology and the theory of spectral triples. Areas of intense research in recent years include topics such as index theory, quantum groups and Hopf algebras, the Novikov and Baum-Connes conjectures as well as the study of specific noncommutative structures arising from other fields such as number theory, modular forms or topological dynamical systems. Many results

elucidate important properties of fascinating specific classes of examples that arise in many applications.

The talks at this meeting covered substantial new results and insights in several of the different areas in Noncommutative Geometry. The emphasis this time was on noncommutative structures and methods related to index theory on the one hand and to number theory on the other. The workshop was attended by 55 participants.

**Workshop: Noncommutative Geometry****Table of Contents**

Paul Baum (joint with Erik van Erp) <i>Beyond Ellipticity</i> .....	2553
Maxim Braverman (joint with Thomas Kappeler) <i>Refined Analytic Torsion</i> .....	2556
Xiang Tang (joint with Hsian-hua Tseng) <i>Mackey Machine and Duality of Gerbes on Orbifolds</i> .....	2558
Matthias Lesch (joint with Jens Kaad) <i>A local global principle for regular operators in Hilbert <math>C^*</math>-modules</i> ....	2560
Christian Voigt (joint with Roland Vergnioux) <i>Quantum trees and actions of free quantum groups</i> .....	2563
Hanfeng Li (joint with Lewis Bowen, Nhan-Phu Chung, David Kerr) <i>Entropy and Fuglede-Kadison determinant</i> .....	2565
Guoliang Yu <i>The algebraic <math>K</math>-theory Novikov conjecture for group algebras</i> .....	2568
Henri Moscovici (joint with Alain Connes) <i>Modular curvature for noncommutative two-tori</i> .....	2568
Caterina Consani (joint with Alain Connes) <i>Absolute geometric structures and their arithmetic: an overview</i> .....	2571
Sergey Neshveyev (joint with Lars Tuset) <i>Drinfeld twists and cohomology of quantum groups</i> .....	2573
Gunther Cornelissen (joint with Matilde Marcolli) <i>Reconstructing global fields using noncommutative geometry</i> .....	2575
Xin Li (joint with Joachim Cuntz) <i>Semigroup <math>C^*</math>-algebras and their <math>K</math>-theory</i> .....	2578
Alain Connes (joint with C. Consani, JHU) <i>Arithmetic of the <math>BC</math>-system</i> .....	2581
Ryszard Nest (joint with Paul Bressler, Sascha Gorokhovsky and Boris Tsygan) <i>Algebraic index theorem for gerbes</i> .....	2582
Paolo Piazza (joint with Hitoshi Moriyoshi) <i>Relative pairings, eta cocycles and the Godbillon-Vey index theorem</i> ....	2585

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Terry A. Loring (joint with Matthew B. Hastings, Adam Sørensen)	
<i>KO Invariants and Topological Insulators</i> . . . . .	2588
Michael Puschnigg	
<i>The Chern-Connes character is not rationally injective</i> . . . . .	2590
Rufus Willett (joint with Guoliang Yu)	
<i>Graphs with large girth and the (coarse) Baum-Connes conjecture</i> . . . . .	2592
Hervé Oyono-Oyono (joint with Guoliang Yu)	
<i>Propagation and controlled K-theory</i> . . . . .	2593
Thomas Schick (joint with Mikaël Pichot, Andrzej Zuk)	
<i>The so-called Atiyah conjecture on rationality of <math>L^2</math>-Betti numbers</i> . . . . .	2596
Markus J. Pflaum (joint with Henri Moscovici, Matthias Lesch)	
<i>Relative Cyclic Cohomology and Geometric Invariants</i> . . . . .	2598
Denis Perrot	
<i>On the Radul cocycle</i> . . . . .	2601
Masoud Khalkhali (joint with Farzad Fathizadeh)	
<i>Computing the modular curvature of the noncommutative two torus</i> . . . . .	2603
Varghese Mathai	
<i>Verlinde modules and quantization</i> . . . . .	2606
Bahram Rangipour (joint with Serkan Sütlü)	
<i>Hopf cyclic cohomology, Weil algebra, and characteristic classes</i> . . . . .	2608
Bogdan Nica (joint with Heath Emerson)	
<i>Fredholm modules and boundary actions of hyperbolic groups</i> . . . . .	2610
Bora Yalkinoglu	
<i>Arithmetic models of Bost-Connes systems</i> . . . . .	2614
Ulrich Bunke (joint with David Gepner)	
<i>Transfer in differential algebraic K-theory</i> . . . . .	2616