Categorification in Mathematical Physics:  
April 9-13, 2018

Events for:  
Monday, April 9th - Friday, April 13th

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**Monday, April 9th**

**9:00am**  
Beem, Christopher - SCGP 102

**Title:** Vertex operator algebras and Higgs branches

**Abstract:** I will describe recent work to relate the vertex operator algebras that arise in connection with four-dimensional superconformal field theories to the Higgs branches of those same theories. I will mostly discuss work with Rastelli to extract the Higgs branch from the associated VOA. This story leads to interesting consequences for the modular properties of the Schur superconformal index. Time permitting, I will mention work in progress with Meneghelli and Rastelli on recovering the VOA from the Higgs branch.

**10:30am**  
Dedushenku, Mykola - SCGP 102

**Title:** On the gluing law in non-topological QFTs

**Abstract:**

**11:45am**  
Nawata, Satoshi - SCGP 102

**Title:**

**Abstract:**

**2:30pm**  
Khovanov, Mikhail - SCGP 102

**Title:** Categorification of the ring of integers with two inverted.

**Abstract:**

**3:30pm**  
**Tea**

**4:00pm**  
Cooper, Ben - SCGP 102
Title: Hall algebras of surfaces

Abstract: 

Tuesday, April 10th

9:00am Louis-Hadrien, Robert - 102 - SCGP 102

Title: Foams and categorification

Abstract: 

10:30am Wedrich, Paul - 102 - SCGP 102

Title: On categorification of skein modules and algebras

Abstract: 

11:45am Licata, Tony - 102 - SCGP 102

Title: Artin groups and categorification

Abstract: 

2:30pm Putrov, Pavel - SCGP 102

Title: Fermionic finite group gauge theories and (de)categorification

Abstract: 

3:30pm Tea

Wednesday, April 11th

9:00am Ng, Lenny - 102 - SCGP 102

Title: Knot contact homology and colored HOMFLY-PT recursion

Abstract: 

10:30am Plamenevskaya, Olga - 102 - SCGP 102
Title: Links of surface singularities and planar contact structures

Abstract:

11:45am  Rasmussen, Jake - 102 - SCGP 102

Title: Floer homology for manifolds with torus boundary

Abstract:

2:30pm  Liu, Beibei - 102 - SCGP 102

Title: Some geometric applications of the link Floer homology

Abstract: For links in the three sphere, there are two geometric questions: determining the Thurston polytope and 4-genus of links with vanishing pairwise linking numbers. I will explain how to use the Heegaard Floer homology introduced by Ozsvath and Szabo to determine the Thurston polytope, and give some bounds on the 4-genus in terms of the so-called h-function. In particular, for L-space links, the h-function can be computed explicitly by Alexander polynomials of the links and sublinks, and for L-space links with two components, the Thurston polytope is determined by Alexander polynomials of the links and sublinks in a combinatorial way. I will also show some examples for both of the questions.

3:30pm  Tea

4:00pm  Shakirov, Shamil - SCGP 102

Title: q-skein algebras as integrable systems

Abstract:

Thursday, April 12th

9:00am  Leoverson, Caitlin - 102 - SCGP 102

Title: DGA Representations, Ruling Polynomials, and the Colored HOMFLY-PT Polynomial

Abstract:

10:30am  Rozansky, Lev - SCGP 102
Title: Triply graded HOMFLY-PT link homology from a stack of D2 branes.

Abstract: is a joint work with A. Oblomkov. I will review the 2-category underlying our matrix factorization-based construction of the HOMFLY-PT link homology and its 3d TQFT origin. I will also explain how this TQFT is derived from a string theory brane configuration which is conjecturally related to the Gukov-Schwarz-Vafa setup by moving the link-related NS5 branes into a position in which the D2 branes, which yield the link homology, assemble into a stack, thus producing a gauged 3d sigma model whose Higgs branch is the Hilbert scheme of points on $\mathbb{C}^2$. A T-dual of our construction has a stack of D3 branes supporting the Langlands-related Kapustin-Witten model with NS5 and D5 inner walls.

11:45am  Oblomkov, Alexei - SCGP 102

Title: Categorical Chern character and sheaves on the Hilbert scheme of points on plane

Abstract: Talk is based on the joint project with Lev Rozansky. In my talk I will explain categorical setting for the Chern character functor in 2-categorical setting. The method will be applied to KRS model from our previous work and we will obtain for a braid the complex of sheaves on the Hilbert scheme of points such that its homology is an isotopy invariant of the closure of the braid.

2:30pm  Hogancamp, Matt - 102 - SCGP 102

Title: Curved complexes, Khovanov-Rozansky homology, and Hilbert schemes

Abstract:

3:30pm  Tea

4:00pm  Sulkowski, Piotr - 102 - SCGP 102

Title: Knots-quivers correspondence

Abstract: I will present a surprising relation between knot invariants and quiver representation theory, motivated by various string theory constructions. Consequences of this relation include the proof of one of the famous integrality conjectures of BPS invariants (i.e. Labastida-Marino-Ooguri-Vafa conjecture for symmetric representations), explicit (and unknown before) formulas for colored HOMFLY-PT polynomials for various knots, new viewpoint on knot homologies, a novel type of categorification, new dualities between quivers, solutions to certain combinatorial problems, and many others.

5:30pm  Banquet
Friday, April 13th

9:00am Pei, Du - SCGP 102

Title: On categorification of the WRT invariant

Abstract:

10:30am Gukov, Sergei - 102 - SCGP 102

Title: From Donaldson-Thomas to Haydys-Witten

Abstract:

11:45am Dimofte, Tudor - 102 - SCGP 102

Title: (0,2) theories and the 4-simplex

Abstract:

2:30pm Grassi, Alba - 102 - SCGP 102

Title: From Painleve equations to quantum curves via gauge theory.

Abstract:

3:30pm Tea