

Final Announcement

There will be a workshop

Discrete Groups and Geometric Structures, with Applications.

(Crystallographic Groups and their Generalizations III)

organized

at Kortrijk (Belgium), on May 22 - 24, 2002.

The aim of the meeting is to report on and to discuss recent developments and problems in the field.

Main talks (one hour each) will be given by

Y. Benoist (Ecole Normale Supérieure, Paris), *Projective deformations of hyperbolic structures.*

B. Farb (University of Chicago), *Algebraic properties of groups of diffeomorphisms.*

D. Fried (Boston University), *Affine flows on affine manifolds.*

R. Grigorchuk (Steklov Institute of Mathematics, Moscow), *Algorithmic problems and L -presentations of branch groups.*

F. Labourie (Université Paris, Orsay), *Surface groups and $SL(n, R)$.*

G. Soifer (Bar-Ilan University, Ramat-Gan), *Affine crystallographic groups leaving a quadratic form of signature $(n, 2)$ invariant.*

Scientific Committee: Herbert Abels (Bielefeld), Yves Félix (Louvain-la-Neuve), William Goldman (Maryland, College Park), Fritz Grunewald (Düsseldorf), Paul Igodt (Leuven/Kortrijk), Kyung Bai Lee (Oklahoma).

Organizing Committee: Karel Dekimpe, Yves Félix, Paul Igodt, Wim Malfait

Topics involved: Recent developments concerning all interactions between group theory and geometry are the subject of this workshop. A non-exhaustive list of possible topics include:

Geometric group theory, group actions on manifolds, crystallographic groups and all possible generalizations (affine, polynomial, projective crystallographic groups, almost-crystallographic groups), discrete subgroups of Lie groups, graphs of groups,

Also applications (in and beyond the fields mentioned) belong to the scope of the workshop.

Additional information

Site: The workshop will take place on the Campus Kortrijk of the University of Leuven (KULAK). The city of Kortrijk is situated 85 km west of Brussels, in the province of West-Vlaanderen. It is only 35 km north of the French city Lille. The highway E17 is passing through Kortrijk, having an exit near the university. From Brussels, as well as from Lille, there are frequent train connections to Kortrijk. Both Brussels and Lille have an international airport. From Lille, there are several rapid-train (TGV) connections (e.g. to Brussels, Paris and London).

On campus, the activities will go on in building B (red building). Parking is available.

Those arriving on Tuesday, can check-in at the workshop registration desk, from 3 p.m. onwards until 10 p.m., at Hotel Belfort (in the town centre, Grote Markt 52/53). They will be assisted with all practical information needed.

Flying to Brussels Airport (situated at Zaventem): From the airport there is regular and fast train connection to all three main railway stations in Brussels: South, Central and North, from where there are direct trains to Kortrijk.

Flying to Paris (Charles de Gaulle): From the airport there is a regular TGV-connection to Lille.

Coming by car to the campus. Follow the E17 highway. If you come from Gent, take the exit “Hallen” at Kortrijk. This brings you in front of traffic lights, where you turn right (direction “Doornik”). At the next traffic lights you turn left (“Universiteit” already indicated). The next right turn brings you near the campus, which is at your left side. If you come from Lille (France), take the exit “Hallen/Hoog Kortrijk”, and follow “Hallen”; i.e. at the first lights go left, and then straight forward at the next lights. The next turn right brings you near the campus.

Coming by car to Hotel Belfort. Quit the E17 highway at exit “Hallen” and follow direction “Kortrijk/Centrum”. After some more traffic lights and the tunnel under the railway, you arrive in the town centre. Just proceed until you reach the “Grote Markt”. On this square, on the left, you will see Hotel Belfort. Finding a free parking place however can be rather difficult.

Coming by train. Standing in front of the railway station, with your back towards the building, you take the second street, starting counting from right. Then proceed until you reach traffic lights and then turn left. When you now reach the next traffic lights, you will see in front of you the “Grote Markt” and Hotel Belfort is situated on the farthest corner on the left of this square.

Just in front of the railway station, you can take a bus (or a taxi) to the campus. The bus is servicing the line number 3. Ask for the University.

Shuttle service: During the workshop a shuttle service will be organized to take the participants from the centre of Kortrijk to the Campus and vice versa.

Computer Access to the internet (E-mail, WWW, ...) for all registered participants will be available on campus.

Program

Scientific program: The workshop will start on Wednesday morning (May 22) at 9 a.m. and stop on Friday afternoon (May 24) around 5 p.m.. There will be 6 invited one-hours talks given by the main speakers, 26 short communications presented by other participants and a poster session. We advise poster-presenters to prepare min. 2 A3-size, max. 4 A3-size documents. A detailed schedule is available at the workshop-website.

Display desk: On campus there will be a display desk: we invite everybody wanting to present (p)reprints, conference announcements, ... to bring these with him and to put them on this desk.

Social event and conference dinner: On Thursday-afternoon, May 23, we organize a visit to Gent (Ghent) (about 50 km north-east from Kortrijk), with a city tour accompanied by a qualified guide and a boat excursion on the Ghent waterways, followed in the evening by the conference dinner in het Pand. The all-in price - to be paid upon arrival - for the social event (all included) is € 50/person. (Information on Ghent can be found at the city-website "<http://www.gent.be/gent/english/>")

Registration

Registration: The registration fee for this workshop is € 25 (covering conference abstracts, coffee, ...). One has to register by (e)mailing (a copy of) the registration form. Do not register electronically if a hotel reservation is involved. Final deadline for registration is May 8.

Accommodation: The organizers will be able to assist in finding accommodation, only if you register before April 19 (ultimate date). In view of the hotel capacity however, we advise participants to register as soon as possible if a hotel reservation is involved. We refer to the registration form for a list of available hotels and the information needed to make reservations.

Support: No financial support is available from the organizers. If helpful to the participant, however, we will be pleased to provide a formal invitation upon request.

For further information: Please contact

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Workshop
Discrete Groups and Geometric Structures,
with Applications.
Crystallographic Groups and their Generalizations III
Registration Form

Name:

Institution:

Mail Address:

Telephone:

Fax:

E-mail:

Registration Fee: € 25, payment needed upon arrival.

Short Communication:

- No, I do not wish to present a short communication.
 Yes, I wish to present a short communication (ev. poster). I'm adding my abstract or email it to *Paul.Igodt@kulak.ac.be* before April 12.

Special request: Please send me a personal invitation letter Yes No

Social event:

I take part in the visit to Ghent and the dinner organized on Thursday, May 23 (price approx. € 60/person, payment needed upon arrival)

Yes No

I will be accompanied at this trip/dinner Yes No

If yes, indicate the number of *accompanying* persons:

Accommodation: The following accommodation is available:

Hotel	Single	Twin
STUDI-O-TEL (studio's) (not available anymore)		45
Focus** (not available anymore)	47	57
Center Broel***	63	90
Groeninge *** (not available anymore)	55	70
Hotel Belfort*** (not available anymore)	72	85
Damier****	80	87
Messeyne****	110	125

(prices are in €, per room, per night, breakfast included)

Please, make a reservation in my name Yes No

If yes, please also fill out the following to make your hotel reservation effective! Your reservation can only be made after this, properly signed, registration form reaches the organizers **before April 19**. It will be confirmed to you as soon as possible.

Hotel reservation:

Name:

Credit card company:

VISA DINERS MASTERCARD/EUROCARD AMERICAN EXPRESS

Card Number:

Expires end:

Address of the card holder:

If possible, I choose the following hotel (name of the hotel):

Room: Single Twin

Day of arrival: , day of departure: , number of nights:

Compute the total payment due for your accommodation: € _____

Date:

Signature: