



Belgian Mathematical Society

Comité National de Mathématique CNM

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NCW Nationaal Comité voor Wiskunde

**BMS-NCM NEWS: the newsletter of the
Belgian Mathematical Society and the
National Committee for Mathematics**

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BMS-NCM NEWS

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No 35, November 15, 2001

The Abel Prize in Mathematics

There is no Nobel Prize for Mathematics, but **now the Abel Prize has come into being.**

Niels Henrik Abel (1802-29) is one of the world's most notable mathematicians. He left deep tracks behind him in many fields. His points of view and his approaches were new and had decisive significance for the development of mathematics as a science. Abel solved problems that mathematicians had been struggling with for centuries, and he posed approaches to problems with which mathematicians are still working.

The year 2002 will be the 200th anniversary of the birth of Niels Henrik Abel, the leading man of science in the history of Norway. To mark this occasion the Government of Norway, at the suggestion of the Department of Mathematics at the University of Oslo has undertaken to establish an Abel Prize in Mathematics, following the model of the Nobel prizes.

For more information about the new Abel Prize in Mathematics see

<http://www.math.uio.no/abel.html>

Prix d' Alembert et Prix Anatole Decerf 2002

La **Société Mathématique de France** (SMF) et la **Fondation Anatole Decerf** (sous l'égide de la Fondation de France) décernent en 2002 deux prix d'un montant de **20 000 FF** chacun, le **Prix d'Alembert** et le **Prix Anatole Decerf**.

Ils visent à encourager la diffusion de la connaissance des mathématiques vers un large public.

Le **Prix d'Alembert** récompensera une personne ou un groupe étant parvenu, par la réalisation d'un ouvrage, d'un film, d'une émission de radio ou de télévision, d'une exposition ou de tout autre moyen, à intéresser le public aux développements des mathématiques et à les relier aux préoccupations de nos contemporains.

Le **Prix Anatole Decerf** récompensera des travaux d'enseignement ou de vulgarisation de la pédagogie des mathématiques.

Toutes les informations sur ces deux prix sont disponibles sur le serveur de la SMF :

<http://smf.emath.fr>

LMS Invited Lectures by Professor Pierre van Moerbeke

The web-page of the 2002 LMS Invited Lectures by Professor Pierre van Moerbeke, to be held in Leeds from **Wednesday, June 26th till Tuesday, July 2nd, 2002** is now created. Please, look at the site:

http://maths.leeds.ac.uk/~vadim/LMS_course.htm

All mathematicians interested in the topic are welcome to attend the lectures. Limited funds are available to support participants. Priority for financial support will be given to research students and mathematicians who would benefit from attending the lectures, but who would otherwise be prevented from attending by financial constraints. For details on financial support, please, contact the organiser.

Organiser: Vadim Kuznetsov (Leeds) E-mail: vadim@maths.leeds.ac.uk

Frans Van Cauwelaert prize 2000

On October 17, 2001, the *Frans Van Cauwelaert prize 2000* of the *Royal Flemish Academy of Belgium for Sciences and Arts* was awarded to **Prof. Dr. L. Storme** of the *Department of Pure Maths and Computer Algebra* of the *Ghent University*.

This prize, put up for mathematicians, physicists, and engineers younger than 40, was presented to L. Storme for his research on substructures of Galois spaces. Many of his results can be immediately translated into the language of coding theory. Fundamental results have been obtained on linear MDS codes. The research topic of L. Storme is a nice example of fundamental research of which the practical relevance may only appear many years later on.

International Workshop at the K. U. Leuven

Discrete Groups and Geometric Structures, with Applications

May 22 - May 24, 2002

K.U.Leuven Campus Kortrijk, Kortrijk

Supported by

the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven Campus Kortrijk (Faculty of Sciences)

the Fund for Scientific Research - Flanders (Belgium) (F.W.O.)

the F.W.O. Research Network WO.011.96N

Scientific Committee: Herbert Abels, Yves Felix, William Goldman, Fritz Grunewald, Paul Igodt, Kyung Bai Lee.

Speakers: Yves Benoist, Benson Farb, David Fried, Rostislav Grigorchuk, Francois Labourie, Alex Lubotzky (to be confirmed) en Gregory Soifer.

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.

Regularly updated information is available on the Website:

<http://www.kulak.ac.be/workshop>

Foreign professorship at KAIST

As a part of globalization program of KAIST (**Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology**), Division of Applied Mathematic at KAIST invites applications for foreign professorship, effective from fall, 2001. We will consider applicants in all fields of mathematics including industrial mathematics and statistics. There are 3 categories of appointment:

- Full-time position in all ranks (assistant, associate, or full professor based on candidate's academic performance and experience.
- Part-time position: at least 2 months per year for 3 consecutive years.
- Full-time team professorship (see below for more details).

For all 3 categories, strong record and potential in research and teaching ability in English are required.

Salary: commensurate with that of major universities in U.S.(Salary is paid only on the months of service.)

Terms of employment:

- joint research and/or lecture in English (teaching load: 1 or 2 courses per semester, at most 3 courses a year, teaching is optional for part-time position)
- 3-year initial contract (renewable subject to academic performance)

fringe benefits:

- rent-free on campus housing excluding utility fees
- medical insurance
- pension plan for full-time faculty member
- research fund up to 40,000,000 won in Korean currency(about US\$30,000) per year in case the appointee's service period is more than 4 months per year)
- air fare reimbursement
- tuition support for children(one half of the total tuition supported by KAIST based on the tuition of Deajon Christian international school)

Applicants should send a curriculum vitae, a list of publications to (possibly by email)

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Applicants may be required to submit further documents later such as a few selected reprints, recommendation letters, and/or research plans etc. We anticipate an on-going search until the position is filled.

Full-time Foreign Team Professorship

In order to make KAIST an international campus and to enhance the quality of education and research, KAIST would like to invite active and distinguished foreign professors. Realizing that the most active professors cannot stay at KAIST full time for the contract period, we are inviting a group of 2 to 4 professors in a specific field to form a foreign team professorship and time- share the contract period. This year KAIST is planning to invite at least 2 4 such foreign team professorship.

Framework

KAIST will appoint teams of professors consisting of 2-4 persons having the same research interest and designate one professor as the coordinator of the team. They will open a course, guide the student thesis, and carry out research as one unit. The participating professors in the team will time-share the contract period. The time sharing schedule is arranged by the coordinating professor and at least one professor should reside in KAIST at any time of the contract period.

Recruitment Policy

1) Appointment Procedures - Receiving opinions from the host departments, a committee for appointment of full-time foreign team professorship (Committee Chair: Vice President) will review and recommend the team professorships to the President. The contract will be signed by both the KAIST President and the coordinator.

2) Contract period - Initial contract period will be less than 3 years. The contract is renewable subject to the academic performance and decision of the team.

3) Department Faculty - The foreign team professorship will be considered a regular member of the faculty in the host department.

4) Responsibilities - Under the direction of the coordinator of each team, each team professorship member shall perform lectures, research, and supervision of the students during the contract period he/she is assigned.

5) Benefits - Salary The committee for appointment of full-time foreign faculty team professorship will decide the annual salary for an individual professor based on his/her academic performance, experience, and past annual salary. (The actual salary paid will depend on the assigned period of stay at KAIST.) The salary of the foreign team will be decided considering the salary level of faculty members at major U.S. universities.

- Fringe benefits

- Housing (rent-free campus housing for the contract period; excluding utility cost),
- Tuition support for children (One-half of the total tuition supported by KAIST based on the tuition of Daejon Christian International School)
- Medical insurance and retirement allowance system (an amount equal to that received by a Korean citizen)

- Research fund

- KAIST grants equally each foreign team professorship 40,000,000 won (about US\$30,000) per year as research fund.
- Coordinator of foreign team professorship should be a project manager, and other foreign team professorship and KAIST faculty members will be co-managers.