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Texas State Topology Seminar's
Jorge Acosta Memorial Lecture



Friday, 2019, April 5, 11:00-11:50 a.m., in DERR 333

Speaker: Professor Michael Wolf (*Rice University*)

Topic: *Limiting Configurations, Sheared Pleated Surfaces,
Harmonic Maps and Families of Opers*

ABSTRACT

Jorge Acosta made a deep contribution to the study of asymptotics of families of opers with monodromy in $SL(n, \mathbb{C})$ for arbitrary n . Here we focus on the classical case of $n=2$ and describe how asymptotics of families of opers interact with the limiting configurations defined by Mazzeo-Swoboda-Weiss-Witt, applying important insights of Dumas. The work goes through an interpretation of these limiting configurations using shearings of pleated surfaces, so involves a number of perspectives on the study of spaces of representations. We will explain all of the technical words.