

MODNET: Newsletter 4

February 2006

MODNET is a Marie Curie Research Training Network in Model Theory and Applications funded by the European Commission under contract number MRTN-CT-2004-512234. It will run for 4 years from 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2008, and is designed to promote research and training in Model Theory and its applications to other branches of Mathematics.

These newsletters are distributed electronically to MODNET members and contain items on the administration of the Network as well as reports of the scientific activities of the Network such as visits funded by MODNET, new appointments made, announcements of new results, preprints and publications, forthcoming conferences Items for inclusion in the Newsletter should be sent to the Network Coordinator, David Evans (d.evans_at_uea.ac.uk).

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1. MODNET Events in 2006

- The second MODNET SUMMER SCHOOL will be held at the University of Freiburg, Germany, from 19 to 22 April, 2006. The event is organised by Markus Junker and Martin Ziegler and will consist of short lecture courses on Finite Model Theory (J. Flum), Advanced Stability Theory (E. Casanovas) and Algebraic Geometry (A. Pillay). Further details can be found on the webpage <http://home.mathematik.uni-freiburg.de/ziegler/modnet.freiburg.06.html>.
- There will be a MODNET TRAINING WORKSHOP at Université Claude Bernard Lyon 1, France, from 15 to 21 June 2006. The event will include short courses on Theory of Algebraic Complexity (P. Koiran), Simplicity Theory (F. Wagner) and Amalgamation Constructions after Hrushovski (M. Ziegler). Further details can be found on the webpage <http://math.univ-lyon1.fr/~logicum/francais/modnetlyonfr.htm>
- The first MODNET RESEARCH WORKSHOP will be held at the University of Oxford, UK, from 3 to 7 September 2006. The themes of the Workshop are Pure Model Theory, Model Theory of Fields and Applications and o-Minimality and Applications. The organisers are J. Kirby, A. Wilkie and B. Zilber. Further information can be found at the website: <http://www.maths.ox.ac.uk/logic/wsSept06.shtml>

- The MODNET MID-TERM CONFERENCE is scheduled to take place in Antalya, Turkey, 4-11 November 2006. More details will be announced in the next newsletter. A preliminary website has been set up at:
<http://www.math.metu.edu.tr/~antalya/Modnet/>

2. Other Events

The Modnet webpage

<http://www.logique.jussieu.fr/modnet/events/index.html>

contains links to many events which are likely to be of interest to Modnet members. The following are related to the Modnet meetings advertised above:

- The EIGHTH ANTALYA ALGEBRA DAYS meeting will be happening May 17--21, 2006. These annual meetings have generally had a model-theoretic component. The main page of the meeting is
<http://www.math.metu.edu.tr/~antalya/> The Modnet mid-term conference and mid-term review meeting is provisionally planned to take place in Antalya 4-11 November 2006.
- LOGICUM LUGDUNENSIS: a conference in honour of the founder of the Lyon model theory group. The event will take place 22-24 June 2006, at Université Claude Bernard Lyon 1, immediately following the Modnet training Workshop. Further details can be found on the website:
<http://math.univ-lyon1.fr/~logicum/francais/LogicumLugdunensis.htm>

3. Current Modnet Fellows

Early Stage Researchers (PhD positions):

Location	Name	Country of Origin	Start	Finish
UEA	Marco Ferreira	Portugal	October 2005	September 2008
Paris	Fares Maalouf	Lebanon	October 2005	September 2008
Oxford	Juan Diego Caycedo	Colombia	October 2005	September 2008
Barcelona	Joris Potier	France	October 2005	September 2008
Berlin	Andrea Amantini	Italy	October 2005	September 2008

Experienced Researchers (Postdoc positions):

Location	Name	Country of Origin	Start	Finish
Paris	Cédric Rivière	Belgium	October 2005	September 2006
Oxford	Piotr Kowalski	Poland	July 2005	June 2006
Camerino	Tristram de Piro	UK	July 2005	June 2006
Manchester	Grigory Garkusha	Belorussia	Feb 2006	Jan 2007

4. Report on the Modnet Summer School, Leeds, December 2005.

The 'Summer School' attracted 53 participants including the 5 MODNET-funded PhD students and two MODNET-funded postdoctoral researchers (Rivière, de Piro), 34 other PhD students, three other postdoctoral fellows, the three lecturers, and various senior mathematicians who contributed to the training or attended some lectures.

There were three lecture courses:

- Prof. Mike Prest (Manchester University), 'Intermediate model theory' (5 lectures),
- Prof. Eric Jaligot (Lyon 1) 'Introduction to stability theory' (6 lectures),
- Prof. Angus Macintyre (Queen Mary, University of London), 'Algebra and geometry' (6 lectures).

The lecturers posed a number of exercises and problems during the lectures and time was allowed in the programme for students to tackle these. They were discussed in three evening tutorial sessions led by the MODNET postdoctoral fellows together with Roman Wencel and Richard Elwes.

For each lecture course, two PhD students were chosen to prepare lecture notes, based on the course and the tutorial discussions, and these will shortly be put on the Modnet webpage.

MODNET senior members Macpherson, Pillay, Truss (all Leeds), and Ziegler (Freiburg) were present at the meeting to hold discussions with PhD students who were participating.

There were four additional lectures on the free Wednesday afternoon by postdoctoral fellows present. These were:

- Richard Elwes (Leeds): 'Asymptotic classes and measurable structures',
- Tristram de Piro (Camerino): 'Infinitesimals in a recursively enumerable prime model',
- Cédric Rivière (Paris): 'Existentially closed differential topological fields',
- Roman Wencel (Leeds): 'Weakly o-minimal non-valuational expansions of ordered groups'.