

Geometry, Groups and Dynamics/GEAR Seminar  
(held at the Illinois hub of GEAR )

**Thursday, November 13, 2014, 1:00 pm, 243 Altgeld Hall**

Matt Clay (University of Arkansas)

Stable Commutator Length in Baumslag-Solitar groups

Abstract: I will talk about computing stable commutator length in Baumslag-Solitar groups and about the spectrum of values it takes. For a certain elements, stable commutator length is computable and takes only rational values. There is a gap in the stable commutator length spectrum: no element of a Baumslag-Solitar group has stable commutator length between 0 and  $1/12$ . Some of these techniques apply more generally to other groups acting on trees. This is joint work with Max Forester and Joel Louwsma.

[Video](#)