Workshop for women in homotopy theory and algebraic geometry

Introduction

• The drop-off rate of female mathematicians at different career stages.
• The variability of female representation across Europe.
• How these are evolving over time.

Opportunities for women in mathematics

The aim of this part of the discussion is to exchange knowledge about opportunities for women in mathematics.

• Which countries have favourable hiring policies for women or are actively trying to recruit women?
• Which mailing lists are useful for women in mathematics?
• What are peoples experiences of research collaboration conferences for women? (WIN, WiSh, WIT, WhAM!, WINASC, WINART).
• Are there special funding opportunities to support women (e.g. for travel grants)?
• How do different countries support female mathematicians (e.g. Athena Swan in the UK)?

Topics for discussion

• How important are female role models in readdressing the gender imbalance? Is it important to be lectured by female professors? Should there be more mentoring of young female mathematicians?
• Which factors play a role in the gender imbalance (e.g. the nomadic lifestyle of an academic, pressures of family life, being overloaded with non-research commitments) and what could be done to help?
• Positive discrimination: do quotas for women in mathematics work? [For example, quotas for female speakers at conferences, quotas for female committee members, quotas for female interviewees and quotas for hiring female professors (I'm not sure if this exists anywhere), women-only positions].
• Beyond positive discrimination: are there other ways to readdress the gender imbalance?
• Getting men involved in female representation: how do we discuss topics concerning women in mathematics with male colleagues? In particular, how can we interact with
colleagues who are against positive discrimination/think nothing should be done to readdress the gender imbalance?

• How can one balance academia and family life? What are the main hurdles to getting back to work after having children, and what can we do to fix these problems?

• Are there differences between how female and male mathematicians work? For example, in regard to research, teaching, supervising and administration.

• Women in mathematics after #MeToo: what can we do to make mathematics a safe and friendly environment for women?