GRADUATE SEMINAR

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The Macdonald Group

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Abstract:

According to Johnson (in his famous book Presentations of Groups), an *interesting group* is a finite group that admits a finite presentation with as many generators as relations. A more widely used synonym is finite group with deficiency zero. These are elusive groups, and few of them are known. A family of such groups was found by I. D. Macdonald. His groups are finite (in most cases) and can be defined by two generators and two relations. In this talk I will give a brief overview of interesting groups, their history, as well as a discussion of some of the properties of the group Macdonald found.



