

1019-57-8

Joseph Maher* (maher@math.okstate.edu). *Random walks on the mapping class group.*

We show that a random walk on the mapping class group gives a pseudo-Anosov element with probability one. A random 3-manifold may be constructed by using the random walk as the gluing map for a Heegaard splitting. We show such manifolds are hyperbolic with probability one. (Received May 01, 2006)