

Meeting: 999, Nashville, Tennessee, SS 10A, Special Session on Geometry of Hyperbolic Manifolds

999-53-82 **Igor Belegradek*** (ib@math.gatech.edu) and **Vitali Kapovitch.** *Classification of negatively pinched manifolds with amenable fundamental groups.*

We give a diffeomorphism classification of pinched negatively curved manifolds with amenable fundamental groups, namely, they are precisely the Möbius band, and the products of a line with the total spaces of flat Euclidean vector bundles over closed infranilmanifolds. The proof uses collapsing theory. (Received August 11, 2004)