

Preface

This manuscript is a slightly revised version of notes of lectures given by JM at Stanford University in the Winter and Spring Quarters of 2009 with notes taken by FF. The purpose of the course and manuscript is to provide an overview of the arguments, due almost entirely to Perelman, using Ricci flow to prove the Poincaré Conjecture and Thurston's Geometrization Conjecture for 3-manifolds. The material presented here is not as complete as the treatments in [13], [10], [3], and [1], but hopefully these course notes give the interested reader insight into the structure of the arguments and some of the key ideas and will prepare him or her to tackle the more detailed treatments.

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John W. Morgan
Frederick Tsz-Ho Fong