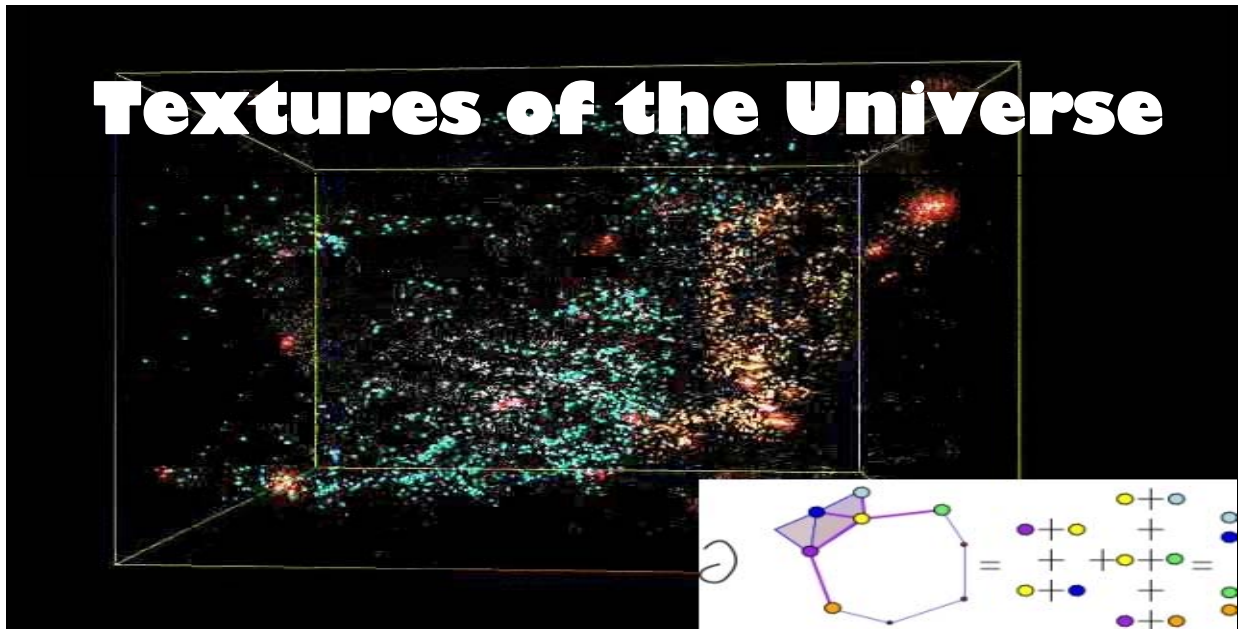




THE UNIVERSITY
OF AUCKLAND
FACULTY OF SCIENCE

Department of Mathematics - Public Lecture



Speaker: Associate Professor Paul Gartside (Pittsburgh)

Date: **Thursday, 2 June 2005**

Time: 7:15pm

Venue: The University of Auckland, Science Centre Building 303,
38 Princes Street, Lecture Theatre MLT I

Abstract:

I am a Scorpio...

For millenia people have looked at the night sky and seen shapes real or imaginary. In the early 1990s astronomers compiling lists of the positions of galaxies also started seeing shapes - filaments, voids, walls. Now we know we live in a universe full of structure at every scale.

The texture of these structures holds the clues from which we can establish exactly what the universe is made of, how it was created, and what our ultimate fate is to be.

In this talk I will explain how techniques from the branch of mathematics called topology can be used to measure and detect the large scale structure of the universe.

Biographical sketch:

Paul Gartside is currently an Associate Professor in the Department of Mathematics at the University of Pittsburgh. His research interests lie in topology - the study of shape - including the emerging field of computational topology which combines theoretical topology, and computer science, with an eye to applications in astronomy and biochemistry.

After a DPhil from Oxford in 1993, Paul Gartside took up postdocs in Oxford, Moscow, Auckland, and Galway before returning as a Junior Lecturer to Oxford, only to be lured to Pittsburgh in 2001.

Further information:

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