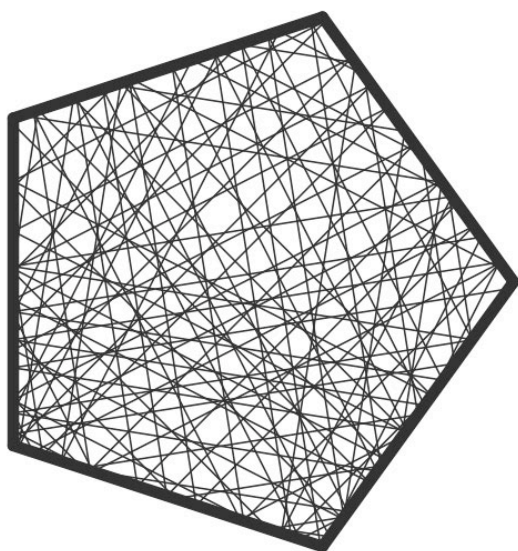


MSRI/Evans Talk
Monday, September 24, 2007
4:10pm
60 Evans Hall
University of California, Berkeley

**“Billiard trajectories
and moduli space”**

Dr. John Smillie
Cornell University



Billiard tables provide classic model systems in the study of dynamics.

Consider for example the long term behavior of a billiard ball in a pentagonal billiard table.

I will describe "renormalization" methods which translate these questions into questions about flows on a certain moduli space.

In this talk I will describe some old and new results about moduli space and their implications for billiard flows.

Refreshments at a nearby establishment immediately following the talk!

*The purpose of these lectures is to introduce the present year's research programs at MSRI to the mathematical sciences community in Berkeley. The talks will be **expository and nontechnical**, providing some of the flavor of ongoing research at MSRI.*

Graduate students and Postdoctoral Fellows are particularly invited to attend these lectures.

Further information and links to the MSRI program and workshop web pages are available at:

<http://www.msri.org>