Title: The isometrization of groups of homeomorphism

Speaker: Fredric D. Ancel, University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee (emeritus)

**Abstract:** Let X be a Hausdorff space. A *gauge (pseudometric)* on X is a function  $\rho : X \times X \rightarrow [0,\infty)$  satisfying: (1)  $x = y \Rightarrow \rho(x,y) = 0$ , (2)  $\rho(x,y) = \rho(y,x)$ , (3)  $\rho(x,z) \le \rho(x,y) + \rho(y,z)$ , and (4) every  $\mathcal{N}_{\rho}(x,\varepsilon) = \{ y \in X : \rho(x,y) < \varepsilon \}$  is an open subset of X. A set  $\mathcal{P}$  of gauges on X is a *gauge structure* on X if  $\{ \mathcal{N}_{\rho}(x,\varepsilon) : \rho \in \mathcal{P}, x \in X, \varepsilon > 0 \}$  is a subbasis for the topology on X. A gauge  $\rho$  on X is *proper* if every  $\mathcal{N}_{\rho}(x,\varepsilon)$  has compact closure, and a gauge structure is *proper* if all of its elements are proper. **Note:** Since X is Hausdorff, then:  $\mathcal{P}$  is a gauge structure on X  $\Rightarrow \forall x \neq y \in X, \exists \rho \in \mathcal{P}$  such that  $\rho(x,y) > 0$ . Hence, if  $\mathcal{P} = \{\rho\}$  is a gauge structure on X, then  $\rho$  is a metric on X that induces the given topology.

Let G be a group of homeomorphisms of a Hausdorff space X.

A gauge structure  $\mathcal{P}$  on X is *G-invariant* (and G is a  $\mathcal{P}$ -isometry group) if  $\forall g \in G, \forall \rho \in \mathcal{P}$  and  $\forall x, y \in X, \rho(g(x),g(y)) = \rho(x,y)$ . G is (properly) isometrizable if there is a G-invariant (proper) gauge structure on X (i.e., there is a (proper) gauge structure  $\mathcal{P}$  on X which makes G a  $\mathcal{P}$ -isometry group). G is *equiregular* if for every  $x \in X$  and every open neighborhood U of x in X there is an open neighborhood V of x in X such that  $cl(V) \subset U$  and every  $y \in X$  has an open neighborhood N<sub>y</sub> with the property that for every  $g \in G$ , if  $g(N_y) \cap cl(V) \neq \emptyset$ , then  $g(N_y) \subset U$ . G is *nearly proper* if for all compact subsets A and B  $\subset X$ ,  $\bigcup \{ g(A) : g \in G \text{ and } g(A) \cap B \neq \emptyset \}$  has compact closure.

**The Isometrization Theorem.** If X is a Hausdorff space and G\X is a paracompact regular space, then: G is isometrizable if and only if G is equiregular.

**The Proper Isometrization Theorem.** If X is a locally compact  $\sigma$ -compact Hausdorff space and G\X is a regular space, then: G is properly isometrizable if and only if G is equiregular and nearly proper.

G is *singly (properly) isometrizable* if there is a one-element G-invariant (proper) gauge structure on X (i.e., X is metrizable by a (proper) metric  $\rho$  which makes each element of G a  $\rho$ -isometry).

**Corollary.** If X is a separable metrizable space, G\X is a paracompact regular space and G is equiregular, then G is singly isometrizable.

**Corollary.** If X is a locally compact  $\sigma$ -compact metrizable space, G\X is a regular space, and G is equiregular and nearly proper, then G is singly properly isometrizable.

**Question.** If X is a non-separable metrizable space, G\X is a paracompact regular space and G is equiregular, must G be singly isometrizable?

The Proper Isometrization Theorem generalizes results of Abel-Manoussos-Noskov (2011) and Antonyan-de Neymet (2003).