Seminarium geometrów

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Commensurators of abelian subgroups in $CAT(0)$ groups

Abstract: The commensurator of a subgroup H of a group G may be seen as a coarse approximation of the normalizer of H. We consider the situation where H is (virtually) abelian and G acts properly on a $CAT(0)$ space. The structure of the normalizer of H and its action on the space are well understood in this context. However, the commensurator is more mysterious and it contains subtle information about the action which is not seen by the normalizer. For various classes of $CAT(0)$ spaces we obtain structural results about the commensurator and its relation to the normalizer. We also present applications to constructions of classifying spaces for virtually abelian stablizers. This is joint work with Jingyin Huang.