

*Jean-Morlet Chair - Conference*  
Arithmetic Statistics - Statistiques arithmétiques

Matilde LALÍN, Université de Montréal

Title: *Vanishing of twisted  $L$ -functions of elliptic curves over function fields*

Abstract: Let  $E$  be an elliptic curve over the rationals, and let  $\chi$  be a Dirichlet character of order  $\ell$  for some odd prime  $\ell$ . Heuristics based on the distribution of modular symbols and random matrix theory have led to conjectures predicting that the vanishing of the twisted  $L$ -functions  $L(E, \chi, s)$  at  $s = 1$  is a very rare event (David-Fearnley-Kisilevsky and Mazur-Rubin). In particular, it is conjectured that there are only finitely many characters of order  $\ell > 5$  such that  $L(E, \chi, 1) = 0$  for a fixed curve  $E$ . We investigate the case of elliptic curves over function fields. For Dirichlet  $L$ -functions over function fields, Li and Donepudi-Li have shown how to use the geometry to produce infinitely many characters of order  $l \geq 2$  such that the Dirichlet  $L$ -function  $L(\chi, s)$  vanishes at  $s = 1/2$ , contradicting (the function field analogue of) Chowla's conjecture. We show that their work can be generalized to constant curves  $E/\mathbb{F}_q(t)$ , and we show that if there is one Dirichlet character  $\chi$  of order  $\ell$  such that  $L(E, \chi, 1) = 0$ , then there are infinitely many, leading to some specific examples contradicting (the function field analogue of) the number field conjectures on the vanishing of twisted  $L$ -functions. Such a dichotomy does not seem to exist for general curves over  $\mathbb{F}_q(t)$ , and we produce empirical evidence which suggests that the conjectures over number fields also hold over function fields for non-constant  $E/\mathbb{F}_q(t)$ . This is joint work with A. Comeau-Lapointe, C. David, and W. Li.