

# Seminar

**Speaker:** [Daniel Lokshtanov](#)  
(University of Bergen)

**Title:** News from the width world

**Date:** Friday, 26 Oct 2012

**Time:** 18:15-19:30

**Location:** [Univeristy of Athens,](#)  
[Department of](#)  
[Mathematics, University](#)  
[of Athens, room Γ33](#)

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## Abstract

Graph decomposition methods are at the core of algorithmic graph theory. Tree-width and clique-width are central notions in the theory of graph decomposition, and it has been shown that a multitude of problems enjoy fast algorithms when the input is restricted to graphs whose tree-width or clique-width is small. Most such algorithms are based on dynamic programming over the decomposition, and up until just a few years ago there were basically no improvements over the ``naive'' dynamic programming algorithms for graphs of bounded clique-width or tree-width.

Over the recent years we have seen a number of results showing that many of the naive dynamic programming algorithms for graphs of bounded tree-width and clique-width are optimal, under reasonable complexity theory assumptions. These lower bound results were subsequently complemented by surprising and elegant improvements over the ``naive'' dynamic programs. In this talk i will survey the state of the art of lower- and upper-bounds on the running time of algorithms on decomposable graphs.

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