
Presentations

Obligatory assignment II - Wednesday March 4th

Presentation

- Present your project in 5 minutes
- Blackboard only!
- Select content carefully

Discussion

- You will be an audience member
- The audience will participate in the discussion
- Practice two stars and a wish!

A scientific presentation

- **Your results** in oral form accompanied by slides, **blackboard**, or **poster**
- Very different from the written article
- The point is to convey **main ideas** to your audience
- Details and proofs may/should be omitted
- May present negative results, unfinished work or ideas for feedback
- Has your personal touch





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Plan your talk I

- Audience
  - Who?
  - What do they know?
  - What do you want them to know?
  - Why should they care?
- Form
  - Slides
  - Objects
  - **Blackboard** / flipover / whiteboard



Plan your talk II

- Visit the room
- Size, sound, lights, microphone, camera
- Computer, projector, internet, clicker
- Laptop, HDMI-cable
- Blackboard, chalk, sponge, sink
- Whiteboard, pens, erasers
- What can be used simultanteously?
- What do you need to bring yourself?



Outline your presentation

- Topic and research question
- Main message / result
- Title that is informative and exciting
- Select main points
  - 3 highlights per 45 minutes
  - 1-2 points for a poster
- Structure – just like storytelling
  - Eye catcher: Interesting introduction
  - Flow: Move gradually towards your highlights
  - Take home message: Memorable ending/conclusion



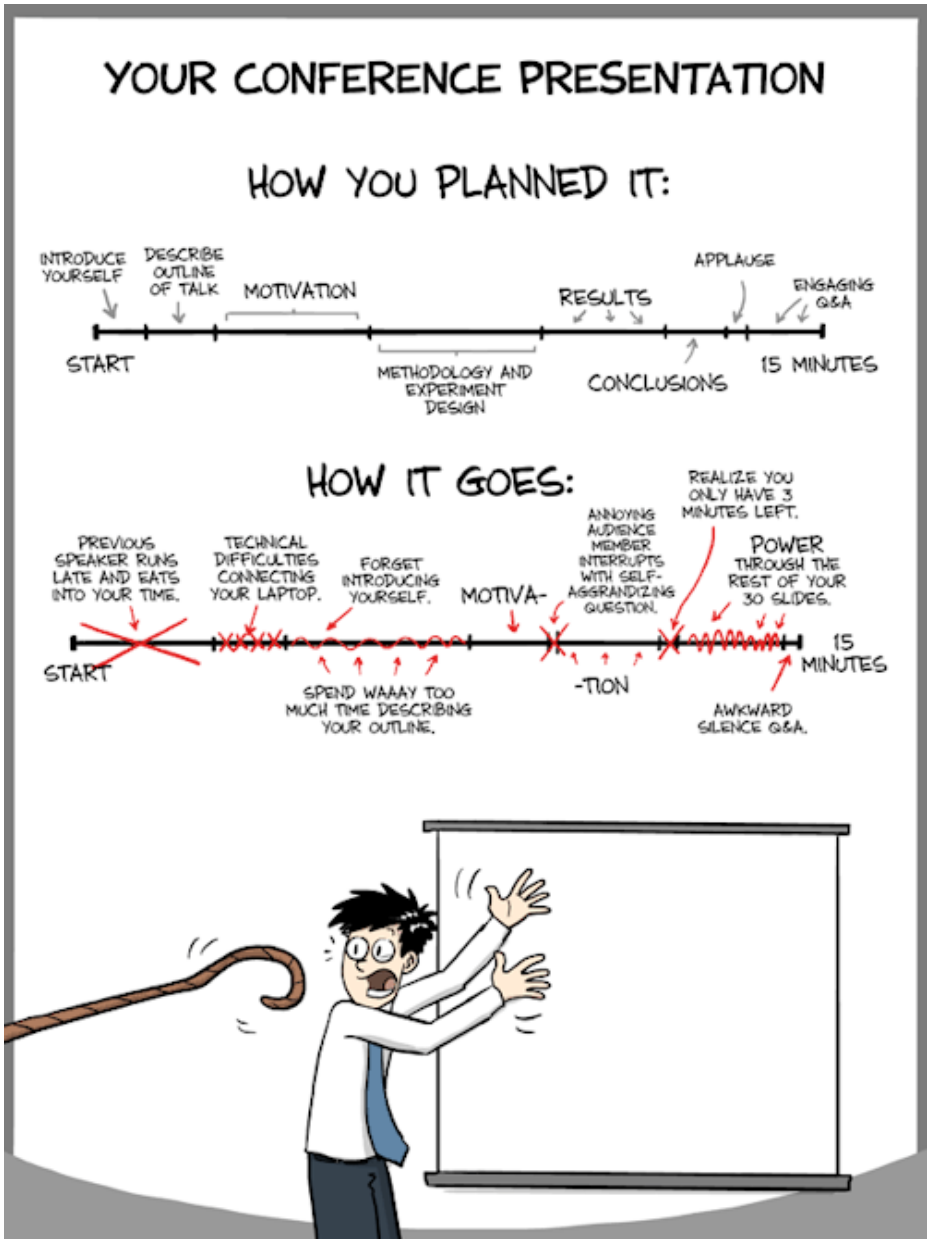
Illustrasjonsfoto: Colourbox.com

What do you want to say?

- Highlights
- Deliver the take away
- Use a running examples
- Impressions versus precision
- Share notation and definitions wisely
- Remember Halmos' non-convergent sequences "no accumulation point or two many accumulation points"

Flow of the talk

- Tell them what you are going to say
- Say it
- Make sure the highlights are remembered
- Then tell them what you said again
- Suspense and cliff hangers can be fun but use with caution



Questions/Feedback

- Accept the applause
- Prepare obvious questions and some answers
- Have a friend in the audience…
- It’s ok to say “I don’t know” with confidence
- Remember how to receive feedback from peer review
- You might be approached afterwards



You and the stage

Giving a presentation

You as a presenter I

- Dress appropriately, but comfortably
- Take control over «the energy in the room»
- Use your voice, and speak clearly
  - Pitch and melody
  - Silence and volume
  - Water available
- Try to connect with the audience
- Be humble, open, kind and self confident simultaneously
  - Your audience must be treated with respect
  - Never interpret your audience as hostile – it will only spiral!



You as a presenter II

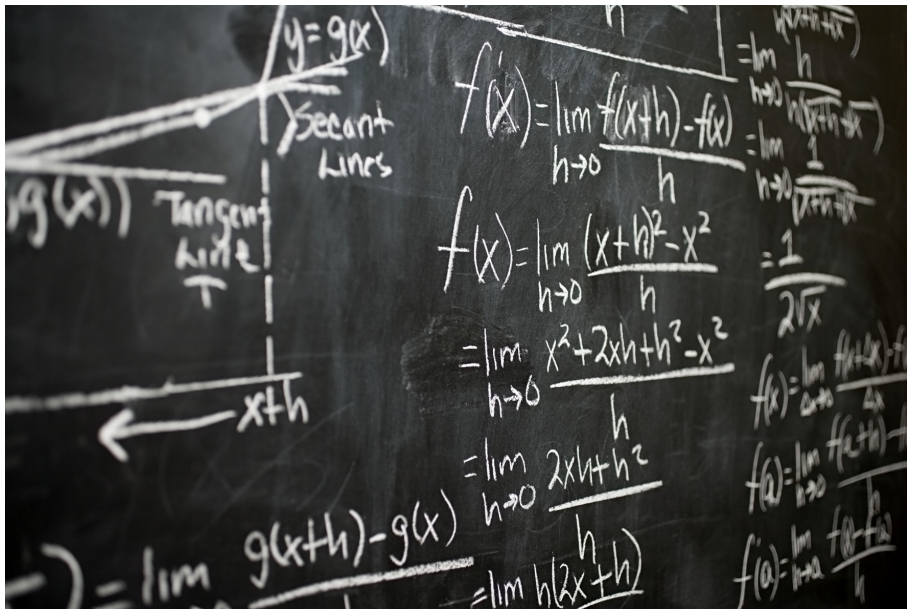
- Nervousness is common – but stay calm
  - You are the expert!
  - Memorize the first two minutes
  - Plan a routine that can bring you back on track
- Bad habits become highly visible
  - Eh..., clapping hands, movement, clicking shoes, high pitched voice
  - Practice to reduce them, but stay authentic
- Plan and test your presentation
- Use the cheat sheet, but not a manuscript
- Use your notes or slides wisely



Using the blackboard

- Time consuming, but often synced with thought processes
- Flexible
- Write notes on a sheet of paper with **exactly** what you want to write on the blackboard
  - Your title in the top left corner
  - Prepare fonts and hierarchy
  - Plan the space – you have very little room
  - Prepare abbreviations
  - Prepare carefully how and where you draw and explain figures and graphs

- Readable blackboard handwriting
  - Size
  - How does chalk work?
  - Stress test
- Erasing a blackboard
  - Loss of content
  - Water needs time to dry up



← **Thread**

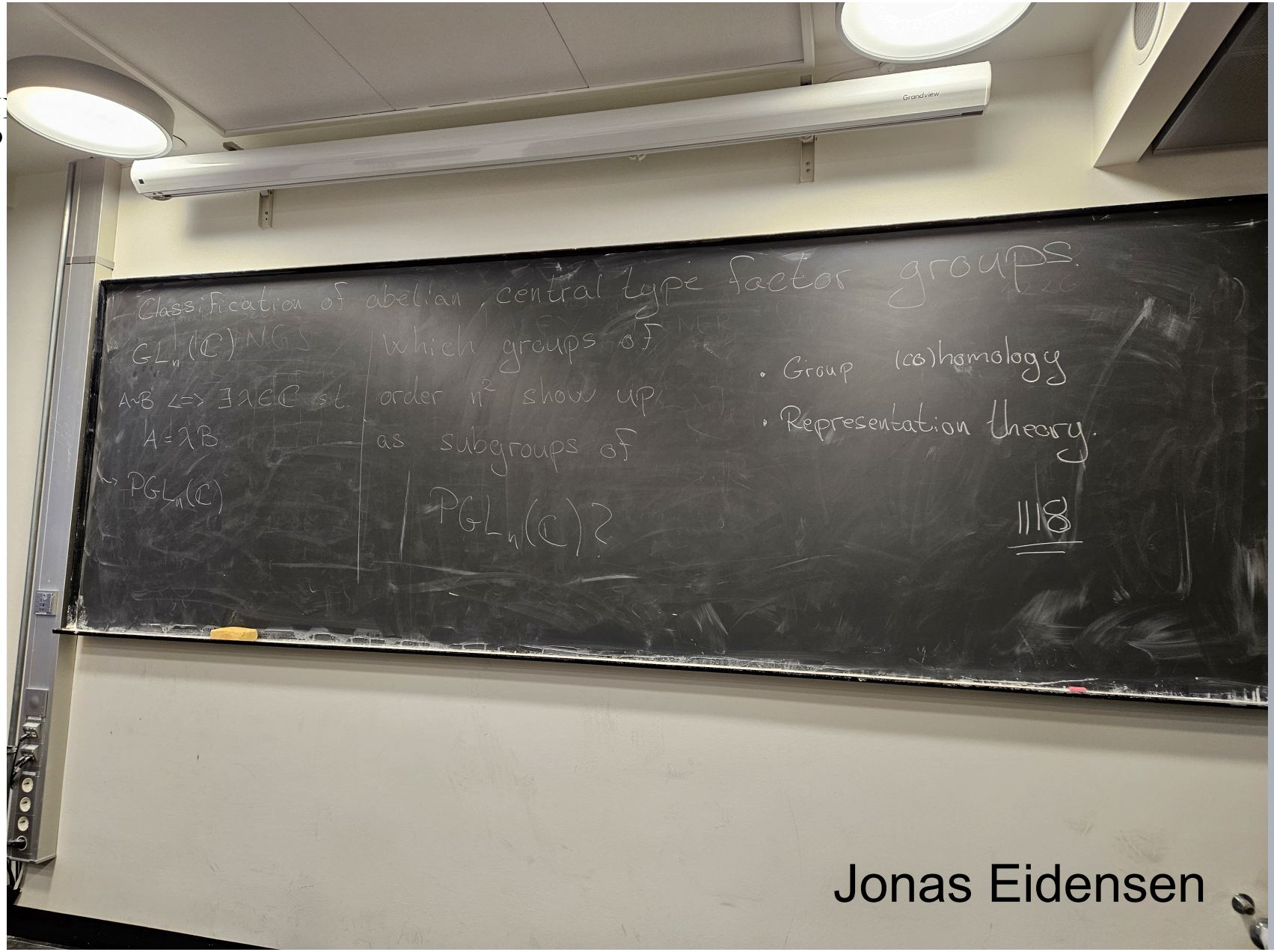


Emi
@EmiDoesMath

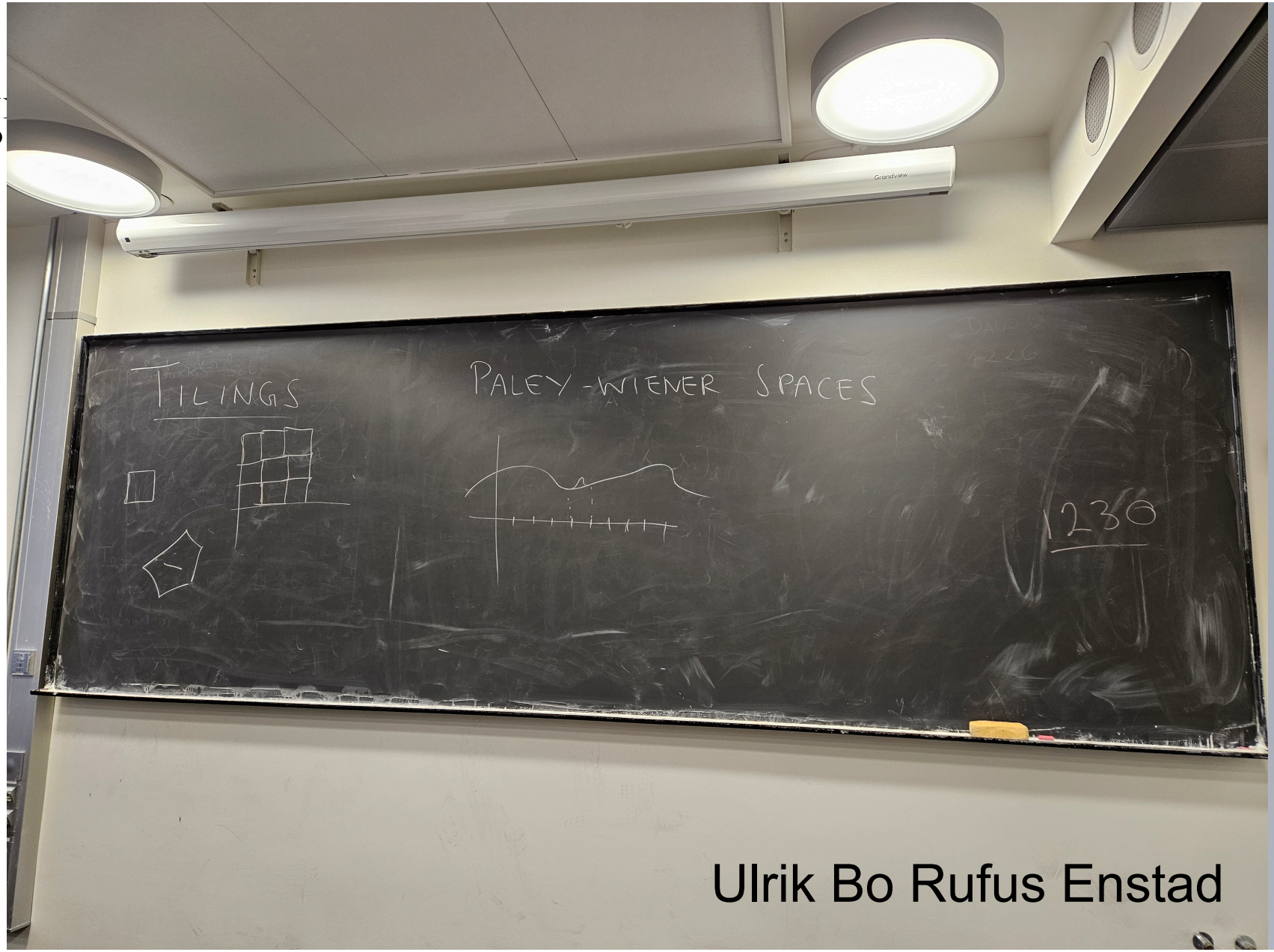
Mathematicians.....talk slower. Please. Especially if you're presenting from pre-written slides. Your audience does not know what the hell is going on.

10:53 PM · Jan 24, 2022 · Twitter for iPhone

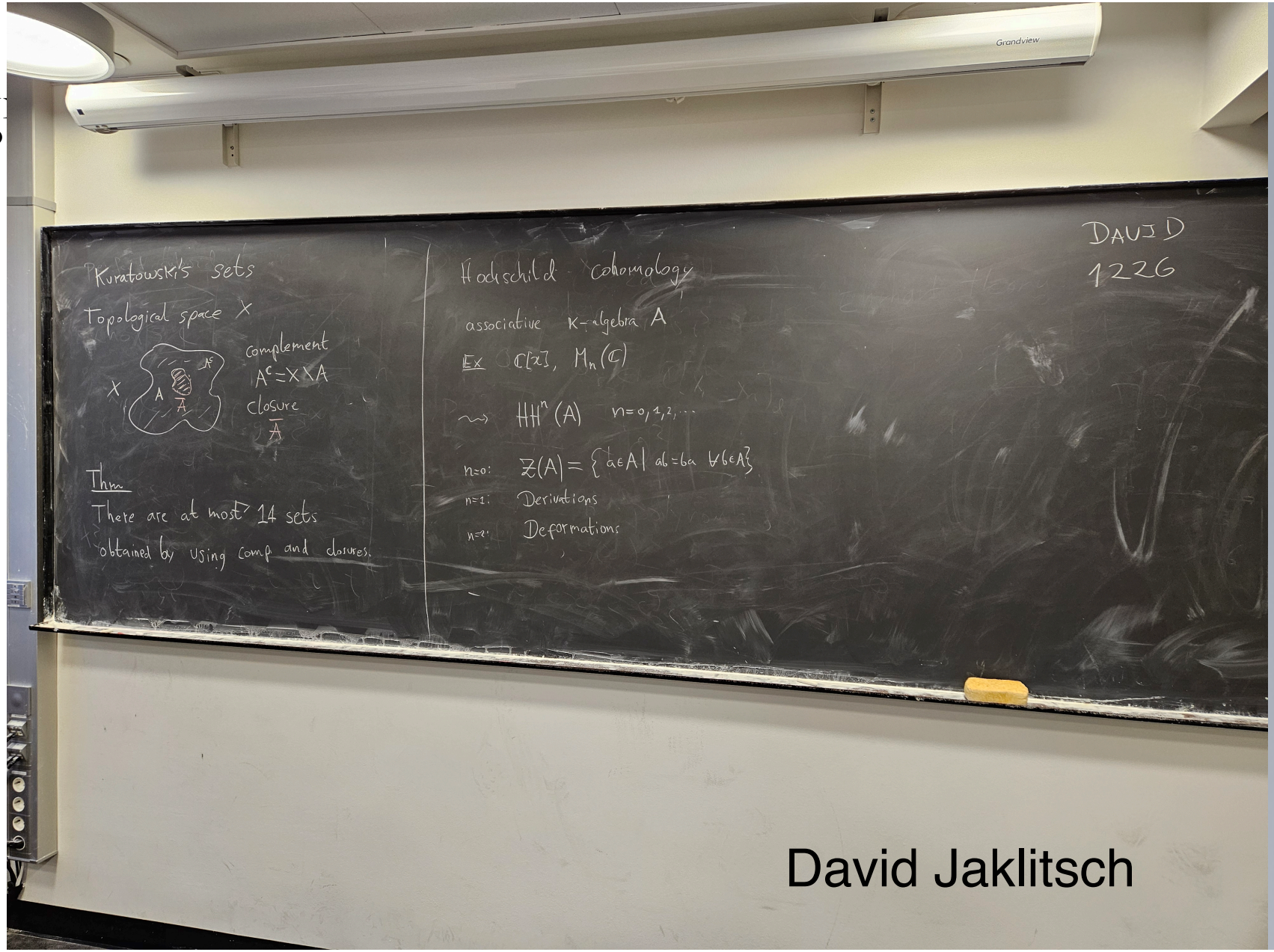
14 Retweets **7** Quote Tweets **306** Likes



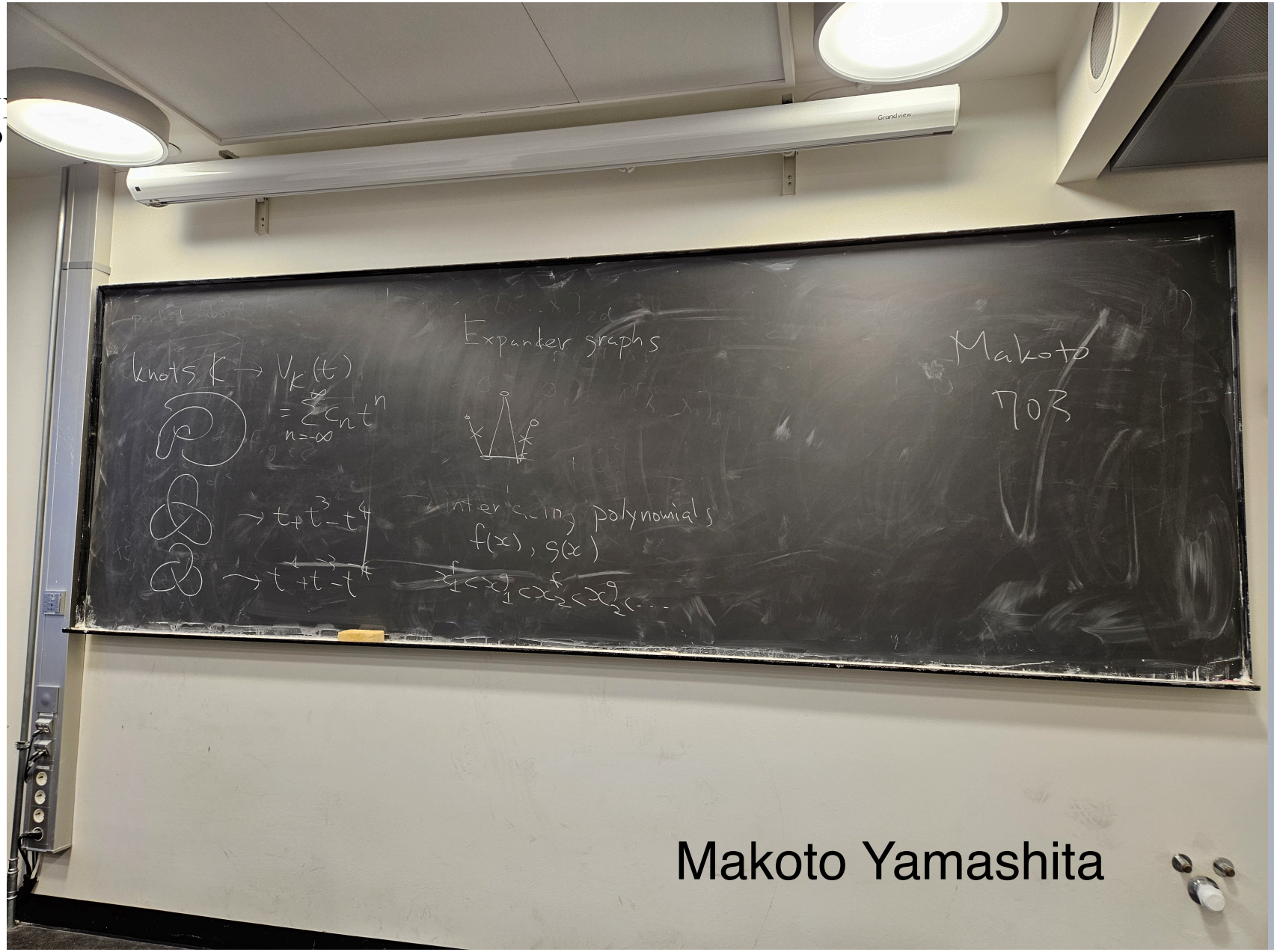
Jonas Eidensen



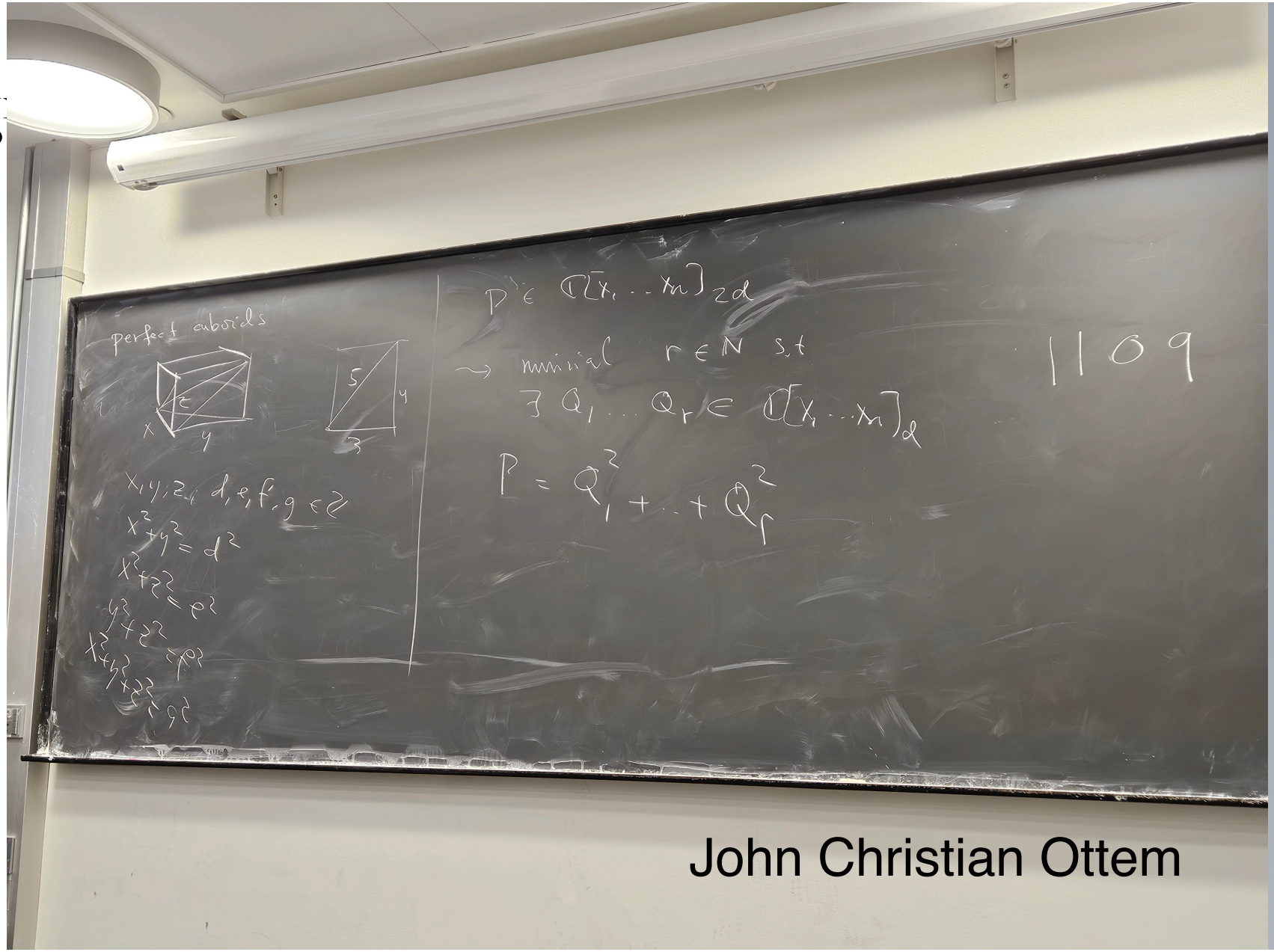
Ulrik Bo Rufus Enstad



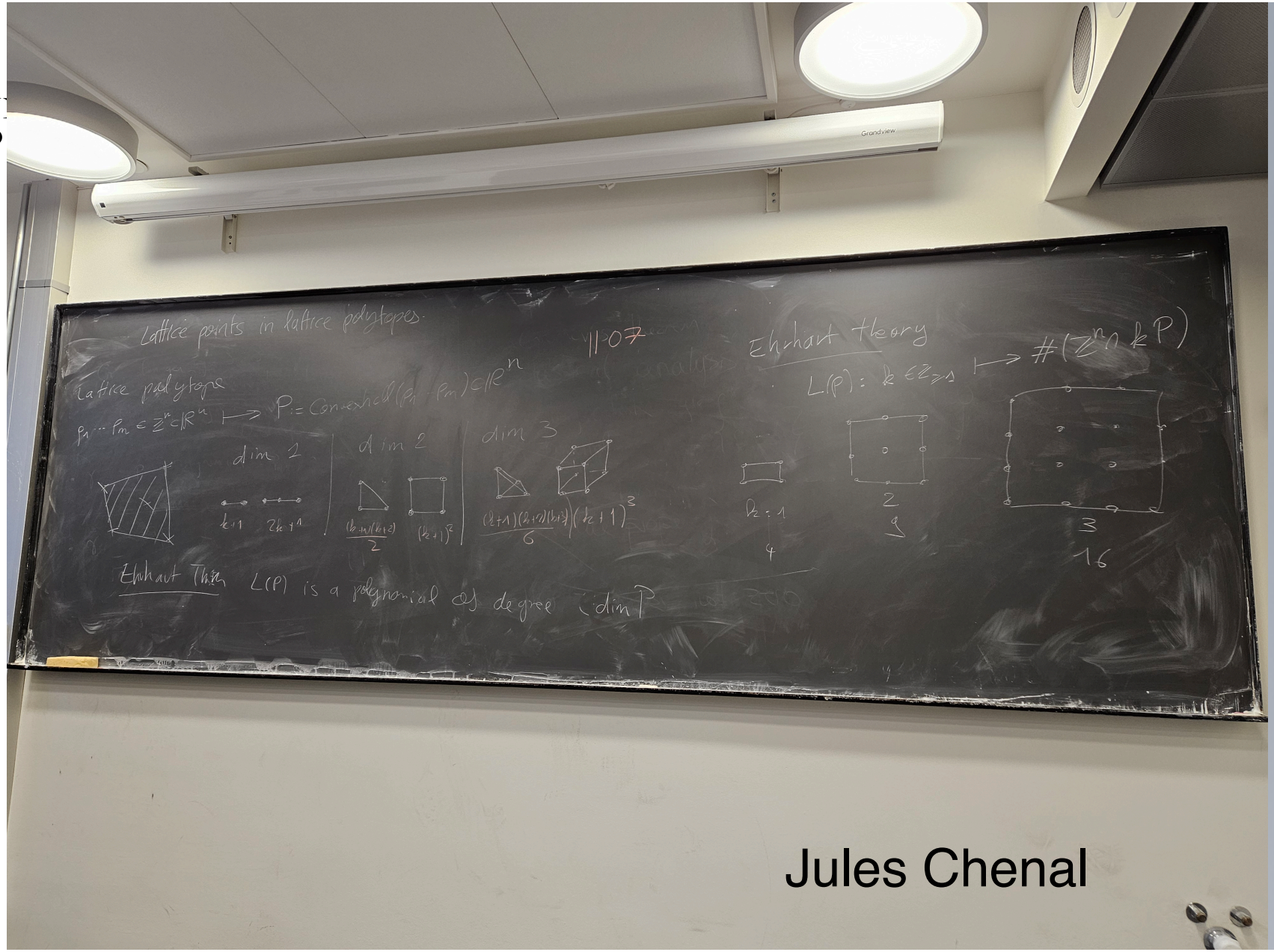
David Jaklitsch



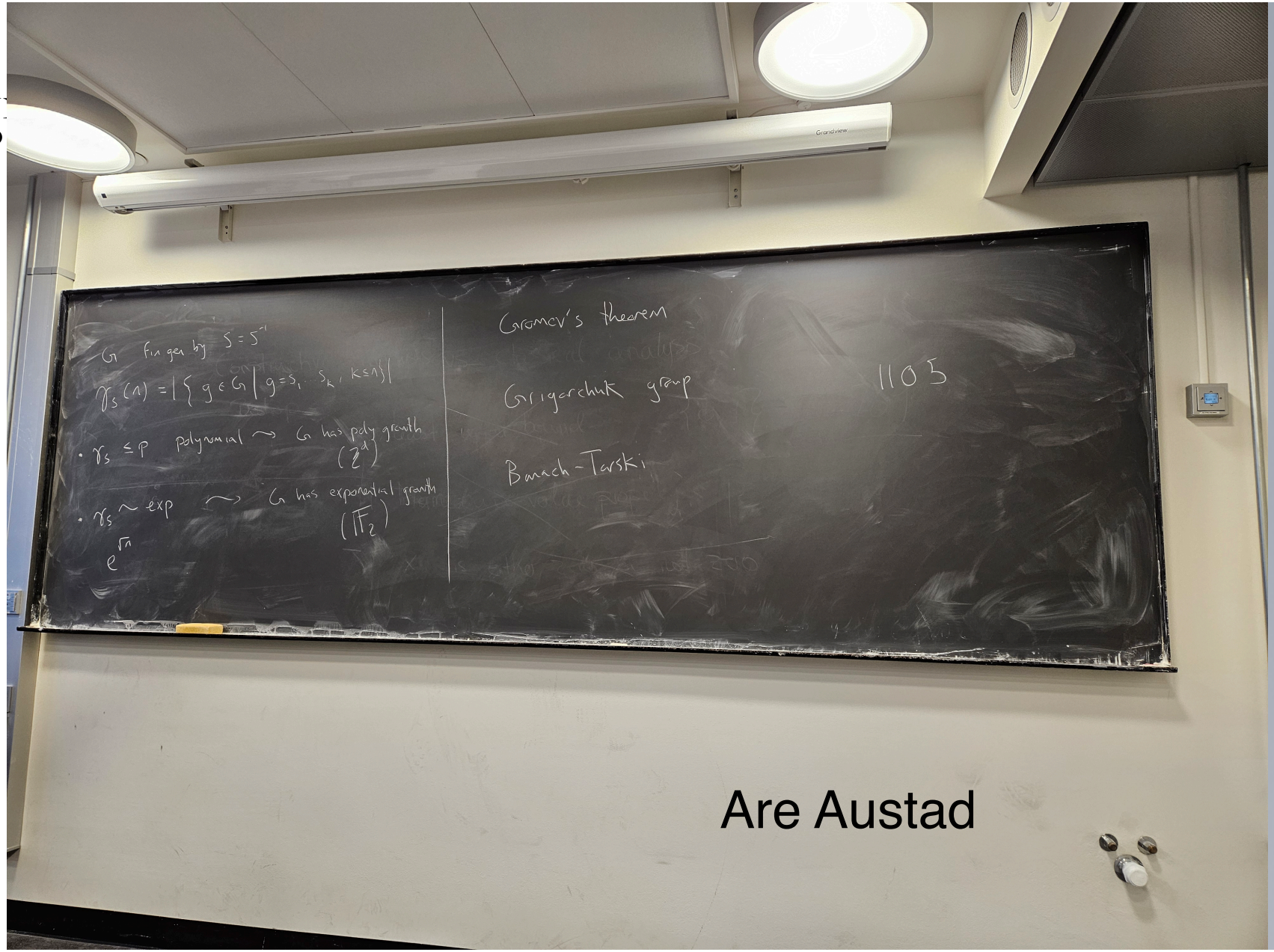
Makoto Yamashita



John Christian Ottem



Jules Chenal


Are Austad

Using slides - some remarks

- Reliable and predictable
  - A lot of preparation
  - Less flexible than blackboard/whiteboard
- Requires flow and working memory
  - Turn towards your current slide before you comment
- Sketch all your slides
  - ~30 slides for 45 minutes
  - 15 rectangles on 1-2 sheets of paper
  - 4-5 subdivisions of the 3 main points
  - Be prepared to skip some of them
- Have to be clean and organized
  - At most 7-8 bullets per slide (…if you must)
  - Strip down sentences



Examples

Slides (5:30-8:30)

Professor Manjul Bhargava, Princeton University
What is the Birch-Swinnerton-Dyer Conjecture, and what is known about it?

http://www.abelprize.no/c67534/artikkel/vis.html?tid=67578

Blackboard (07:45-12:15)

Minerva Lectures 2013 - Terence Tao Talk 1: Sets with few ordinary lines

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6mG9HG4lfgI

Interactive (just for fun)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z9NQatne0xg

If something goes wrong…

- It always does
- Make decisions quickly and silently - and stand by them
- Apologize once – but only once
- Breath!

