

**Title:** Polynomial decay of correlations of geodesic flows on some nonpositively curved surfaces (Part 1)

**Abstract:** In a joint work with Carlos Matheus and Ian Melbourne, we consider a class of nonpositively curved surfaces and show that their geodesic flows have polynomial decay of correlations. In this first of two lectures, I will discuss the surfaces considered and how to analyze the hyperbolicity near zero curvature using a suitable Poincaré section and its Poincaré return map.