

Workshop Calculus of Variations NL 2023 in Schiermonnikoog

The second edition of *Workshop Calculus of Variations NL* took place on Schiermonnikoog, 10-14 July 2023. This year we experimented with a new format: two short courses, several discussion sessions, and talks. This was extremely appreciated by the participants, and proved to be very effective for fostering discussions, and dig in into questions that resulted from the classes and the talks. Moreover, two guests from outside of the Netherlands took part in the event. In total, there were 17 participants: 8 senior researchers, 3 junior researchers, 6 PhD students. We were hosted by Hotel Graaf Bernstorff and the venue of the mathematical part of the event was the Dorpshuis Ons Centrum.

The two courses were given by Mark Peletier (TUE) and Carolin Kreisbeck (KU Eichstätt-Ingolstadt), titled ‘*What do large deviations have to do with Calculus of Variations?*’ and ‘*Nonlocalities in variational problems and how to handle (some of) them*’, respectively. The speakers were able to convey ideas, techniques, and open problems related to these fascinating and important topics, that stimulated a lot of interest among the participants.

The discussion sessions were held every afternoon, usually two in parallel. Participants were very active in contributing to the discussions, which turned out to be extremely fruitful. Discussions continued also over lunch and dinner.

The twelve research talks (6 by PhD students and 6 by young researchers) gave an overview of current topics in calculus of variations. This was also a way from the guests from outside of the Netherlands to present themselves to the Dutch mathematical community, and to network for possible future research project together.

During the last day we had a session to discuss future activities of the community: a reading group, mastermath classes, the workshop for 2024, as well as ideas to attract more students (masters/PhD) interested in the subject.

The most important aspect of the event is the friendly and informal atmosphere that allows everyone to really get advantage of all of the expertise of the participants: anyone, including PhD students, is not afraid to ask questions, to propose ideas, and to contribute to the event.

The weather this year allowed us to have a very nice walk on the beach during the social Wednesday afternoon.



Figure 1: The group during the social afternoon. The picture is not meant for public publication.