

# GROUPS ACTING ON FRACTALS, HYPERBOLICITY AND SELF-SIMILARITY

François Dahmani, Anna Erschler,  
Camille Horbez, Daniel Wise (eds.)



## Panoramas et Synthèses

Numéro 63

2025

SOCIÉTÉ MATHÉMATIQUE DE FRANCE

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Vente au numéro : 59 € (\$ 89)

Des conditions spéciales sont accordées aux membres de la SMF.

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ISSN 1272-3835

ISBN 978-2-37905-215-6

Directrice de la publication : Isabelle Gallagher

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*Classification mathématique par sujets.* (2020) — 20Fxx, 20Exx, 37D20, 60G50, 28A80, 28A78, 37F35.

**Keywords and phrases.** — Geometric group theory, dynamics on groups, growth, fractalness, self-similar groups, automorphism groups of free groups and surface groups, hyperbolic groups, boundaries of groups, groups acting on trees.

**Mots-clés et phrases.** — Théorie géométrique des groupes, dynamique sur les groupes, croissance, fractalité, groupes auto-similaires, groupes d'automorphismes de groupes libres et de groupes de surfaces, groupes hyperboliques, bords de groupes, groupes agissant sur des arbres.

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**Abstract.** — This volume collects the lecture notes of the mini-courses given during the special trimester *Groups Acting on Fractals, Hyperbolicity and Self-Similarity*, held at the Institut Henri Poincaré in April-July 2022. Its guiding principle was fractalness in group theory, articulated around three main topics: self-similar groups acting on rooted trees, hyperbolic groups and their boundaries, and automorphism groups of free groups and surface groups. We hope this collection of mini-courses will highlight the rich and fruitful interactions between these topics, and provide a resource for a renewed community of researchers in the field.

**Résumé. (Groupes agissant sur des fractals, hyperbolicité et auto-similarité)** — Ce volume rassemble les notes des mini-cours donnés lors du trimestre spécial *Groupes agissant sur des fractales, hyperbolicité et auto-similarité*, qui s'est tenu à l'Institut Henri Poincaré d'avril à juillet 2022. Son principe directeur était la fractalité dans les groupes, articulée autour de trois principaux thèmes : les groupes auto-similaires agissant sur des arbres enracinés, les groupes hyperboliques et leurs bords, et les automorphismes de groupes libres et de groupes de surfaces. Nous espérons que ce recueil de mini-cours soulignera les interactions riches et fructueuses entre ces thèmes, et constituera une ressource pour une communauté sans cesse renouvelée de personnes travaillant dans ce domaine.



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Given a graph  $\Gamma$ , the *right-angled Artin group*  $A(\Gamma)$ , also referred to as a *partially commutative group*, is given by the presentation

$$\langle u \in V(\Gamma) \mid [u, v] = 1, \{u, v\} \in E(\Gamma) \rangle.$$

This mini-course is dedicated to the Embedding Problem in right-angled Artin groups, namely: given two finite graphs  $\Phi, \Psi$ , how to determine whether or not  $A(\Phi)$  is isomorphic to a subgroup of  $A(\Psi)$ ? We describe a geometric framework, based on the geometry of *quasi-median graphs*, in which this question can be studied.