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Melody Chan, Soren Galatius and **Sam Payne*** (sam.payne@yale.edu). *Tropicalization of the moduli space of curves: Topology and applications.*

I will discuss joint work with Melody Chan and Soren Galatius using techniques from combinatorial topology to study moduli spaces of tropical curves and applications to moduli spaces of algebraic curves. (Received January 18, 2016)