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**Jonathan Fickenscher\*** (jonfick@princeton.edu), Fine Hall - Washington Road, Princeton, NJ 08544, and **Michael Damron**. *The number of ergodic measures for minimal shifts of low complexity II - shifts related to interval exchange transformations.*

This talk is joint work with Michael Damron.

A general interval exchange transformation on  $d$  intervals may be expressed as a minimal shift with complexity function  $p(n)$  satisfying  $p(n) = (d - 1)n + 1$  for all  $n \geq 0$ . It was shown by A. Katok in 1973 that such systems admit at most  $d/2$  ergodic probability measures. His proof is geometric in nature.

In 1985, Boshernitzan showed combinatorially that a shift with such a complexity function may have at most  $d - 2$  ergodic measures. Recently, we improved this bound to  $d - 3$ .

By considering a class of shifts that satisfy a “regular bispecial condition” (a condition satisfied by interval exchange transformation shifts), we are able to further improve the bound to one of the form  $Cn$  where  $C < 1$ . (Received January 10, 2016)