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The wgsc and qsf tameness conditions for groups

Abstract. In this talk we will explore the notion of wgsc for finitely presented groups. A discrete group is weakly geometrically simply connected (wgsc) if it is the fundamental group of a manifold of dimension at least 5 whose universal covering is geometrically simply connected i.e. it has a handlebody decomposition without 1-handles. We give various alternative characterizations of the wgsc property and observe that many constructions in group theory yield wgsc groups. In the second part one analyzes some extensions by finitely generated (but infinitely presented) groups, in particular the HNN extension of the Grigorchuk group.