



THE UNIVERSITY  
of NORTH CAROLINA  
at CHAPEL HILL

---

**M. E. Taylor Analysis and PDE Seminar**

October 11, 2023  
3:30 - 4:30 p.m.  
Phillips Hall 385

**Unbounded damped waves: backward uniqueness and polynomial stability**

Ruoyu P. T. Wang (University College London)

**Abstract.** In this talk, we discuss the wave semigroup with an unbounded damping. In such a setting, there are explicit examples where the linear damped waves would go into finite-time extinction. We will then find an optimal condition explicitly on the unboundedness to guarantee that the finite-time extinction cannot happen. We will also develop powerful yet flexible control-theoretic tools to establish novel polynomial stability and energy decay results for a variety of damped wave-like systems, including the linearised gravity water waves, Euler—Bernoulli beams, and Kelvin—Voigt damping.