

1096-05-718

**Scott M Corry\*** ([corrays@lawrence.edu](mailto:corrays@lawrence.edu)), Lawrence University, Department of Mathematics, 711 E. Boldt Way – SPC 24, Appleton, WI 54911. *Harmonic Group Actions, Genus Bounds, and Combinatorial Maps*. Preliminary report.

Suppose that  $G$  is a group of automorphisms of a finite graph  $X$ . The  $G$ -action on  $X$  is called *harmonic* if for every subgroup  $H < G$ , the quotient morphism  $\Gamma \rightarrow \Gamma/H$  is harmonic in the sense of Baker-Norine. This is a strong condition, and we will present sharp linear genus bounds on the maximal size of harmonic group actions on finite graphs – these are graph-analogues of the Hurwitz (upper) and Accola-Maclachlan (lower) bounds for Riemann surfaces. Furthermore, we will describe a connection between the harmonic group actions that achieve these bounds and the classical topic of combinatorial maps. (Received September 09, 2013)