

ICM-2018

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Figure 1: The rainforest in Rio

The ICM has the reputation for being the biggest mathematics conference in the world and an assembly of some of the greatest people in mathematics. This year it was held at exotic Rio de Janeiro, a city in which my main source of knowledge comes from the animation movie "Rio" and "that one Simpson episode". Regardless of my newfound fear of mosquitoes, I traveled down with a ton of expectations to see a lot of beautiful mathematics.

The first thing that hit me when I came down to Rio was how well organized everything were. This might not sound that impressive before one knows that the main hall burned down a few days before the opening ceremony and one of the fields medals was stolen. Another thing I really appreciated was the diversity of the conference, both in the people and the talks. I think it is really easy

to immerse yourself in your field and think that this is all there is to mathematics; sometimes it is good to be proven wrong. The plenary talks were particularly good, and I really enjoyed most of the smaller talks I went to. A highlight for me was the talk that my supervisor and her collaborator gave. They chose an incredibly interesting topic which I, unfortunately, knew very well. However, I reserve the bragging right for future generations to come.

I was not alone being chosen to come to ICM from Norway, the others were; Eivind from Tromsø which I knew very well from previous conferences, David from Bergen which I have nodded awkwardly to in the hallways at a numerous occasions when studying in Bergen but never talked to, and Jonas from Oslo which I didn't know from before. In the little free time we had after the lectures we did hang out and I am looking forward to seeing some of them in Bergen in September.

All in all, I really enjoyed being at ICM, and would highly recommend anyone with a moderate to low fear of mosquitoes to visit Rio.



Figure 2: Meeting Michael Atiyah