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Title: Comparison of Teichmueller geodesics and lines of minima.

Abstract: Teichmueller geodesics and lines of minima are infinite paths in Teichmueller space that share common properties. Given two measured foliations on a surface, we compare the behavior of the associated Teichmueller geodesic and line of minima. In particular, we show that the curves which become short along the geodesic coincide with those that become short along the line of minima. We find that the line of minima can deviate arbitrarily far from the geodesic, but by analyzing the change in length of short curves and the structure of their complements, we show that lines of minima are quasi-geodesics. (Joint work with Kasra Rafi and Caroline Series)