Preface

The reader is here invited to sample some of my experiences during the recent workshop on Enumerative Geometry. In many ways I was an outsider, but I was very happy to be given the opportunity to on one hand get acquainted with the state of the art of counting curves on various three-folds and on the other to once again visit Tromsø of which I had such fond memories from my earlier sojorun in 1977.

In this report the reader will find little, if nothing on the actual mathematics (which is being documented in much greater detail elsewhere than I would ever had been able to) but more emphasis on the actual mathematicians themselves. I have tried to make my portraits as viscious as possible, so those of you who happen to find themselves depicted should be more flattered than offended. As we all know, the main thing is to be seen.

But above all, this report is mainly concerned with the writer himself. His thoughts, however inane, his actions, however pathetic and inconsequential. But although he has made some efforts to put himself imaginatively into the shoes of other, he knows that he basically should stick to the one character he knows best. This does impose some stringent demands on the patience of the reader.

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