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**MANISH PATNAIK**, University of Alberta  
*Metaplectic Groups and Quantum Groups*

The study of Whittaker functions on metaplectic groups arose from a desire to understand certain phenomenon in analytic number theory (distributions of Gauss sums, moments of  $L$ -functions). Motivated by ideas in the geometric Langlands program, we explain how this Whittaker theory on a  $\ell$ -fold cover of a  $p$ -adic groups can be connected to the representation theory of quantum groups at a  $\ell$ -th root of unity.

Joint work with Valentin Buciumas.