

The Oliver Club

www.math.cornell.edu/~oliver/

The Tits Alternative

The Tits alternative is a fundamental result for finitely generated linear groups. Starting with the one century old ping-pong lemma of Fricke and Klein, I will describe the content of this alternative and discuss its possible generalizations to non linear groups. If time permits, this will show how (theorems proved by) John Smillie can be used to (prove new results that could perhaps) interest Karen Vogtmann.



Serge Cantat

Université de Rennes I
and Cornell University

www.math.cornell.edu/People/Faculty/cantats.html

Refreshments will be served at 3:55 PM in the
Mathematics Department lounge (532 Malott Hall).

Thursday, October 26, 2006
at 4:25 PM in 406 Malott Hall