



Speaker: Grigori Avramidi
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Thursday, December 9, 2010
3:00 PM
125 Hayes-Healy Hall

Title: Isometry Groups and Aspherical Manifolds

Abstract:

Borel showed that for a large class of compact locally symmetric spaces, the standard metric has the most symmetries. Farb and Weinberger gave a criterion for detecting locally symmetric spaces among compact aspherical Riemannian manifolds. These results relate the fundamental group of a compact aspherical manifold to its isometry group (in the first case) and the isometry group of its universal cover (in the second case). I'll describe extensions of these results to some non-compact aspherical manifolds.