

Algebra/Topology Seminar

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Obstructions to stably fibering manifolds

Tuesday, April 12, 2011 11:45 a.m. in ES-146 (tea & coffee at 11:15 a.m. in ES-152)

ABSTRACT. Given a map $f: M \to B$ between compact topological manifolds, is it homotopic to the projection map of a fiber bundle whose fibers are compact manifolds? Obstructions in higher algebraic K-theory to fibering the given map f will be defined. The vanishing of these obstructions has a concrete geometrical meaning: the obstructions are zero if and only if f fibers stably, i.e., after crossing M with a high-dimensional disk. The methods also provide a classification of the different ways of stably fibering f in terms of algebraic K-theory.