



# Algebra/Topology Seminar

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## SPACE OF TETRAHEDRAL GRAPHS IN $\mathbb{R}^3$

Thursday, November 8, 2012

1:15 p.m. in ES-143

ABSTRACT. Braid groups arise as fundamental groups of configuration spaces of points in the plane, and from the same geometric picture, as automorphisms of free groups. A higher dimensional analog, the configuration space of unlinked circles in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , was studied in the thesis of Dahm (1962) and in a paper of Brendle and Hatcher (2002). In this talk I'll briefly summarize these results and introduce analogous work on the space of linearly embedded tetrahedral graphs in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . Some interesting generalizations will be discussed.