Vertex Algebras and Related Algebras

ABSTRACT: Vertex algebras are rich algebraic structures that arose naturally in theoretical physics and representation theory. However, even their definition is considered to be quite difficult. In this talk, I will introduce vertex algebras in a way accessible to graduate students, as an advertisement for a special topics course that I'll teach in the Spring. I will also present a new definition of vertex algebra (due to Victor Kac and myself), which emphasizes the analogy of Lie algebras, associative algebras and Poisson algebras with their “vertex” analogs.

3:00 - 3:50 pm    HA 335

Faculty and Students are invited to attend.