

Speaker: R. Parimala

Title: R-equivalence in algebraic groups and Kneser-Tits Conjecture

Abstract: We shall discuss a Whitehead analogue for anisotropic linear algebraic groups, namely, the group of R-equivalence classes of the rational points, following a theorem of Philippe Gille. We discuss one class of groups of type E_8 which are R -trivial, leading to examples where the Kneser-Tits Conjecture holds over a general ground field.