

Fred Cohen (University of Rochester)

Title: On spaces of representations.

Abstract: This lecture gives topological properties of spaces of homomorphisms $Hom(\pi, G)$ together with certain elements in the space of representations. The group G is assumed to be a Lie group, not necessarily compact, and π is a discrete group. Special emphasis on groups "similar" to braid groups will be given. This lecture is based on two joint projects one with Alex Adem and one with Stratos Prassidis, Jon Lopez and Marston Conder.