

On some non-linear (and simple) groups acting on exotic buildings

Bertrand Rémy (Ecole Polytechnique)

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Abstract: We will propose an introduction to geometric group theory through one basic question, namely producing simple infinite groups. The idea is to use suitable metric spaces, with sufficiently many symmetries to admit nice group actions. The reason why geometric arguments are requested is due to the fact that finitely generated matrix groups are, in some sense, too nice to be simple.