

Time: Monday May 2nd, 2011 2:30pm

Location: Buchanan A203

From varieties to stacks: a very brief history of algebraic geometry

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Like any other subject in mathematics, Algebraic Geometry has a long and rich history. In this talk we would like to describe recent history (1900 - today) with the help of the fundamental objects we study and studied in our field: varieties (Italian school), schemes (Grothendieck et al) and stacks (the most modern point of view). Accepting varieties as the most simple algebro-geometric objects, we hope to answer questions like "What are schemes or stacks good for?". The talk is aimed for a general audience and we only assume knowledge in abstract algebra and a little bit of geometric intuition.