

Seminari de Geometria Algebraica 2007/2008 (UB-UPC)

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Finitely generated subgroups of the Cremona group (after S. Cantat)

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In a recent beautiful paper, Serge Cantat has proven that the group of birational maps of \mathbb{P}^2 satisfies Tits' alternative. The key idea is to let this group act isometrically on an infinite dimensional analog of the hyperbolic upper half-plane. We shall explain how this idea leads to the notion of elementary subgroup of the Cremona group and how one can describe their structure.
