

Simple Algebraic Groups among Locally Compact Groups

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The real simple Lie groups and the simple algebraic groups over non-Archimedean local fields are ubiquitous in mathematics. For that reason, they are probably the most remarkable members of the class of non-discrete simple locally compact groups. But what makes them so special within that class? What are their characteristic properties as locally compact groups? The goal of this talk is to present an overview of attempts at answering that question, by adopting algebraic, geometric, and representation-theoretic points of view.

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