



Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science
The Weizmann Institute of Science

Distinguished Lecturer Series

Sponsored by the Arthur and Rochelle Belfer
Institute of Mathematics and Computer Science

Professor Victor Kac

Department of Mathematics
M.I.T.

will speak on

What is a Vertex Algebra and Why

Abstract

Vertex algebra can be viewed as the simplest non-trivial example of a Quantum Field Theory, when the space-time is the formal neighbourhood of 0 on the line. Nevertheless this turned out to be a very rich mathematical structure. Several other points of view at this structure will be explained. At the end of the talk I will explain how the quantum Hamiltonian reduction in the framework of vertex algebras is used in representation theory.

***The lecture will take place in the Lecture Hall, Room 1, Ziskind Building
on Tuesday, January 18, 2005
at 11:00***

Refreshments will be served in the lobby at 12:30