Topology Seminar

Andrew Blumberg

of UT Austin will be speaking on

Algebraic K-theory and number theory

on February 7 at 4:30 in MIT Room 2-190

Nearly 40 years ago, Bousfield and Ravenel noticed that the operations on p-adic complex K-theory are abstractly closely related to the Iwasawa algebra. In the mid-90's, Dwyer and Mitchell used this observation to describe the topological K-theory of the algebraic K-theory of Z in terms of p-adic L-functions. In this talk, I will give a gentle introduction to this amazing story and then explain work with Mike Mandell which extends these results and suggests a program for using topological information to answer number-theoretic questions.