

# Workshop on Topology: Identifying Order in Complex Systems

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Loops and Self Reference in Language and Life

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**Date & Time:** Wed, 03/06/2013 - 14:00 - 15:00

**Location:** S-101

**Video Link:**

<http://video.ias.edu/topology-workshop/1213/0306-TsviTlusty>

We will discuss the notion of loops in linguistic structures, mainly in dictionaries. In a simplified view, a dictionary is a graph that links every word (vertex) to a set of alternative words (the definition) which in turn point to further descendants. Iterating through definitions, one may loop back to the original word. We will examine possible links between such definitional loops and the emergence of new concepts during the evolution of languages. Potential relation to living systems will be briefly discussed.

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Thu, 01/10/2013 - 13:52

Thu, 02/28/2013 - 16:41

terms:

- [School of Mathematics](#)