

USNA Math Department Colloquium

An elementary illustration of Golab's Theorem

Prof. Mark Lynch (Millsaps College)

Date: Friday, 25 October 2013

Time: 3:45-4:45pm*

Location: Chauvenet 110

Abstract: In 1932, Stanislaw Golab proved that for Minkowski metrics in the plane, the perimeter of the unit disk can vary from 6 to 8. Hence, π can vary from 3 to 4. I will illustrate this result by defining a family of Minkowski metrics which can easily be understood by any student of Linear Algebra. This appeared in *Math. Mag.*, Feb 2013.

*The talk will be preceded by tea in the Wardroom from 3:20-3:40pm.