Meeting: 1006, Lubbock, Texas, SS 15A, Special Session on Discrete Groups, Homogeneous Spaces, Rigidity

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Canada. Divergent torus orbits in homogeneous spaces of rational rank two.

This is a joint work with Dave Witte Morris. Let G be a semisimple algebraic  $\mathbb{Q}$ -group, let  $\Gamma$  be an arithmetic subgroup of G, and let T be an  $\mathbb{R}$ -split torus in G. We prove that if there is a divergent  $T_{\mathbb{R}}$ -orbit in  $\Gamma \setminus G_{\mathbb{R}}$ , and  $\mathbb{Q}$ -rank  $G \leq 2$ , then dim  $T \leq \mathbb{Q}$ -rank G. This provides a partial answer to a conjecture by B. Weiss. (Received February 10, 2005)