1019-13-153   **David A Jorgensen***, Department of Mathematics, University of Texas at Arlington, Arlington, TX 76019. *On the triviality of self-extensions.*

In this talk we study the vanishing of $\mathrm{Ext}^2_R(M, M)$ for finitely generated modules M over a local ring R. We show that such vanishing is in a certain sense an open condition. We also show that these open sets are often empty, indicating that such vanishing is rare. (Received August 13, 2006)