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This talk is jointly sponsored by the Math Department and the Library's Young Academic Speakers Series

# Alden Walker '07 University of Chicago

"Finding surface maps with linear programming"

## Monday, April 15, 2013

Talk at 4:00 – E309 Tea at 3:00 – KINSC Math Lounge, H208

#### Abstract:

This talk will be an introduction to surface maps and topologically minimal surfaces, especially in free groups. We'll show how surface maps into free groups can be parametrized by combinatorial data, which reduces the search for a topologically minimal surface to a linear programming problem. Similar ideas can be used to find surface subgroups of HNN extensions.

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