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Eric L Swenson* (eric@math.byu.edu) and **Kim Ruane**. *Large Tits' boundary diameter implies rank 1.*

Ballmann conjectured that every CAT(0) groups with Tits' diameter of more than π would be rank 1 (that is the group contains a hyperbolic element which has an axis not contained in any half-flat). We show that if the Tits' diameter is at large enough ($\geq 4\pi$) then the group is rank 1. (Received September 28, 2000)