1023-14-1716 Luis D Garcia-Puente* (lgp@math.tamu.edu), Department of Mathematics, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77843-3368, and Frank Sottile (sottile@math.tamu.edu), Department of Mathematics, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77843-3368. *Linear* precision for parametric patches. Preliminary report.

In this talk, I will discuss an specific topic on geometric modelling, which is the science of modeling curves and surfaces by small patches (e.g. Bezier patches). I will present a characterization of one important property, linear precision, for parametric patches. In particular, I will show that the only polygons for which the corresponding patch has linear precision are either scalar multiples of the standard simplex or rectangles. I will also present a simple numerical algorithm to compute the parametrization of a (toric) patch having linear precision. (Received September 26, 2006)