1046-22-1366 **Vladimir Chernousov**, **Lucy Lifschitz** and **Dave Witte Morris*** (Dave.Morris@uleth.ca), Department of Mathematics & Computer Science, University of Lethbridge, Lethbridge, Alberta T1K 3M4, Canada. *Locally symmetric subspaces of locally symmetric spaces.*

It has long been known that only two manifolds are minimal in the category of symmetric spaces $X = G/K$ of rank greater than 1. (We assume G is a connected, semisimple Lie group with no compact factors.) Namely, every symmetric space in this category contains either the product of two hyperbolic planes or the symmetric space associated to $\mathrm{SL}(3, \mathbb{R})$. The corresponding problem for noncompact spaces of finite volume that are locally symmetric, rather than symmmetric, also has a fairly simple answer, even though infinitely many manifolds are minimal in this category. The proof goes through a case-by-case analysis of the possible $\mathbb{Q}$-forms of G. The compact case will have a more complicated answer, and remains open. (Received September 15, 2008)