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Chenyang Xu* (dr.chenyang.xu@gmail.com), 335 Olden Lane, Princeton, NJ 08540. *Strong rational Connectedness of Smooth loci of log del Pezzo surfaces.*

In this talk, we will prove a theorem which confirms the conjecture (Hassett-Tschinkel) that the smooth loci of log del Pezzo surfaces is strongly rationally connected, i.e, for any 2 smooth points of a log del Pezzo surface, there is a very free rational curve which passes through these 2 points, and entirely sits in the smooth locus. For 2 general points, the result was proved by Keel-Mckernan. (Received August 18, 2008)