Preface

Should AGE or EP merge? To have two parallel networks in algebraic geometry in Europe seems a bit redundant. But fissures within the community, brought out into the open at Toulouse 1992, has made this until recently impossible. But a change of guards, the retreat of Hirshowitz, the temporary absence of Miles Reid in Japane. An understanding has gradually come about trying to reconcile the irreconcilable. In Liverpool a mandate was given the EP committe to negotiate a merge with AGE. At the AGE meeting in Berlin in December the question was to be put to AGE and the members of the EP committee were invited to tag along. Always eager for an excuse to travel I seized upon the possibility. What followed were two intensive days, which turned out to be quite succesful.

As usual a blow-by blow account ensues never shirking the documentation of an incident, no matter how trivial. The bulk of this was written within weeks of the occasion, a final polishing and proofreading effected in the last days of April.

Göteborg

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