

« GÉOMÉTRIE ALGÈBRIQUE AFFINE. UN ATELIER EN L'HONNEUR DE PETER RUSSELL »
1–5 JUN 2009

“AFFINE ALGEBRAIC GEOMETRY. A CONFERENCE IN HONOUR OF PETER RUSSELL”
JUNE 1–05, 2009

Unimodular rows

MATAM PAVAMAN MURTHY

Department of Mathematics
University of Chicago
5737 University Avenue
Chicago, IL 60615
USA

`murthy@math.uchicago.edu`

Recall that an n -tuple (a_1, \dots, a_n) with entries in a commutative ring A is called unimodular if $Aa_1 + \dots + Aa_n = A$ and is called completable if it is first row of an invertible matrix over A . A general problem of interest is to find sufficient conditions for an unimodular to be completable. After a brief survey of selected results and open problems, we end the talk with the proof of the following bizarre result obtained *jointly with Mohan Kumar* : Let (a, b, c) be a unimodular triple over the ring A . If $1/2$ is in A and $(b^2 - 4ac)$ is a square in A , then (a, b, c) is completable.