« GÉOMÉTRIE ALGÉBRIQUE AFFINE. UN ATELIER EN L'HONNEUR DE PETER RUSSELL »
1–5 JUIN 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 $= (a_1, ..., a_n)$ with entries in a commutative ring A is called unimodular if $Aa_1 + \cdots + Aa_n = A$ and is called completable if 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 an unimodular triple over the ring A. If $11/2$ is in A and $(b^2 - 4ac)$ is a square in A, then (a, b, c) is completable.