COMMUTATORS AND GENERALIZED COMMUTATORS IN MATRIX RINGS

TSIT-YUEN LAM

ABSTRACT. An element of the form [a,b] = ab - ba in a ring R is called an (additive) commutator, and an element of the form

$$[a, b, c] = abc - cba$$

in R is called a generalized commutator. In this talk, we present some recent results (and problems) on commutators and generalized commutators in a matrix ring $R = \mathbb{M}_n(S)$ over a (not necessarily commutative) base ring S. This is joint work with D. Khurana and V. Kodiyalam.