Seminário de Álgebra

On stable primitivity rank.

Henry Wilton

Department of Pure Mathematics and Mathematical Statistics (DMMS),
University of Cambridge, England.

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Abstract.

The commutator length of an element w of the commutator subgroup of a group G is the minimal number of commutators needed to express w as a product of commutators. A more fruitful definition is obtained by stabilising the definition, yielding the notion of "stable" commutator length.

In the context of free groups, Puder has recently introduced the notion of "primitivity rank", which can be thought of as a homotopical version of commutator length. In this talk, I'll propose a stable version of primitivity rank, and state some of its properties.