

The importance of latin trades in the study of completing partial latin squares

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In this talk I will begin by discussing early problems concerning the completion of partial latin squares. By reviewing this early work I will highlight the importance of the study of latin trades. Given two latin squares L and M , of the same order, the differences between the squares give rise to a latin trade. That is, the partial latin squares L/M and M/L are said to form latin trades. Throughout this talk I will present a number of open problems in the study of latin squares and latin trades.