ALPEN-ADRIA UNIVERSITÄT KLAGENFURT

Invitation to the Doctoral Seminar

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"New Roles of an Old Puzzle The Magic Square of Squares Problem"

HS 11 | Wednesday, 21 October 2026 | 10:00 a.m.

Abstract
The mystery, historical, and entertaining feature of the magic square puzzle has amazed and challenged many people -from all ages and with various backgrounds. It is also a great topic to be integrated in classrooms and to be used for enriched activities outside the classroom. A more difficult related problem is the construction of magic squares of squares (MSS) in which all entries are perfect squares and the existence of such squares with all entries distinct. We investigate a similar problem: construction and properties of magic squares of squares over a finite field or over an integral domain. In this talk, a brief history about the problem and methods of construction of an MSS without repeating entries will be provided. The speaker will give a summary of current development of the magic squares of squares problem.

Andrei Asinowski and the Department of Mathematics look forward to seeing you at the talk!