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The Dixmier property

The Dixmier property is a property for C*-algebras, which first arose in Dixmier's proof that von Neumann factors have at most one trace. Roughly, it says that any element of the C*-algebra can be approximately averaged towards the centre via unitaries. A uniform version of the Dixmier property has only recently been considered, and it opens up some interesting questions. I will discuss these things. This is joint work with R. Archbold and L. Robert.