**On the Covering Number of $U_3(q)$**

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Any finite noncyclic group is a finite union of proper subgroups. Given such a group $G$, we define the covering number of $G$ to be the least positive integer $m$ such that $G$ is the union of $m$ proper subgroups. The aim of this talk is to present recent results on the determination of the covering numbers of the projective special unitary groups $U_3(q)$.

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