## Isolated elements in finite groups

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An element x of a finite group G is said to be isolated in G if and only if the only conjugate of x that commutes with x is x itself. How can such a little property have influence on the structure of all of G? In this talk I will motivate questions of this type and explain how they can be seen from different prespectives, and I will explain work in recent years towards a better understanding of how isolated elements influence the group structure.

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