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*Embeddings of partial Steiner triple systems with few triples*

It is known that every partial Steiner triple system of order  $u$  has an embedding of order  $v$  for each admissible  $v \geq 2u + 1$ , and that this bound cannot be improved in general. Many partial Steiner triple systems do have embeddings of order smaller than  $2u + 1$ , but much less is known about when such embeddings exist. In this talk I will present a result showing that any partial Steiner triple system with few triples has an embedding of order  $v$  for each admissible  $v \geq \frac{8u+17}{5}$ .