

# THE STABILITY INDEX OF A FIELD

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The stability index of a field is a measure of the complexity of its space of orderings. This field invariant is relevant in the study of quadratic forms over real fields. In my talk I will focus on two results on this invariant, concerning its behaviour under field extensions (joint work with Claus Schubert) and its relation to the 2-symbol length in Milnor  $K$ -theory (joint work with Paweł Gładki).