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James W Cogdell* (cogdell@math.ohio-state.edu), Department of Mathematics, Ohio State University, 231 W. 18th Avenue, Columbus, OH 43210. *On the local exterior square L -function for $GL(n)$.*

There has been renewed interest in the local exterior square L -function for $GL(n)$, both in its own right and for global applications. In this talk I would like to survey some ideas, both old and new, for thinking about this and then some results. Time permitting, these will include the method of “Derivatives and L -functions” for computing the local L -function, some recent results of Kewat and Belt about non-vanishing, and new ideas of Shahidi and Tsai to attack the stability of the local γ -factor. (Received January 23, 2011)