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**Amanda A. Schaeffer Fry\*** ([mandi@math.arizona.edu](mailto:mandi@math.arizona.edu)), University of Arizona, Dept. of Mathematics, Tucson, AZ 85721. *On the Largest Irreducible Representations of the Finite Unitary Groups.*

If  $G$  is a finite simple group of Lie type over  $\mathbb{F}_q$ , then G. Seitz gives us a formula for the largest irreducible complex character degree,  $b(G)$ , assuming that  $q$  is sufficiently large. However, it is still an open question to find such a formula in general. In this talk we will explore this question and some recent results. In particular, I will discuss my bounds for  $b(G)$  in the case that  $G$  is a finite unitary group. (Received September 09, 2012)