1093-20-161 **Richard Peabody Kent*** (rkent@math.wisc.edu). *Congruence subgroup problems.*

It is a theorem of Bass, Lazard, and Serre, and, independently, Mennicke, that the special linear group $\mathrm{SL}(n, \mathbb{Z})$ enjoys the congruence subgroup property when n is at least 3. This property is most quickly described by saying that the profinite completion of the special linear group injects into the special linear group of the profinite completion of $\mathbb{Z}$. There is a natural analog of this property for mapping class groups of surfaces. Namely, one may ask if the profinite completion of the mapping class group embeds in the outer automorphism group of the profinite completion of the surface group. I'll discuss what's known about this problem, including a reduction to a question about centralizers. (Received August 12, 2013)