1089-16-318 **Alexander J Diesl*** (adiesl@wellesley.edu), Wellesley College, 106 Central Street, Wellesley, MA 02481, and **Thomas J Dorsey**, **Wolf Iberkleid**, **Ramiro LaFuente-Rodriguez** and **Warren Wm. McGovern**. *Strongly Clean Triangular Matrix Rings.*

A ring is called strongly clean if every element can be written as the sum of a unit and an idempotent which commute. We consider the problem of determining when a triangular matrix ring over an abelian clean ring is strongly clean. This problem has been considered by many authors, but the vast majority of the results that have been obtained so far apply to the special case of a triangular matrix ring over a local ring. Using a variety of topological ideas (specifically, the Zariski topology and the theory of Pierce sheaves), we provide conditions on an abelian ring which imply that any triangular matrix over it is strongly clean. (Received February 18, 2013)