1007-16-60 **Adil Yaqub*** (`yaqub@math.ucsb.edu`), Mathematics Department, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA 93106. *Weakly periodic-like rings and commutativity.* Preliminary report.

Let R be a ring. An element x is called potent if $x^k = x$ for some integer $k > 1$. R is called weakly periodic-like if every $x \in R$ which is not in the center of R is a sum of a nilpotent and a potent. The structure and commutativity of such rings, under certain constraints, is studied. (Received January 25, 2005)