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**Kelly McKinnie\*** ([kelly.mckinnie@umontana.edu](mailto:kelly.mckinnie@umontana.edu)). *Essential dimension of generic symbols in characteristic  $p$ .*

In this talk I will discuss results on the essential dimension of generic symbols in characteristic  $p$ . The techniques involved use Milne-Kato cohomology and build on work of Babic and Chernousov in the Witt group in characteristic 2. I will also discuss some more recent results and open questions surrounding this work. (Received December 18, 2018)