## The $L^2$ -Alexander invariant detects the unknot

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**Abstract.** In this article, we present some of the properties of the  $L^2$ -Alexander invariant of a knot defined in [6], some of which are similar to those of the classical Alexander polynomial. Notably we prove that the  $L^2$ -Alexander invariant detects the trivial knot.

Mathematics Subject Classification (2010): 57M25 (primary); 57M27 (secondary).