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Jeffery Hall, University Ave, Kingston, Ontario K7L 3N6, Canada. *Separating
Invariants*. Preliminary report.

The idea of separating invariants comes from the desire to distinguish the orbits of a group action on a finite dimensional vector space. This cannot be done in general, using just polynomial invariants, but we can still ask for a set of invariants to "separate" as much as the whole ring of invariants. In this talk I will define a notion of separation and I will discuss some interesting questions regarding separating sets. (Received September 11, 2007)