1024-20-188   **Matthew F Ragland*** (`mragland@mail.aum.edu`), Auburn University Montgomery, P.O. Box 244023, Montgomery, AL 36124-4023, and **Tuval S Foguel**. *Groups with a Finite Covering by Isomorphic Abelian Subgroups.* Preliminary report.

In this talk, we look at groups with a finite covering by proper isomorphic abelian subgroups (CIA-groups). Our main focus will be on finite groups with such a covering. Several examples of CIA-groups and non-CIA-groups found through the use of GAP will be given. In particular, we will see that there are no finite simple CIA-groups, but on the other hand, that every finite group is a direct factor of a CIA-group. Characterization theorems for abelian and nilpotent CIA-groups will be given, and we will also discuss the question of whether or not a centerless CIA-group exists. (Received January 08, 2007)