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*Irreducibly acting subgroups of classical algebraic groups.* Preliminary report.

The problem we consider is the classification of proper closed positive-dimensional subgroups of classical algebraic groups (defined over an algebraically closed field) which act irreducibly on some rational representation space for the classical group. This complements work of Seitz who considered connected subgroups and Ford who considered certain disconnected subgroups. We have obtained a complete classification for positive-dimensional maximal subgroups. (Received December 02, 2011)