A 9×9 matrix algebra (not) satisfying certain identities

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ABSTRACT. We exhibit a 9×9 matrix algebra satisfying the polynomial identity [[x, y], [u, v]] = 0, but none of the stronger identities [x, y][u, v] = 0 and [[x, y], z] = 0. Then we exhibit a Cayley-Hamilton trace identity for 2×2 matrices with entries in a ring R satisfying [[x, y], [u, v]] = 0 and $\frac{1}{2} \in R$.

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