

**MATH 311 Basic Group Theory**  
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**Problem set 3**

1. Show that if  $A, B, C$  are normal subgroups of  $G$  then  $[AB, C] = [A, C][B, C]$ .
2. Let  $K$  be a field,  $n \geq 2$ . Prove that in the group  $\text{GL}_n(K)$ 
  - (a)  $[t_{ij}(\alpha), t_{jk}(\beta)] = t_{ik}(\alpha\beta)$ ,
  - (b)  $[t_{ij}(\alpha), \text{diag}(\beta_1, \dots, \beta_n)] = t_{ij}(\alpha\beta_j\beta_i^{-1} - \alpha)$ .
3. Let  $K$  be a field,  $n \geq 2$ .
  - (a) Show that if  $n \geq 3$  or  $|K| \geq 3$  then  $\text{GL}_n(K)' = \text{SL}_n(K)$ .
  - (b) Show that  $\text{GL}_2(\mathbb{F}_2) = \text{SL}_2(\mathbb{F}_2) \simeq S_3$ . Find  $\text{GL}_2(\mathbb{F}_2)'$ .
  - (c) Show that if  $n \geq 3$  or  $|K| \geq 4$  then  $\text{SL}_n(K)' = \text{SL}_n(K)$ .
  - (d) Find  $|\text{GL}_2(\mathbb{F}_3)|$  and  $|\text{SL}_2(\mathbb{F}_3)|$ .
  - (e) Show that  $\text{SL}_2(\mathbb{F}_3)' \neq \text{SL}_2(\mathbb{F}_3)$ .
  - (f) Show that if  $|K| \geq 3$  then  $\text{T}_n(K)' = \text{UT}_n(K)$ .
  - (g) Show that  $\text{T}_n(\mathbb{F}_2) = \text{UT}_n(\mathbb{F}_2)$ , and  $\text{T}_n(\mathbb{F}_2)' = \text{UT}_n^2(\mathbb{F}_2)$ .
  - (h) Show that  $[\text{UT}_n^r(K), \text{UT}_n^s(K)] = \text{UT}_n^{r+s}(K)$ , where  $\text{UT}_n^m(K)$  is considered to be trivial for  $m \geq n$ .