

**ABSTRACT ALGEBRA  
EXERCISE SHEET 5**

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**Problem 1** (10 points, commutator subgroups). A group  $G$  is called *perfect* if  $G$  coincides with its commutator subgroup.

- (i) Compute  $[\mathrm{SL}_n(\mathbb{R}), \mathrm{SL}_n(\mathbb{R})]$ .
- (ii) Show that  $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z})$ , the group of matrices with integer coefficients and determinant 1, is not perfect.

**Problem 2** (10 points). (i) Show that for a prime number  $p$  the triple  $(\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}, +, \cdot)$  with  $[z_1]_p \cdot [z_2]_p := [z_1 z_2]_p$  is a commutative unitary ring in which every non-zero element has a multiplicative inverse.

- (ii) Show that  $(\mathbb{Z}/30\mathbb{Z}, +)$  is group isomorphic to  $((\mathbb{Z}/31\mathbb{Z})^\times, \cdot)$ .
- (iii) Find all integer solutions of the equation

$$X^3 + Y^3 = 4 + Z^3.$$

**Problem 3** (10 points). (i) Let  $G$  be a group and  $H$  be a subgroup of  $G$ . Show that  $H$  contains a normal subgroup of  $G$  which contains all normal subgroups of  $G$  contained in  $H$ .

- (ii) Let  $G$  be a group and  $R$  a subset of  $G$ . We call, for  $g \in G$ , the set

$$C(g) := \{g'gg'^{-1} \mid g' \in G\}$$

the *G-conjugacy class of  $g$* . Prove that the normal subgroup of  $G$  generated by  $R$  is equal to the subgroup of  $G$  generated by the union of all  $G$ -conjugacy classes of elements of  $R$ .

**Problem 4** (10 points). Show that the group

$$G := \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 & z_1 & z_2 \\ 0 & 1 & z_3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \mid z_1, z_2, z_3 \in \mathbb{Z} \right\}$$

with the usual matrix multiplication is isomorphic to

$$(0.1) \quad \langle a, b, c \mid ab = ba, bc = cb, aca^{-1}c^{-1} = b \rangle.$$

We say that  $G$  is *presented* by (0.1).