

Read the following, which can all be found either in the textbook or on the course website.

- Chapter 9.1 of *Visual Group Theory* (VGT).
- VGT Exercises 8.15–8.18, 9.17.

Write up solutions to the following exercises.

1. The commutator subgroup of a group G is the subgroup

$$G' = \langle aba^{-1}b^{-1} \mid a, b \in G \rangle.$$

- (a) Prove that G is abelian if and only if $G' = \{e\}$.
- (b) Prove that $G' \triangleleft G$. [*Hint*: Take a “commutator” $c = aba^{-1}b^{-1}$ and prove that $gcg^{-1} \in G'$.]
- (c) Prove that G' is the intersection of all normal subgroups of G that contain the set $C := \{aba^{-1}b^{-1} \mid a, b \in G\}$:

$$G' = \bigcap_{C \subseteq N \triangleleft G} N$$

- (d) If we quotient G by G' , then we are in essence, “killing” all non-abelian parts of the Cayley diagram, as shown below:



Prove algebraically that G/G' is indeed abelian.

2. For each of the following groups G , compute its commutator subgroup G' and its abelianization G/G' . Finally, draw the subgroup lattice of G and circle every normal subgroup, and circle twice the one that is G' .

- (a) V_4
- (b) D_3
- (c) Q_4

3. Find the commutator subgroup of each of the following groups and compute its abelianization.

- (a) An abelian group A .
- (b) The alternating group A_n , for $n \geq 5$. [*Hint*: A_n is a *simple group*, which means its only normal subgroups are $\langle e \rangle$ and A_n .]
- (c) The dihedral group D_n for n even.
- (d) The dihedral group D_n for n odd.

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4. For each group G , find all automorphisms and make a multiplication table of $\text{Aut}(G)$. What group is it isomorphic to?
- (a) \mathbb{Z}_7
 - (b) \mathbb{Z}_8
 - (c) \mathbb{Z}_{10}
 - (d) V_4
 - (e) D_3
5. Let G act on a set S . Prove that $\text{Stab}(s)$ is a subgroup of G for every $s \in S$.
6. If C_5 acts on the set $S = \{A, B, C, D\}$, what will the action diagram be? Why?