

- (1) (10 points) Let  $G$  be a group and  $G'$  be its commutator subgroup defined by  $G' = \{xyx^{-1}y^{-1} \mid x, y \in G\}$ . Let  $N$  be a normal subgroup of  $G$ . Show that  $G/N$  is abelian if and only if  $G' \leq N$ .
- (2) (15 points) Let  $G$  be a nonabelian group of order  $p^3$ , where  $p$  is a prime. Show that the center of  $G$  is the commutator subgroup  $G'$  of  $G$ .
- (3) (15 points) Consider the alternating groups  $A_4$  and  $A_5$ . Please write down a representative for each conjugacy class in  $A_4$  and  $A_5$  and compute the size of each conjugacy class and the size of the centralizer of each conjugacy class.
- (4) (10 points) Prove that if  $|G| = 224$  then  $G$  is not simple. (You may assume Sylow Theorem.)
- (5) (15 points) Let  $R$  be a ring with identity. An element  $e \in R$  is called an idempotent if  $e^2 = e$ . Assume  $e$  is an idempotent in  $R$  and  $er = re$  for all  $r \in R$ . Please prove the following:
  - (a)  $Re$  and  $R(1 - e)$  are two-sided ideals of  $R$ .
  - (b)  $R \simeq Re \times R(1 - e)$ .
  - (c)  $e$  and  $1 - e$  are identities for the subrings  $Re$  and  $R(1 - e)$ .
- (6) (10 points) Let  $\zeta = \exp(2\pi i/17)$  be the primitive 17-th root of unity. Show that  $\zeta^3 + \zeta^6 + \zeta^7 + \zeta^{10} + \zeta^{11} + \zeta^{12} + \zeta^{14} + \zeta^{15}$  lies in a degree 2 field extension over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .
- (7) (10 points) Let  $p$  be a prime and  $f(x) \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$  be an irreducible polynomial of degree  $p$ . Show that if  $f(x) = 0$  has exactly 2 roots not lying on the real line, then the Galois group of  $f(x)$  is  $S_p$ .
- (8) (15 points) Let  $K = \mathbb{C}(t)$ , the field of rational functions in the variable  $t$  with complex coefficients. Let  $\zeta \in \mathbb{C}$  be a primitive  $n$ -th root of unity. Consider the automorphism  $\sigma$  and  $\tau$  of  $K$  over  $\mathbb{C}$  defined by  $\sigma(t) = t^{-1}$  and  $\tau(t) = \zeta t$ . Let  $G$  be the subgroup in  $\text{Aut}(K/\mathbb{C})$  generated by  $\sigma$  and  $\tau$ , and  $K^G$  be the fixed field of  $G$ .
  - (a) Show that  $G$  is isomorphic to the dihedral group of order  $2n$ .
  - (b) Compute the minimal polynomial of  $t$  over  $K^G$ .
  - (c) Show that the fixed field  $K^G$  is  $\mathbb{C}(u)$  for some  $u$  in  $\mathbb{C}(t)$ . Compute  $u$  explicitly.