

A1,A2,A3,A4,A5

**A1**

1. Find permutations  $p, q$  in  $S_3$  such that  $p \cdot q \neq q \cdot p$
2. Prove that if  $n \geq 3$  then there exists  $p, q \in S_n$  such that  $p \cdot q \neq q \cdot p$
3. Let  $a, b \in J_n$  with  $a \neq b$ . Prove that  $(a, b) = (b, a)$
4. Prove that  $(a, b)(a, b) = e$ . Here  $e$  denotes the identity in  $S_n$
5. Compute  $(a, b, c) \cdot (a, b, c) \cdot (a, b, c)$ .

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**A2**

1. Let  $i < j$  with  $i, j \in J_n$ . Prove that the permutations  $(i, i+3)$  may be written as

$$(i, i+1) \cdot (i+1, i+2) \cdot (i+2, i+3) \cdot (i+2, i+1) \cdot (i+1, i).$$

Hint: Consider  $x < i$ ,  $i \leq x \leq j$  and  $x > j$ .

2. Prove that if  $c_i$  and  $c_2$  are disjoint cycles then  $c_1 \cdot c_2 = c_2 \cdot c_1$

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**A3** Prove that if  $A = (a_{ij})$  is an  $n \times n$  triangular matrix (either  $a_{ij} = 0$  for all  $i < j$  or  $a_{ij} = 0$  for all  $i > j$ ), then  $\det(A) = a_{11} \cdot a_{22} \cdots a_{nn}$ .

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**A4**

1. Let  $A, B, C$  be  $2 \times 2$  matrices. Let  $X$  be the  $4 \times 4$  matrix whose first two rows are  $[A \ B]$  and its last two rows are  $[0 \ C]$ , where  $0$  stands for the  $2 \times 2$  matrix whose entries are all equal to zero. Prove that  $\det(X) = \det(A)\det(C)$ .
2. Generalize this result for  $2n \times 2n$  matrices.

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**A5** For each  $i, j \in J_n$  let  $a_{ij}(x)$  be a differentiable functions of  $x$ . Let  $A(x) = (a_{ij}(x))$ . Prove that  $(\det(A(x)))' = \sum_{i=1}^n \det(B_i(x))$  where  $B_i(x)$  is the matrix resulting from the replacing in  $A(x)$  the  $i$ -th column by the column made up by the derivatives of the  $i$ -th column of  $A(x)$ .

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