

# SL<sub>2</sub>(F)

F field,  $U = \left\{ \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 1 & b \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}}_{u(b)} \in SL_2(F) \right\}$ ,  $A = \left\{ \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & a^{-1} \end{pmatrix}}_{s(a)} \in SL_2(F) \right\}$ ,  $U^t = \text{transp } U$

(L1)  $U$  &  $U^t$  generate  $SL_2(F)$

Pf. Multip by  $u(b)$  &  $u(b)^t$  means elementary row & col ops. Can reduce any mat to  $s(a)$ . Now solve  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & t \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ x & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & y \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ z & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & a^{-1} \end{pmatrix}$  for  $x, y, z, t$

(4 eqs, 4 unknowns)

(L2)  $U^t = wUw^{-1}$ ,  $w = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$

Pf. (clear)

(T)  $SL_2(F)$  is its own commutator if  $\#F \geq 4$  (so  $SL_2(F)$  not solvable)

Pf.  $s(a)u(b)s(a)^{-1}u(b)^{-1} = u(ba^2 - b)$ . Choose  $a \in F, a^2 \neq 1$  & solve  $ba^2 - b = x$

Get: any  $u \in U$  is a commutator so  $U \subset [G, G]$ ,  $G = SL_2(F)$ . Since  $[G, G]$  normal  $\Rightarrow wUw^{-1} \subset [G, G]$ . L1 & L2  $\Rightarrow G = [G, G]$ .

(T)  $SL_2(F)/\text{center}$  is simple if  $\#F \geq 4$

Pf. Needs more.