

Ex Let

$$\begin{aligned} H &\trianglelefteq G \\ K &\trianglelefteq G \\ H \cap K &= \{e\} \\ G &= HK \end{aligned}$$

$$S = \left\{ A = \begin{bmatrix} a & & \\ & a & \\ & & a \end{bmatrix} \mid a \in \mathbb{R}, a \neq 0 \right\} \subseteq GL(3, \mathbb{R}).$$

Scalar

Center

$$\text{Since } S = Z(GL(3, \mathbb{R})), \quad S \trianglelefteq GL(3, \mathbb{R})$$

Recall: $SL(3, \mathbb{R}) \trianglelefteq GL(3, \mathbb{R})$.

Note: since $\det A = a^3 = 1 \Leftrightarrow a = 1$,

$$S \cap SL(3, \mathbb{R}) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & \\ & 1 & \\ & & 1 \end{bmatrix} \text{ (3x3 identity matrix)}$$

Finally, let $X \in GL(3, \mathbb{R})$ with $\det X = c \neq 0$. Then

$$X = \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt[3]{c} & & \\ & \sqrt[3]{c} & \\ & & \sqrt[3]{c} \end{bmatrix} \left[\frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{c}} X \right] \in S \cap SL(3, \mathbb{R})$$

$$\hookrightarrow \det\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{c}} X\right) = \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{c}}\right)^3 \det X = \frac{1}{c} c = 1$$

Thus $GL(3, \mathbb{R}) \cong S \oplus SL(3, \mathbb{R})$.

\hookrightarrow compare with $GL(2, \mathbb{R})/SL(2, \mathbb{R})$ example.