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Martin J. Evans* (mevans@gp.as.ua.edu), Department of Mathematics, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487. *Nielsen equivalence classes and T -systems of group presentations*. Preliminary report.

Let G be an n -generator group, F_n the free group of rank n and R a normal subgroup of F_n such that $F_n/R \cong G$. It is easy to see that $F_n/R^\sigma \cong G$ for all automorphisms σ of F_n . In this way we obtain an action of the automorphism group of F_n on the set of all normal subgroups N of F_n such that $F_n/N \cong G$. The orbits of this action are called the T_n -systems of G and these are closely related to the Nielsen equivalence classes of generating sets of G that contain exactly n elements. In this talk we will discuss some recent developments in both areas, paying particular attention to the situation in which G can be generated by fewer than n elements. (Received August 16, 2005)