

# Abstract Algebra Homework 7

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This problem set includes problems 10.3 numbers 4d), 11.3 numbers 7, 16, 17 and 11.4 number 5.

4) Let  $T$  be the group of nonsingular upper triangular  $2 \times 2$  matrices with entries in  $\mathbb{R}$ . Let  $U$  consist of matrices of the form

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & x \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

where  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ .

4d) Show that  $T/U$  is abelian.

Proof: Note that we have already showed that  $U$  is normal in  $T$  in part 4c). To show that  $T/U$  is abelian, we need to show that  $(AU)(BU) = (BU)(AU)$ , i.e.  $ABU = BAU$  for all  $A, B \in T$ .

Let  $A = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & c \end{pmatrix}$  and let  $B = \begin{pmatrix} a' & b' \\ 0 & c' \end{pmatrix}$ . Then we have that

$$AB = \begin{pmatrix} aa' & ab' + bc' \\ 0 & cc' \end{pmatrix}$$

and

$$BA = \begin{pmatrix} a'a & a'b + b'c \\ 0 & c'c \end{pmatrix}.$$

This shows that  $AB \neq BA$  in general. However, we want to show that  $(AU)(BU) = (BU)(AU)$ . Note that  $(AU)(BU) = ABU$  and  $(BU)(AU) = BAU$  since  $U$  is normal. Let  $C = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & z \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \in U$  where  $z \in \mathbb{R}$ . Then we have that

$$ABU = \begin{pmatrix} aa' & z(ab' + bc') \\ 0 & cc' \end{pmatrix}$$

and

$$BAU = \begin{pmatrix} a'a & z(a'b + b'c) \\ 0 & c'c \end{pmatrix}.$$

Notice that  $aa' = a'a$  and  $cc' = c'c$  since  $a, a', c, c' \in \mathbb{R}$ . So we see that  $ABU$  and  $BAU$  only differ in the upper right entry. This does not matter though since  $U$  is matrices of the form

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & x \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

where  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ . Notice that both  $z(ab' + bc')$  and  $z(a'b + b'c) \in \mathbb{R}$ . Thus,  $AB$  and  $BA$  define the same coset in  $U$ , meaning that  $ABU = BAU$ . Thus  $T/U$  is abelian.  $\square$

7) In the group  $\mathbb{Z}_{24}$ , let  $H = \langle 4 \rangle$  and  $N = \langle 6 \rangle$ .

a) List the elements in  $H + N$  and  $H \cap N$ .

Solution: We have that

$$\begin{aligned} H + N &= \{h + n \mid h \in H \text{ and } n \in N\} \\ &= \{h + n \mid h \in \langle 4 \rangle \text{ and } n \in \langle 6 \rangle\} \\ &= \{0, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22\} \\ &= \langle 2 \rangle \end{aligned}$$

We also see that  $H \cap N = \{0, 12\}$ .

Remarks: Note that  $H + N = \langle \gcd(4, 6) \rangle$  in  $\mathbb{Z}_{24}$  and also that  $H \cap N = \langle \text{lcm}(4, 6) \rangle \mathbb{Z}$  in  $\mathbb{Z}_{24}$ . □

b) List the cosets in  $HN/N$ , showing the elements in each coset.

Solution: We know that

$$(H + N)/N := \{g + N \mid g \in H + N\}.$$

So we see that the cosets that partition  $H + N$  are the following:

$$\begin{aligned} 0 + N &= \{0, 6, 12, 18\} \\ 2 + N &= \{2, 8, 14, 20\} \\ 4 + N &= \{4, 10, 16, 22\} \end{aligned}$$

□

c) List the cosets in  $H/(H \cap N)$ , showing the elements in each coset.

Solution: We know that

$$H/(H \cap N) := \{aH \cap N \mid a \in H\}.$$

So we see that the cosets that partition the group  $H$  are the following:

$$\begin{aligned} 0 + H \cap N &= \{0, 12\} \\ 4 + H \cap N &= \{4, 16\} \\ 8 + H \cap N &= \{8, 20\} \end{aligned}$$

□

d) Give the correspondence between  $(H + N)/N$  and  $H/(H \cap N)$  described in the proof of the Second Isomorphism Theorem.

Solution: Recall that all subgroups of an abelian group are normal. Since  $\mathbb{Z}_{24}$  is an abelian group, we have that  $H$  and  $N$  are normal in  $\mathbb{Z}_{24}$ . So we can apply the Second Isomorphism Theorem which tells us

$$H/(H \cap N) \cong (H + N)/N.$$

□

16) If  $H$  and  $K$  are normal subgroups of  $G$  and  $H \cap K = \{e\}$ , prove that  $G$  is isomorphic to a subgroup of  $G/H \times G/K$ .

Proof: To show that  $G$  is isomorphic to a subgroup of  $G/H \times G/K$ , we need to define a function  $\phi$  and show it is a group homomorphism. Then we will show that  $\ker \phi = \{e\}$  and use the First Isomorphism Theorem.

Let  $\phi : G \mapsto G/H \times G/K$  be defined as  $\phi(g) = (gH, gK)$ . Clearly the function  $\phi$  is well-defined. We now need to show this is indeed a group homomorphism. Let  $a, b \in G$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned}\phi(ab) &= (abH, abK) \\ &= (aH, aK)(bH, bK) \\ &= \phi(a)\phi(b).\end{aligned}$$

So  $\phi$  is a homomorphism. From the First Isomorphism Theorem, we know that

$$G/\ker \phi \cong \phi(G).$$

Since  $\phi(G)$  is a subgroup of  $G/H \times G/K$  and we want to show  $G \cong \phi(G)$ , it suffices for us to show that  $\ker \phi = \{e\}$ , i.e.  $\ker \phi = H \cap K$ .

Let  $g \in \ker \phi$ . Then  $\phi(g) = (gH, gK) = (H, K)$ . That is,  $gH = H$  and  $gK = K$ . So  $g \in H \cap K$  and we have that  $\ker \phi \subset H \cap K$ . Contrarily, if  $g \in H \cap K$  then we clearly see that  $\phi(g) = (gH, gK) = (H, K)$  so that  $H \cap K \subset \ker \phi$ . Thus  $\ker \phi = H \cap K$ .

Since we have shown that  $\ker \phi = H \cap K$ , i.e.  $\phi$  is one-to-one, we have proven that

$$G \cong \phi(G)$$

which is a subgroup of  $G/H \times G/K$ . □

17) Let  $\phi : G_1 \mapsto G_2$  be a surjective group homomorphism. Let  $H_1$  be a normal subgroup of  $G_1$  and suppose that  $\phi(H_1) = H_2$ . Prove or disprove that  $G_1/H_1 \cong G_2/H_2$ .

Proof: We will disprove that  $G_1/H_1 \cong G_2/H_2$  by giving a counterexample.

First note that since  $H_1$  and  $H_2$  are subgroups, they must contain at least the identity element. We consider the two trivial subgroups:  $H_1 = \{e_{G_1}\}$  and  $H_2 = \{e_{G_2}\}$ . Then we have that  $\phi(H_1) = \phi(e_{G_1}) = e_{G_2} = H_2$ . So

$$G_1/H_1 \cong G_2/H_2 \iff G_1 \cong G_2. \quad (1)$$

In general, this is not true. So we need to specify  $G_1, G_2$ , and  $\phi : G_1 \mapsto G_2$  so that equation (1) does not hold. Consider  $G_1 = \mathbb{Z}_2$  and  $G_2 = \{e_{G_2}\}$ . Clearly  $G_1 \not\cong G_2$  since they have different orders:  $G_1$  has order 2 while  $G_2$  has order 1. For  $\phi : G_1 \mapsto G_2$ , we can just choose the identity homomorphism, i.e.  $\phi(g) = e$  for all  $g \in G_1$ .

We need to verify that the function  $\phi$  is a surjective homomorphism. To show it is surjective, let  $y \in G_2$ . Since  $G_2 = \{e_{G_2}\}$ ,  $y$  clearly must be  $e_{G_2}$ . We want to show there exist  $x \in G_1$  such that  $\phi(x) = y$ , i.e.  $\phi(x) = e_{G_2}$ . As we showed earlier,  $x = e_{G_1}$  works, i.e.  $\phi(e_{G_1}) = e_{G_2}$ . To show it is a homomorphism, let  $a, b \in G_1$ . We then have that

$$\begin{aligned}\phi(ab) &= e_{G_2} \\ &= e_{G_2}e_{G_2} \\ &= \phi(a)\phi(b).\end{aligned}$$

So  $\phi$  is a homomorphism.

Since we have constructed a specific example showing that  $G_1/H_1 \cong G_2/H_2$  does not always hold, we are done. □

5) Let  $G$  be a group and let  $i_g$  be an inner automorphism of  $G$  and define a map  $G \mapsto \text{Aut}(G)$  by  $g \mapsto i_g$ . Prove that this map is a homomorphism with image  $\text{Inn}(G)$  and kernel  $Z(G)$ . Use this result to conclude that

$$G/Z(G) \cong \text{Inn}(G)$$

Proof: Recall that  $i_g(x) := gxg^{-1}$  for  $g \in G$ . We first show that the map is a homomorphism. Let  $a, b \in G$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned}i_{ab}(x) &= (ab)x(ab)^{-1} \\ &= abxb^{-1}a^{-1} \\ &= a(bxb^{-1})a^{-1} \\ &= i_a(i_b(x)) \\ &= (i_a i_b)(x)\end{aligned}$$

Since  $i_{ab} = i_a i_b$  our map is a homomorphism.

By definition, we know that  $\text{Inn}(G)$  is the set of inner automorphisms:

$$\text{Inn}(G) := \{i_g \mid g \in G\}.$$

So clearly the image for our homomorphism is  $\text{Inn}(G)$  by definition. Next, we show that the kernel of this homomorphism is  $Z(G)$ , the center of  $G$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \{a \in G \mid i_a(x) = x \quad \forall x \in G\} &= \{a \in G \mid axa^{-1} = x \quad \forall x \in G\} \\ &= \{a \in G \mid ax = xa \quad \forall x \in G\} \\ &= Z(G) \end{aligned}$$

By the First Isomorphism Theorem, we conclude that  $G/\ker \phi \cong \phi(G)$ , i.e.

$$G/Z(G) \cong \text{Inn}(G).$$

□