

Chapter 1

Groups

1.1 Semigroups, monoids and groups

Exercise 1.1.1. Give examples other than those in the text of semigroups and monoids that are not groups.

Answer. Semigroup: $(\mathbf{Z}_+, +)$

Monoid: (\mathbf{Z}_+, \times)

Exercise 1.1.2. Let G be a group (written additively), S a nonempty set, and $M(S, G)$ the set of all functions $f : S \rightarrow G$. Define addition in $M(S, G)$ as follows: $(f + g) : S \rightarrow G$ is given by $s \mapsto f(s) + g(s) \in G$. Prove that $M(S, G)$ is a group, which is abelian if G is.

Answer. Firstly we check $M(S, G)$ is a group

1. $f + g : s \mapsto f(s) + g(s) \in G$, so $f + g \in M(S, G)$
2. $(f + g) + h : s \mapsto (f(s) + g(s)) + h(s)$, G is a group, so $s \mapsto (f(s) + g(s)) + h(s) \Leftrightarrow s \mapsto f(s) + (g(s) + h(s))$, $(f + g) + h = f + (g + h)$.
3. Take the unit element as $e' : s \mapsto e$. $f + e' : s \mapsto f(s) + e'(s) = f(s) + e = f(s)$, so $f + e' = f$. Similarly, $e' + f = f$.
4. For any $f \in M(S, G)$, take $f^{-1} : s \mapsto (f(s))^{-1}$, whence $f(s) + (f(s))^{-1} = (f(s))^{-1} + f(s) = e$.

In conclusion, $M(S, G)$ is a group. If G is abelian $f + g : s \mapsto f(s) + g(s) = g(s) + f(s)$, $f + g = g + f$, so $M(S, G)$ is abelian.

Exercise 1.1.3. Is it true that a semigroup which has a left identity element and in which every element has a right inverse (see Proposition 1.3) is a group?

Answer. If e is the left identity, $\forall a \in A, ea = a$ and $\forall a \in A, \exists a^{-1} s.t. aa^{-1} = e$. We have proved that if $cc = c$, then $c = e$.

$$(a^{-1}a)(a^{-1}a) = a^{-1}(aa^{-1})a = a^{-1}(ea) = a^{-1}a \Rightarrow a^{-1}a = e$$

a^{-1} is also the left inverse. $ae = a(a^{-1}a) = (aa^{-1})a = ea = a$, e is also the right identity.

Exercise 1.1.4. Write out a multiplication table for the group D_4^* .

Answer. $D_4^* = \{R, R^2, R^3, I, T_x, T_y, T_{13}, T_{24}\}$

	I	R	R^2	R^3	T_x	T_y	T_{13}	T_{24}
I	I	R	R^2	R^3	T_x	T_y	T_{13}	T_{24}
R	R	R^2	R^3	I	T_{13}	T_{24}	T_y	T_x
R^2	R^2	R^3	I	R	T_y	T_x	T_{24}	T_{13}
R^3	R^3	I	R	R^2	T_{24}	T_{13}	T_x	T_y
T_x	T_x	T_{24}	T_y	T_{13}	I	R^2	R^3	R
T_y	T_y	T_{13}	T_x	T_{24}	R^2	I	R	R^3
T_{13}	T_{13}	T_y	T_{24}	T_x	R^3	R	I	R^2
T_{24}	T_{24}	T_x	T_{13}	T_y	R	R^3	R^2	I

Exercise 1.1.5. Prove that the symmetric group on n letters, S_n , has order $n!$.

Answer. For a set A whose order is n , we prove there's $n!$ different bijections by induction

1. For $n = 1$, trivial.
2. Assume $n = k$, there's $k!$ bijections. For $n = k + 1$, fix one element in A , and take $a \mapsto a$, there's k free elements, so there's $k! \cdot (k + 1)$ bijections in total.

By induction, we get the result.

Exercise 1.1.6. Write out an addition table for $Z_2 \oplus Z_2$. $Z_2 \oplus Z_2$ is called the Klein four group.

Answer. $Z_2 = \{1, 0\}$, $Z_2 \oplus Z_2 = \{(1, 1), (1, 0), (0, 1), (0, 0)\}$

	$(1, 1)$	$(1, 0)$	$(0, 1)$	$(0, 0)$
$(1, 1)$	$(0, 0)$	$(0, 1)$	$(1, 0)$	$(1, 1)$
$(1, 0)$	$(0, 1)$	$(0, 0)$	$(1, 1)$	$(1, 0)$
$(0, 1)$	$(1, 0)$	$(1, 1)$	$(0, 0)$	$(0, 1)$
$(0, 0)$	$(1, 1)$	$(1, 0)$	$(0, 1)$	$(0, 0)$

Exercise 1.1.7. If p is prime, then the nonzero elements of Z_p form a group of order $p - 1$ under multiplication. Show that this statement is false if p is not prime.

Answer. For the set $Z_p \setminus \{\bar{0}\}$

1. $Z_p \setminus \{\bar{0}\}$ is obviously associative and commutative.
2. Take $\bar{1}$ as the identity element, $\forall \bar{a} \in Z_p \setminus \{\bar{0}\}, \bar{1} \times \bar{a} = \bar{a}$.
3. We prove there is a unique element $a^{-1} \in Z_p \setminus \{\bar{0}\}$ s.t. $aa^{-1} = \bar{1}$. Assume there exists \bar{b}, \bar{c} and $\bar{a} \cdot \bar{b} = \bar{k}, \bar{a} \cdot \bar{c} = \bar{k}$, then $a(b - c) \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$. p is a prime, so $\text{lcm}(p, a) = 1, \text{lcm}(p, b - c) = 1$, so $\bar{b} = \bar{c}$. There is at most one element s.t. $\bar{a}\bar{b} = \bar{k}$. Take $\bar{b} = \bar{1}, \bar{2}, \dots, p - 1$, \bar{k} travels through $\bar{b} = \bar{1}, \bar{2}, \dots, p - 1$. There exists an element $\bar{b} \in Z_p \setminus \{\bar{0}\}, \bar{a}\bar{b} = \bar{1}$.

$Z_p \setminus \{\bar{0}\}$ is a group. If p is not a prime, the inverse element is not always unique. Take $a|p$, there's more than one inverse element in $Z_p \setminus \{\bar{0}\}$.

- Exercise 1.1.8.** (a) The relation given by $a \sim b \Leftrightarrow a - b \in \mathbf{Z}$ is a congruence relation on the additive group \mathbf{Q} [see Theorem 1.5].
 (b) The set \mathbf{Q}/\mathbf{Z} of equivalence classes is an infinite abelian group.

- Answer.** (a) For group $(\mathbf{Q}, +)$, $a_1 \sim b_1 \Leftrightarrow a_1 - b_1 = k_1 \in \mathbf{Z}$, $a_2 \sim b_2 \Leftrightarrow a_2 - b_2 = k_2 \in \mathbf{Z}$, so $(a_1 + a_2) - (b_1 + b_2) = ((k_1 + b_1) + (k_2 + b_2)) - (b_1 + b_2) = k_1 + k_2 \in \mathbf{Z}$. $a \sim b$ is a congruence relation.
 (b) 1 if $a + b \geq 1$, $\bar{a} + \bar{b} = a + \bar{b} - 1$. If $a + b < 1$, $\bar{a} + \bar{b} = a + \bar{b}$.
 2 \mathbf{Q}/\mathbf{Z} is obviously associative and commutative.
 3 Take the identity element as $\bar{0}$, $\bar{0} + \bar{a} = \bar{a}$.
 4 If $\bar{a} \neq \bar{0}$, take $(\bar{a})^{-1} = 1 - \bar{a}$, then $\bar{a} + 1 - \bar{a} = \bar{0}$
 so \mathbf{Q}/\mathbf{Z} is a abelian group. (Infinite remains to be certified)

Exercise 1.1.9. Let p be a fixed prime. Let R_p be the set of all those rational numbers whose denominator is relatively prime to p . Let R^p be the set of rationals whose denominator is a power of p ($p^i, i > 0$). Prove that both R_p and R^p are abelian groups under ordinary addition of rationals.

Answer. Trivial.

Exercise 1.1.10. Let p be a prime and let $Z(p^\infty)$ be the following subset of the group \mathbf{Q}/\mathbf{Z} :

$$Z(p^\infty) = \{a/b \in \mathbf{Q}/\mathbf{Z} \mid a, b \in \mathbf{Z} \text{ and } b = p^i \text{ for some } i \geq 0\}$$

Show that $Z(p^\infty)$ is an infinite group under the addition operation of \mathbf{Q}/\mathbf{Z} .

Answer. $Z(p^\infty) = \{a/b \mid a, b \in \mathbf{Z}, b = p^i, i \geq 0\}$. Take $a = \frac{\bar{a}_1}{b_1}$, $b = \frac{\bar{a}_2}{b_2}$.
 $b^{-1} = \frac{b_2 \bar{a}_2}{b_2}$

$$\begin{aligned} a + b^{-1} &= \frac{\bar{a}_1}{b_1} + \frac{b_2 \bar{a}_2}{b_2} = \frac{\bar{a}_1}{p^{s_1}} + \frac{p^{s_2} \bar{a}_2}{p^{s_2}} \\ &= \frac{a_1 \cdot p^{s_2} + p^{s_1}(p^{s_2} - a_2)}{p^{s_1+s_2}} \in Z(p^\infty) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, $Z(p^\infty)$ is a subgroup of \mathbf{Q}/\mathbf{Z} . $\frac{1}{p^i} \in Z(p^\infty)$ for any $i \in \mathbf{Z}$, so $Z(p^\infty)$ is infinite, \mathbf{Q}/\mathbf{Z} is also infinite.

Exercise 1.1.11. The following conditions on a group G are equivalent:

- i G is abelian;
- ii $(ab)^2 = a^2b^2$ for all $a, b \in G$;
- iii $(ab)^{-1} = a^{-1}b^{-1}$ for all $a, b \in G$;
- iv $(ab)^n = a^n b^n$ for all $n \in \mathbf{Z}$ and all $a, b \in G$;
- v $(ab)^n = a^n b^n$ for three consecutive integers n and all $a, b \in G$. Show that $v \Rightarrow i$ is false if ‘three’ is replaced by ‘two’.

Answer. $i \Leftrightarrow iii$: $((ab)b^{-1})a^{-1} = (ab)(b^{-1}a^{-1}) = e$, so $(ab)^{-1} = b^{-1}a^{-1}$.
 If iii, $b^{-1}a^{-1} = a^{-1}b^{-1}$ for any $a, b \in G$, G is abelian. If i, G is abelian, $(ab)^{-1} = b^{-1}a^{-1} = a^{-1}b^{-1}$.

iv \Rightarrow v, iv \Rightarrow ii and i \Rightarrow iv are trivial.

ii \Rightarrow i:

$$(ab)(ab) = aabb \Rightarrow a^{-1}(ab)^2b^{-1} = a^{-1}aabb b^{-1} = ba = ab$$

so G is abelian.

v \Rightarrow i: $a^n b^n = (ab)^n$, $a^{n-1} b^{n-1} = (ab)^{n-1}$, $a^{n+1} b^{n+1} = (ab)^{n+1}$.

$$(b^{-1})^n (a^{-1})^n = ((ab)^n)^{-1} = ((ab)^{-1})^n$$

$$((ab)^{-1})^n (ab)^{n+1} = (b^{-1})^n a b^{n+1}$$

$$((ab)^{-1})^n (ab)^{n-1} = b^{-1} a^{-1} = (b^{-1})^n a^{-1} b^{n-1}$$

$$a = (b^{-1})^n a b^n \quad b^{-1} a^{-1} b = (b^{-1})^n a^{-1} b^n$$

So $a^{-1} = b^{-1} a^{-1} b$, which means G is abelian.

If “three” is replaced by “two”: $a^n b^n = (ab)^n$, $a^{n+1} b^{n+1} = (ab)^{n+1}$.

$$(b^{-1})^n (a^{-1})^n = ((ab)^{-1})^n \quad a = (b^{-1})^n a b^n$$

For the group $S_3 = \{(1), (12), (13), (23), (123), (132)\}$, taking any $a \in S_3$, we can check that $a^6 = (1)$. If $n = 6$, then $a = (b^{-1})^n a b^n$ for any $a, b \in S_3$. But S_3 is nonabelian.

Exercise 1.1.12. If G is a group, $a, b \in G$ and $bab^{-1} = a^r$ for some $r \in \mathbf{N}$, then $b^j a b^{-j} = a^{r^j}$ for all $j \in \mathbf{N}$.

Answer. $bab^{-1} = a^r$. We prove it by induction. For $j = 1$, it's always true. Assume $j = k$ the equation is correct, $b^k a b^{-k} = a^{r^k}$. $ba^{r^k} b^{-1} = (a^{r^k})^r = a^{r^{k+1}}$. For $j = k + 1$, it's also true.

Exercise 1.1.13. If $a^2 = e$ for all elements a of a group G , then G is abelian.

Answer.

$$a^2 = e \Rightarrow a^2 a^{-1} = e a^{-1} = a(a a^{-1}) = a e \Rightarrow a = a^{-1}$$

$$ab = a^{-1} b^{-1} = (ab)^{-1} = (ba)^{-1}$$

So $ab = ba \forall a, b \in G$. G is abelian.

Exercise 1.1.14. If G is a finite group of even order, then G contains an element $a \neq e$ such that $a^2 = e$.

Answer. Suppose not. $\forall a \neq e, aa \neq e \Leftrightarrow a \neq a^{-1}$. We can classify the group into some subsets. $G = \bigcup_{a \neq e} \{a, a^{-1}\} \cup \{e\}$. Notice that $\{a, a^{-1}\} \cap \{b, b^{-1}\} = \emptyset$ if $a \neq b$, so $|G| = 2n + 1$, That's contradictory!

Exercise 1.1.15. Let G be a nonempty finite set with an associative binary operation such that for all $a, b, c \in G$, $ab = ac \Rightarrow b = c$ and $ba = ca \Rightarrow b = c$. Then G is a group. Show that this conclusion may be false if G is infinite.

Answer. G is a semigroup. Fix $a \in G$ and take b travels through all elements in G , then ab travels through all elements in G .

There exists an element e_1 s.t. $ae_1 = a \forall a \in G$. Similarly, we can find e_2 s.t. $e_2a = a \forall a \in G$. $e_2e_1 = e_1 = e_2 = e$. e is the identity element of G . Easily, we can find that $\forall a \in G, \exists! a^{-1} \in G$ s.t. $a^{-1}a = aa^{-1} = e$ because $ab = ac \Rightarrow b = c$ and $ba = ca \Rightarrow b = c$.

G is a group. If G is infinite, G may not be a group, for example: (\mathbb{Z}_+, \times) .

Exercise 1.1.16. Let a_1, a_2, \dots be a sequence of elements in a semigroup G . Then there exists a unique function $\Psi : \mathbb{N}^* \rightarrow G$ such that $\Psi(1) = a_1, \Psi(2) = a_1a_2, \Psi(3) = (a_1a_2)a_3$ and for $n \geq 1, \Psi(n+1) = (\Psi(n))a_{n+1}$. Note that $\Psi(n)$ is precisely the standard n product $\prod_{i=1}^n a_i$.

Answer. Applying the Recursion Theorem with $a = a_1, S = G$ and $f_n : G \rightarrow G$ given by $x \mapsto xa_{n+2}$ yields a function $\phi : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow G$. Let $\Psi = \phi\theta$, where $\theta : \mathbb{N}^* \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ is given by $k \mapsto k - 1$.

1.2 Homomorphisms and subgroups

Exercise 1.2.1. If $f : G \rightarrow H$ is a homomorphism of groups, then $f(e_G) = e_H$ and $f(a^{-1}) = f(a)^{-1}$ for all $a \in G$. Show by example that the first conclusion may be false if G, H are monoids that are not groups.

Answer. For example, $(\mathbf{Z}_+, +)$ and (\mathbf{N}, \times) are monoids. Denote $f : \mathbf{Z}_+ \rightarrow \mathbf{N}$ as $f(x) = 0 \forall x \in \mathbf{Z}_+$. f is a homomorphism satisfies those conditions.

Exercise 1.2.2. A group G is abelian if and only if the map $G \rightarrow G$ given by $x \mapsto x^{-1}$ is automorphism.

Answer. If G is abelian, $f(x) = x^{-1}$ is a monomorphism and epimorphism.
 $f(a)f(b) = a^{-1}b^{-1} = (ab)^{-1} = f(ab)$
 If $f(x) = x^{-1}$ is a isomorphism, $f(a)f(b) = a^{-1}b^{-1} = f(ab) = (ab)^{-1} = b^{-1}a^{-1} \forall a, b \in G$, so G is abelian.

Exercise 1.2.3. Let Q_8 be the group (under ordinary matrix multiplication) generated by complex matrices $A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ and $B = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix}$, where $i^2 = -1$. Show that Q_8 is a nonabelian group of order 8. Q_8 is called the quaternion group.

Answer. The multiply operation is associative by the difinition. $A^4 = B^4 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = I$ which is the identity element.

$$A^{-1} = A^3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \in G \quad B^{-1} = B^3 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ -i & 0 \end{pmatrix} \in G$$

So $\forall A^i B^j \in G, (A^i B^j)^{-1} \in G$. G is a group. Now we examine the order of G is 8.

$$BA = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -i & 0 \\ 0 & i \end{pmatrix}$$

$$A^3 B = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -i & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

So $BA = A^3B$. Take $X = A^{s_1}B^{s_2}A^{s_3}B^{s_4} \dots A^{s_{2n-1}}B^{s_{2n}} = A^{s_1}B^{s_2-1}A^3B^{s_3-1}B^{s_4} \dots A^{s_{2n-1}}B^{s_{2n}} = \dots$. In finite steps, we can change it into $X = A^aB^b$. $A^4 = B^4 = I$, so we only consider $1 \leq a, b \leq 4$. $A^2 = B^2 = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$, we list all: $Q_8 = \{A, A^2, B, BA, AB, A^2B, AB^2, I\}$. The order of Q_8 is 8.

Exercise 1.2.4. Let H be the group (under ordinary matrix multiplication) of real matrices generated by $C = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ and $D = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$. Show that H is a nonabelian group of order 8 which is not isomorphic to the quaternion group, but is isomorphic to the group D_4^* .

Answer. $C^4D^2 = I, DC = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = C^3D$. Similarly, we can prove H is a nonabelian group of order 8. $H = \{C, C^2, C^3, I, D, CD, C^2D, C^3D\}$. Assume $G \cong H$ and the isomorphism is f . Let $f(D) = X$, $f(D^2) = X^2 = f(I) = I$, so $X^2 = I$. But $f^{-1}(I) = I \Rightarrow X \neq I \Rightarrow X = AB$ or $X = A^2$ or $X = B^2$.

If $X = A^2$, consider $f(C) = Y, f(C^2D) = Z$, we have $(Y, Z) = (B^2, AB)$ or $(Y, Z) = (AB, B^2)$. $f(C^2D) = f(C^2)f(D) \Leftrightarrow Z = XY$. That's contradictory!

If $X = B^2$, the proof is similar.

If $X = AB$, $(Y, Z) = (A, B)$ or $(Y, Z) = (B, A)$. That's contradictory! So f doesn't exist. G is not isomorphic to H .

Now we prove $H \cong D_4^*$. For any point $(x, y)^T$ inside the square

$$T_x = (x, -y)^T = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} (x, y)^T = CD(x, y)^T$$

$$T_y = (-x, y)^T = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} (x, y)^T = C^3D(x, y)^T$$

$$T_{13} = (-y, x)^T = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} (x, y)^T = C^3(x, y)^T$$

$$T_{24} = (y, -x)^T = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} (x, y)^T = C(x, y)^T$$

so $D_4^* = \langle T_x, T_y, T_{13}, T_{24} \rangle = H = \langle C, D \rangle$.

Exercise 1.2.5. Let S be a nonempty subset of a group G and define a relation on G by $a \sim b$ if and only if $ab^{-1} \in S$. Show that \sim is an equivalence relation if and only if S is a subgroup of G .

Answer. If \sim is an equivalence relation

1. $a \sim b \Rightarrow b \sim a$;
2. $a \sim a$;
3. $a \sim b, b \sim c \Rightarrow a \sim c$.

2 $\Leftrightarrow aa^{-1} = e \in S$. 1 $\Rightarrow a \sim e \Rightarrow e \sim a \forall a \in S$, so $ae^{-1} = a \in S, ea^{-1} = a^{-1} \in S$. If $a, b \in S, b^{-1} \in S$, so $ae^{-1} \in S, e(b^{-1})^{-1} \in S$. By 3, $a \sim e, e \sim b^{-1} \Rightarrow a \sim b^{-1} \Rightarrow ab \in S$. S is a subgroup of G .

If S is a subgroup of G

1. $aa^{-1} \in S \Rightarrow a \sim a$;
2. $ab^{-1} \in S \Rightarrow (ab^{-1})^{-1} = ba^{-1} \in S \Rightarrow (a \sim b \Rightarrow b \sim a)$;
3. $ab^{-1} \in S, bc^{-1} \in S \Rightarrow (ab^{-1})(bc^{-1}) = ac^{-1} \in S$, which means $a \sim b, b \sim c \Rightarrow a \sim c$

In conclusion, \sim is an equivalence relation.

Exercise 1.2.6. A nonempty finite subset of a group is a subgroup if and only if it is closed under the product in G .

Answer. \Rightarrow : Trivial.

\Leftarrow : S is apparently associative. $\forall a, b \in S, ab \in S$. S is a finite set, so there exists $m > n \in \mathbf{N}$ s.t. $a^m = a^n$.

Exercise 1.2.7. If n is a fixed integer, then $\{kn | n \in \mathbf{Z}\} \subset \mathbf{Z}$ is an additive subgroup of \mathbf{Z} , which is isomorphic to \mathbf{Z} .

Answer. Denote $Z^n = \{kn | k \in \mathbf{Z}\}$. We can easily check that Z^n is a subgroup of \mathbf{Z} . Now we build an isomorphism between Z^n and \mathbf{Z} . Take $f : Z^n \rightarrow \mathbf{Z}$ as $f(kn) = k, f^{-1}(n) = kn$. f is a bijection so Z^n and \mathbf{Z} are isomorphic.

Exercise 1.2.8. The set $\{\sigma \in S_n | \sigma(n) = n\}$ is a subgroup of S_n which is isomorphic to S_{n-1} .

Answer. Denote $S_n^{(n)} = \{\sigma \in S_n | \sigma(n) = n\}$. $\forall \sigma_1, \sigma_2 \in S_n^{(n)}, \sigma_1\sigma_2(n) = \sigma_1(\sigma_2(n)) = \sigma_1(n) = n$, so $\sigma_1\sigma_2 \in S_n^{(n)}$. By the above exercise, $S_n^{(n)}$ is a subgroup of S_n . Now we build an isomorphism between $S_n^{(n)}$ and S_{n-1} . Take $f : S_{n-1} \rightarrow S_n^{(n)}$ as $f(\sigma) = \sigma'$, where $\sigma'(x) = \begin{cases} n, & x = n \\ \sigma(n), & x \neq n \end{cases}$. $\sigma' \in S_n^{(n)}$ and f is a bijection, so $S_{n-1} \cong S_n^{(n)}$.

Exercise 1.2.9. Let $f : G \rightarrow H$ be a homomorphism of groups, A a subgroup of G , and B a subgroup of H .

- (a) $\text{Ker } f$ and $f^{-1}(B)$ are subgroups of G .
- (b) $f(A)$ is a subgroup of H .

Answer. (a) f is a homomorphism, so $f(e) = e', e \in \text{Ker } f$. $\forall a \in \text{Ker } f$, $f(aa^{-1}) = f(a)f(a^{-1}) = e'$, so $f(a^{-1}) = f(a)^{-1} = e'^{-1} = e'$. $\forall a, b \in \text{Ker } f$, $f(ab^{-1}) = f(a)f(b^{-1}) = f(a)f(b)^{-1} = e' \Rightarrow ab^{-1} \in \text{Ker } f$, which means $\text{Ker } f$ is a subgroup of G . The proof of $f^{-1}(B)$ is a subgroup of G is similar.

(b) f is a homomorphism, $f(e) = e'$. $\forall a, b \in A, ab^{-1} \in A$, so $f(ab^{-1}) = f(a)f(b^{-1}) = f(a)f(b)^{-1} \in f(A)$, $f(A)$ is a subgroup of H .

Exercise 1.2.10. List all subgroups of $Z_2 \oplus Z_2$. Is $Z_2 \oplus Z_2$ isomorphic to Z_4 ?

Answer. $Z_2 \oplus Z_2$: $\{(1, 1), (1, 0), (0, 1), (0, 0)\}, \{(1, 1), (0, 0)\}, \{(0, 0)\}, \{(1, 0), (0, 0)\}, \{(0, 1), (0, 0)\}, \{(0, 1), (1, 0), (0, 0)\}$.
 Z_4 : $\{\bar{0}, \bar{1}, \bar{2}, \bar{3}\}, \{\bar{0}, \bar{2}\}, \{\bar{0}\}$.
 Z_4 and $Z_2 \oplus Z_2$ are not isomorphic because they have different subgroups.

Exercise 1.2.11. If G is a group, then $C = \{a \in G | ax = xa \text{ for all } x \in G\}$ is a abelian subgroup of G . C is called the center of G .

Answer. Take $a, b \in C, ab = ba$, C is commutative. $\forall a, b \in C, x \in G, b^{-1} \in G$, so $ab^{-1} = b^{-1}a$.

$$ax = axbb^{-1} = abxb^{-1} = baxb^{-1} = bxab^{-1} = abb^{-1}x = bab^{-1}x$$

so $b^{-1}ax = ab^{-1}x = xab^{-1}$, $ab^{-1} \in C$, C is a subgroup of G .

Exercise 1.2.12. The group D_4^* is not cyclic, but can be generated by two elements. The same is true of S_n (nontrivial). What is the minimal number of generators of the additive group $\mathbf{Z} \oplus \mathbf{Z}$?

Answer. $\mathbf{Z} \oplus \mathbf{Z} = \{(a, b) | a \in \mathbf{Z}, b \in \mathbf{Z}\} = \langle (0, 0), (1, 0), (0, 1) \rangle$. We can easily check the spanning set is the minimal.

Exercise 1.2.13. If $G = \langle a \rangle$ is a cyclic group and H is any group, then every homomorphism $f : G \rightarrow H$ is completely determined by the element $f(a) \in H$.

Answer. $\forall x \in G$, there exist $m \in \mathbf{N}$ s.t. $x = a^m$, so $f(x) = f(a^m) = f(a)^m \Rightarrow \text{Im} f = \langle f(a) \rangle$. $f : a^m \mapsto f(a)^m \forall m \in \mathbf{N}$. f is completely determined by $f(a) \in H$.

Exercise 1.2.14. The following cyclic subgroups are all isomorphic: the multiplication group $\langle i \rangle$ in \mathbf{C} , the additive group \mathbf{Z}_4 and the subgroup $\left\langle \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 2 & 3 & 4 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\rangle$ of S_4 .

Answer. $\langle i \rangle = \{i, -1, -i, 1\}$, $Z_4 = \{\bar{0}, \bar{1}, \bar{2}, \bar{3}\}$, $\langle (1234) \rangle = \{(1234), (13)(24), (1432), (1)\}$. Denote $f : \langle i \rangle \rightarrow Z_4$ as $f(i) = \bar{i}$, $g : Z_4 \rightarrow \langle (1234) \rangle$ as $g(i) = (1234)$. From the exercise above we know f and g are homomorphisms, and they are bijections, so $\langle i \rangle \cong Z_4 \cong \langle (1234) \rangle$.

Exercise 1.2.15. Let G be a group and $\text{Aut}G$ is the set of all automorphisms of G .

- (a) $\text{Aut}G$ is a group with composition of functions as binary operation.
- (b) $\text{Aut}\mathbf{Z} \cong Z_2$ and $\text{Aut}Z_6 \cong Z_2$; $\text{Aut}Z_8 \cong Z_2 \oplus Z_2$; $\text{Aut}Z_p \cong Z_{p-1}$ (p prime).
- (c) What is $\text{Aut}Z_n$ for arbitrary $n \in \mathbf{N}^*$?

Answer. We only prove the third question.

For $\bar{a} \in Z_n$, the order of \bar{a} is $|\bar{a}| = \frac{n}{(n,a)}$. When $(n,a) = 1$, \bar{a} is a generator of Z_n . Denote Euler function as $\varphi(x)$ and $Z_n^* = \{\bar{a} \in Z_n | (a,n) = 1\}$, then $|Z_n^*| = \varphi(n)$. For $\sigma \in \text{Aut}Z_n$, σ is completely determined by $\sigma(\bar{1}) = \bar{a}$, and we denote σ as σ_a . For $\sigma_a, \sigma_b \in \text{Aut}Z_n$, $\sigma_a(\sigma_b(\bar{1})) = \sigma_a(\bar{b}) = \bar{a}\bar{b} = \sigma_{ab}(\bar{1})$. We have proved $\text{Aut}Z_n \cong Z_n^*$.

Now we give out a lemma to show the structure of Z_n^* .

Lemma. If $n = st$, $(s,t) = 1$, then $Z_n^* \cong Z_s^* \oplus Z_t^*$.

The proof of this lemma is quite simple. Consider the mapping $f^* : Z_n^* \rightarrow Z_s^* \oplus Z_t^*$ which is defined by $(x \bmod n) \mapsto (x \bmod s, x \bmod t)$. Since for any $a, b \in Z_n^*$, $f^*(a)f^*(b) = (a \bmod s, a \bmod t)(b \bmod s, b \bmod t) = (ab \bmod s, ab \bmod t) = f^*(ab)$, f^* is a well defined homomorphism. For $x \in \text{Ker}f^*$, $x \equiv 1 \bmod s$, $x \equiv 1 \bmod t$, so $x \equiv 1 \bmod [s,t]$, $x \equiv 1 \bmod n$, f^* is a monomorphism. Since $|f^*(Z_n^*)| = |Z_n^*| = \varphi(n) = \varphi(s)\varphi(t) = |Z_s^* \oplus Z_t^*|$, f^* is an epimorphism. $Z_n^* \cong Z_s^* \oplus Z_t^*$

For $n = p_1^{k_1} p_2^{k_2} \cdots p_m^{k_m}$, $Z_n^* \cong Z_{p_1^{k_1}}^* \oplus Z_{p_2^{k_2}}^* \oplus \cdots \oplus Z_{p_m^{k_m}}^*$. Now we consider the structure of $Z_{p^k}^*$.

For $p = 2$, $Z_2^* \cong Z_1$, $Z_4^* \cong Z_2$, $Z_{2^k}^* \cong Z_2 \oplus Z_{2^{k-2}}$.

For other odd prime p , $Z_{p^k}^* \cong Z_{(p-1)p^{k-1}}$.

In order to prove the result, we need the Lagrange theorem in number theory.

Lemma (Lagrange). $f(x) \in Z[n]$, $f(x) \equiv k$ has at most n solutions when $\bmod p$, where p is an odd prime.

We use induction to prove the lemma.

1. $n = 1$, the proof is trivial.
2. Assume for $n \leq m-1$ the lemma is correct, and for $n = m$, $f(x) \equiv k$ has $m+1$ solutions. $f(x) - f(x_{m+1}) = (x - x_{m+1})g(x) \equiv 0 \bmod p$. Take $x = x_i, i = 1, 2, \dots, m$, $(x_i - x_{m+1})g(x_i) \equiv 0 \bmod p$, $x_i \neq x_{m+1}$, so $g(x_i) \equiv 0 \bmod p$. That's contradictory to the induction assumptions!

The lemma is proved.

Come back to the original question. Firstly, we consider $k = 1$ and p is an odd prime. For any factor d of $p - 1$, denote $S(d) = \{\bar{a} \in Z_p^* | \text{ord}_p(a) = d\}$. $S(d)$ forms a partition of Z_p^* . If $S(d) \neq \emptyset$, there exists $\bar{a} \in S(d)$ and $a^d \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$. By Lagrange theorem, $a^d \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ has at most d solutions. Notice that $\{1, a, a^2, \dots, a^{d-1}\}$ are the solutions of the equation, $a^i \not\equiv a^j \pmod{p}$, whence $S(d) \subset \langle \bar{a} \rangle$. For $k = 1, 2, \dots, d-1$, $\text{ord}_p(a^k) = |a^k| = \frac{d}{(d,k)} = d \Leftrightarrow (d, k) = 1$. Thus $|S(d)| = \varphi(d)$.

From $Z_p^* = \bigcup_{d|p-1} S(d)$, we get

$$p - 1 = |Z_p^*| = \sum_{d|p-1} |S(d)| \leq \sum_{d|p-1} \varphi(d) = p - 1$$

If $d|p-1$, $|S(d)| = \varphi(d)$. Particularly, when $d = p-1$, $|S(p-1)| = \varphi(p-1) \neq 0$, Z_p^* has a element of order $p-1$, Z_p^* is a cyclic group.

Secondly, we consider $k \geq 2$. Take $a \in \mathbf{Z}$ and \bar{a} is the class of $x \equiv a \pmod{p^k}$. For $s \geq t$, we have a group homomorphism $f_{s,t} : Z_{p^s}^* \rightarrow Z_{p^t}^*$ which is defined by $(a \pmod{p^s}) \mapsto (a \pmod{p^t})$. Since $a \equiv b \pmod{p^s} \Rightarrow a \equiv b \pmod{p^t}$, f is well defined. $\text{Ker} f_{s,t} = \{up^t + 1 \pmod{p^s} | u = 0, 1, \dots, p^{s-t} - 1\}$. If $2t \geq s$, since $(up^t + 1)(vp^t + 1) \equiv uv p^{2t} + (u+v)p^t + 1 \equiv (u+v)p^t + 1 \pmod{p^s}$, $\text{Ker} f_{s,t} \cong Z_{p^{s-t}}$ is a cyclic group. There exists a isomorphism $g_{s,t} : Z_{p^s}^* / \text{Ker} f_{s,t} \rightarrow Z_{p^t}^*$.

$$\{\bar{1}_{p^k}\} = \text{Ker} f_{k,k} < \text{Ker} f_{k,k-1} < \dots < \text{Ker} f_{k,1} < Z_{p^k}^*$$

Lemma. Suppose $i \geq 2$, $\bar{a}_{p^k} \in \text{Ker} f_{k,i}$, but $\bar{a}_{p^k} \notin \text{Ker} f_{k,i+1}$, then $\bar{a}_{p^k}^p \in \text{Ker} f_{k,i+1}$ and $\bar{a}_{p^k}^p \notin \text{Ker} f_{k,i+2}$.

This lemma can be proved by LTE. Here we use the language in group theory to prove it. $f_{k,i+2}(\bar{a}_{p^k}) = \bar{a}_{p^{i+2}}$, $\bar{a}_{p^{i+2}} \in f_{k,i+2}(\text{Ker} f_{k,i}) = \text{Ker} f_{i+2,i}$. $\text{Ker} f_{i+2,i} \cong Z_{p^2}$ since $2i \geq i+2$. $\bar{a}_{p^{i+2}} \notin f_{k,i+2}(\text{Ker} f_{k,i+1}) = \text{Ker} f_{i+2,i+1} \cong Z_p$. $\text{Ker} f_{i+2,i+1}$ contains all the elements whose order is p in $\text{Ker} f_{i+2,i}$, so $|\bar{a}_{p^{i+2}}| = p^2$. $\bar{a}_{p^{i+2}}^p \in \text{Ker} f_{i+2,i+1}$, $\bar{a}_{p^{i+2}}^p \notin \text{Ker} f_{i+2,i+2}$, $\bar{a}_{p^k}^p \in g_{k,i+2}^{-1}(\bar{a}_{p^{i+2}}^p) \subset g_{k,i+2}^{-1}(\text{Ker} f_{i+2,i+1}) = \text{Ker} f_{k,i+1}$, $\bar{a}_{p^k}^p \notin g_{k,i+2}^{-1}(\text{Ker} f_{i+2,i+2}) = \text{Ker} f_{k,i+2}$.

For $i = 1$, if p is an odd prime, $\text{Ker} f_{3,1} = \langle p + 1_{p^3} \rangle \cong Z_{p^2}$, if $p = 2$, $\text{Ker} f_{3,1} = \{\bar{1}_8, \bar{3}_8, \bar{5}_8, \bar{7}_8\} \cong Z_2 \oplus Z_2$. Thus, for $\bar{a}_{p^k} \in \text{Ker} f_{k,2}$, $\bar{a}_{p^k} \notin \text{Ker} f_{k,3}$, using the lemma above for several times, we get $\bar{a}_{p^k}^{p^{k-2}} \in \text{Ker} f_{k,2}$, $\bar{a}_{p^k}^{p^{k-3}} \notin \text{Ker} f_{k,k}$, $|\bar{a}_{p^k}| = p^{k-2}$, $\text{Ker} f_{k,2} \cong Z_{p^{k-2}}$.

If p is an odd prime, we can further obtain $\text{Ker} f_{k,1} \cong Z_{p^{k-1}}$.

Suppose x is a generator of Z_p^* , assume $a \in g_{k,1}^{-1}(x)$, $g_{k,1}^{-1}(x) = a\text{Ker}f_{k,1}$, and $a^{p-1} \in g_{k,1}^{-1}(x^{p-1}) = g_{k,1}^{-1}(1_p) = \text{Ker}f_{k,1}$. If $a^{p-1} \notin \text{Ker}f_{k,2}$, then $|a^{p-1}| = p^{k-1}$. If $a^{p-1} \in \text{Ker}f_{k,2}$, $\forall h \in \text{Ker}f_{k,1}, h \notin \text{Ker}f_{k,2}$. Since $(ah)^{p-1} = (a^{p-1}h^p)h^{-1}$, $(ah)^{p-1} \in \text{Ker}f_{k,1}$, $(ah)^{p-1} \notin \text{Ker}f_{k,2}$, whence $|(ah)^{p-1}| = p^{k-1}$, $Z_{p^k}^* \cong Z_{(p-1)p^{k-1}}$.

If $p = 2$, $Z_{2^k}^* = \text{Ker}f_{k,1} \cong Z_{2^{k-2}} \oplus Z_2$.

For $\text{Aut}\mathbf{Z}$, assume there exist $f \neq 1_G, -1_G, f \in \text{Aut}\mathbf{Z}$. WLOG, $f(1) = x \neq \pm 1, f(-1) = y$. $f(1) + f(-1) = f(0) = x + y = 0$. Assume $af(1) + bf(-1) = f(a - b) = 1 = (a - b)x$, since $x \neq \pm 1$, there is a contradiction. $\text{Aut}\mathbf{Z} \cong Z_2$.

Exercise 1.2.16. For each prime p the additive subgroup $Z(p^\infty)$ of \mathbf{Q}/\mathbf{Z} is generated by the set $\{1/\bar{p}^n | n \in \mathbf{N}^*\}$.

Answer. We prove that $\left\langle \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{p^n} \right\rangle \cong Z(p^\infty)$. $\forall x \in Z(p^\infty), x = \frac{\bar{a}}{b} = \frac{\bar{a}}{p^k}$.

Expand a as $a = \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} p^i a_i$, where $a_i = 1, 2, \dots, p-1$. $x = \frac{\bar{a}}{b} = \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \frac{\bar{a}_i}{p^{k-i}} = \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{\bar{a}_{k-i}}{p^i}$. Denote $f : \left\langle \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{p^n} \right\rangle \rightarrow Z(p^\infty)$ as $f\left(\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{a_i}{p^i}\right) = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{a_i}{p^i}$. f is an isomorphism because every $x \in Z(p^\infty)$ can be written in such form.

Exercise 1.2.17. Let G be an abelian group and let H, K be subgroups of G . Show that the join $H \vee K$ is the set $\{ab | a \in H, b \in K\}$. Extend this result to any finite number of subgroups of G .

Answer. $H \vee K = \langle H \cup K \rangle, I = \{ab | a \in H, b \in K\}$. G is abelian so I is a subgroup of G . $H < I, K < I, (H \cup K) \subset I$. $\langle H \cup K \rangle \subset I \Rightarrow \langle H \cup K \rangle = I$.

For any $ab \in I, a \in H, b \in K$, we prove that ab is contained in any subgroup which contains $H \cup K$.

Assume $\langle H \cup K \rangle \subset J$, so $a \in J, b \in J \Rightarrow ab \in J$, which means $I \subset J$. $\langle H \cup K \rangle = I$.

G is abelian group, H_1, H_2, \dots, H_n are n subgroups. $\left\langle \bigcup_{i=1}^n H_i \right\rangle = \left\{ \prod_{i=1}^n h_i | h_i \in H_i, i = 1, 2, \dots, n \right\}$. This proposition can be proved by induction.

- Exercise 1.2.18.** 1. Let G be a group and $\{H_i | i \in I\}$ a family of subgroups. State and prove a condition that will imply that $\bigcup_{i \in I} H_i$ is a subgroup, that is $\bigcup_{i \in I} H_i = \left\langle \bigcup_{i \in I} H_i \right\rangle$.
2. Given an example of a group G and a family of subgroups $\{H_i | i \in I\}$ such that $\bigcup_{i \in I} H_i \neq \left\langle \bigcup_{i \in I} H_i \right\rangle$.

Answer. I didn't find a sufficient and necessary condition for this question, just choose one as you like:)

- Exercise 1.2.19.** 1. The set of all subgroups of a group G , partially ordered by set theoretic inclusion, forms a complete lattice in which the g.l.b of $\{H_i | i \in I\}$ is $\bigcap_{i \in I} H_i$ and the l.u.b is $\left\langle \bigcap_{i \in I} H_i \right\rangle$.
2. Exhibit the lattice of subgroups of the groups S_3, D_4^*, Z_6, Z_{27} and Z_{36} .

- Answer.** 1. The subset relation $<$ forms a partially ordered relation. By the definition of $\left\langle \bigcup_{i \in I} H_i \right\rangle$, $\left\langle \bigcup_{i \in I} H_i \right\rangle$ is the smallest set contains $\bigcup_{i \in I} H_i$, so it's l.u.b. For glb, we know that $\bigcap_{i \in I} H_i \subset H_i \forall i \in I$, and $\forall H \supset \bigcap_{i \in I} H_i$, there exists $x \in H, x \notin H_j \ j \in I$, so $\bigcap_{i \in I}$ is glb.
2. $S_3 = \{(1), (12), (13), (23), (123), (132)\}$.



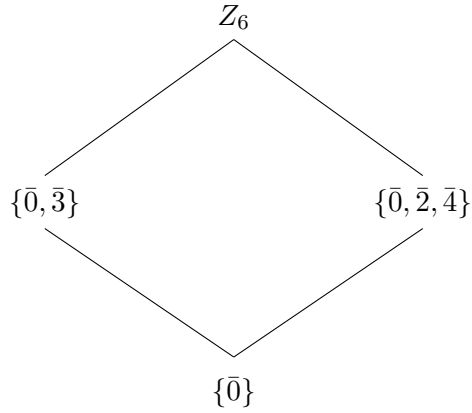
The Hasse figure of the lattice of S_3

$$D_4^* = \{R, R^2, R^3, I, T_x, T_y, T_{13}, T_{24}\}.$$



The Hasse figure of the lattice of D_4^*

$$Z_6 = \{\bar{0}, \bar{1}, \bar{2}, \bar{3}, \bar{4}, \bar{5}\}.$$



The Hasse figure of the lattice of Z_6

The Hasse figure of the lattice of Z_{27} The Hasse figure of the lattice of Z_{36}

1.3 Cyclic groups

Exercise 1.3.1. Let a, b be elements of group G . Show that $|a| = |a^{-1}|$; $|ab| = |ba|$, and $|a| = |cac^{-1}|$ for all $c \in G$.

Answer. We only consider that $|a|, |b|, |c|$ are finite. Assume $a^k = e$, $(ab)^m = e$, $(ac^{-1})^n = e$, $kmn \neq 0$. $a^k \cdot (a^{-1})^k = e$, so k is also the order of a^{-1} , $|a^{-1}| = k$. $(ab)^m = e = a(ba)^{m-1}b \Rightarrow (ba)^{m-1} = a^{-1}b^{-1}$, $(ba)^m = a^{-1}b^{-1}ba = e$. m is the order of ba . $(cac^{-1})^r = cac^{-1}cac^{-1} \dots cac^{-1} = ca^rc^{-1} = e$, so $a^r = e$, whence $n = k$.

Exercise 1.3.2. Let G be an abelian group containing elements a and b of orders m and n respectively. Show that G contains an element whose order is the least common multiple of m and n .

Answer. If $(m, n) = 1$, we know that $\forall a^i, i = 1, 2, \dots, m, b^j, j = 1, 2, \dots, n$, $a^i b^j \neq e$, since if $a^i = b^j$, $|a^i| = n = |b^{-j}| = |b^j| = m$. G is abelian, so $(ab)^k = a^k b^k \Rightarrow |ab| = mn = [m, n]$.

If $m|n$ or $n|m$, then a or b is the element we want. We consider $m \nmid n$ and $n \nmid m$. Factorise $n = p_1^{t_1} p_2^{t_2} \dots p_l^{t_l}$, $m = p_1^{s_1} p_2^{s_2} \dots p_l^{s_l}$, where p_1, \dots, p_l are primes and $t_1, \dots, t_l, s_1, \dots, s_l \geq 0$. We can choose a new arrangement of p_1, \dots, p_l and make $t_1 \geq s_1, t_2 \geq s_2, \dots, t_i \geq s_i, t_{i+1} < s_{i+1}, \dots, t_l < s_l$.

$$(m, n) = p_1^{s_1} \dots p_i^{s_i} p_{i+1}^{t_{i+1}} \dots p_l^{t_l}, [m, n] = p_1^{t_1} \dots p_i^{t_i} p_{i+1}^{s_{i+1}} \dots p_l^{s_l}$$

Take $x = a^{p_{i+1}^{s_{i+1}} \dots p_l^{s_l}}$, $y = b^{p_1^{t_1} \dots p_i^{t_i}}$, then $|x| = p_1^{t_1} \dots p_i^{t_i}$, $|y| = p_{i+1}^{s_{i+1}} \dots p_l^{s_l}$. Thus $(x, y) = 1$, the order of xy is $|x| \cdot |y| = p_1^{t_1} \dots p_i^{t_i} p_{i+1}^{s_{i+1}} \dots p_l^{s_l} = [m, n]$.

Exercise 1.3.3. Let G be an abelian group of order pq , with $(p, q) = 1$. Assume there exist $a, b \in G$ such that $|a| = p, |b| = q$ and show that G is cyclic.

Answer. From **Exercise 1.3.2** we know $a^i b^j \neq e$ for $i < p, j < q$. $|G| = pq$ for all $a^i b^j$ and $a^m b^n$ with $i \neq m, b \neq n, a^i b^j \neq a^m b^n$. So G can be generated by ab . G is cyclic.

Exercise 1.3.4. If $f : G \rightarrow H$ is a homomorphism, $a \in G$, and $f(a)$ has finite order in H , then $|a|$ is infinite or $|f(a)|$ divides $|a|$.

Answer. Assume $|f(a)| = n$, $|a| = m$, and $n \nmid m$. Trivially, $m \geq n$. Assume $\gcd(m, n) = k \leq n$. $a^m = e \Rightarrow f(a)^m = e' = f(a)^n$. By Bezout theorem $\exists x, y \in \mathbf{Z}$ s.t. $f(a)^{mx+ny} = f(a)^k = e'$, $k \leq n$, that's contradictory!

Exercise 1.3.5. Let G be the multiplicative group of all nonsingular 2×2 matrices with rational entries. Show that $a = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ has order 4 and $b = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$ has order 3, but ab has infinite order. Conversely, show that the additive group $Z_2 \oplus \mathbf{Z}$ contains nonzero elements a, b of infinite order such that $a + b$ has finite order.

Answer. The verification of $|a| = 4$ and $|b| = 3$ is trivial. $ab = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$
 $\det(ab = \lambda I) = 0 \Rightarrow \lambda_1 = \lambda_2 = 1$. ab is not diagonalizable. By induction, we have $(ab)^n = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2^{n-1} \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ which means (ab) has infinite order.
 For $a = (\bar{0}, 1), b = (\bar{0}, -1) \in Z_2 \oplus \mathbf{Z}$, a, b have infinite order, but $a + b = (\bar{0}, 0)$ has finite order 1.

Exercise 1.3.6. If G is a cyclic group of order n and $k|n$, then G has exactly one subgroup of order k .

Answer. Assume $a^n = e$, $mk = n$, we verify that $\langle a^m \rangle$ is a subgroup of order k . $\forall x, y \in \mathbf{Z}_+$, $a^{xm} \cdot a^{-ym} = a^{(x-y)m} \in \langle a^m \rangle$, so $\langle a^m \rangle$ is a subgroup. $a^{km} = e$, $a^{sm} \neq e$ for $s < k$, so $|\langle a^m \rangle| = k$.

Exercise 1.3.7. Let p be prime and H a subgroup of $Z(p^\infty)$.

- (a) Every element of $Z(p^\infty)$ has finite order p^n for some $n \geq 0$.
- (b) If at least one element of H has order p^k and no element of H has order greater than p^k , then H is the cyclic subgroup generated by $1/\bar{p}^k$, whence $H \cong Z_{p^k}$.

- (c) If there is no upper bound on the orders of elements of H , then $H = Z(p^\infty)$.
- (d) The only proper subgroups of $Z(p^\infty)$ are the finite cyclic groups $C_n = \langle 1/\bar{p}^n \rangle$ ($n = 1, 2, \dots$). Furthermore, $\langle 0 \rangle = C_0 < C_1 < C_2 < C_3 < \dots$.
- (e) Let x_1, x_2, \dots be elements of an abelian group G such that $|x_1| = p, px_2 = x_1, px_3 = x_2, \dots, px_{n+1} = x_n, \dots$. The subgroup generated by the $x_i (i \geq 1)$ is isomorphic to $Z(p^\infty)$.

Answer. (a) $\forall x \in Z(p^\infty), x = \frac{a}{p^n}$ where $a < p^n, p \nmid a$. p is a prime, so $\gcd(p, a) = 1$. $m \cdot a | p^n \Rightarrow m = p^n$. Thus $m \cdot \frac{a}{p^n} = e$, p^n is the smallest number satisfies it. $\frac{a}{p^n}$ has order p^n .

- (b) For all $x \in Z(p^\infty)$, if x has order smaller than p^k , x must have the form $x = \frac{a}{p^i} (i \leq k)$, $(p, a) = 1$, so $x \in \langle \frac{1}{p^k} \rangle$. If not, assume $x = \frac{a}{p^i} (i > k)$, then $p^k \cdot x = \frac{a}{p^{i-k}} \neq 1$.
- (c) Assume not, $H < Z(p^\infty), H \neq Z(p^\infty)$. There exist $y \in H$ s.t. y has order $p^m, m \geq n$. $y = \frac{b}{p^m}, (p, b) = 1$, so there exists $b^{-1} \in \{1, 2, \dots, p-1\}$, $bb^{-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p^m}$. But $ab^{-1}p^{m-n}y = \frac{a}{p^n} = x \in H$, that's contradictory! Conversely, $H = Z(p^\infty)$.
- (d) From (b), we know that if there's least upper bound p^n for elements in a subgroup S , then $S = C_n$.

$$\langle 0 \rangle = C_0 < C_1 < C_2 < C_3 < \dots < Z(p^\infty)$$

is easy to verify.

- (e) We can verify that $f : x_i \mapsto \frac{1}{p^i}$ is a well defined isomorphism. $f(e) = f(px_1) = 1, f(px_{i+1}) = f(x_i) = \frac{1}{p^i} = p \cdot \frac{1}{p^{i+1}}$. f is obviously a bijection, so $H \cong Z(p^\infty)$.

Exercise 1.3.8. A group that has only a finite number of subgroups must be finite.

Answer. Suppose not. If the order of all subgroups are finite, G must be finite. So there exists a infinite subgroup $H < G$. $\forall a \in G$, if $\forall n \in \mathbf{N}, a^n \neq e$. then we can construct infinite subgroups $\langle a \rangle, \langle a^2 \rangle, \langle a^3 \rangle, \dots$. If $\forall a \in G, \exists n \in \mathbf{N}, a^n = e$, so $\langle a \rangle$ is a proper subgroup of G , we can take $b \in G \ni \langle a \rangle$ to construct another subgroup. By induction, there are infinite subgroups in G . That's contradictory, so G must be finite.

Exercise 1.3.9. If G is an abelian group, then the set T of all elements of G with finite order is a subgroup of G .

Answer. We can easily verify that $\forall a, b \in T, |a| = m, |b| = n$ and $|ab^{-1}| \leq mn$ is finite. T is a subgroup of G .

Exercise 1.3.10. An infinite group is cyclic if and only if it is isomorphic to each of its proper subgroups.

Answer. If G is cyclic, $G \cong \mathbf{Z}$, $S < G$. For any subgroup of \mathbf{Z} , it has the form $\{na\}, a \in \mathbf{Z}$. We can construct a isomorphism $f : n \mapsto na$, so $S \cong \{na\} \Rightarrow G \cong S$.

If $\forall S < G, G \cong S$ and $|G| = |S|$ is finite. We prove there exists $S < G$ s.t. $|S| = \aleph_0$. Take $a \in G$ and $S = \{na | n \in \mathbf{Z}\}$, S is a subgroup. If there exists $ma = 0$, S must be finite, contradictory! Thus, $S \cong \mathbf{Z} \cong G$. G is a infinite cyclic group.

1.4 Cosets and counting

Exercise 1.4.1. Let G be a group and $\{H_i | i \in I\}$ a family of subgroups. Then for any $a \in G$, $(\bigcap_i H_i)a = \bigcap_i H_i a$.

Answer. $\bigcap_i H_i$ is a subgroup of G . Take $x \in \bigcap_i H_i$, $x \in H_i$, $\forall i \in I$. Then $xa \in H_i a$, $\forall i \in I$, so $xa \in \bigcap_i (H_i a)$. Thus, $(\bigcap_i H_i)a = \bigcap_i (H_i a)$.

Exercise 1.4.2. (a) Let H be the cyclic subgroup (of order 2) of S_3 generated by $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$. Then no left cosets of H (except H itself) is also a right coset. There exists $a \in S_3$ such that $aH \cap Ha = \{a\}$.

(b) If K is the cyclic subgroup (of order 3) of S_3 generated by $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 3 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$, then every left coset of K is also a right coset of K .

Answer. (a) $H = \{(12), (1)\}$. $S_3 = \{(12), (13), (23), (1), (123), (132)\}$. For $a \in H$, $aH = Ha = H$.

$a = (13)$, $aH = \{(13), (123)\}$, $Ha = \{(13), (132)\}$.

$a = (23)$, $aH = \{(23), (132)\}$, $Ha = \{(23), (123)\}$.

$a = (123)$, $aH = \{(123), (23)\}$, $Ha = \{(132), (13)\}$.

$a = (132)$, $aH = \{(132), (13)\}$, $Ha = \{(123), (23)\}$.

(b) $K = \{(123), (132), (1)\}$. For $a \in K$, $aK = Ka = K$.

$a = (12)$, $aK = Ka = \{(12), (23), (13)\}$.

$a = (13)$, $aK = Ka = \{(12), (23), (13)\}$.

$a = (23)$, $aK = Ka = \{(12), (23), (13)\}$.

Exercise 1.4.3. The following conditions on a finite group G are equivalent.

(i) $|G|$ is prime.

(ii) $G \neq \langle e \rangle$ and G has no proper subgroups.

(iii) $G \cong Z_p$ for some prime p .

Answer. (i) \Rightarrow (ii): If there exists $S < G$, $S \neq G$, then $|S| \mid |G| = p$. That's contradictory!

(ii) \Rightarrow (iii): $\forall a \in G$, take $S = \{na | n = 1, 2, \dots, p\}$. If there exists $ma = na$, $(1 \leq m < n \leq p)$, $(n - m)a = 0$. So there exists subgroup S , and $|S| = n - m < p$. That's contradictory! So $S < G$, $|S| = |G| \Rightarrow S = G \cong Z_p$.

(iii) \Rightarrow (i): Trivial.

Exercise 1.4.4. Let a be an integer and p be a prime such that $p \nmid a$. Then $a^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$.

Answer. $(Z_p \setminus \{\bar{0}\}, \times)$ is a group of order $p - 1$. From **Exercise 1.1.7**, we know that $\forall \bar{a} \in Z_p \setminus \{\bar{0}\}$ and $b \in Z_p \setminus \{\bar{0}\}$, taking different \bar{b} we will have different $\bar{a}\bar{b} \in Z_p \setminus \{\bar{0}\}$. $\bar{a}\bar{b}$ travels through all the elements in $Z_p \setminus \{\bar{0}\}$. So

$$\prod_{i=1}^{p-1} (\bar{i} \cdot \bar{a}) = \prod_{i=1}^{p-1} \bar{i}$$

By the definition of $Z_p \setminus \{\bar{0}\}$, $Z_p \setminus \{\bar{0}\}$ is commutative. So

$$(\bar{a})^{p-1} \left(\prod_{i=1}^{p-1} \bar{i} \right) = \prod_{i=1}^{p-1} \bar{i} \Rightarrow (\bar{a})^{p-1} = \bar{1}$$

Exercise 1.4.5. Prove that there are only two distinct groups of order 4 (up to isomorphism), namely Z_4 and $Z_2 \oplus Z_2$.

Answer. The only cyclic group of order 4 is Z_4 . For a group G of order 4 which is not cyclic, $\forall a \in G, a \neq e$, if $|a| = 2$, $G \cong Z_2 \oplus Z_2$. If there exists $a \in G, |a| = 4$, $G \cong Z_4$. If there exists $a \in G, |a| = 3$, denote $a^2 = b, a^3 = e$. Then $b^2 = a^4 = a$, $\{e, a, b\} < G$, which is contradictory to the Lagrange theorem.

Exercise 1.4.6. Let H, K be subgroups of a group G . Then HK is a subgroup of G if and only if $HK = KH$.

Answer. If $HK = KH$, for $a_1b_1, a_2b_2 \in HK$,

$$(a_1b_1)(a_2b_2)^{-1} = (a_1b_1)(b_2^{-1}a_2^{-1}) = (a_1b_1)(a_3b_3)$$

since $b_2^{-1}a_2^{-1} \in KH = HK$, there exists $b_2^{-1}a_2^{-1} = a_3b_3$.

$$(a_1b_1)(a_3b_3) = a_1(b_1a_3)b_3 = a_1a_4b_4b_3$$

since $b_1a_3 \in KH = HK$, there exists $b_1a_3 = a_4b_4$. $(a_1b_1)(a_2b_2)^{-1} = a_1a_4b_4b_3 = a_5b_5 \in HK$. Thus HK is a subgroup of G .

If HK is a subgroup of G , $\forall b_1a_1 \in KH$, there exists $(a_1^{-1}b_1^{-1}) \in HK$ s.t. $b_1a_1 = (a_1^{-1}b_1^{-1})^{-1} \in HK$. So $KH \subset HK$. $\forall a_1b_1 \in HK$, $(a_1b_1)^{-1} = b_1^{-1}a_1^{-1} \in HK$, so $\exists a_2b_2 \in HK$ s.t. $b_1^{-1}a_1^{-1} = a_2b_2$. $a_1b_1 = b_2^{-1}a_2^{-1} \in KH$. So $HK \subset KH$. Thus $HK = KH$.

Exercise 1.4.7. Let G be a group of order $p^k m$, with p prime and $(p, m) = 1$. Let H be a subgroup of order p^k and K a subgroup of order p^d , with $0 < d \leq k$ and $K \not\subset H$. Show that HK is not a subgroup of G .

Answer. Assume $HK < G$, $|HK| = p^k n$, $n|m$. We can get $[HK : H] = n = [K : K \cap H]$. $[K : K \cap H] | p^k \Rightarrow n | p^k$. That's contradictory to $(m, p^k) = 1$.

Exercise 1.4.8. If H and K are subgroups of finite index of a group G such that $[G : H]$ and $[G : K]$ are relatively prime, then $G = HK$.

Answer. Assume $[G : H] = m$, $[G : K] = n$, $(m, n) = 1$. Then $|H| = np$, $|K| = mp$. $H \cap K < H$, $H \cap K < G \Rightarrow |H \cap K| | p$.

$$[G : H] = m \geq [K : H \cap K] = \frac{|K|}{|H \cap K|} \geq m$$

Thus $[G : H] = [K : H \cap K] = m$, $G = HK$.

Exercise 1.4.9. If H, K and N are subgroups of a group G such that $H < N$, then $HK \cap N = H(K \cap N)$.

Answer. $\forall x = hk \in HK \cap N$, $\exists h_1^{-1} \in H$ s.t. $h_1^{-1}hk \in K \cap N$. $H < N$ so $\forall h_1^{-1} \in H$, $h_1^{-1}hk \in N$. Take $h_1^{-1} = h^{-1}$, $h_1^{-1}hk = k \in K$. So $HK \cap N \subset H(K \cap N)$.

$\forall x = hk \in H(K \cap N)$ where $h \in H$, $k \in K \cap N$. $hk \in HK$, $h, k \in N \Rightarrow hk \in N$. So $H(K \cap N) \subset HK \cap N$.

Thus, $HK \cap N = H(K \cap N)$.

Exercise 1.4.10. Let H, K, N be subgroups of a group G such that $H < K$, $H \cap N = K \cap N$, and $HN = KN$. Show that $H = K$.

Answer. Assume there exists $x \in K \setminus H$. $K = \bigcup_{i \in I} Ha_i$, $\forall h_i \in H$ there exists $a \in K$ s.t. $x = h_1a$. Take $n_1 \in N$. Since $HN = KN$, $xn_1 \in HN$, there exists $h_2 \in H$, $n_2 \in N$ s.t. $xn_1 = h_2n_2 = h_2an_1$. So $a = n_2n_1^{-1} \in N$, $a \in K \cap N = H \cap N \Rightarrow a \in H$, $x \in H$. That's contradictory!

Exercise 1.4.11. Let G be a group of order $2n$; then G contains an element of order 2. If n is odd and G abelian, there is only one element of order 2.

Answer. The proof of the first part is exactly the same as **Exercise 1.1.14**. Assume there exists $a, b \in G$, $a^2 = b^2 = e$. We can check $H = \{e, a, b, ab\}$ is a subgroup of G . $|H| \mid |G| \Rightarrow 4 \mid 2n \Rightarrow 2 \mid n$, which is contradictory to n is odd. So there's only one element a s.t. $a^2 = e$.

Exercise 1.4.12. If H and K are subgroups of a group G , then $[H \vee K : H] \geq [K : H \cap K]$.

Answer. The question is a direct corollary of Proposition 4.8.

Exercise 1.4.13. If $p > q$ are primes, a group of order pq has at most one subgroup of order p .

Answer. $H \cap K < H$, $H \cap K < K$, $H \neq K \neq H \cap K$. $|H \cap K| \mid p$ and $|H \cap K| \neq q$, so $H \cap K = \{e\}$. From **Exercise 1.3.12**,

$$[H \vee K : H] \geq [K : K \cap H] = p$$

$$|H \vee K| = |H| \cdot [H \vee K : H] \geq p^2$$

But $H \vee K \in G$, $|H \vee K| \leq pq < p^2$. That's contradictory!

Exercise 1.4.14. Let G be a group and $a, b \in G$ such that (i) $|a| = 4 = |b|$; (ii) $a^2 = b^2$; (iii) $ba = a^3b = a^{-1}b$; (iv) $a \neq b$; (v) $G = \langle a, b \rangle$. Show that $|G| = 8$ and $G \cong Q_8$.

Answer. The proof is exactly the same as **Exercise 1.2.3**.

1.5 Normality, quotient groups, and homomorphisms

Exercise 1.5.1. If N is a subgroup of index 2 in a group G , then N is normal in G .

Answer. $\forall a \in G \setminus N, G = N \cup Na = N \cup aN$ and $N \cap Na = \emptyset, N \cap aN = \emptyset$. So $\forall x \in Na, x \in G \setminus N \Rightarrow x \in aN, Na \subset aN$. Similarly, $aN \subset Na$, whence $Na = aN, N \triangleleft G$.

Exercise 1.5.2. If $\{N_i | i \in I\}$ is a family of normal subgroups of a group G , then $\bigcap_{i \in I} N_i$ is a normal subgroup of G .

Answer. $\bigcap_{i \in I} N_i$ is a subgroup of G . $N_i (i \in I)$ are normal subgroups of G , so $\forall a \in G, aN_i a^{-1} = \{an_i a^{-1} | n_i \in N_i\} = N_i$. $\forall x = ana^{-1} \in a(\bigcap_{i \in I} N_i)a^{-1}$, $n \in N_i \Rightarrow x \in a(\bigcap_{i \in I} N_i)a^{-1} \subset \bigcap_{i \in I} aN_i a^{-1} = \bigcap_{i \in I} N_i$. $\bigcap_{i \in I} N_i$ are normal subgroup of G .

Exercise 1.5.3. Let N be a subgroup of a group G . N is normal in G if and only if (right) congruence modulo N is a congruence relation on G .

Answer. If $N \triangleleft G$. $\forall a, b \in G, ab^{-1} \in N \Leftrightarrow a^{-1}b \in N$. If $a_1 \equiv b_1 \pmod{N}, a_2 \equiv b_2 \pmod{N}$, then $a_2 b_2^{-1} \in N, a_1 N = Na_1 = Nb_1 \Rightarrow a_1 N b_1^{-1} = N$. So $a_1 a_2 b_1^{-1} b_2^{-1} = (a_1 a_2)(b_1 b_2)^{-1} \in N$. Similarly, $(a_1 a_2)^{-1}(b_1 b_2) \in N$. Congruence modulo N is a congruence relation.

If congruence modulo N is a congruence relation. $\forall a_1 \equiv b_1 \pmod{N}, a_2 \equiv b_2 \pmod{N}$, we will have $a_1 a_2 \equiv b_1 b_2 \pmod{N}$. Take $n \in N$ and fix $a_2 \in G$, define $b_2 = n^{-1} a_2$. Then $\forall n \in N, n$ can be expressed as $a_2 b_2^{-1}, a_2 \equiv b_2 \pmod{N}$. $\forall a_1 \in G$ and $\forall b_1 \equiv a_1 \pmod{N}, a_1 n b_1^{-1} = a_1 a_2 b_2^{-1} b_1^{-1} \in N$. Take $b_1 = a_1$ and n varies in $N, a_1 n a_1^{-1} \in N \Rightarrow a_1 N a_1^{-1} \subset N$. Thus $N \triangleleft G$.

Exercise 1.5.4. Let \sim be an equivalence relation on a group G and let $N = \{a \in G | a \sim e\}$. Then \sim is a congruence relation on G if and only if N is a normal subgroup of G and \sim is congruence modulo N .

Answer. If $G \triangleleft N$ and \sim is congruence modulo N . $\forall a \in G$, $aNa^{-1} \subset N$. $\forall a_1, b_1, a_2, b_2 \in G$, $a_1b_1^{-1} \in N$, $a_2b_2^{-1} \in N$. $a_1a_2(b_1b_2)^{-1} = a_1a_2b_2^{-1}b_1^{-1}$, denote $n = a_2b_2^{-1} \in N$, $a_1a_2b_2^{-1}b_1^{-1} = a_1nb_1^{-1} \in a_1Nb_1^{-1}$. $\forall n \in N$, there exists $n' = b_1^{-1}a_1, n' \in N$ s.t. $a_1n = b_1n'$. So $a_1nb_1^{-1} = b_1n'b_1^{-1} \in b_1Nb_1^{-1} \subset N$. That means $(a_1a_2)(b_1b_2)^{-1} \in N$, $a \sim b$ is a congruence relation.

If $a \sim b$ is a congruence relation. We first prove N is a subgroup of G . $\forall a \in N$, $a \sim e$, $a^{-1} \sim a^{-1} \Rightarrow e \sim a^{-1}$, so $a^{-1} \sim e$, $a^{-1} \in N$. $\forall a, b \in N$, $b^{-1} \sim e$, $a \sim e \Rightarrow ab^{-1} \in e$, thus $N < G$.

$\forall x \in G$, $xN = \{xa | a \sim e\} = \{xa | xa \sim xe\} = \{ax | ax \sim e\} = Nx$, so N is normal in G . $x \sim y \Leftrightarrow y \in xN$. \sim is congruence modulo N .

Exercise 1.5.5. Let $N < S_4$ consist of all those permutations σ such that $\sigma(4) = 4$. Is N normal in S_4 ?

Answer. $N = \{(1), (12), (13), (23), (123), (132)\}$. Take $a = (14) \in G$, $a^{-1} = (14)$, $a^{-1}(12)a = (24) \notin N$. So N is not normal in S_4 .

Exercise 1.5.6. Let $H < G$; then the set aHa^{-1} is a subgroup for each $a \in G$, and $H \cong aHa^{-1}$.

Answer. $H < G$, $aHa^{-1} = \{aha^{-1} | h \in H\}$. $\forall x, y \in aHa^{-1}$, $x = ah_1a^{-1}$, $y = ah_2a^{-1}$. $y^{-1} = ah_2^{-1}a^{-1}$, $xy = ah_1h_2^{-1}a^{-1} \in aHa^{-1}$, so $aHa^{-1} < G$. Take $f : H \rightarrow aHa^{-1}$ as $f(h) = aha^{-1}$. If $f(h_1) = f(h_2) = ah_1a^{-1} = ah_2a^{-1}$, then $h_1 = h_2$, so f is an injection. f is a surjection because $\forall x \in aHa^{-1}$, $f(a^{-1}xa) = x$, $a^{-1}xa \in H$. In conclusion, $H \cong aHa^{-1}$.

Exercise 1.5.7. Let G be a finite group and H a subgroup of G of order n . If H is the only subgroup of G of order n , then H is normal in G .

Answer. Applying **Exercise 1.5.6**, $\forall a \in G$, $aHa^{-1} \cong H$. $|aHa^{-1}| = |H| = n \Rightarrow aHa^{-1} = H$. Whence $H \triangleleft G$.

Exercise 1.5.8. All subgroups of the quaternion group are normal.

Answer. $Q_8 = \{a, b, a^2, ba, ab, a^2b, ab^2, a^2b^2\}$ where $a^2 = b^2$, $a_1b = ba = a^3b$ and $|a| = |b| = 4$. There are several subgroups $\{a, a^2, ab^2, a^2b^2\}$, $\{b, a^2, a^2b, a^2b^2\}$, $\{ab, a^2b^2\}$, $\{ba, a^2b^2\}$, $\{a^2, a^2b^2\}$. From **Exercise 1.5.1**, we know the first two subgroups are normal in G . For $\{ab, a^2b^2\}$, $\{ba, a^2b^2\}$, $\{a^2, a^2b^2\}$, we can check that ab, ba, a^2 is commutative in G , that is $\forall x \in G$, $xabx^{-1} = ab$, $xbax^{-1} = ba$, $xa^2x^{-1} = a^2$. They are all normal in G .

Exercise 1.5.9. (a) If G is a group, then the center of G is a normal subgroup of G ;

(b) the center of S_n is the identity subgroup for all $n > 2$.

Answer. (a) By the definition of center C , $\forall x \in G$ and $a \in C$, $ax = xa$, so $xCx^{-1} = C$. C is normal in G .

(b) $\forall x \in S_n$, x can be expressed as

$$x = (a_1a_2 \cdots a_{i_1})(a_{i_1+1}a_{i_1+2} \cdots a_{i_2}) \cdots (a_{i_{n-1}+1}a_{i_{n-1}+2} \cdots a_{i_n})$$

Those cycles $(a_1a_2 \cdots a_{i_1})$, $(a_{i_1+1}a_{i_1+2} \cdots a_{i_2})$, ..., $(a_{i_{n-1}+1}a_{i_{n-1}+2} \cdots a_{i_n})$ are all disjoint, so they are commutative.

If there exists cycles whose length is longer than 2. WLOG, assume $i_1 > 2$. Take $y = (a_1a_2)$,

$$y^{-1}xy = (a_1a_2)(a_1a_2 \cdots a_{i_1})(a_1a_2) \cdots (a_{i_{n-1}+1}a_{i_{n-1}+2} \cdots a_{i_n})$$

$(a_1a_2)(a_1a_2 \cdots a_{i_1})(a_1a_2) = (a_2a_1a_3 \cdots a_{i_1})$, so $y^{-1}xy \neq x$, $x \notin C$.

If $x = (a_1a_2)(a_3a_4) \cdots (a_{2n-1}a_{2n})$ and $n \geq 2$. Take $y = (a_1a_3)$,

$$\begin{aligned} y^{-1}xy &= (a_1a_3)(a_1a_2)(a_3a_4) \cdots (a_{2n-1}a_{2n})(a_1a_3) \\ &= (a_1a_3)(a_1a_2)(a_3a_4)(a_1a_3) \cdots (a_{2n-1}a_{2n}) \\ &= (a_1a_4)(a_2a_3) \cdots (a_{2n-1}a_{2n}) \\ &\neq x \end{aligned}$$

So $x \notin C$.

If $x = (a_1a_2)$. Take $y = (a_1a_3)$, $y^{-1}xy = (a_2a_3) \neq x$, so $x \notin C$.

In conclusion, $C = \{(1)\}$.

Exercise 1.5.10. Find subgroups H and K of D_4^* such that $H \triangleleft K$ and $K \triangleleft D_4^*$, but H is not normal in D_4^* .

Answer. $D_4^* = \{I, R, R^2, R^3, T_x, T_y, T_{13}, T_{24}\}$. Take $K = \{I, R, T_x, T_y\}$, $H = \{I, T_x\}$. We can easily verify that $H \triangleleft K$ and $K \triangleleft D_4^*$ but $K \not\triangleleft D_4^*$.

Exercise 1.5.11. If H is a cyclic subgroup of a group G and H is normal in G , then every subgroup of H is normal in G .

Answer. Assume $K < H \triangleleft G$, H has the generator a , and K has the generator a^n . Here we used: *Every subgroup of a cyclic group is cyclic.* This can be easily proved by the conclusion $H \cong Z_m$ for some $m \in \mathbf{Z}$. $\forall x \in G$, $h = a^s \in H$, $x^{-1}a^s x = a^t \in H$. Assume $x^{-1}ax = a^m$, then $x^{-1}a^n x = (x^{-1}ax)^n = a^{mn} = a^k$, so $n|k$, $a^k \in K$. $x^{-1}Kx \subset K$, K is normal in G .

Exercise 1.5.12. If H is a normal subgroup of a group G such that H and G/H are finitely generated, then so is G .

Answer. Assume $A = \{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_m\}$, $B = \{b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n\}$. $H = \langle A \rangle$, $G/H = \langle \{Hb_i | b_i \in B\} \rangle$. We prove that G can be generated by $A \cup B$. $\forall x \in G$, x is in one of the right cosets of H , $x \in Ha$. $Ha \in G/H$ so $Ha = \prod_{b_i \in B} Hb_i^{s_i} = H(\prod_{b_i \in B} b_i^{s_i})$. Thus $a^{-1}(\prod_{b_i \in B} b_i^{s_i}) = a' \in H$. H is generated by A so $xa^{-1} = \prod_{a_i \in A} a_i^{t_i}$, $a' = \prod_{a_i \in A} a_i^{-r_i}$. Then

$$x = (\prod_{a_i \in A} a_i^{t_i + r_i})(\prod_{b_i \in B} b_i^{s_i}) \in \langle A \cup B \rangle$$

Thus $G \subset \langle A \cup B \rangle$ is finitely generated.

Exercise 1.5.13. (a) Let $H \triangleleft G$, $K \triangleleft G$. Show that $H \vee K$ is normal in G .

(b) Prove that the set of all normal subgroups of G forms a complete lattice under inclusion.

Answer. (a) $\forall x \in G, a \in H \vee K$, we need to prove $x^{-1}ax \in H \vee K$.
 $a \in H \vee K$ so a can be expressed as

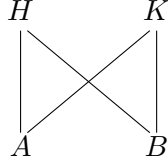
$$a = b_1^{n_1} b_2^{n_2} \cdots b_t^{n_t} \quad \text{where } b_i \in H \text{ or } b_i \in K, i = 1, 2, \dots, t$$

so $x^{-1}ax = x^{-1}b_1^{n_1} \cdots b_t^{n_t}x = (x^{-1}b_1x)^{n_1} (x^{-1}b_2x)^{n_2} \cdots (x^{-1}b_tx)^{n_t}$.
 $H \triangleleft G, K \triangleleft G$, so $x^{-1}b_ix \in H \vee K, i = 1, 2, \dots, t$ and

$$x^{-1}ax = (x^{-1}b_1x)^{n_1} (x^{-1}b_2x)^{n_2} \cdots (x^{-1}b_tx)^{n_t} \in H \vee K$$

$H \vee K \triangleleft G$.

(b) Actually, in **Exercise 1.2.19** and (a), we have proved lub exists.
 Now we only consider glb. For $H \triangleleft G, K \triangleleft G$. If $H \cap K \triangleleft G$, then their glb is $H \cap K$. If not, assume there exists $A < H \cap K, B < H \cap K, A, B$ are both normal in H and K . And there doesn't exist I s.t. $A \triangleleft I \triangleleft H, A \triangleleft I \triangleleft K, B \triangleleft I \triangleleft H, B \triangleleft I \triangleleft K$. Just like the figure:



But $A < H \cap K, B < H \cap K \Rightarrow A \vee B < H \cap K$. So $A \vee B \triangleleft H, A \vee B \triangleleft K$. That's contradictory! There is only one lower bound for $\{H, K\}$. Notice that $\{e\} < H \cap K$ so there exists at least one subgroup satisfies the condition. We have proved normality forms a lattice.

Exercise 1.5.14. If $N_1 \triangleleft G_1, N_2 \triangleleft G_2$ then $(N_1 \times N_2) \triangleleft (G_1 \times G_2)$ and $(G_1 \times G_2)/(N_1 \times N_2) \cong (G_1/N_1) \times (G_2/N_2)$.

Answer. Take $a \in (N_1 \times N_2)$, $a = (n_1, n_2)$ where $n_1 \in N_1, n_2 \in N_2$.
 $\forall x \in (G_1 \times G_2), x = (g_1, g_2)$ where $g_1 \in G_1, g_2 \in G_2$. $x^{-1} = (g_1^{-1}, g_2^{-1})$,
 $x^{-1}ax = (g_1^{-1}n_1g_1, g_2^{-1}n_2g_2)$. $N_1 \triangleleft G_1, N_2 \triangleleft G_2$, so $g_1^{-1}n_1g_1 \in N_1, g_2^{-1}n_2g_2 \in N_2$.
 $x^{-1}ax \in (N_1 \times N_2)$. Thus $(N_1 \times N_2) \triangleleft (G_1 \times G_2)$.

Assume $G_1 = \bigcup_{i \in I} N_1 a_i, G_2 = \bigcup_{j \in J} N_2 b_j$. Then $G_1 \times G_2 = \bigcup_{i \in I} N_1 a_i \times \bigcup_{j \in J} N_2 b_j$.

Denote $A = \{a_i | i \in I\}, B = \{b_j | j \in J\}$. We construct two bijections $(G_1 \times G_2)/(N_1 \times N_2) \rightarrow A \times B$ and $(G_1/N_1) \times (G_2/N_2)$.

$$f : N_1 a_i \times N_2 b_j \mapsto (a_i, b_j)$$

$$g : (N_1 a_i, N_2 b_j) \mapsto (a_i, b_j)$$

Take $h = g^{-1} \circ f$, f, g are bijections, so h is an isomorphism. $(G_1 \times G_2)/(N_1 \times N_2) \cong (G_1/N_1) \times (G_2/N_2)$.

Exercise 1.5.15. Let $N \triangleleft G$ and $K \triangleleft G$. If $N \cap K = \langle e \rangle$ and $N \vee K = G$, then $G/N \cong K$.

Answer. Assume $G = \bigcup_{i \in I} N a_i$, we construct $f : k \rightarrow G/N$. We prove that $\forall x, y \in K$, x, y belong to different cosets of N . Suppose not. $\exists x, y \in K$, $x, y \in N a_i$, then $xy^{-1} \in N \Rightarrow x = y$. That's contradictory! So f is a monomorphism.

$G = H \vee K$, so $G = HK$. we can write x as pq , where $p \in H$, $q \in K$. $|G/H| = [G : H] = [HK : H] = [K : K \cap H] = |K|$. f is an epimorphism. Thus, $G/N \cong K$.

Exercise 1.5.16. If $f : G \rightarrow H$ is a homomorphism, H is abelian and N is a subgroup of G containing $\text{Ker } f$, then N is normal in G .

Answer. Assume there exists $x \in G$, $x \notin N$ s.t. $f(x) \in f(N)$. $\exists n \in N$, $f(x) = f(n)$, $f(xn^{-1}) = f(x)f(n)^{-1} = e' \Rightarrow xn^{-1} \in \text{Ker } f \Rightarrow x \in N$. That's contradictory! $\forall x \in G$, $n \in N$, $f(x^{-1}nx) = f(x^{-1})f(n)f(x) = f(n) \in f(N)$, so $x^{-1}nx \in N$. Thus, $N \triangleleft G$.

Exercise 1.5.17. (a) Consider the subgroups $\langle 6 \rangle$ and $\langle 30 \rangle$ of \mathbf{Z} and show that $\langle 6 \rangle / \langle 30 \rangle \cong Z_5$.

(b) For any $k, m > 0$, $\langle k \rangle / \langle km \rangle \cong Z_m$; in particular, $\mathbf{Z} / \langle m \rangle = \langle 1 \rangle / \langle m \rangle \cong Z_m$.

Answer. (a) $\langle 6 \rangle = \{6n | n \in \mathbf{Z}\}$, $\langle 30 \rangle = \{30n | n \in \mathbf{Z}\}$. So $\langle 6 \rangle / \langle 30 \rangle = \{\langle 30 \rangle, \langle 30 \rangle + 6, \langle 30 \rangle + 12, \langle 30 \rangle + 18, \langle 30 \rangle + 24\} \cong Z_5$

(b) $\langle km \rangle \triangleleft \langle k \rangle$, $\langle k \rangle = \bigcup_{i \in I} (\langle km \rangle + a_i)$. For $x \in \langle k \rangle$, $x \equiv a_i \pmod{km}$, then $x \in \langle km \rangle + a_i$. $f : \langle k \rangle / \langle km \rangle \rightarrow \{a_i | i \in I\}$ defined by $f(\langle km \rangle + a_i) = a_i$ is a bijection. We check that $g : \{a_i | i \in I\} \rightarrow Z_m$ is also a bijection. Define

$b_i \equiv \frac{a_i}{k} \pmod{m}$, $g(a_i) = b_i$. If there exists $b_i = b_j$ for $i \neq j$, $a_i \equiv a_j \pmod{km}$. That's contradictory! So g is an injection. g is obviously a surjection, so g is a bijection. Take $h = g \circ f : \langle k \rangle / \langle km \rangle \rightarrow Z_m$ is an isomorphism, so $\langle k \rangle / \langle km \rangle \cong Z_m$.

Exercise 1.5.18. If $f : G \rightarrow H$ is a homomorphism with kernel N and $K < G$, then prove that $f^{-1}(f(K)) = KN$. Hence $f^{-1}(f(K)) = K$ if and only if $N < K$.

Answer. Take $x \in f^{-1}(f(K))$, then there exists $k \in K$ s.t. $f(x) = f(k)$. $f(xk^{-1}) = f(x)f(k)^{-1} = e' \in f(K) \Rightarrow xk^{-1} \in \text{Ker } f = N$. Thus, $x \in Nk \subset NK$, $f^{-1}(f(K)) \subset NK$.

$\forall x = nk \in NK$, where $n \in N$ and $k \in K$. $f(x) = f(n)f(k) = e'f(k) \in f(K)$, so $NK \subset f^{-1}(f(K))$.

Thus, $f^{-1}(f(K)) = NK$. Hence $f^{-1}(f(K)) = K$ if and only if $N < K$.

Exercise 1.5.19. If $N \triangleleft G$, $[G : H]$ finite, $H < G$, $|H|$ finite, and $[G : N]$ and $|H|$ are relatively prime, then $H < N$.

Answer. $N \triangleleft G \Rightarrow NH < G$. By the second isomorphism theorem, $NH/N \cong H/H \cap N \Rightarrow [NH : N] = [H : H \cap N]$. Assume $[G : N] = m$, $|H| = n$, $|G| = mnp$ where $(m, n) = 1$. Then $|N| = np$, $N < NH$, assume $|NH| = knp$, $NH < G \Rightarrow knp | mnp \Rightarrow k | m$. $[NH : N] = [H : H \cap N] = k \Rightarrow k | n$. So $k = 1$, $NH = N$ which means $H < N$.

Exercise 1.5.20. If $N \triangleleft G$, $|N|$ finite, $H < G$, $[G : N]$ finite, and $[G : H]$ and $|N|$ are relatively prime, then $N < H$.

Answer. $N \triangleleft G \Rightarrow NH < G$. By the second isomorphism theorem, $NH/N \cong H/H \cap N \Rightarrow [NH : N] = [H : H \cap N]$. Assume $[G : H] = m$, $|N| = n$, $|G| = mnp$ where $(m, n) = 1$. Then $|H| = np$, $H < NH$, assume $|NH| = knp$, $NH < G \Rightarrow knp | mnp \Rightarrow k | m$. $[NH : N] = [H : H \cap N] = kp \Rightarrow kp | np \Rightarrow k | n$. So $k = 1$, $NH = H$ which means $N < H$.

Exercise 1.5.21. If H is a subgroup of $Z(p^\infty)$ and $H \neq Z(p^\infty)$, then $Z(p^\infty)/H \cong Z(p^\infty)$.

Answer. From **Exercise 1.3.7(b)**, we know that H has the form $\langle \frac{\bar{1}}{p^n} \rangle$.

Take $x_i = \frac{\bar{1}}{p^{n+i}} + H$, $x_1 = \frac{\bar{1}}{p^{n+1}} + H$.

$$\sum_{m=1}^p x_1 = \frac{\bar{p}}{p^{n+1}} + pH = \frac{\bar{1}}{p^n} + H = H$$

$$\sum_{m=1}^p x_i = \frac{\bar{p}}{p^{n+i}} + pH = \frac{\bar{1}}{p^{n+i-1}} + H = x_{i-1}$$

Take $A = \{x_i | i \in \mathbf{Z}_+\}$, $\langle A \rangle \cong Z(p^\infty)$ by **Exercise 1.3.7(e)**. $\forall x \in \langle A \rangle$, $x \in Z(p^\infty)/H$, so $\langle A \rangle \subset Z(p^\infty)/H$. Take $x \in Z(p^\infty)/H$, $x = y + H$ where $y = \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{a_i}{p^{n+i}}$, $x = \sum_{i=1}^m (\frac{a_i}{p^{n+i}} + H) \in \langle A \rangle$. Thus, $Z(p^\infty)/H \subset \langle A \rangle$, $\langle A \rangle = Z(p^\infty)/H \cong Z(p^\infty)$.

1.6 Symmetric, alternating, and dihedral groups

Exercise 1.6.1. Find four different subgroups of S_4 that are isomorphic to S_3 and nine isomorphic to S_2 .

Answer. $S_4 = \{(1), (12), (13), (14), (23), (24), (34), (123), (124), (132), (142), (134), (143), (234), (243), (12)(34), (13)(24), (14)(23), (1234), (1243), (1324), (1342), (1423), (1432)\}$.

$A_1 = \{(1), (12), (13), (23), (123), (132)\}$;

$A_2 = \{(1), (12), (14), (24), (124), (142)\}$;

$A_3 = \{(1), (13), (14), (34), (134), (143)\}$;

$A_4 = \{(1), (23), (24), (34), (234), (243)\}$;

$A_1 \cong A_2 \cong A_3 \cong A_4$.

$B_1 = \{(1), (12)\}$; $B_2 = \{(1), (13)\}$; $B_3 = \{(1), (14)\}$; $B_4 = \{(1), (23)\}$; $B_5 = \{(1), (24)\}$; $B_6 = \{(1), (34)\}$; $B_7 = \{(1), (12)(34)\}$; $B_8 = \{(1), (13)(24)\}$; $B_9 = \{(14)(23)\}$;

$B_1 \cong B_2 \cong B_3 \cong B_4 \cong B_5 \cong B_6 \cong B_7 \cong B_8 \cong B_9$.

Exercise 1.6.2. (a) S_n is generated by the $n - 1$ transpositions $(12), (13), (14), \dots, (1n)$.

(b) S_n is generated by the $n - 1$ transpositions $(12), (23), (34), \dots, (n - 1)n$.

Answer. (a) $\forall x \in S_n$, x can be written as a product of transpositions.

Actually, for any transposition (ij) , we can obtain it by $(1i)(1j)(1i) = (ij)$. So $x \in \langle (12), (13), \dots, (1n) \rangle$, $S_n \subset \langle (12), (13), \dots, (1n) \rangle$.

(b) We can construct $(1i)$ inductively since $(1i) = (1i-1)(i-1i)(i-1)$.

From (a), we have $\forall x \in S_n$, $x \in \langle (12), (13), \dots, (1n) \rangle$. Thus $S_n \subset \langle (12), (13), \dots, (1n) \rangle \subset \langle (12), (23), (34), \dots, (n-1)n \rangle$.

Exercise 1.6.3. If $\sigma = (i_1 i_2 \dots i_r) \in S_n$ and $\tau \in S_n$, then $\tau \sigma \tau^{-1}$ is the r -cycle $(\tau(i_1) \tau(i_2) \dots \tau(i_r))$.

Answer. $\sigma(i_n) = i_{n+1}$ for $n = 1, 2, \dots, r - 1$, $\sigma(i_r) = i_1$. Assume $\tau(i_n) = j_n$, $n = 1, 2, \dots, r - 1$ and $I = \{i_n | n = 1, 2, \dots, r - 1\}$, $J = \{j_n | n = 1, 2, \dots, r - 1\}$. For $x \notin J$, $\tau \sigma \tau^{-1}(x) = \tau \sigma^{-1}(x) = x$. For $x = j_k \in J$, $\tau^{-1}(x) = i_k$, $\sigma(\tau^{-1}(x)) = i_{k+1}$, $\tau(\sigma(\tau^{-1}(x))) = j_{k+1}$ and $\tau \sigma \tau^{-1}(j_r) = j_1$. Thus $\tau \sigma \tau^{-1} = (\tau(i_1) \tau(i_2) \dots \tau(i_r))$.

Exercise 1.6.4. (a) S_n is generated by $\sigma_1 = (12)$ and $\tau = (123 \cdots n)$.
 (b) S_n is generated by (12) and $(23 \cdots n)$.

Answer. (a) Denote $\sigma_i = \tau\sigma_{i-1}\tau^{-1}$. Applying **Exercise 1.6.3**, $\sigma_i = (i\ i+1)$. By **Exercise 1.6.2(b)**, $S_n \subset \langle (12), (23), (34), \dots, (n-1\ n) \rangle = \langle \sigma_1, \sigma_2, \dots, \sigma_{n-1} \rangle \subset \langle \tau, \sigma_1 \rangle$. S_n can be generated by τ and σ_1 .
 (b) Denote $\sigma_1 = (12)$, $\tau = (23 \cdots n)$, $\sigma_i = \tau\sigma_{i-1}\tau^{-1}$. Applying **Exercise 1.6.3**, $\sigma_i = (i\ i+1)$. By **Exercise 1.6.2(a)**, $S_n \subset \langle (12), (13), \dots, (1n) \rangle = \langle \sigma_1, \sigma_2, \dots, \sigma_{n-1} \rangle \subset \langle \tau, \sigma_1 \rangle$. S_n can be generated by τ and σ_1 .

Exercise 1.6.5. Let $\sigma, \tau \in S_n$. If σ is even (odd), then so is $\tau\sigma\tau^{-1}$.

Answer. Assume $\sigma = (x_1x_2) \cdots (x_{2m-1}x_{2m})$, $\tau = (y_1y_2) \cdots (y_{2m-1}y_{2m})$. Then $\tau^{-1} = (y_{2m-1}y_{2m}) \cdots (y_1y_2)$. σ is odd (even) if and only if n is odd (even). $\tau\sigma\tau^{-1}$ has $2m+n$ transpositions. We can add $(ij) = (ji) = (1)$ into some segments of $\tau\sigma\tau^{-1}$ without changing it. So $\tau\sigma\tau^{-1}$ is odd (even) if and only if $2m+n$ is odd (even). $2m+n \equiv n \pmod{2}$ so $\tau\sigma\tau^{-1}$ is odd (even) if and only if σ is odd (even).

Exercise 1.6.6. A_n is the only subgroup of S_n of index 2.

Answer. For any subgroup $N < S_n$ and $[S_n : N] = 2$, we have $N \triangleleft S_n$.

Assume there exists k -circle $\sigma = (i_1i_2 \cdots i_k) \in N$. Then for any other k -circle $(j_1j_2 \cdots j_k)$, take $\tau = (i_1j_1)(i_2j_2) \cdots (i_kj_k)$, by **Exercise 1.6.3**, $\tau\sigma\tau^{-1} = (j_1j_2 \cdots j_k) \in N$. Thus N contains all the k -circles.

For $n \geq 5$. If there exists 3-circle in N , then all the 3-circles are contained in N , $A_n \subset N \subset S_n \Rightarrow A_n = N$.

If there exists 2-circle in N , then all the 2-circles are contained in N . Notice $(1i)(1j) = (1ij) \in N$ is a 3-circle, so $A_n = N$.

If there only contain x in the form of $(a_1a_2 \cdots a_{n_1})(b_1b_2 \cdots b_{n_2}) \cdots$ where $n_i \geq 4$ and every two circles are disjoint. Take $\tau_i : \{a_i | i = 1, 2, \dots, n_1\} \rightarrow \{a_i | i = 1, 2, \dots, n_1\}$. We can obtain product of two n_1 -circles

$$x^{-1}\tau x\tau^{-1} = (a_1a_2 \cdots a_{n_1})(\tau(a_1)\tau(a_2) \cdots \tau(a_{n_1})) \in N$$

By the arbitrariness of τ , take

$$(\tau(a_1)\tau(a_2)\cdots\tau(a_n)) = (a_1a_4a_5\cdots a_na_3a_2)$$

then $x^{-1}\tau x\tau^{-1} = (a_1a_3)(a_2a_4)$ is a product of 2-circles. We can take a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4 arbitrarily. WLOG, take $(12)(34) \in N$ and $(12)(35) \in N$, $(12)(35)(12)(34) = (345) \in N$. Then there exists 3-circle in N , $N = A_n$.

In conclusion, when $n \geq 5$, S_n has only one normal subgroup A_n .

For $n = 2, 3, 4$, we can verify it by enumeration.

Exercise 1.6.7. Show that $N = \{(1), (12)(34), (13)(24), (14)(23)\}$ is a normal subgroup of S_4 contained in A_4 such that $S_4/N \cong S_3$ and $A_4/N \cong Z_3$.

Answer. Assume $\sigma = (i_1i_2)(i_3i_4) \in N$, $\forall \tau \in S_4$, $\tau(i_n) = j_n$, $J = \{j_n | n = 1, 2, 3, 4\}$. For $x \notin J$, $\tau\sigma\tau^{-1}(x) = \tau\tau^{-1}(x) = x$. For $x = j_k \in J$, $\tau^{-1}(x) = i_k$, $\sigma\tau^{-1}(x) = i_{3k-4[\frac{k}{2}]-1}$, $\tau\sigma\tau^{-1}(x) = (\tau(i_i)\tau(i_2))(\tau(i_3)\tau(i_4)) \in N$. So $N \triangleleft S_4$. $S_4/N = \{N, N(12), N(13), N(23), N(123), N(132)\} \cong S_3$. $A_4/N = \{N, N(123), N(132)\} \cong Z_3$.

Exercise 1.6.8. The group A_4 has no subgroup of order 6.

Answer. $|A_4| = 12$, assume there exists $N < A_4$, $|N| = 6$. Then $N \triangleleft A_4$. From **Exercise 1.6.6**, we know that all 3-circles are contained in N . But there're 8 3-circles in total, so N can't exist.

Exercise 1.6.9. For $n \geq 3$ let G_n be the multiplicative group of complex matrices generated by $x = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ and $y = \begin{pmatrix} e^{2\pi i/n} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{-2\pi i/n} \end{pmatrix}$, where $i^2 = -1$. Show that $G_n \cong D_n$.

Answer. Take a mapping $f : G_n \rightarrow D_n$ as $f(x) = (2n)(3n-1)\cdots$, $f(y) = (123\cdots n)$. $|f(x)| = |x| = 2$, $|f(y)| = |y| = n$. f is obviously a monomorphism. $\forall a \in D_n$, $a = f(x)^n f(y)^m$, $m = 1, 2$, then $a = f(x^n y^m)$, f is a epimorphism. Thus $G_n \cong D_n$.

Exercise 1.6.10. Let a be the generator of order n of D_n . Show that $\langle a \rangle \triangleleft D_n$ and $D_n / \langle a \rangle \cong Z_2$.

Answer. $|\langle a \rangle| = n$, b is the other generator of D_n , $a^n = b^2 = (1)$. $\forall k \in \mathbf{Z}$, $a^k b = b a^{-k}$ can be easily proved by induction. So $\forall x = a^m b^n \in D_n$, $x = a^{m'} b^{n'}$, here $m' \equiv m \pmod{2}$, $n' \equiv n \pmod{2}$. $D_n = \{e, a, a^2, \dots, a^{n-1}, b, ba, \dots, ba^{n-1}\}$. $|D_n| = 2n$. Thus, $\langle a \rangle \triangleleft D_n$. $D_n / \langle a \rangle = \{\langle a \rangle, \langle a \rangle b\} \cong Z_2$.

Exercise 1.6.11. Find all normal subgroups of D_n .

Answer. The subgroups of $\langle a \rangle$ is always normal in D_n . $\langle a^m \rangle < \langle a \rangle$. $\forall x \in D_n$ and $a^{km} \in \langle a^m \rangle$, $x = a^t$ or $x = ba^t$.

$$x^{-1} a^{km} x = a^{-t} a^{km} a^t = a^{km} \in \langle a^m \rangle$$

or

$$x^{-1} a^{km} x = a^{-t} b^{-1} a^{km} b a^t = a^{-t} b a^{km} b a^t = a^{-t} a^{-km} b^2 a^t = a^{-km} \in \langle a^m \rangle$$

so $\langle a^m \rangle \triangleleft D_n$.

Consider the subgroup S which only contains $ba^i, i = 1, \dots, n$. Since $ba^i \cdot ba^j = a^{j-i} \in S$ ($i \neq j$), so $S = \{e, ba^k\}$.

If n is odd, take $x = a^{\frac{n-1}{2}} \in D_n$.

$$x^{-1} ba^k x = a^{\frac{1-n}{2}} ba^k a^{\frac{n-1}{2}} = ba^{k+n-1} \notin S$$

so $S \not\triangleleft D_n$ for all $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$.

If n is even, take $x = a^{\frac{n-2}{2}} \in D_n$, $n \geq 6$.

$$x^{-1} ba^k x = a^{\frac{2-n}{2}} ba^k a^{\frac{n-2}{2}} = ba^{k+n-2} \notin S$$

so $S \not\triangleleft D_n$ for all $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$.

If $n = 2$, all the subgroups are normal since $|D_2| = 4$.

For subgroup S contains both ba^i and a^j . It can be written as $S = \langle a^d, ba^r \rangle$, where $d|n$, $0 \leq r \leq d-1$. If $\exists a^m, a^n \in S$, $(m, n) = d$, then there exist $x, y \in \mathbf{Z}$ s.t. $a^{mx+ny} = a^d \in \mathbf{Z}$. Thus, $S = \langle a^d, ba^r \rangle$.

Take $x = a^{\frac{n-w}{2}}$, then $x^{-1} ba^r x = ba^{r+n-w}$.

If $d \geq 3$, take $w \equiv n \pmod{2}$, $x^{-1}ba^r x \notin S$.

If $d = 2$, then $n = 2s$ and $S = \{e, a^s, ba^s, b\}$. $Sa^k = \{a^k, a^{s+k}, ba^{s-k}, ba^{-k}\}$, $k = 1, 2, \dots, s-1$. $ba^k = ba^{-k}$ or $ba^k = ba^{s-k} \Rightarrow k = \frac{s}{2}$. So for $s = 2$, $n = 4$, S is a normal subgroup of D_4 .

Exercise 1.6.12. The center of the group D_n is $\langle e \rangle$ if n is odd and isomorphic to Z_2 if n is even.

Answer. If n is odd, C is the center of D_n , $C \triangleleft D_n \Rightarrow C < \langle a \rangle$. Take $a^d \in C$, $x = ba^m$,

$$x^{-1}ax = a^{-m}b^{-1}a^d ba^m = a^{-m}ba^d ba^m = a^{-d} = a^d$$

so $d = 0$, $C = \{e\}$.

If n is even, $n \geq 6$. C is the center of D_n . $C \triangleleft D_n \Rightarrow C < \langle a \rangle$ or $C = \{e, ba^k\}$.

If $C = \{e, ba^k\}$, $C \cong Z_2$.

If $C < \langle a \rangle$, take $a^d \in C$, $x = ba^m$,

$$x^{-1}ax = a^{-m}b^{-1}a^d ba^m = a^{-m}ba^d ba^m = a^{-d} = a^d$$

so $d = \frac{n}{2}$ or $d = 0$, $C = \{a^{\frac{n}{2}}, e\} \cong Z_2$.

Exercise 1.6.13. For each $n \geq 3$ let P_n be a regular polygon of n sides (for $n = 3$, P_n is an equilateral triangle; for $n = 4$, a square). A *symmetry* of P_n is a bijection $P_n \rightarrow P_n$ that preserves distances and maps adjacent vertices on to adjacent vertices.

- (a) The set D_n^* of all symmetries of P_n is a group under the binary operation of composition of functions.
- (b) Every $f \in D_n^*$ is completely determined by its actions on the vertices of P_n . Number the vertices consecutively $1, 2, \dots, n$; then each $f \in D_n^*$ determines a unique permutation σ_f of $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$. The assignment $f \mapsto \sigma_f$ defines a monomorphism of groups $\varphi : D_n^* \rightarrow S_n$.
- (c) D_n^* is generated by f and g , where f is a rotation of $2\pi/n$ degrees about the center of P_n and g is a reflection about the “diameter” through the center and vertex 1.
- (d) $\sigma_f = (123 \cdots n)$ and $\sigma_g = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & \cdots & n-1 & n \\ 1 & n & n-1 & \cdots & 3 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$, whence $\text{Im } \varphi = D_n$ and $D_n^* \cong D_n$.

Answer. In the following analysis, all the numbers are mod n .

- (a) Consider n points $A_i = (\cos \frac{2\pi i}{n}, \sin \frac{2\pi i}{n})^t$, $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$. f is the transposition of $A_i \mapsto A_j$ with the conservation of n regular polygon structure. So f must be a bijection. D_n^* is the set of f . By the definition, $D_n^* \subset S_n$. We prove D_n^* is a subgroup of S_n .

Notice that $A_{i+1} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \frac{2\pi i}{n} & -\sin \frac{2\pi i}{n} \\ \sin \frac{2\pi i}{n} & \cos \frac{2\pi i}{n} \end{pmatrix} A_i$.

Denote $X = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \frac{2\pi}{n} & -\sin \frac{2\pi}{n} \\ \sin \frac{2\pi}{n} & \cos \frac{2\pi}{n} \end{pmatrix}$. To construct the polygon, we must have

$$f(A_{i+1}) = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \frac{2\pi i}{n} & -\sin \frac{2\pi i}{n} \\ \sin \frac{2\pi i}{n} & \cos \frac{2\pi i}{n} \end{pmatrix} f(A_i)$$

or

$$f(A_i) = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \frac{2\pi i}{n} & -\sin \frac{2\pi i}{n} \\ \sin \frac{2\pi i}{n} & \cos \frac{2\pi i}{n} \end{pmatrix} f(A_{i+1})$$

We need to verify that $\forall f_1, f_2 \in D_n^*$, $f_1 f_2^{-1} \in D_n^*$. Assume $B_i = f_2(A_i)$, $B_{i+1} = f_2(A_{i+1})$. Then $B_i = X B_{i+1}$ or $B_i = X^{-1} B_{i+1}$. Denote $B_i = A_j$, then $B_{i+1} = A_{j-1}$ or $B_{i+1} = A_{j+1}$. WLOG, assume $B_{i+1} = A_{j+1}$, then $f_1(A_j) = X f_1(A_{j+1})$ or $f_1(A_j) = X^{-1} f_1(A_{j+1})$. So $f_1 f_2^{-1} \in D_n^*$. D_n^* is a subgroup of S_n .

- (b) Assume $A_i = f(A_1)$. If $f(A_2) = A_{i+1}$, since f is a bijection, by induction, we can prove $f(A_k) = A_{k+i-1}$. $\varphi : D_n^* \rightarrow S_n$ can be defined as $\varphi : f \mapsto (1i \ 2i-1 \ 3i-2 \dots)$. If $f(A_2) = A_{i-1}$, similarly, we can also prove $f(A_k) = A_{i+1-k}$. φ can be defined as $\varphi : f \mapsto (1i)(2i-1)(3i-2)\dots$. This means f is completely determined by $f(A_1)$ and $f(A_2)$. D_n^* can be embedded into S_n .

- (c) Denote $\alpha = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \frac{2\pi}{n} & -\sin \frac{2\pi}{n} \\ \sin \frac{2\pi}{n} & \cos \frac{2\pi}{n} \end{pmatrix}$, $\beta = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$. $f : A_i \mapsto \alpha A_i$, $g : A_i \mapsto \beta A_i$. f is the rotation of $\frac{2\pi}{n}$ degrees counter-clockwisely. g is the reflection about x -axis. Now we prove $\forall x \in D_n^*$, x can be factorised into finite product of f and g . From (b), x is fully defined by $x(A_1)$ and $x(A_2)$. Assume $x(A_1) = A_i$.

If $x(A_2) = A_{i+1}$, $x(A_k) = A_{i-1+k} = \alpha^{i-1} A_k$, $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$. So $x = f^{i-1}$.

If $x(A_2) = A_{i-2}$, $x(A_k) = A_{i+1-k} = \alpha^{i+1} A_{-k} = \alpha^{i+1} \beta A_k$. So $x = f^{i+1} g$. Thus $D_4^* \subset \langle f, g \rangle$.

- (d) $\alpha^n = \beta^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$. We can easily verify that $|f| = n$ and $|g| = 2$. From

Exercise 1.6.9, $\langle f, g \rangle \cong D_n$, $|\langle f, g \rangle| = |D_n| = 2n$. From (b), $x \in D_n^*$

if completely determined by $x(A_1)$ and $x(A_2)$. There are $2n$ different ways to obtain $x(A_1)$ and $x(A_2)$. So $|D_n^*| = |\langle f, g \rangle| = 2n$. $D_n^* \subset \langle f, g \rangle$, so $D_n^* = \langle f, g \rangle$. Thus, $D_n^* \cong \langle f, g \rangle \cong D_n$.

1.7 Categories: products, coproducts, and free objects

Exercise 1.7.1. A *pointed set* is a pair (S, x) with S a set and $x \in S$. A morphism of pointed sets $(S, x) \rightarrow (S', x')$ is a triple (f, x, x') , where $S \rightarrow S'$ is a function such that $f(x) = x'$. Show that pointed sets form a category.

Answer. Let \mathcal{S} be the category and 4 objects of \mathcal{S} are (A, a) , (B, b) , (C, c) , (D, d) . f , g and h are morphisms defined by $f : A \rightarrow B$, $g : B \rightarrow C$, $h : C \rightarrow D$ with $f(a) = b$, $g(b) = c$, $h(c) = d$.

$$(A, a) \xrightarrow{f} (B, b) \xrightarrow{g} (C, c) \xrightarrow{h} (D, d)$$

category \mathcal{S}

$$\text{hom}(A, B) \times \text{hom}(B, C) \rightarrow \text{hom}(A, C)$$

because $g \circ f : A \rightarrow C$ with $g(f(a)) = g(b) = c = g \circ f(a)$. Similarly, $(h \circ g) \circ f = h \circ (g \circ f)$ with $(h \circ g) \circ f(a) = h \circ (g \circ f)(a) = d$. Take 1_B consist of those functions $i : B \rightarrow B$ with $i(b) = b$. Then $1_B \circ f = f$ and $g \circ 1_B = g$. So \mathcal{S} is a category.

Exercise 1.7.2. If $f : A \rightarrow B$ is an equivalence in a category \mathcal{C} and $g : B \rightarrow A$ is the morphism such that $g \circ f = 1_A$, $f \circ g = 1_B$, show that g is unique.

Answer. Assume there exist g and g' satisfies the condition.

$$A \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{f} \\ \xleftarrow{g} \end{array} B \qquad A \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{f} \\ \xleftarrow{g'} \end{array} B$$

$$\text{So } g' \circ (f \circ g) = g' \circ 1_B = g' = (g' \circ f) \circ g = 1_A \circ g = g.$$

Exercise 1.7.3. In the category \mathcal{G} of groups, show that the group $G_1 \times G_2$ together with the homomorphisms $\pi_1 : G_1 \times G_2 \rightarrow G_1$ and $\pi_2 : G_1 \times G_2 \rightarrow G_2$ is a product for $\{G_1, G_2\}$.

Answer. Take $\tau_1 : G_1 \rightarrow G_1 \times G_2$ as $\tau_1(g_1) = (g_1, e)$; $\tau_2 : G_2 \rightarrow G_1 \times G_2$ as $\tau_2(g_2) = (e, g_2)$; $\pi_1 : G_1 \times G_2 \rightarrow G_1$ as $\pi_1(g_1, g_2) = g_1$; $\pi_2 : G_1 \times G_2 \rightarrow G_2$ as $\pi_2(g_1, g_2) = g_2$. Then

$$G_1 \xrightleftharpoons[\tau_1]{\pi_1} G_1 \times G_2 \xrightleftharpoons[\tau_2]{\pi_2} G_2$$

For any object B such that

$$G_1 \xleftarrow{\varphi_1} B \xrightarrow{\varphi_2} G_2$$

For any $x \in B$, define $f : B \rightarrow G_1 \times G_2$ as $f(x) = (\varphi_1(x), \varphi_2(x))$. Then $\pi_1(f(x)) = \varphi_1(x)$, $\pi_1 \circ f = \varphi_1$, $\pi_2(f(x)) = \varphi_2(x)$, $\pi_2 \circ f = \varphi_2$. Thus

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & B & & \\ & \swarrow \varphi_1 & \downarrow f & \searrow \varphi_2 & \\ G_1 & \xrightleftharpoons[\tau_1]{\pi_1} & G_1 \times G_2 & \xrightleftharpoons[\tau_2]{\pi_2} & G_2 \end{array}$$

Next we verify the uniqueness. If there exist f and f' satisfies the condition,

$$\pi_1(f(x)) = \pi_1(f'(x)) = \varphi_1(x)$$

$$\pi_2(f(x)) = \pi_2(f'(x)) = \varphi_2(x)$$

Thus $f(x) = f'(x)$ for all $x \in B$, so $f = f'$.

Exercise 1.7.4. In the category \mathcal{A} of abelian groups, show that the group $A_1 \times A_2$ together with the morphisms $\tau_1 : A_1 \rightarrow A_1 \times A_2$ and $\tau_2 : A_2 \rightarrow A_1 \times A_2$ is a coproduct of $\{A_1, A_2\}$.

Answer. Take $\tau_1 : A_1 \rightarrow A_1 \times A_2$ as $\tau_1(a_1) = (a_1, e)$; $\tau_2 : A_2 \rightarrow A_1 \times A_2$ as $\tau_2(a_2) = (e, a_2)$; $\pi_1 : A_1 \times A_2 \rightarrow A_1$ as $\pi_1(a_1, a_2) = a_1$; $\pi_2 : A_1 \times A_2 \rightarrow A_2$ as $\pi_2(a_1, a_2) = a_2$. Then

$$A_1 \xrightleftharpoons[\tau_1]{\pi_1} A_1 \times A_2 \xrightleftharpoons[\tau_2]{\pi_2} A_2$$

For any object B such that

$$A_1 \xrightarrow{\varphi_1} B \xleftarrow{\varphi_2} A_2$$

For any $(a_1, a_2) \in A_1 \times A_2$, define $f : A_1 \times A_2 \rightarrow B$ as $f(a_1, a_2) = \varphi_1(a_1)\varphi_2(a_2)$. Then $f(\tau_1(a_1)) = f(a_1, e) = \varphi_1(a_1)e = \varphi_1(a_1)$, $f \circ \tau_1 = \varphi_1$, $f(\tau_2(a_2)) = f(e, a_2) = e\varphi_2(a_2) = \varphi_2(a_2)$, $f \circ \tau_2 = \varphi_2$.

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & B & & \\ & \nearrow \varphi_1 & \uparrow f & \nwarrow \varphi_2 & \\ A_1 & \xleftarrow{\pi_1} & A_1 \times A_2 & \xrightarrow{\pi_2} & A_2 \\ & \xleftarrow{\tau_1} & & \xleftarrow{\tau_2} & \end{array}$$

Next we verify the uniqueness. If there exist f and f' satisfies the condition,

$$f(\tau_1(a_1)) = f'(\tau_1(a_1)) = f(a_1, e) = f'(a_1, e)$$

$$f(\tau_2(a_2)) = f'(\tau_2(a_2)) = f(e, a_2) = f'(e, a_2)$$

$$\begin{aligned} f(\tau_1(a_1), \tau_2(a_2)) &= f(\tau_1(a_1))f(\tau_2(a_2)) \\ &= f'(\tau_1(a_1), \tau_2(a_2)) = f'(\tau_1(a_1))f'(\tau_2(a_2)) \end{aligned}$$

so $f = f'$.

Exercise 1.7.5. Every family $\{A_i | i \in I\}$ in the category of sets has a coproduct.

Answer. We examine $\bigcup A_i = \{(a, i) \in (\bigcup A_i) \times I | a \in A_i\}$ which satisfies the condition. Define the morphism $\pi_i : A_i \rightarrow \bigcup A_i$ as $\pi_i(a) = (a, i)$. For any B such that $\exists \varphi_i : A_i \rightarrow B$.

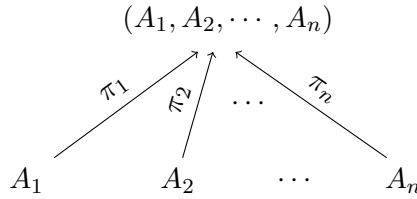
$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} & & B & & & & \\ & \nearrow \varphi_1 & \uparrow \varphi & \nwarrow \varphi_n & & & \\ A_1 & & A_2 & \cdots & & & A_n \end{array}$$

$\varphi(a) = x \in B$. Take $\varphi(a, i) = \varphi_i(a)$ defined on the subset of $\cup A_i \times I$, we can verify that the domain of φ is $\cup A_i$. Then take $f = \varphi$, $f(\pi_i(a)) = \varphi_i(a)$, $f \circ \pi_i = \varphi_i$.

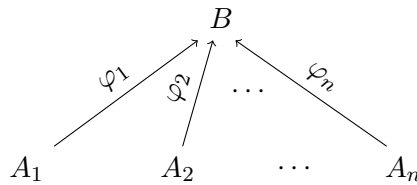
The uniqueness is obvious.

- Exercise 1.7.6.** (a) Show that in the category \mathcal{S}_* of pointed sets product always exist; describe them.
 (b) Show that in \mathcal{S}_* every family of objects has a coproduct, describe the coproduct.

Answer. (a) Define \otimes as an operator between points and other elements in the pointed set. $\forall a \in A_i$, $a \otimes a_i = a_1 \times a = a$. For a family of sets with their points $\{(A_i, a_i | i \in I)\}$, consider $(A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n) = \{(a'_1, a'_2, \dots, a'_n)\}$. Define morphisms $\pi_i(a) = (a_1, a_2, \dots, a, \dots, a_n)$, $\pi_i : A_i \rightarrow (A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n)$.



For any B such that $\exists \varphi_i : A_i \rightarrow B$.



Take $f : (A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n) \rightarrow B$ as

$$f(a'_1, a'_2, \dots, a'_n) = \varphi_1(a'_1) \otimes \varphi_2(a'_2) \otimes \dots \otimes \varphi_n(a'_n)$$

Then $f \circ \pi_i(a) = f(a_1, a_2, \dots, a, \dots, a_n) = \varphi_1(a_1) \otimes \dots \otimes \varphi_i(a) \otimes \dots \otimes \varphi_n(a_n) = \varphi_i(a)$. So $f \circ \pi_i = \varphi_i$.

Next we verify the uniqueness. If there exist f and f' satisfies the condition. Then $\exists i \in I$ and $a \in A_i$ s.t. $f(a_1, a_2, \dots, a, \dots, a_n) \neq f'(a_1, a_2, \dots, a, \dots, a_n)$. But $f(\pi_i(a)) = f'(\pi_i(a))$, so $f = f'$.

(b) The proof is similar to **Exercise 1.7.5**.

Exercise 1.7.7. Let F be a free object on a set $X(i : X \rightarrow F)$ in a concrete category \mathcal{C} . If \mathcal{C} contains an object whose underlying set has at least two elements in it, then i is an injective map of sets.

Answer. Assume $A \in \text{obj}(\mathcal{C})$, A has at least two elements and $X \xrightarrow{f} A$. $X \xrightarrow{i} F$ and F is free on X , so there exists a morphism \bar{f} s.t. $F \xrightarrow{\bar{f}} A$. If $|X| = 1$, i must be injective. For $|X| \geq 2$. Suppose i is not injective. Take $x_1, x_2 \in X$ and $i(x_1) = i(x_2) \in F$, $f(x_1) = a_1$, $f(x_2) = a_2$. $\bar{f}(i(x_1)) = \bar{f}(i(x_2)) = f(x_1) = f(x_2) = a_1 = a_2$. That means all the elements in A are identical. That's contradictory to the assumption.

Exercise 1.7.8. Suppose X is a set and F is a free object on X (with $i : X \rightarrow F$) in the category of groups. Prove that $i(X)$ is a set of generators for the group F .

Answer. Assume G the subgroup of F is the group generated by $i(X)$. Since $X \xrightarrow{i} G$ and $X \xrightarrow{i} F$, we can obtain unique morphism φ such that $F \xrightarrow{\varphi} G$ and $\varphi \circ i = i$.

Consider morphism $1_F : F \rightarrow F$ which is the identical homomorphism. F is free so 1_F is the unique homomorphism. Take $\subset : G \rightarrow F$ as a morphism defined as $\forall g \in G$, $\subset(g) = g$. Then

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & G & & \\ & \nearrow i & \uparrow \varphi & \nwarrow \subset & \\ X & \xrightarrow{i} & F & \xrightarrow{1_F} & F \end{array}$$

$\subset \circ \varphi \circ i = 1_F \circ i = i$ so $\subset \circ \varphi = 1_F$. Thus \subset is an epimorphism, $F \subset G$. So $F = G$ can be generated by $i(X)$.

1.8 Direct products and direct sums

Exercise 1.8.1. S_3 is not the direct product of any family of its proper subgroups. The same is true of Z_{p^n} (p prime, $n \geq 1$) and \mathbb{Z} .

Answer. We list all the subgroups of S_3 : $\{(1), (12)\}$, $\{(1), (13)\}$, $\{(1), (23)\}$, $\{(1), (123), (132)\}$. Only $\{(1), (123), (132)\}$ is normal, so S_3 isn't a direct product of any family of its proper subgroups.

For Z_{p^n} , $Z_{p^i} \triangleleft Z_{p^n}$ for all $i = 1, 2, \dots, n-1$ but $Z_{p^i} \cap Z_{p^j} \neq \{e\}$. So Z_{p^n} isn't a direct product of any family of its proper subgroups.

For \mathbb{Z} . $\forall N_1 \triangleleft \mathbb{Z}$, $N_2 \triangleleft \mathbb{Z}$, we have $N_1 = \langle a_1 \rangle$ and $N_2 = \langle a_2 \rangle$. Thus, $N_1 \cap N_2 = \langle a_1 a_2 \rangle \neq \{e\}$. So \mathbb{Z} isn't a direct product of any family of its proper subgroups.

Exercise 1.8.2. Give an example of groups H_i , K_i such that $H_1 \times H_2 \cong K_1 \times K_2$ and no H_i is isomorphic to any K_j .

Answer. Take $H_1 \cong K_1 \times K_2$, $H_2 = \{e\}$. We verify that $H_1 \times H_2 \cong K_1 \times K_2$. There exists $f : H_1 \rightarrow K_1 \times K_2$ which is an isomorphism. There exists canonical projection $\pi_1 : H_1 \times H_2 \rightarrow H_1$ and π_1 is an epimorphism. $\text{Ker} \pi_1 = \{(e_1, e_2)\}$ thus π_1 is also a monomorphism. Therefore $\bar{f} = f \circ \pi_1$ is a well defined isomorphism. $H_1 \times H_2 \cong K_1 \times K_2$ but neither H_1 nor H_2 are isomorphic to any K_i , $i = 1, 2$.

Exercise 1.8.3. Let G be an (additive) abelian group with subgroups H and K . Show that $G \cong H \oplus K$ if and only if there are homomorphisms

$$H \begin{array}{c} \xleftarrow{\pi_1} \\ \xrightarrow{\tau_1} \end{array} G \begin{array}{c} \xleftarrow{\pi_2} \\ \xrightarrow{\tau_2} \end{array} K$$

such that $\pi_1 \tau_1 = 1_H$, $\pi_2 \tau_2 = 1_K$, $\pi_1 \tau_2 = 0$ and $\pi_2 \tau_1 = 0$, where 0 is the map sending every element onto the zero (identity) element, and $\tau_1 \pi_1(x) + \tau_2 \pi_2(x) = x$ for all $x \in G$.

Answer. If $G \cong H \oplus K$. Denote $f : G \rightarrow H \oplus K$ which is an isomorphism. Then there are canonical products $\pi'_1, \pi'_2, \tau'_1, \tau'_2$.

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & \pi'_1 & & \pi'_2 & \\ H & \xleftarrow{\quad} & H \oplus K & \xleftarrow{\quad} & K \\ & \tau'_1 & & \tau'_2 & \end{array}$$

Thus

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & G & & \\ & \swarrow \pi_1 & \uparrow f & \searrow \pi_2 & \\ & \pi'_1 & \downarrow f & \pi'_2 & \\ H & \xleftarrow{\quad} & H \oplus K & \xleftarrow{\quad} & K \\ & \tau'_1 & & \tau'_2 & \end{array}$$

Take $\tau_1 = f \circ \tau'_1$, $\tau_2 = f \circ \tau'_2$, $\pi_1 = \pi'_1 \circ f^{-1}$, $\pi_2 = \pi'_2 \circ f^{-1}$.

$$\pi_1 \tau_1 = \pi'_1 f^{-1} f \tau'_1 = \pi'_1 \tau'_1 = 1_H$$

$$\pi_2 \tau_2 = \pi'_2 f^{-1} f \tau'_2 = \pi'_2 \tau'_2 = 1_K$$

$$\pi_1 \tau_2 = \pi'_1 f^{-1} f \tau'_2 = \pi'_1 \tau'_2 = 0$$

$$\pi_2 \tau_1 = \pi'_2 f^{-1} f \tau'_1 = \pi'_2 \tau'_1 = 0$$

$\forall x \in G$, $x = hk$ where $h \in H$ and $k \in K$.

$$\begin{aligned} \tau_1 \pi_1(x) + \tau_2 \pi_2(x) &= f(\tau'_1 \pi'_1(h, k)) + f(\tau'_2 \pi'_2(h, k)) \\ &= f(\tau'_1(h)) + f(\tau'_2(k)) \\ &= f(h, e) + f(e, k) \\ &= f(h + e, e + k) = f(h, k) \\ &= x \end{aligned}$$

If there exist π_1 , π_2 , τ_1 , τ_2 satisfies the condition. There are canonical projections π'_1 , π'_2 , τ'_1 , τ'_2 between H and $H \oplus K$, K and $H \oplus K$.

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & G & & \\ & \swarrow \pi_1 & \uparrow f & \searrow \pi_2 & \\ & \pi'_1 & \downarrow f & \pi'_2 & \\ H & \xleftarrow{\quad} & H \oplus K & \xleftarrow{\quad} & K \\ & \tau'_1 & & \tau'_2 & \end{array}$$

For $f = \tau'_1\pi_1 + \tau'_2\pi_2$ which is a well defined homomorphism. $\forall h \in H$ and $k \in K$, $\tau'_1(h) + \tau'_2(k) = (h, k) \in H \oplus K$. Thus $f(x) = (e_1, e_2)$ if and only if $\pi_1(x) = e_1$ and $\pi_2(x) = e_2$. $\tau_1\pi_1(x) + \tau_2\pi_2(x) = \tau_1(e_1) + \tau_2(e_2) = e = x$. Thus $\text{Ker } f = \{e\}$. f is a monomorphism. $\forall (h, k) \in H \oplus K$, take $x = \tau_1(h) + \tau_2(k) \in G$, then

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= \tau'_1\pi_1\tau_1(h) + \tau'_1\pi_1\tau_2(h) + \tau'_2\pi_2\tau_1(k) + \tau'_2\pi_2\tau_2(k) \\ &= \tau'_1(h) + \tau'_2(k) = (h, k) \in H \oplus K \end{aligned}$$

f is an epimorphism. Thus $G \cong H \oplus K$.

Exercise 1.8.4. Give an example to show that the weak direct product is not a coproduct in the category of all groups.

Answer. Consider S_3 and $S_3 \times S_3$.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & & S_3 \times S_2 \\ & \nearrow & \uparrow \text{dashed} \\ S_3 & \longrightarrow & S_3 \times S_3 \end{array}$$

Since there doesn't exist homomorphism $S_3 \rightarrow S_2$, there is no homomorphism $S_3 \times S_3 \rightarrow S_3 \times S_2$.

Exercise 1.8.5. Let G, H be finite cyclic groups. Then $G \times H$ is cyclic if and only if $(|G|, |H|) = 1$.

Answer. Assume $|G| = m$, $|H| = n$, then $G \cong Z_m$, $H \cong Z_n$ and $G \times H \cong Z_m \oplus Z_n$.

If $(|G|, |H|) = 1$. Consider $(x_1, x_2) \in Z_m \oplus Z_n$. By *Chinese Remainder Theorem*, there exists x such that $a \equiv x \pmod{\text{lcm}(m, n)}$ and $a \equiv x_1 \pmod{m}$, $a \equiv x_2 \pmod{n}$. Thus, $a(1, 1) = (x_1, x_2)$. $Z_m \oplus Z_n < \langle (1, 1) \rangle$. $\langle (1, 1) \rangle < Z_m \oplus Z_n$ is trivial. So $Z_m \oplus Z_n = \langle (1, 1) \rangle \cong G \times H$ is cyclic.

If $G \times H$ is cyclic. Assume $l = \text{gcd}(m, n)$ and there exist x such that $x_1 \equiv x \pmod{m}$, $x_2 \equiv x \pmod{n}$. Take $x_1 \not\equiv x_2 \pmod{l}$, it can be chosen properly. Consider $(x_1, x_2) \in Z_m \oplus Z_n$, $x = k_1m + x_1 = k_2n + x_2 \Rightarrow x_1 \equiv x_2 \pmod{l}$. That's contradictory!

Exercise 1.8.6. Every finitely generated abelian group $G \neq \langle e \rangle$ in which every element (except e) has order p (p prime) is isomorphic to $Z_p \oplus Z_p \oplus \cdots \oplus Z_p$ (n summands) for some $n \geq 1$.

Answer. Assume $\{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n\}$ generates G . $|a_i| = p$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ so $\langle a_i \rangle \cong Z_p$. Now we show that $G = \prod_{i=1}^n {}^w \langle a_i \rangle \cong \sum_{i=1}^n Z_p$. $G = \langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \rangle$ and $\langle a_1 \rangle \triangleleft G$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$. If exist $\langle a_i \rangle$ s.t. $\prod_{j=1, j \neq i}^n \langle a_j \rangle \cap \langle a_i \rangle \neq \{e\}$. Then there exists $a_i^{s_i} = a_1^{s_1} \cdots a_{i-1}^{s_{i-1}} a_{i+1}^{s_{i+1}} \cdots a_n^{s_n}$. $(s_i, p) = 1$ so $\exists 1 \leq t_i \leq p-1$ such that $s_i t_i \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$. So $a_i^{s_i t_i} = a_1^{s_1 t_i} \cdots a_{i-1}^{s_{i-1} t_i} a_{i+1}^{s_{i+1} t_i} \cdots a_n^{s_n t_i} = a_i$. $\{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n\}$ can generate G . That's contradictory! So $\prod_{j=1, j \neq i}^n \langle a_j \rangle \cap \langle a_i \rangle = \{e\}$, which means $G = \prod_{i=1}^n {}^w \langle a_i \rangle \cong \sum_{i=1}^n Z_p$.

Exercise 1.8.7. Let H, K, N be nontrivial normal subgroups of a group G and suppose $G = H \times K$. Prove that N is in the center of G or N intersects one of H, K nontrivially. Give examples to show that both possibilities can actually occur when G is nonabelian.

Answer. If $N \cap H = N \cap K = \{e\}$. $G = HK$. $\forall h \in H$ and $k \in K$, since $H \cap K = \{e\}$, $hk = kh$. For any $hk \in N$, and $h_1 \in H \subset HK$, $h_1^{-1} h k h_1 = h_1^{-1} h h_1 k \in N$. Assume $h' = h_1^{-1} h_1 \in H$, $h' k \in N$. Thus $h'^{-1} k^{-1} k h = h'^{-1} h \in N$. So $h'^{-1} h = e$, $h = h'$, h is in the center $C(H)$ of group H . Similarly, $k \in C(K)$ which is the center of K . Then $\forall hk \in N$ and $h_1 k_1 \in G$, $k_1^{-1} h_1^{-1} h k h_1 k_1 = h_1^{-1} h h_1 k_1^{-1} k k_1 = hk$. $N \subset N(G)$. For $N \cup H \neq \emptyset$, the example can be trivial: $N < H$ and $N \triangleleft G$. There's many cyclic group satisfy the condition. For $N \subset C(G)$. Take $G = D_4^* \times D_4^*$, $H = D_4^* \times \{I\}$, $K = \{I\} \times D_4^*$. $\{I, R^2\}$ is normal in D_4^* . Denote N is the subgroup $\{(I, I), (R^2, R^2)\}$. We can verify that N satisfies the condition.

Exercise 1.8.8. Corollary 8.7 is false if one of the N_i is not normal.

Answer. Consider N_1, N_2, \dots, N_n are all finite. WLOG, assume N_1 is not normal. $G = \left\langle \bigcup_{i=1}^n N_i \cup N_1 \right\rangle$ and $N_1 N_2 \cdots N_n \subset G$. Denote $A = N_2 N_3 \cdots N_n$. Then $\exists a \in A$ such that $a^{-1} n a = n' \notin N_1$. Thus $n' a \in G$ but $n' a \notin N_1 N_2 \cdots N_n$ so $|G| > |N_1 N_2 \cdots N_n| = |N_1| \times |N_2| \times \cdots \times |N_n| = |N_1 \times N_2 \times \cdots \times N_n|$.

Exercise 1.8.9. If a group G is the (internal) direct product of its subgroups H, K , then $H \cong G/K$ and $G/H \cong K$.

Answer. $H \cap K = \{e\}$. $G = H \times K = HK$. Thus $HK/H \cong K/(K \cap H) = K$, $HK/K \cong H/(K \cap H) = H$.

Exercise 1.8.10. If $\{G_i | i \in I\}$ is a family of groups, then $\prod^w G_i$ is the internal weak product its subgroups $\{\tau_i(G_i) | i \in I\}$.

Answer. Take $\tau_i(g) = (e_1, e_2, \dots, g, \dots, e_n)$, $g \in G_i$. $\tau_i(G_i)$ is normal in $\prod_{i \in I}^w G_i$. $\tau_i(G_i) \cap \tau_j(G_j) = \{(e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n)\}$ which is the identity element in $\prod_{i \in I}^w G_i$. $\forall (g_1, g_2, \dots, g_n) \in \prod_{i \in I}^w G_i$, we have

$$(g_1, g_2, \dots, g_n) = (g_1, e_2, \dots, e_n)(e_1, g_2, \dots, e_n) \cdots (e_1, e_2, \dots, g_n)$$

Thus $\prod_{i \in I}^w G_i \subset \left\langle \bigcup_{i \in I} \tau_i(G_i) \right\rangle$ and

$$\left\langle \bigcup_{i \in I} \tau_i(G_i) \right\rangle = \tau_1(G_1) \tau_2(G_2) \cdots \tau_n(G_n) \subset \prod_{i \in I}^w G_i$$

Therefore $\prod_{i \in I}^w G_i$ is the direct product of $\tau_i(G_i)$.

Exercise 1.8.11. Let $\{N_i | i \in I\}$ be a family of subgroups of a group G . Then G is the internal weak product of $\{N_i | i \in I\}$ if and only if:

- (i) $a_i a_j = a_j a_i$ for all $i \neq j$ and $a_i \in N_i$, $a_j \in N_j$;

- (ii) every nonidentity element of G is uniquely a product $a_{i_1} \cdots a_{i_n}$, where i_1, \dots, i_n are distinct elements of I and $e \neq a_{i_k} \in N_{i_k}$ for each k .

Answer. Trivial.

Exercise 1.8.12. A normal subgroup H of a group G is said to be a **direct factor** (**direct summand** if G is additive abelian) if there exists a (normal) subgroup K of G such that $G = H \times K$.

- (a) If H is a direct factor of K and K is a direct factor of G , then H is normal in G .
 (b) If H is a direct factor of G , then every homomorphism $H \rightarrow G$ may be extended to an endomorphism $G \rightarrow G$. However, a monomorphism $H \rightarrow G$ need not be extendible to an automorphism $G \rightarrow G$.

Answer. (a) $G = K \times K' = (H \times H') \times K'$. So $\forall g \in G$, $g = hh'k'$ with $h \in H$, $h' \in H'$ and $k' \in K'$. $\forall h_1 \in H$ and $g \in G$, $g^{-1}h_1g = k'^{-1}h'^{-1}h^{-1}h_1hh'k' = (h^{-1}h_1h)(h'^{-1}h')(k'^{-1}k') = h^{-1}h_1h \in H$. Thus $H \triangleleft G$.

- (b) If $G = H \times K$. For a homomorphism $f : H \rightarrow G$, we construct a homomorphism $\bar{f} : G \rightarrow G$, $\forall g \in G$, g can be uniquely written as $g = hk$ where $h \in H$, $k \in K$. Take $\tau(g) = h$ which is a homomorphism $\tau : G \rightarrow H$. We can get $\bar{f} = f \circ \tau : G \rightarrow G$ is an endomorphism but it needn't to be an automorphism.

Exercise 1.8.13. Let $\{G_i | i \in I\}$ be a family of groups and $J \subset I$. The map $\alpha : \prod_{j \in J} G_j \rightarrow \prod_{i \in I} G_i$ given by $\{a_j\} \mapsto \{b_i\}$, where $b_j = a_j$ for $j \in J$ and $b_i = e_i$ (identity in G_i) for $i \notin J$, is a monomorphism of groups and $\prod_{i \in I} G_i / \alpha(\prod_{j \in J} G_j) \cong \prod_{i \in I-J} G_i$.

Answer. Define a map $\beta : \prod_{i \in I} G_i \rightarrow \prod_{i \in I-J} G_i$ given by $\{a_i\} \mapsto \{b_i\}$ and for those $i \in I - J$, $\exists b_i \in \{b_i\}$ s.t. $a_i = b_i$. Thus $\beta(\{a_i\})\beta(\{a'_i\}) = \beta(\{a_i a'_i\})$, β is a well defined homomorphism. $\text{Ker } \beta = \{\{a_i\} \in \prod_{i \in I} G_i | a_i = e_i \text{ for } i \in I - J\} = \alpha(\prod_{j \in J} G_j)$. We verify β is an epimorphism. $\forall \{b_i\} \in \prod_{i \in I-J} G_i$, take

$\{a_i\} \in \prod_{i \in I} G_i$ where $a_i = b_i$ for $i \in I - J$. Then $\beta(\{a_i\}) = \{b_i\}$. Thus β is an isomorphism, $\text{Im}\beta = \prod_{i \in I-J} G_i \cong \prod_{i \in I} G_i / \alpha(\prod_{j \in J} (G_j))$.

Exercise 1.8.14. For $i = 1, 2$ let $H_i \triangleleft G_i$ and give examples to show that each of the following statements may be false:

- (a) $G_1 \cong G_2$ and $H_1 \cong H_2 \Rightarrow G_1/H_1 \cong G_2/H_2$.
- (b) $G_1 \cong G_2$ and $G_1/H_1 \cong G_2/H_2 \Rightarrow H_1 \cong H_2$.
- (c) $H_1 \cong H_2$ and $G_1/H_1 \cong G_2/H_2 \Rightarrow G_1 \cong G_2$.

Answer. (a) Take $G_1 = G_2 = Z_2 \times Z_4$, $H_1 = Z_2 \times \{\bar{0}\}$, $H_2 = \{(\bar{0}, \bar{0}), (\bar{0}, \bar{2})\}$.
 (b) Take $G_1 = G_2 = Z_2 \times Z_4$, $H_1 = \{\bar{0}\} \times Z_4$, $H_2 = \{(\bar{0}, \bar{0}), (\bar{1}, \bar{0}), (\bar{0}, \bar{2}), (\bar{1}, \bar{2})\}$.
 (c) Take $H_1 = \{(\bar{0}, \bar{0}), (\bar{0}, \bar{2})\}$, $H_2 = Z_2$ and $G_1 = Z_2 \times Z_4$, $G_2 = Z_2 \times K_4$.

1.9 Free groups, free products, generators and relations

Exercise 1.9.1. Every nonidentity elements in a free group F has a infinite order.

Answer. Define the length of a word $x = a_1^{\lambda_1} a_2^{\lambda_2} \cdots a_n^{\lambda_n}$ is n and denote it as $\text{len}(x)$. Assume $\text{len}(x) = n$ for some $n \in F$ and $\text{len}(1) = 0$, we prove that $\text{len}(x^m) \geq n \forall m \geq 1$.

Let k be the largest integer such that $a_{n-j}^{\lambda_{n-j}} = a_n^{-\lambda_j}$ for $j = 0, 1, \dots, k-1$. If $k > \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor$. For even k , $a_{\frac{n}{2}}^{\lambda_{\frac{n}{2}}} = a_{\frac{n}{2}+1}^{-(\lambda_{\frac{n}{2}+1})}$, $a_{\frac{n}{2}-1}^{\lambda_{\frac{n}{2}-1}} = a_{\frac{n}{2}+2}^{-(\lambda_{\frac{n}{2}+2})}$, \dots which means $x = a_1^{\lambda_1} a_2^{\lambda_2} \cdots a_n^{\lambda_n} = 1$. For odd k , $a_{\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor + 1}^{\lambda_{\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor + 1}} = a_{\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor + 1}^{-(\lambda_{\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor + 1})}$, which is contradictory to x is reduced. So $k \leq \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor$.

Divide $x = x_1 x_2 x_3$ where $x_1 = a_1^{\lambda_1} \cdots a_k^{\lambda_k}$, $x_2 = a_{k+1}^{\lambda_{k+1}} \cdots a_{n-k}^{\lambda_{n-k}}$, $x_3 = a_{n-k+1}^{\lambda_{n-k+1}} \cdots a_n^{\lambda_n}$. $x_3 x_1 = 1$. So $\text{len}(x) = \text{len}(x_1) + \text{len}(x_2) + \text{len}(x_3) = n$. $x^m = x_1 x_2 x_3 x_1 x_2 x_3 \cdots x_1 x_2 x_3 = x_1 x_2^m x_3$. $\text{len}(x^m) = \text{len}(x_1) + m \cdot \text{len}(x_2) + \text{len}(x_3) \geq n$. So $\forall m \geq 1$, $x^m \neq 1$, $|x|$ is infinite.

Exercise 1.9.2. Show that the free group on the set $\{a\}$ is an infinite cyclic group, and hence isomorphic to \mathbf{Z} .

Answer. $F(\{a\}) = \langle a \rangle$ and thus it's a infinite cyclic group. $F(\{a\}) \cong \mathbf{Z}$.

Exercise 1.9.3. Let F be a free group and let N be the subgroup generated by the set $\{x^n | x \in F, n \text{ a fixed integer}\}$. Show that $N \triangleleft F$.

Exercise 1.9.4. Let F be the free group on the set X , and let $Y \subset H$. If H is the smallest normal subgroup of F containin Y , then F/H is a free group.

Exercise 1.9.5. The group defined by generators a, b and relations $a^8 = b^2a^4 = ab^{-1}ab = e$ has order at most 16.

Exercise 1.9.6. The cyclic group of order 6 is the group defined by generators a, b and relations $a^2 = b^3 = a^{-1}b^{-1}ab = e$.

Exercise 1.9.7. Show that the group defined by generators a, b and relations $a^2 = e, b^3 = e$ is infinite and nonabelian.

Exercise 1.9.8. The group defined by generators a, b and relations $a^n = e (3 \leq n \in \mathbf{N}^*)$, $b^2 = e$ and $abab = e$ is the dihedral group D_n .

Exercise 1.9.9. The group defined by the generator b and $b^m = e (m \in \mathbf{N}^*)$ is the cyclic group Z_m .

Exercise 1.9.10. The operation of free product is commutative and associative: for any groups A, B, C , $A * B \cong B * A$ and $A * (B * C) \cong (A * B) * C$.

Exercise 1.9.11. If N is normal subgroup of $A * B$ generated by A , then $(A * B)/N \cong B$.

Exercise 1.9.12. If G and H each have more than one element, then $G * H$ is an infinite group with center $\langle e \rangle$.

Exercise 1.9.13. A free group is a free product of infinite cyclic groups.

Exercise 1.9.14. If G is the group defined by generators a, b and relations $a^2 = e, b^3 = e$, then $G \cong Z_2 * Z_3$.

Exercise 1.9.15. If $f : G_1 \rightarrow G_2$ and $g : H_1 \rightarrow H_2$ are homomorphisms of groups, then there is a unique homomorphism $h : G_1 * H_1 \rightarrow G_2 H_2$ such that $h|_{G_1} = f$ and $h|_{H_1} = g$.

Chapter 2

The structure of groups

Chapter 3

Rings

3.1 Rings and homomorphisms

Exercise 3.1.1. (a) Let G be an (additive) abelian group. Define an operation of multiplication in G by $ab = 0$ (for all $a, b \in G$). Then G is a ring.

(b) Let S be the set of all subsets of some fixed set U . For $A, B \in S$, define $A + B = (A - B) \cup (B - A)$ and $AB = A \cap B$. Then S is a ring. Is S commutative? Does it have an identity?

Exercise 3.1.2. Let $\{R_i | i \in I\}$ be a family of rings with identity. Make the direct sum of abelian groups $\sum_{i \in I} R_i$ into a ring by defining multiplication coordinatewise. Does $\sum_{i \in I} R_i$ have identity?

Exercise 3.1.3. A ring R such that $a^2 = a$ for all $a \in R$ is called **Boolean ring**. Prove that every Boolean ring R is commutative and $a + a = 0$ for all $a \in R$.

Exercise 3.1.4. Let R be a ring and S a nonempty set. Then the group $M(S, R)$ is a ring with multiplication defined as follows: the product of $f, g \in M(S, R)$ is the function $S \rightarrow R$ given by $s \mapsto f(s)g(s)$.

Exercise 3.1.5. If A is the abelian group $\mathbf{Z} \oplus \mathbf{Z}$, then $\text{End}A$ is a noncommutative ring.

Exercise 3.1.6. A finite ring with more than one element and no zero divisors is a division ring.

Exercise 3.1.7. Let R be a ring with more than one element such that for each nonzero $a \in R$ there is a unique $b \in R$ such that $aba = a$. Prove:

- (a) R has no zero divisors.
- (b) $bab = b$.
- (c) R has an identity.
- (d) R is a division ring.

Exercise 3.1.8. Let R be the set of all 2×2 matrices over the complex field \mathbf{C} of the form

$$\begin{pmatrix} z & w \\ -\bar{w} & \bar{z} \end{pmatrix}$$

where \bar{z}, \bar{w} are the complex conjugates of z and w respectively. Then R is a division ring that is isomorphic to the division ring K of real quaternions.

Exercise 3.1.9. (a) The subset $G = \{1, -1, i, -i, j, -j, k, -k\}$ of the division ring K of real quaternions forms a group under multiplication.
 (b) G is isomorphic to the quaternion group.
 (c) What is the difference between the ring K and the group $\mathbf{R}(G)$ (\mathbf{R} the field of real numbers)?

Exercise 3.1.10. Let k, n be integers such that $0 \leq k \leq n$ and $\binom{n}{k}$ the binomial coefficient $n!/(n-k)!k!$, where $0! = 1$ and for $n > 0$, $n! = n(n-1)(n-2) \cdots 2 \cdot 1$.

- (a) $\binom{n}{k} = \binom{n}{n-k}$
- (b) $\binom{n}{k} < \binom{n}{k+1}$ for $k+1 \leq n/2$.
- (c) $\binom{n}{k} + \binom{n}{k+1} = \binom{n+1}{k+1}$ for $k < n$.
- (d) $\binom{n}{k}$ is an integer.
- (e) if p is prime and $1 \leq k \leq p^n - 1$, then $\binom{p^n}{k}$ is divisible by p .

Exercise 3.1.11. Let R be a commutative ring with identity of prime characteristic p . If $a, b \in R$, then $(a \pm b)^{p^n} = a^{p^n} \pm b^{p^n}$ for all integers $n \geq 0$.

Exercise 3.1.12. An element of a ring is **nilpotent** if $a^n = 0$ for some n . Prove that in a commutative ring $a + b$ is nilpotent if a and b are. Show that this result may be false if R is not commutative.

Exercise 3.1.13. In a ring R the following conditions are equivalent.

- (a) R has no nonzero nilpotent elements.
- (b) If $a \in R$ and $a^2 = 0$, then $a = 0$.

Exercise 3.1.14. Let R be a commutative ring with identity and prime characteristic p . The map $R \rightarrow R$ given by $r \mapsto r^p$ is a homomorphism of rings called the Frobenius homomorphism.

Exercise 3.1.15. (a) Give an example of nonzero homomorphism $f : R \rightarrow S$ of rings with the identity such that $f(1_R) \neq 1_S$.
 (b) If $f : R \rightarrow S$ is an epimorphism of rings with identity, then $f(1_R) = 1_S$.
 (c) If $f : R \rightarrow S$ is a homomorphism of rings with identity and u is a unit in R such that $f(u)$ is a unit in S , then $f(1_R) = 1_S$ and $f(u^{-1}) = f(u)^{-1}$.

Exercise 3.1.16. Let $f : R \rightarrow S$ be a homomorphism of rings such that $f(r) \neq 0$ for some nonzero $r \in R$. If R has an identity and S has no zero divisors, then S is a ring with identity $f(1_R)$.

Exercise 3.1.17. (a) If R is a ring, then so is R^{op} is defined as follows. The underlying set of R^{op} is precisely R and addition in R^{op} coincides with addition in R . Multiplication in R^{op} , denoted \circ , is defined by $a \circ b = ba$, where ba is the product in R . R^{op} is called the **opposite ring** of R .

- (b) R has identity if and only if R^{op} does.
- (c) R is a division ring if and only if R^{op} is.
- (d) $(R^{op})^{op} = R$.
- (e) If S is a ring, then $R \cong S$ if and only if $R^{op} \cong S^{op}$.

Exercise 3.1.18. Let \mathbf{Q} be the field of rational numbers and R any ring. If $f, g : \mathbf{Q} \rightarrow R$ are homomorphisms of rings such that $f|_{\mathbf{Z}} = g|_{\mathbf{Z}}$, then $f = g$.