

LSU Algebra Question Bank Solution

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Chapter 1

Group Theory

1.1 Brief Discussion on Group of Units modulo N

We will discuss a bit about the group of units. Let $N = 2^k p_1^{k_1} \cdots p_n^{k_n}$ where p_i s are odd primes. By CRT, we have $(\mathbb{Z}_N)^\times = (\mathbb{Z}_{2^k})^\times \times (\mathbb{Z}_{p_1^{k_1}})^\times \times \cdots \times (\mathbb{Z}_{p_n^{k_n}})^\times$. We have the unit group

$$(\mathbb{Z}_N)^\times = (\mathbb{Z}_{2^k})^\times \times (\mathbb{Z}_{p_1^{k_1}})^\times \times \cdots \times (\mathbb{Z}_{p_n^{k_n}})^\times$$

. For odd prime powers, we have that the unit group is cyclic $(\mathbb{Z}_{p^k})^\times = \mathbb{Z}_{p^k - p^{k-1}}$.

For 2^k we have $(\mathbb{Z}_2)^\times = \mathbb{Z}_1$ the trivial group, $(\mathbb{Z}_4)^\times = \mathbb{Z}_2$ cyclic and $(\mathbb{Z}_{2^k})^\times = \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_{2^{k-2}}$ noncyclic groups for $2^k \geq 8$. So the only time where the unit group is cyclic is $N = 1, 2, 4, p^k, 2p^k$ where p is an odd prime.

1.2 Solution

G1: Let H be a normal subgroup of a group G , and let K be a subgroup of H .

- (a) Give an example of this situation where K is not a normal subgroup of G ,
- (b) Prove that if the normal subgroup H is cyclic, then K is normal in G .

Solution 1.1. (a) Let $G = S_4$, $H = A_4$, and $K = \{e, (123), (132)\}$.

- (b) Let $H = \langle h \rangle$ be cyclic. Let $K = \langle k \rangle$ where $k = h^a$ for some $a \in \mathbb{N}$.
Since H is normal, $ghg^{-1} = h^b \in H$ for some b .
 $gkg^{-1} = gh^a g^{-1} = (ghg^{-1})^a = h^{ba} = h^b \in K$. So, K is normal in G .

□

G2: Prove that every finite group of order at least three has a nontrivial automorphism.

Solution 1.2. We will try this in two cases:

Case 1: The group is not abelian. Let $g \notin Z(G)$. Let ϕ_g be the nontrivial automorphism $h \mapsto ghg^{-1}$.

Case 2: The group is abelian. If there is an element of order not equal to 2, the inverse map is a nontrivial automorphism. If every element is of order 2: $G = (\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})^n$, where $n > 1$. Swap 2 elements. □

G3:

- (a) State the structure theorem for finitely generated Abelian group.
- (b) If p and q are distinct primes, determine the number of nonisomorphic Abelian groups of order $p^3 q^4$.

Solution 1.3. (a) If G is finitely generated Abelian group, G is isomorphic to $\mathbb{Z}^n \times \mathbb{Z}_{a_1} \times \cdots \times \mathbb{Z}_{a_r}$ where $a_i \mid a_{i+1}$, $\mathbb{Z}_a = \mathbb{Z}/a\mathbb{Z}$ cyclic group of order a .

- (b) Let $P(n)$ be the partition function. The number of nonisomorphic Abelian groups of order $p^3 q^4 = P(3)P(4) = 3 \times 5 = 15$.

□

G4: Let $G = \text{GL}(2, \mathbb{F}_p)$ be the group of invertible 2×2 matrices with entries in the finite field \mathbb{F}_p , where p is a prime.

- (a) Show that G has order $(p^2 - 1)(p^2 - p)$.

(b) Show that for $p = 2$ the group G is isomorphic to the symmetric group S_3 .

Solution 1.4. Let $G = \text{GL}(2, \mathbb{F}_p)$.

(a) Choosing an invertible 2×2 matrix is equivalent to choosing two linearly independent vectors (which will be the columns of the matrix) from the space \mathbb{F}_p^2 . We can choose a nonzero vector in $|\mathbb{F}_p^2| - 1 = p^2 - 1$ ways and the second vector can't be a multiple of the first vector (there are p of them). So, we can choose the second vector in $p^2 - p$ ways.

(b) The group is of order 6. We just have to show that it is not abelian. Show for the elements $a = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ and $b = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$. $ab = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$, $ba = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$.

□

G5: Let G be the group of units of the ring $\mathbb{Z}/247\mathbb{Z}$.

(a) Determine the order of G (note that $247 = 13 \cdot 19$).

(b) Determine the structure of G (as in the classification theorem for finitely generated abelian groups). Hint: Use the Chinese Remainder Theorem.

Solution 1.5. See Section 1.1.

So, for $N = 247$ the order of the group is $12 \times 18 = 216$. And the structure of G is $\mathbb{Z}_{12} \times \mathbb{Z}_{18} = \mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_4 \times \mathbb{Z}_9 \times \mathbb{Z}_2 = \mathbb{Z}_6 \times \mathbb{Z}_{36}$.

□

G6: Let G be the group of invertible 2×2 upper triangular matrices with entries in \mathbb{R} . Let $D \subseteq G$ be the subgroup of invertible diagonal matrices and let $U \subseteq G$ be the subgroup of matrices of the form $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & x \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ where $x \in \mathbb{R}$ is arbitrary.

(a) Show that U is a normal subgroup of G and that G/U is isomorphic to D .

(b) True or False (with justification): $G \cong U \times D$

Solution 1.6. Let's look at the structure of U . We have $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & x \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & y \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & x+y \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$. So, U is Abelian.

(a) Let $g = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & d \end{pmatrix} \in G$ and $u = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & x \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \in U$. $gug^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \frac{ax}{d} \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \in U$. So, $U \trianglelefteq G$.

Let $\phi: G \rightarrow D$ be a map $\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & d \end{pmatrix} \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & d \end{pmatrix}$.

$\begin{pmatrix} a_1 & b_1 \\ 0 & d_1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a_2 & b_2 \\ 0 & d_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a_1a_2 & a_1b_2 + b_1d_2 \\ 0 & d_1d_2 \end{pmatrix} \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} a_1a_2 & 0 \\ 0 & d_1d_2 \end{pmatrix}$ is a homomorphism with kernel U and image D .

(b) G is nonabelian but the RHS is Abelian.

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \neq \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

□

G7: Let G be a group and let Z denote the center of G .

(a) Show that Z is a normal subgroup of G .

(b) Show that if G/Z is cyclic, then G must be abelian.

(c) Let D_6 be the dihedral group of order 6. Find the center of D_6 .

Solution 1.7. Let G be a group with center Z .

(a) $gzg^{-1} = zgg^{-1} = z \in Z$.

(b) Let $G/Z = C = \langle a \rangle$.

$$\text{Let } g_1, g_2 \in G. \quad g_i Z = a^{k_i} Z \implies g_i = a^{k_i} z'_i z_i^{-1}. \quad g_1 g_2 = g_2 g_1 = a^{k_1+k_2} z_1 z_2 z'_1 z'_2.$$

(c) $D_6 = \{e, r, r^2, s, sr, sr^2\}$, $rs = sr^2 \neq sr$, $r^2 \cdot rs = s$, $rs \cdot r^2 = ssr sr^2 = sr^4 = sr$. So, $Z = \{e\}$.

□

G8: List all abelian groups of order 8 up to isomorphism. Identify which group on your list is isomorphic to each of the following groups of order 8. Justify your answer.

(a) $(\mathbb{Z}/15\mathbb{Z})^*$ = the group of units of the ring $\mathbb{Z}/15\mathbb{Z}$.

(b) The roots of the equation $z^8 - 1 = 0$ in \mathbb{C} .

(c) \mathbb{F}_8^+ = the additive group of the field \mathbb{F}_8 with eight elements.

Solution 1.8. We use structure theorem for finitely generated Abelian group. G is isomorphic to one of these three groups. $\mathbb{Z}_8, \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_4$ or $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$.

(a) $(\mathbb{Z}/15\mathbb{Z})^\times = (\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z})^\times \times (\mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z})^\times = \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_4$.

(b) $\mu_8 = e^{\frac{2\pi i}{8}}$ has order 8. So, it's isomorphic to $\mathbb{Z}/8\mathbb{Z}$.

(c) The field is of char 2. So, each element has order 2. So, it's isomorphic to $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$.

□

G9: Let S_9 denote the symmetric group on 9 elements.

(a) Find an element of S_9 of order 20.

(b) Show that there is no element of S_9 of order 18.

Solution 1.9. Order of an element is the l.c.m. of the cycle lengths.

(a) $(12345)(6789)$.

(b) We can't partition 9 into parts such that the lcm is 20.

□

G10: $G = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & a^{-1} \end{bmatrix} : a, b \in \mathbb{R}, a > 0 \right\}$ and $N = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & c \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} : c \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$ are groups under matrix multiplication.

(a) Show that N is a normal subgroup of G and that G/N is isomorphic to the multiplicative group of positive real numbers \mathbb{R}^+ .

(b) Find a group N' with $N \subseteq N' \subseteq G$, with both inclusions proper, or prove that no such N' exists.

Solution 1.10. (a) Let $\phi : G \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$ be the homomorphism $\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & a^{-1} \end{pmatrix} \mapsto a$ (like solution 1.6) with kernel N and image \mathbb{R}^+ . So, $G/N \cong \mathbb{R}^+$.

(b) Let $\langle \frac{1}{2} \rangle = \{ \frac{1}{2^k} : k \in \mathbb{Z} \}$ be a subgroup of \mathbb{R}^+ . The corresponding subgroup of G containing N is

$$N' = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2^k} & c \\ 0 & 2^k \end{pmatrix} : k \in \mathbb{Z}, c \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

□

G11.1: Let R be a commutative ring with identity, and let H be a subgroup of the group of units R^* of R . Let $N = \{A \in \text{GL}(n, R) : \det A \in H\}$. Prove that N is a normal subgroup of $\text{GL}(n, R)$ and $\text{GL}(n, R)/N \cong R^*/H$.

G11.2: Let G be a group of order $2p$ where p is an odd prime. If G has a normal subgroup of order 2, show that G is cyclic.

Solution 1.11. 1. Consider the homomorphism

$\phi : \text{GL}(n, R) \rightarrow R^*/H$ by the map $A \mapsto \det(A) \pmod{H}$

(Since R is commutative H is normal in R^*). $\text{Ker}(\phi) = N$ normal with full image (diagonal with a entry r and rest 1). So, we have the isomorphism.

2. If G is abelian. G has element of order p and 2 (Cauchy). Product of them has order $\text{lcm}(2, p) = 2p$. So, it generates G .

Let $N = \{e, n\}$ where $n^2 = e$. $gng^{-1} = n(gng^{-1} = e \implies n = e)$ i.e. $n \in Z(G)$. So, $G/Z(G)$ is either \mathbb{Z}_p or \mathbb{Z}_1 cyclic. So, G is Abelian.

□

G12: Prove that every finitely generated subgroup of the additive group of rational numbers is cyclic.

Solution 1.12. Let $G = \langle \frac{a}{b}, \frac{c}{d} \rangle$. Claim : $G = \langle \frac{\gcd(ad, bc)}{bd} \rangle$. $\frac{a}{b} = \frac{ad}{\gcd(ad, bc)} \frac{\gcd(ad, bc)}{bd}$ and $\frac{c}{d} = \frac{bc}{\gcd(ad, bc)} \frac{\gcd(ad, bc)}{bd}$. On the other hand, by Bezout's identity $u\frac{a}{b} + v\frac{c}{d} = \frac{\gcd(ad, bc)}{bd}$. Now, use induction. □

G13: Prove that any finite group of order n is isomorphic to a subgroup of the orthogonal group $O(n, \mathbb{R})$.

Solution 1.13. (from stackexchange)
 S_n acts on \mathbb{R}^n by the equation

$$\sigma \cdot e_i = e_{\sigma(i)},$$

where $\{e_i | i = 1, 2, \dots, n\}$ is the standard basis of \mathbb{R}^n and $\sigma \in S_n$. Therefore we have a group morphism

$$\varphi : S_n \rightarrow GL_n(\mathbb{R})$$

defined by $\varphi(\sigma)(e_i) = e_{\sigma(i)}$. It is easy to check that φ is one-one. Note that $\varphi(S_n) \subset O(n)$, for $\langle \varphi(\sigma)(e_i), \varphi(\sigma)(e_j) \rangle = \langle e_i, e_j \rangle$.
 Now any finite group is a subgroup of S_n . □

G14: Prove that the group $GL(2, \mathbb{R})$ has cyclic subgroups of all orders $n \in \mathbb{N}$. (Hint: The set of matrices $\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ -b & a \end{bmatrix}$ where a and b are arbitrary real numbers, is a subring of the ring of 2×2 matrices which is isomorphic to \mathbb{C} .)

Solution 1.14. Use the hint. We have a cyclic subgroup of order n generated by the n -th root of unity μ_n in \mathbb{C} . Take it's image in $GL(2, \mathbb{R})$. □

G15: Let H_1 be the subgroup of \mathbb{Z}^2 generated by $\{(1, 3), (1, 7)\}$ and let H_2 be the subgroup of \mathbb{Z}^2 generated by $\{(2, 4), (2, 6)\}$. Are the quotient groups $G_1 = \mathbb{Z}^2/H_1$ and $G_2 = \mathbb{Z}^2/H_2$ isomorphic?

Solution 1.15. $H_1 = \langle (1, 3), (1, 7) \rangle = \langle (1, 3), (0, 4) \rangle = \langle (1, -1), (0, 4) \rangle$. $\mathbb{Z}^2/H_1 = \mathbb{Z}_4$ with the generator $(0, 1) + H_1$ of order 4 (easy to show order divides 4, but order isn't 2).
 $H_2 = \langle (2, 0), (0, 2) \rangle$. $\mathbb{Z}^2/H_2 = \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$. Not isomorphic by comparing the order. □

G16: Let H and N be subgroups of a group G with N normal. Prove that $HN = NH$ and that this set is a subgroup of G .

Solution 1.16. The first proof is trivial by definition of normal subgroup: $hN = Nh$.
 $n_1 h_1 n_2 h_2 = n_1 n'_2 h'_1 h_2 = n_3 h_3 \in NH$.
 $(nh)^{-1} = h^{-1} n^{-1} \in HN = NH$. □

G17: Let $G = \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/30\mathbb{Z}$ and let $H = \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/20\mathbb{Z}$. Express the abelian group $\text{Hom}(G, H)$ of homomorphisms from G to H as a direct sum of cyclic groups.

Solution 1.17. We use the fact

$$\text{Hom}(\mathbb{Z}_n, \mathbb{Z}_m) = \{\text{element of } \mathbb{Z}_m \text{ with order dividing } n\} = \mathbb{Z}_{(\gcd(n, m))}$$

$$\text{Hom}(G, H) = \text{Hom}(\mathbb{Z}_2, H) \oplus \text{Hom}(\mathbb{Z}_6, H) \oplus \text{Hom}(\mathbb{Z}_{30}, H) = \mathbb{Z}_2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_{10}.$$

□

G18: Let G be an abelian group generated by x, y, z subject to the relations

$$\begin{aligned} 15x + 3y &= 0 \\ 3x + 7y + 4z &= 0 \\ 18x + 14y + 8z &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

(a) Write G as a product of two cyclic groups.

(b) Write G as a direct product of cyclic groups of prime power order.

(c) How many elements of G have order 2?

Solution 1.18. We need to calculate the Smith Normal form of the matrix (row/column swap, $R_i \rightarrow R_i + kR_j$, $C_i \rightarrow C_i + kC_j$, multiply by -1) $\begin{pmatrix} 15 & 3 & 0 \\ 3 & 7 & 4 \\ 18 & 14 & 8 \end{pmatrix}$.

$$\begin{pmatrix} 15 & 3 & 0 \\ 3 & 7 & 4 \\ 12 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 3 & 0 \\ 3 & 7 & 4 \\ 12 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 4 & 4 \\ 12 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 4 & 4 \\ 12 & -12 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 4 & 4 \\ 0 & -12 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 4 & 4 \\ 0 & 4 & 4 \\ 0 & -12 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 4 & 4 \\ 0 & -12 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 4 & 4 & 0 \\ 0 & -12 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 4 & 0 & -12 \\ 0 & -12 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -12 \\ 0 & -12 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 12 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 12 \end{pmatrix}$$

(a) So, $G = \mathbb{Z}_{12} \oplus \mathbb{Z}_{12}$.

(b) $G = \mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_4 \times \mathbb{Z}_4$

(c) 3 order 2 element: $(6, 0), (0, 6), (6, 6) \in C_{12} \times C_{12}$

□

G19: Let \mathbb{F} be a field and let

$$H(\mathbb{F}) = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & a & b \\ 0 & 1 & c \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} : a, b, c \in \mathbb{F} \right\}$$

(a) Verify that $H(\mathbb{F})$ is a nonabelian subgroup of $\text{GL}(3, \mathbb{F})$.

(b) If $|\mathbb{F}| = q$, what is $|H(\mathbb{F})|$?

(c) Find the order of all elements of $H(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$.

(d) Verify that $H(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}) \cong D_8$, the dihedral group of order 8 .

Solution 1.19. (a) $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & a_1 & b_1 \\ 0 & 1 & c_1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & a_2 & b_2 \\ 0 & 1 & c_2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & a_1 + a_2 & b_1 + b_2 + a_1c_2 \\ 0 & 1 & c_1 + c_2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$.

Inverse of $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & a_1 & b_1 \\ 0 & 1 & c_1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ is $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & -a_1 & a_1c_1 - b_1 \\ 0 & 1 & -c_1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$. Non Abelian for the (1,3)th entry.

(b) We have q choices for each of a, b and c . So q^3 .

(c,d) $e = I_3, r = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, s = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$.

□

G20: Let R be an integral domain and let G be a finite subgroup of R^* , the group of units of R . Prove that G is cyclic.

Solution 1.20. Note that this result is true for Fields. Any subgroup of units of integral domain is a subgroup of its quotient field's units. Thus the result follows. In general it follows from the roots of the polynomial $x^n - 1$ in Field or integral domain (at most n many roots). □

G21: Let α and β be conjugate elements of the symmetric group S_n . Suppose that α fixes at least two symbols. Prove that α and β are conjugate via an element γ of the alternating group A_n .

Solution 1.21. α, β has same cycle types. Let α fix i, j . And τ be the conjugating element such that $\tau\alpha\tau^{-1} = \beta$. Then $\tau(i), \tau(j)$ is fixed by β . Let us assume, τ is not in A_n . Then $\tau(i, j) \in A_n$ and gives the same conjugation. □

G22: Are (13)(25) and (12)(45) conjugate in S_5 ? If you say "yes", find an element giving the conjugation; if you say "no", prove your answer.

Solution 1.22. They have the same cycle type. So, they are conjugate by the element (32)(24). □

G23:

(a) Suppose that G is a group and $a, b \in G$ are elements such that the order of a is m and the order of b is n . If $ab = ba$ and if m and n are relatively prime, show that the order of ab is mn .

(b) Prove that an abelian group of order pq , where p and q are distinct primes, must be cyclic.

(c) If m and n are relatively prime, must a group of order mn be cyclic? Justify your answer.

Solution 1.23. (a) $(ab)^{mn} = a^{mn}b^{mn} = e$. So, $o(ab) \mid mn$.

$$e = (ab)^{o(a,b)n} = a^{o(a,b)n}b^{o(a,b)n} = a^{o(a,b)n} \implies m \mid o(a,b)n \implies m \mid o(a,b).$$

$$\text{Similarly, } n \mid (o(a,b)) \implies mn = o(a,b).$$

(b) By the previous proof, if a is of order p and b is of order q (by Cauchy), ab is of order pq and it generates the group.

(c) No. Example S_3 . □

G24: Let $\varphi : G \rightarrow H$ be a surjective group homomorphism and let N be a normal subgroup of G . Show that $\varphi(N)$ is a normal subgroup of H . What happens if φ is not surjective? Explain your answer.

Solution 1.24. Let $h \in H, n' \in \varphi(N)$.

Surjective implies $h = \varphi(g), n' = \varphi(n) \implies hn'h^{-1} = \varphi(gng^{-1}) = \varphi(n_1) \in \varphi(N)$ where $n_1 \in N$.

Let $\phi : \mathbb{Z}_2 \rightarrow S_3$ where $a \mapsto (12)$. $\phi(\mathbb{Z}_2) = \{e, (12)\}$ is not normal in S_3 . □

G25: Let $Q = \{1, -1, i, -i, j, -j, k, -k\}$ be the quaternion group and $N = \{1, -1, i, -i\}$. Show that N is a normal subgroup of Q . Describe the quotient group Q/N .

Solution 1.25. N is of index 2 implies normal (We can show explicitly too). Q/N is of order 2 i.e. is isomorphic to \mathbb{Z}_2 . □

G26: Let G be a finite abelian group of odd order. If $\varphi : G \rightarrow G$ is defined by $\varphi(a) = a^2$ for all $a \in G$, show that φ is an isomorphism. Generalize this result.

Solution 1.26. $\varphi(ab) = abab = aabb = \varphi(a)\varphi(b)$ proves homomorphism.

$\varphi(x) = x^2 = e \implies o(x) \mid 2$ and $o(x) \mid o(G) \implies o(x) \mid \gcd(2, o(G)) = 1 \implies x = e$ proves isomorphism.

We can generalize this result to the power m and order of group n where $(m, n) = 1$. □

G27: Prove that the direct product of two infinite cyclic groups is not cyclic.

Solution 1.27. Let $G = \langle a \rangle, H = \langle b \rangle$ be two infinite cyclic group. Assume (a^m, b^n) generated $G \times H$. $(a^m, b^n)^{k_1} = (a, e), (a^m, b^n)^{k_2} = (e, b)$ implies $m, n = \pm 1$ but that gives rise to a contradiction. □

G28: Prove that if a group has exactly one element of order two, then that element is in the center of the group.

Solution 1.28. Let $x \in G$ be the only element of order 2. Let $a \in G$ be arbitrary, $axa^{-1} = g$. $g^2 = ax^2a^{-1} = e$ i.e. $g = e$ or $g = x$. The first case gives a contradiction, the second gives $x \in Z(G)$. □

G29: Prove that a group of order 30 can have at most 7 subgroups of order 5.

Solution 1.29. Let H_1, H_2 be two different subgroup of order 5. $H_1 \cap H_2 = \{e\}$ since nontrivial intersection implies equal subgroups, so, their nonidentity elements must be different. i.e. $1+4 \cdot k$ must be less than or equal to 30, where k is the no. of different subgroup. This implies $k \leq 7$. (Syllow implies $n_5 = 1, 6$) □

G30: Let $H = \{1, -1, i, -i\}$ be the subgroup of the multiplicative group $G = \mathbb{C}^* = \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$ consisting of the fourth roots of unity. Describe the cosets of H in G , and show that the quotient G/H is isomorphic to G .

Solution 1.30. □

G31:

(a) Show that the set of all elements of finite order in an abelian group form a subgroup.

(b) Let $G = \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z}$. Show that the set of elements of G of finite order is the subgroup \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z} .

Solution 1.31. G is Abelian.

(a) Let $H \leq G$ be the set containing finite order elements. Let $h_1, h^2 \in H$. $(h_1h_2)^{o(h_1)o(h_2)} = h_1^{o(h_1)o(h_2)}h_2^{o(h_1)o(h_2)} = e$ i.e. $h_1h_2 \in H$. Inverse has the same order.

(b) Let $H \leq G$ be the desired subgroup. $\frac{p}{q} + \mathbb{Z}$ has order q . i.e. $\mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z} \subseteq H$.

Let $r + \mathbb{Z}$ be of finite order implies $nr + \mathbb{Z} = \mathbb{Z}$ implies $nr \in \mathbb{Z}$ implies $nr = p \in \mathbb{Z}$ implies $r = \frac{p}{n} \in \mathbb{Q}$.

□

G32: Determine all the finite groups which have exactly 3 conjugacy classes.

Solution 1.32. Let n, m be the number of elements in the other 2 conjugacy classes. So, $|G| = 1 + n + m$ with $n \mid o(G)$ and $m \mid o(G)$ implies $n \mid 1 + m$, $m \mid 1 + n$. Ultimately, we get 2 cases: $(n, m) = (1, 1)$ and $(2, 3)$. i.e. \mathbb{Z}_3 and S_3 . □

G33:

(a) Find a Sylow 2-subgroup of S_4 and identify its isomorphism type.

(b) How many Sylow 2-subgroups of S_4 are there? Please justify your answer.

Solution 1.33. □

G34.

(a) Determine the number of Sylow p -subgroups of S_5 for each prime factor p of $|S_5|$. Please prove your assertion.

(b) Identify the isomorphism type of each Sylow p -subgroup of S_5 . Please prove your assertion.

Solution 1.34. □

G35: Let $p < q$ be prime numbers such that $p \mid (q - 1)$. Show there exists a unique nonabelian group of order pq up to isomorphism.

Solution 1.35. □

G36:

(a) Define what it means for a group G to act on a set A .

(b) The group $\text{GL}_2(\mathbb{C})$ acts by left-multiplication on the set of matrices $M_{2,5}(\mathbb{C})$. Describe the orbits. How many are there?

Solution 1.36. □

Problems Left: 30, 33, 34, 35, 36

Chapter 2

Ring Theory

2.1 Brief Discussion on Bezout Domain, PID, UFD, gcd, lcm

The concept of gcd and lcm can be generalized to UFDs. We use the definition $\gcd(a, b) = d$ iff d divides a, b and $x \mid a, x \mid b \implies x \mid d$. Similarly, a, b divides the lcm and $a \mid x, b \mid x$ implies $\text{lcm}(a, b) \mid x$. We can show that $ab = \gcd(a, b)\text{lcm}(a, b)$.

Theorem 2.1.1. $ab = \gcd(a, b)\text{lcm}(a, b)$ in UFD.

Proof. Let $\gcd(a, b) = d$. $a = da', b = db'$. We have some results from the definition of gcd. $\gcd(a', b') = 1$ since $u \mid a', b' \implies a' = ux_1, b' = ux_2 \implies a = dux_1, b = dux_2 \implies du \mid a, b \implies du \mid d \implies u$ is unit. So, enough to prove $\text{lcm}(a, b) = da'b'$. Since both a, b divides $da'b'$ and $a, b \mid x \implies x = da'k_1 = db'k_2$ By uniqueness of factors $a'k_1 = b'k_2$. $\gcd(a', b') = 1 \implies b' \mid k_1$ by irreducible factor decomposition argument. So, $x = da'b'k$ i.e. $da'b'$ divides x . So, $ab = d^2a'b' = \gcd \cdot \text{lcm}$ \square

Definition 1. A integral domain is called Bezout domain if sum of any two principal ideals is principal. i.e. $(a, b) = (d)$ for any $a, b \in R$. The Bezout's identity holds for this case: $d = ua + vb$ for some $u, v \in R$. In general any finitely generated ideal is principal.

A Bezout domain need not be Noetherian or UFD. For example ring of Algebraic integers is not UFD (any element is not irreducible since its square root is also algebraic integer). Any PID is by definition Bezout domain. If R is a Bezout domain then TFAE:

- R is PID
- R is Noetherian
- R is UFD

So, a Bezout UFD is a PID. Example of non-Bezout UFD is $\mathbb{Z}[x]$. Consider $(2, x)$.

Now we will discuss a little bit about properties that hold in a PID (not necessarily in UFD):

Theorem 2.1.2. R is a PID. $(a) + (b) = (a, b) = (\gcd(a, b))$ and $(a) \cap (b) = (\text{lcm}(a, b))$.

Proof. One side inclusion is true for general UFDs.

Since $\gcd(a, b) \mid a, b, a, b \in (\gcd(a, b)) \implies (a, b) \subseteq (\gcd(a, b))$.

On the other hand, let $(a, b) = (d)$ by definition of PID. $a, b \in (d) \implies d \mid a, d \mid b$. So, by definition of gcd, $d \mid \gcd(a, b) \implies (\gcd(a, b)) \subseteq (d)$. This side is not true for UFD in general. Take $\gcd(2, x) = 1$ in $\mathbb{Z}[x]$.

This also gives rise to the famous Bezout's identity $\gcd(a, b) = ax + by$ for some $x, y \in R$.

$a, b \mid \text{lcm}(a, b) \implies \text{lcm}(a, b) \in (a), (b)$. And $(a) \cap (b) = (m) \implies a, b \mid m \implies \text{lcm}(a, b) \mid m \implies (m) \subseteq (\text{lcm}(a, b))$. The second step uses the property of PID. \square

2.2 Solution

R1: Let $R = \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-3}] = \{a + b\sqrt{-3} : a, b \in \mathbb{Z}\}$.

(a) Why is R an integral domain?

(b) What are the units in R ?

(c) Is the element 2 irreducible in R ?

(d) If $x, y \in R$, and 2 divides xy , does it follow that 2 divides either x or y ? Justify your answer.

Solution 2.1. Let $R = \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-3}]$

(a) Let $(a + b\sqrt{-3})(c + d\sqrt{-3}) = 0 \implies ac - 3bd + \sqrt{-3}(ad + bc) = 0 \implies \frac{a}{d} = \frac{3b}{c} = 3k$
This implies $3kd^2 + kc^2 = 0 \implies k = 0$ or $c = d = 0$. $k = 0 \implies a = b = 0$, So, one of the factor is 0.

(b) Let $(a + b\sqrt{-3})(c + d\sqrt{-3}) = 1 \implies (a - b\sqrt{-3})(c - d\sqrt{-3}) = 1 \implies (a^2 + 3b^2)(c^2 + 3d^2) = 1 \implies b = d = 0, a = c = \pm 1$. So, the only units are ± 1 .

(c) $\alpha\beta = 2 \implies \bar{\alpha}\bar{\beta} = 2 \implies 4 = |\alpha|^2 |\beta|^2$. This gives us that one of them is a unit.

(d) $(1 + \sqrt{-3})(1 - \sqrt{-3}) = 4$. But 2 doesn't divide the elements individually.

R2:

(a) Give an example of an integral domain with exactly 9 elements.

(b) Is there an integral domain with exactly 10 elements? Justify your answer.

Solution 2.2. Finite integral domains are fields. Finite fields are of prime powers.

(a) $\mathbb{F}_9 = \mathbb{F}_3[x]/(x^2 + 1)$.

(b) Not possible.

R3.1: Let

$$F = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ 2b & a \end{bmatrix} : a, b \in \mathbb{Q} \right\}.$$

(a) Prove that F is a field under the usual matrix operations of addition and multiplication.

(b) Prove that F is isomorphic to the field $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$.

R3.2: Let \mathbb{F} be a field and let $R = \mathbb{F}[X, Y]$ be the ring of polynomials in X and Y with coefficients from \mathbb{F} .

(a) Show that $M = \langle X + 1, Y - 2 \rangle$ is a maximal ideal of R .

(b) Show that $P = \langle X + Y + 1 \rangle$ is a prime ideal of R .

(c) Is P a maximal ideal of R ? Justify your answer.

Solution 2.3. We only need to verify multiplication and inverse.

1.a

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_1 & b_1 \\ 2b_1 & a_1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a_2 & b_2 \\ 2b_2 & a_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a_1a_2 + 2b_1b_2 & a_1b_2 + b_1a_2 \\ 2a_1b_2 + 2b_1a_2 & 2b_1b_2 + a_1a_2 \end{pmatrix} \in F$$

$$\text{Let } \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ 2b & a \end{pmatrix} \neq \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \implies a^2 - 2b^2 \neq 0.$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ 2b & a \end{pmatrix}^{-1} = \frac{1}{a^2 - 2b^2} \begin{pmatrix} a & -b \\ -2b & a \end{pmatrix} \in F$$

1.b

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ 2b & a \end{pmatrix} \mapsto a + b\sqrt{2}$$

Check the multiplication.

- 2.a Let $\varphi : R \rightarrow \mathbb{F}$ given by $\varphi(x) = -1, \varphi(y) = 2$. We show that kernel is M and image is full (clearly), FIT implies that $R/M \cong \mathbb{F} \implies M$ is maximal.
 $\langle x+1, y-2 \rangle \subseteq \ker(\varphi)$. Let $\varphi(f(x, y)) = 0$. $f(x, y) = h(y) + (x-1)g(x, y)$.
 $f(-1, 2) = 0 \implies h(2) = 0 \implies (y-2) \mid h(y)$. This proves that the kernel is $\langle x+1, y-2 \rangle$.

Alternatively:

$$\frac{\mathbb{F}[x, y]}{(x+1, y-2)} \cong \frac{\mathbb{F}[x][y]/(y-2)}{(x+1, y-2)/(y-2)} \cong \frac{\mathbb{F}[x]}{(x-1)} \cong \mathbb{F}$$

- 2.b $R/P \cong \mathbb{F}[x]$ integral domain implies P is prime.

$(\phi : R \rightarrow \mathbb{F}[x] \text{ with } x \mapsto x, y \mapsto -(x+1). \phi(f(x, y)) = 0 \implies F(y) \text{ as a polynomial of } y \text{ has a root at } (-x-1) \implies (y+x+1) \mid f, \text{ this shows the kernel is equal to } P).$

- 2.c From the previous solution we can already see R/P is not a field. Alternatively, $P \subsetneq (x+1, y)$.

R4: Let R be an integral domain containing a field k as a subring. Suppose that R is a finite-dimensional vector space over k , with scalar multiplication being the multiplication in R . Prove that R is a field. □

Solution 2.4. Let the dimension of R over k be n . Let $r \in R$ be a nonzero vector. $1, r, \dots, r^n$ are linearly dependent.

$$a_0 + \dots + a_n r^n = 0$$

with some a_i nonzero. We see that $a_0 = 0 \implies r(\dots) = 0 \implies a_i = 0$ for all i .

So, $a_0 \neq 0 \implies 1 = r(a_0^{-1})(\dots) \implies r$ is a unit.

Alternative Proof: Let $\phi : R \rightarrow R$ be given by multiplication by r . Easy to show that it is a k -linear map of vector spaces, i.e. $\ker(\phi) = 0$ implies injective implies surjective (rank nullity theorem) for finite dimensional case. This implies there is a preimage of 1. So, $rx = 1$ for some $x \in R$. □

R5: Let R be a commutative ring with identity and let I and J be ideals of R .

(a) Define

$$(I : J) = \{r \in R : rx \in I \text{ for all } x \in J\}$$

Show that $(I : J)$ is an ideal of R containing I .

(b) Show that if P is a prime ideal of R and $x \notin P$, then $(P : \langle x \rangle) = P$, where $\langle x \rangle$ denotes the principal ideal generated by x .

(c) Define what is meant by the sum $I + J$ and the product IJ of the ideals I and J .

(d) If I and J are distinct maximal ideals, show that $I + J = R$ and $I \cap J = IJ$.

R5. R comm. with identity. $I, J \trianglelefteq R$.

$$(I : J) = \{r \in R : rx \in I \forall x \in J\}$$

$$(a) \quad a, b \in (I : J) \Rightarrow ax, bx \in I \forall x \in J$$

$$\Rightarrow (a+b)x \in I \forall x \in J \Rightarrow (a+b) \in (I : J)$$

$$r \in R, \quad ax \in I \forall x \in J \Rightarrow ra \cdot x \in I \forall x \in J \Rightarrow ra \in (I : J)$$

$$i \in I \Rightarrow ix \in I \forall x \in J \Rightarrow i \in (I : J) \Rightarrow I \trianglelefteq (I : J)$$

(b) P is prime, $x \notin P$. To prove $(P : \langle x \rangle) = P$

$$P \subseteq (P : \langle x \rangle) \checkmark$$

$$\text{Let } y \in (P : \langle x \rangle) \Rightarrow yr \in P \forall r \in \langle x \rangle$$

$$\Rightarrow yx \in P \text{ but } x \notin P \Rightarrow y \in P \Rightarrow (P : \langle x \rangle) \subseteq P$$

@ $I + J = \{a+b : a \in I, b \in J\}$ (b) $I \neq J$ maximal.

$$IJ = \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n a_i b_i : a_i \in I, b_i \in J \right\} \Rightarrow I \subseteq I+J \subseteq R \Rightarrow I+J = R$$

To Prove! $I \cap J = IJ$

$$\bullet IJ \subseteq I \cap J \text{ always.}$$

$$\bullet I \cap J = (I \cap J)(I + J) = (I \cap J)I + (I \cap J)J \subseteq IJ + IJ \subseteq IJ$$

Alternatively: let $x \in I \cap J$, $1 = a + b$ where $a \in I, b \in J$.

$$x = xa + xb, \quad xa \in IJ, \quad xb \in IJ \Rightarrow x \in IJ$$

Solution 2.5.

R6: Let \mathbb{F}_2 be the field with 2 elements. □

(a) Show that $f(X) = X^3 + X^2 + 1$ and $g(X) = X^3 + X + 1$ are the only irreducible polynomials of degree 3 in $\mathbb{F}_2[X]$.

(b) Give an explicit field isomorphism

$$\mathbb{F}_2[X]/\langle f(X) \rangle \cong \mathbb{F}_2[X]/\langle g(X) \rangle$$

R6: $\mathbb{F}_2[x]$.

@ Irreducible poly of deg 3. Let $p(x)$ be a poly of deg 3. only factorization is at deg 1 + deg 2
 $\Rightarrow p(x)$ is reducible $\Leftrightarrow \exists$ root in \mathbb{F}_2 of $f(x)$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} f(x) = x^3 + x^2 + 1 \quad f(0) = 1 \quad f(1) = 1 \\ g(x) = x^3 + x + 1 \quad g(0) = 1 \quad g(1) = 1 \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow f, g \text{ are irreducible.}$$

Let $x^3 + ax^2 + bx + c = p(x)$, $p(x)$ in $\Rightarrow p(0), p(1) \neq 0$ i.e. $p(0) = p(1) = 1$

$$p(0) \neq 0 \Rightarrow c = 1 \quad p(1) = 1 \Rightarrow a + b = 1 \Rightarrow \text{either } a=1, b=0 \rightarrow f(x) \\ \text{or } a=0, b=1 \rightarrow g(x)$$

$$(b) \quad \frac{\mathbb{F}_2[x]}{\langle f(x) \rangle} \longrightarrow \frac{\mathbb{F}_2[x]}{\langle g(x) \rangle}$$

Enough to form a ring isomorphism $\mathbb{F}_2[x] \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_2[x]$

$$s.t. \quad f(x) \mapsto g(x)$$

$$\text{then: } \mathbb{F}_2[x] \xrightarrow{\quad} \mathbb{F}_2[x] \xrightarrow{\quad} \frac{\mathbb{F}_2[x]}{\langle g(x) \rangle} \quad \text{has kernel } \langle f(x) \rangle$$

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} f(x) & \mapsto & g(x) & \mapsto & 0 \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \text{Factors through } & \mathbb{F}_2[x] & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \mathbb{F}_2[x] & \\ & \downarrow & & \downarrow & \\ & \frac{\mathbb{F}_2[x]}{\langle f(x) \rangle} & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \frac{\mathbb{F}_2[x]}{\langle g(x) \rangle} & \end{array}$$

$$f(x) = x^3 + x^2 + 1$$

$$\begin{aligned} f(x+1) &= (x+1)^3 + (x+1)^2 + 1 \\ &= x^3 + 1 + x(x+1) + x^2 + 1 + 1 \\ &= x^3 + x + 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{So the morphism is } x + \langle f(x) \rangle \mapsto x+1 + \langle f(x) \rangle$$

Solution 2.6.

Find the solution for the rest of the problems on:

□

