

by each of the four elements of order 2 not in  $A$ :  $\langle s \rangle$ ,  $\langle r^2s \rangle$ ,  $\langle rs \rangle$  and  $\langle r^3s \rangle$ . The former pair and the latter pair are conjugate in  $D_8$  (in both cases via  $r$ ), but  $\langle s \rangle$  is not conjugate to  $\langle rs \rangle$ . Thus  $A$  has 2 conjugacy classes of complements in  $A \rtimes G$  and hence  $H^1(Z_2, \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z})$  has order 2. This also follows from the computation of the cohomology of cyclic groups in Section 2.

## EXERCISES

1. Let  $G$  be the cyclic group of order 2 and let  $A$  be a  $G$ -module. Compute the isomorphism types of  $Z^1(G, A)$ ,  $B^1(G, A)$  and  $H^1(G, A)$  for each of the following:
  - (a)  $A = \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}$  (trivial action),
  - (b)  $A = \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$  (trivial action),
  - (c)  $A = \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$  (any nontrivial action).
2. Let  $p$  be a prime and let  $P$  be a  $p$ -group.
  - (a) Show that  $H^1(P, \mathbb{F}_p) \cong P/\Phi(P)$ , where  $\Phi(P)$  is the Frattini subgroup of  $P$  (cf. the exercises in Section 6.1).
  - (b) Deduce that the dimension of  $H^1(P, \mathbb{F}_p)$  as a vector space over  $\mathbb{F}_p$  equals the minimum number of generators of  $P$ . [Use Exercise 26(c), Section 6.1.]
3. If  $G$  is the cyclic group of order 2 acting by inversion on  $\mathbb{Z}$  show that  $|H^1(G, \mathbb{Z})| = 2$ . [Show that in  $E = \mathbb{Z} \rtimes G$  every element of  $E - \mathbb{Z}$  has order 2, and there are two conjugacy classes in this coset.]
4. Let  $A$  be the Klein 4-group and let  $G = \text{Aut}(A) \cong S_3$  act on  $A$  in the natural fashion. Prove that  $H^1(G, A) = 0$ . [Show that in the semidirect product  $E = A \rtimes G$ ,  $G$  is the normalizer of a Sylow 3-subgroup of  $E$ . Apply Sylow's Theorem to show all complements to  $A$  in  $E$  are conjugate.]
5. Let  $G$  be the cyclic group of order 2 acting on an elementary abelian 2-group  $A$  of order  $2^n$ . Show that  $H^1(G, A) = 0$  if and only if  $n = 2k$  and  $|A^G| = 2^k$ . [In  $E = A \rtimes G$  show that  $(a, x)$  is an element of order 2 if and only if  $a \in A^G$ , where  $G = \langle x \rangle$ . Then compare the number of complements to  $A$  with the number of  $E$ -conjugates of  $x$ .]
6. (*Thompson Transfer Lemma*) Let  $G$  be a finite group of even order, let  $T$  be a Sylow 2-subgroup of  $G$ , let  $M \leq T$  with  $|T : M| = 2$ , and let  $x$  be an element of order 2 in  $G$ . Show that if  $G$  has no subgroup of index 2 then  $M$  contains some  $G$ -conjugate of  $x$  as follows:
  - (a) Let  $\text{Ver} : G/[G, G] \rightarrow T/[T, T]$  be the transfer homomorphism. Show that
$$\text{Ver}(x) = \prod_g g^{-1}xg \text{ mod } [T, T]$$

where the product is over representatives of the cosets  $gT$  that are fixed under left multiplication by  $x$ .

  - (b) Show that under left multiplication  $x$  fixes an odd number of left cosets of  $T$  in  $G$ .
  - (c) Show that if  $G$  has no subgroup of index 2 then  $\text{Ver}(x) \in M/[T, T]$ . Deduce that for some  $g \in G$  we must have  $g^{-1}xg \in M$ . [Consider the product  $\text{Ver}(x)$  in the group  $T/M$  of order 2.]
7. Let  $H$  be a subgroup of  $G$  and let  $x \in G$ . The transfer  $\text{Ver} : G/[G, G] \rightarrow H/[H, H]$  may be computed as follows: let  $\mathcal{O}_1, \mathcal{O}_2, \dots, \mathcal{O}_k$  be the distinct orbits of  $x$  acting by left multiplication on the left cosets of  $H$  in  $G$ , let  $\mathcal{O}_i$  have length  $n_i$  and let  $g_i H$  be any representative of  $\mathcal{O}_i$ .

- (a) Show that  $\mathcal{O}_i = \{g_i H, x g_i H, x^2 g_i H, \dots, x^{n_i-1} g_i H\}$  and that  $g_i^{-1} x^{n_i} g_i \in H$ .  
 (b) Show that  $\text{Ver}(x) = \prod_{i=1}^k g_i^{-1} x^{n_i} g_i \bmod [H, H]$ .
8. Assume the center,  $Z(G)$ , of  $G$  is of index  $m$ . Prove that  $\text{Ver}(x) = x^m$ , for all  $x \in G$ , where  $\text{Ver}$  is the transfer homomorphism from  $G/[G, G]$  to  $Z(G)$ . [Use the preceding exercise.]
9. Let  $p$  be a prime, let  $n \geq 3$ , and let  $V$  be an  $n$ -dimensional vector space over  $\mathbb{F}_p$  with basis  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n$ . Let  $V$  be a module for the symmetric group  $S_n$ , where each  $\pi \in S_n$  permutes the basis in the natural way:  $\pi(v_i) = v_{\pi(i)}$ .
- (a) Show that  $|H^1(S_n, V)| = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } p \neq 2 \\ 2, & \text{if } p = 2 \end{cases}$ . [Use Shapiro's Lemma.]  
 (b) Show that  $H^1(A_n, V) = 0$  for all primes  $p$ .
10. Let  $V$  be the natural permutation module for  $S_n$  over  $\mathbb{F}_2$ ,  $n \geq 3$ , as described in the preceding exercise, and let  $W = \{a_1 v_1 + \dots + a_n v_n \mid a_1 + \dots + a_n = 0\}$  (the “trace zero” submodule of  $V$ ). Show that if  $n$  is even then  $H^1(A_n, W) \neq 0$ . [Show that in the semidirect product  $V \rtimes A_n$  the element  $v_1$  induces a nontrivial outer automorphism on  $E = W \rtimes A_n$  that stabilizes the series  $1 \trianglelefteq W \trianglelefteq E$ .]
11. Let  $F$  be a field of characteristic not dividing  $n$  and let  $\alpha$  be any nonzero element in  $F$ . Let  $K$  be a Galois extension of  $F$  containing the splitting field of  $x^n - a$ , and let  $\sqrt[n]{\alpha}$  be a fixed  $n^{\text{th}}$  root of  $\alpha$  in  $K$ .
- (a) Prove that  $\sigma(\sqrt[n]{\alpha})/\sqrt[n]{\alpha}$  is an  $n^{\text{th}}$  root of unity.  
 (b) Prove that the function  $f(\sigma) = \sigma(\sqrt[n]{\alpha})/\sqrt[n]{\alpha}$  is a 1-cocycle of  $G$  with values in the group  $\mu_n$  of  $n^{\text{th}}$  roots of unity in  $K$  (note  $\mu_n$  is not assumed to be contained in  $F$ ).  
 (c) Prove that the 1-cocycle obtained by a different choice of  $n^{\text{th}}$  root of  $\alpha$  in  $K$  differs from the 1-cocycle in (b) by a 1-coboundary.
12. Let  $F$  be a field of characteristic not dividing  $n$  that contains the  $n^{\text{th}}$  roots of unity, and suppose  $L/F$  is a Galois extension with abelian Galois group of exponent dividing  $n$ . Prove that  $L$  is the composite of cyclic extensions of  $F$  whose degrees are divisors of  $n$  and use this to prove that there is a bijection between the subgroups of the multiplicative group  $F^\times/F^{\times n}$  and such extensions  $L$ .
13. The Galois group of the extension  $\mathbb{C}/\mathbb{R}$  is the cyclic group  $G = \langle \tau \rangle$  of order 2 generated by complex conjugation  $\tau$ . Prove that  $H^2(G, \mathbb{C}^\times) \cong \mathbb{R}^\times/\mathbb{R}^+ \cong \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$  where  $\mathbb{R}^+$  denotes the positive real numbers.
14. For any group  $G$  let  $\hat{G} = \text{Hom}(G, \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z})$  denote its dual group.
- (a) If  $\varphi : G_1 \rightarrow G_2$  is a group homomorphism prove that composition with  $\varphi$  induces a homomorphism  $\hat{\varphi} : \hat{G}_2 \rightarrow \hat{G}_1$  on their dual groups.  
 (b) For any fixed  $g$  in  $G$ , show that evaluation at  $g$  gives a homomorphism  $\varphi_g$  from  $\hat{G}$  to  $\mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}$ .  
 (c) Prove that the map taking  $g \in G$  to  $\varphi_g$  in (b) defines a homomorphism from  $G$  to its *double dual* ( $\widehat{\hat{G}}$ ).  
 (d) Prove that if  $G$  is a finite abelian group then the homomorphism in (c) is an isomorphism of  $G$  with its double dual. (By Exercise 14 in Section 5.2 the group  $G$  is (noncanonically) isomorphic to its dual  $\hat{G}$ . This shows that  $G$  is *canonically* isomorphic to its double dual — the isomorphism is independent of any choice of generators for  $G$ .)  
 (e) If  $\psi : \hat{G}_2 \rightarrow \hat{G}_1$  is a homomorphism where  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  are finite abelian groups, then by (a) and (d) there is an induced homomorphism  $\varphi : G_1 \rightarrow G_2$ . Prove that

$\varphi(g_1) = g_2$  if  $\chi(g_2) = \chi'(g_1)$  for  $\chi' = \psi(\chi)$ .

15. Use Gauss' Lemma in the computation of the transfer map for  $\mathbb{F}_p^\times$  to  $\{\pm 1\}$  to prove that 2 is a square modulo the odd prime  $p$  if and only if  $p \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{8}$ . [Count how many elements in  $2, 4, \dots, p-1$  are greater than  $(p-1)/2$ .]

## 17.4 GROUP EXTENSIONS, FACTOR SETS AND $H^2(G, A)$

If  $A$  is a  $G$ -module then from the definition of the coboundary map  $d_2$  in equation (18) a function  $f$  from  $G \times G$  to  $A$  is a 2-cocycle if it satisfies the identity

$$f(g, h) + f(gh, k) = g \cdot f(h, k) + f(g, hk) \quad \text{for all } g, h, k \in G. \quad (17.26)$$

Equivalently, a 2-cocycle is determined by a collection of elements  $\{a_{g,h}\}_{g,h \in G}$  of elements in  $A$  satisfying  $a_{g,h} + a_{gh,k} = g \cdot a_{h,k} + a_{g,hk}$  for  $g, h, k \in G$  (and then the 2-cocycle  $f$  is the function sending  $(g, h)$  to  $a_{g,h}$ ).

A 2-cochain  $f$  is a coboundary if there is a function  $f_1 : G \rightarrow A$  such that

$$f(g, h) = gf_1(h) - f_1(gh) + f_1(g), \quad \text{for all } g, h \in G \quad (17.27)$$

i.e.,  $f$  is the image under  $d_1$  of the 1-cochain  $f_1$ .

One of the main results of this section is to make a connection between the 2-cocycles  $Z^2(G, A)$  and the *factor sets* associated to a group extension of  $G$  by  $A$ , which arise when considering the effect of choosing different coset representatives in defining the multiplication in the extension. In particular, we shall show that there is a bijection between equivalence classes of group extensions of  $G$  by  $A$  (with the action of  $G$  on  $A$  fixed) and the elements of  $H^2(G, A)$ .

We first observe some basic facts about extensions. Let  $E$  be any group extension of  $G$  by  $A$ ,

$$1 \longrightarrow A \xrightarrow{\iota} E \xrightarrow{\pi} G \longrightarrow 1. \quad (17.28)$$

The extension (28) determines an action of  $G$  on  $A$ , as follows. For each  $g \in G$  let  $e_g$  be an element of  $E$  mapping onto  $g$  by  $\pi$  (the choice of such a set of representatives for  $G$  in  $E$  is called a set-theoretic *section* of  $\pi$ ). The element  $e_g$  acts by conjugation on the normal subgroup  $\iota(A)$  of  $E$ , mapping  $\iota(a)$  to  $e_g\iota(a)e_g^{-1}$ . Any other element in  $E$  that maps to  $g$  is of the form  $e_g\iota(a_1)$  for some  $a_1 \in A$ , and since  $\iota(A)$  is abelian, conjugation by this element on  $\iota(A)$  is the same as conjugation by  $e_g$ , so is independent of the choice of representative for  $g$ . Hence  $G$  acts on  $\iota(A)$ , and so also on  $A$  since  $\iota$  is injective. Since conjugation is an automorphism, the extension (28) defines  $A$  as a  $G$ -module.

Recall from Section 10.5 that two extensions  $1 \rightarrow A \xrightarrow{\iota_1} E_1 \xrightarrow{\pi_1} G \rightarrow 1$  and  $1 \rightarrow A \xrightarrow{\iota_2} E_2 \xrightarrow{\pi_2} G \rightarrow 1$  are *equivalent* if there is a group isomorphism  $\beta : E_1 \rightarrow E_2$  such that the following diagram commutes:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 1 & \longrightarrow & A & \xrightarrow{\iota_1} & E_1 & \xrightarrow{\pi_1} & G & \longrightarrow & 1 \\ & & \downarrow \text{id} & & \downarrow \beta & & \downarrow \text{id} & & \\ 1 & \longrightarrow & A & \xrightarrow{\iota_2} & E_2 & \xrightarrow{\pi_2} & G & \longrightarrow & 1. \end{array} \quad (17.29)$$