

Counterexamples in (Introductory) Algebra

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Isomorphism of quotients does not imply isomorphism of quotient groups

ie: $H \cong K \not\Rightarrow G/H \cong G/K$

Let $G = \mathbb{Z}_4 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$, with $H = \langle (2, \bar{0}) \rangle$ and $K = (\bar{0}, \bar{1})$.

Then $H \cong K \cong \mathbb{Z}_2$ but $G/K \cong \mathbb{Z}_4 \not\cong \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2 \cong G/H$

Isomorphism of quotient groups does not imply isomorphism of quotients

ie: $G/H \cong G/K \not\Rightarrow H \cong K$

(D&F 3.3.8): For prime p , let G be the group of p -power roots of unity. And $\phi : G \rightarrow G$ be the surjective homomorphism $z \mapsto z^p$. Then $G/\ker\phi \cong G$.

So let $K = \ker\phi$ and H be trivial. Then $G/K \cong G \cong G/H$, but $H \not\cong K$ (because $\ker\phi$ is non-trivial).

A group can be isomorphic to a proper quotient of itself

Same example as above.

Direct product of Hamiltonian Groups¹ may not be Hamiltonian

In $Q_8 \times Q_8$, the subgroup $\langle (i, j) \rangle$ is not normal because $\langle (i, j) \rangle = \{(1, 1), (i, j), (-1, -1), (-i, -j)\}$ but $(j, 1)(i, j)(j, 1)^{-1} = (-i, j) \notin \langle (i, j) \rangle$

¹non-abelian group where every subgroup is normal