

# Dummit & Foote Ch. 3.1: Quotient Groups and Homomorphisms

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Let  $G$  and  $H$  be groups.

## 1. (9/1/23)

Let  $\varphi : G \rightarrow H$  be a homomorphism and let  $E \leq H$ . Prove that  $\varphi^{-1}(E) \leq G$  (i.e., the preimage or pullback of a subgroup under a homomorphism is a subgroup). If  $E \trianglelefteq H$  prove that  $\varphi^{-1}(E) \trianglelefteq G$ . Deduce that  $\ker \varphi \trianglelefteq G$ .

*Proof.* Let  $x, y \in \varphi^{-1}(E) \subseteq G$ . Suppose that  $\varphi(x) = a, \varphi(y) = b, a, b \in E \leq H$ . Since  $\varphi$  is a homomorphism, we have  $\varphi(y^{-1}) = \varphi(y)^{-1} = b^{-1}$ . Then:

$$\varphi(xy^{-1}) = \varphi(x)\varphi(y^{-1}) = \varphi(x)\varphi(y)^{-1} = ab^{-1} \in E,$$

which implies that  $xy^{-1} \in \varphi^{-1}(E)$ . It follows that, by the subgroup criterion,  $\varphi^{-1}(E) \leq G$ .

Next, let  $E \trianglelefteq H$  (to show that  $\varphi^{-1}(E) \trianglelefteq G$ ). Again let  $x \in \varphi^{-1}(E) \leq G$  and suppose  $\varphi(x) = a$ . Now for some  $g \in G$  (not necessarily in  $\varphi^{-1}(E)$ ), consider  $\varphi(gxg^{-1})$ . Suppose also that  $\varphi(g) = h \in H$ . Because  $E$  is normal in  $H$  and  $a \in E$ , we have  $hah^{-1} \in E$ . Then:

$$\varphi(gxg^{-1}) = \varphi(g)\varphi(x)\varphi(g^{-1}) = \varphi(g)\varphi(x)\varphi(g)^{-1} = hah^{-1} \in E,$$

which implies that  $gxg^{-1} \in \varphi^{-1}(E)$ . Since the conjugate of any element of  $\varphi^{-1}(E)$  by any other element of  $G$  lies in  $\varphi^{-1}(E)$ , we therefore conclude that  $\varphi^{-1}(E) \trianglelefteq G$ .

Finally, we note that  $\ker \varphi = \{g \in G \mid \varphi(g) = 1_H\}$ . Since the trivial subgroup consisting of the identity of  $H$  is normal (the conjugate of  $1_H$  by any element of  $H$  is  $1_H$ ), we therefore have  $\varphi^{-1}(\{1_H\}) = \ker \varphi \trianglelefteq G$ .  $\square$

## 2. (8/23/23)

Let  $\varphi : G \rightarrow H$  be a homomorphism of groups with kernel  $K$  and let  $a, b \in \varphi(G)$ . Let  $X \in G/K$  be the fiber above  $a$  and  $Y$  be the fiber above  $b$ , i.e.,

$X = \varphi^{-1}(a), Y = \varphi^{-1}(b)$ . Fix an element  $x \in X$  (so  $\varphi(x) = a$ ). Prove that if  $XY = Z$  in the quotient group  $G/K$  and  $z$  is any member of  $Z$ , then there is some  $y \in Y$  such that  $xy = z$ .

*Proof.* We know that, for any  $x \in X, y \in Y$ ,  $\varphi(x) = a$  and  $\varphi(y) = b$ . Since  $\varphi$  is a homomorphism, it follows that  $\varphi(xy) = \varphi(x)\varphi(y) = ab$ , and so the image of any element of  $XY = Z$  under  $\varphi$  is  $ab \in H$ .

Next, consider the element  $x^{-1}z \in G$ , as well as its image under  $\varphi$ . Since  $\varphi$  is a homomorphism, we have  $\varphi(x^{-1}) = \varphi(x)^{-1}$ . So  $\varphi(x^{-1}z) = \varphi(x^{-1})\varphi(z) = \varphi(x)^{-1}\varphi(z) = a^{-1}ab = b$ . The set  $Y$  consists of all elements of  $G$  whose image under  $\varphi$  is  $b$ , and so we must have  $x^{-1}z \in Y$ .

Now if we fix some element  $x \in X$ , then for any  $z \in Z$ , we have  $x^{-1}z \in Y$  such that its product with  $x$  is  $z$ :  $xx^{-1}z = z$ .  $\square$

### 3. (8/23/23)

Let  $A$  be an abelian group and let  $B$  be a subgroup of  $A$ . Prove that  $A/B$  is abelian. Give an example of a non-abelian group  $G$  containing a proper normal subgroup  $N$  such that  $G/N$  is abelian.

*Proof.* Because  $A$  is abelian, all subgroups of  $A$  are normal, so  $A/B$  is well-defined for every  $B \leq A$ .

Let  $C, D \in A/B$  with  $C = cB$  and  $D = dB$  for some  $c, d \in A$ . Then:

$$CD = (cB)(dB) = (cd)B = (dc)B = (dB)(cB) = DC,$$

which implies that  $A/B$  is abelian.

Now if we let  $G$  be the dihedral group  $D_8$ , then  $G$  is non-abelian. Let  $N$  be the cyclic subgroup generated by  $r : \{1, r, r^2, r^3\}$ . The only coset of  $N$  is  $sN$ ; together these two sets cover  $G$ . Then  $G/N = \{N, sN\}$ . There is only one group of order 2 up to isomorphism, and it is abelian. Thus  $G/N$  is abelian.  $\square$

### 4. (8/23/23)

Prove that in the quotient group  $G/N$ ,  $(gN)^\alpha = (g^\alpha)N$  for all  $\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

*Proof.* We start by induction: In the base case,  $\alpha = 1$ , we have  $(gN)^1 = gN = (g^1)N$ . Next, suppose that for some  $\alpha > 1$ , we have  $(gN)^\alpha = (g^\alpha)N$ . Then:

$$(gN)^{\alpha+1} = (gN)^\alpha gN = g^\alpha N \cdot gN = (g^{\alpha+1})N,$$

as desired. We have now proven that  $(gN)^\alpha = (g^\alpha)N$  for  $\alpha \geq 1$ .

Next, consider  $(gN)^\alpha (gN)^{-\alpha}$ , where  $\alpha \geq 1$ . In the quotient group  $G/N$ , for any subset  $X \in G/N$ , we must have  $X^\alpha X^{-\alpha} = N$  (the identity of  $G/N$ ), so  $(gN)^\alpha (gN)^{-\alpha} = N$ . From above,  $(gN)^\alpha = (g^\alpha)N$ , so  $(g^\alpha)N \cdot (gN)^{-\alpha} = N$ . Also, from the operation on left cosets, we know that  $N = (g^\alpha)N \cdot (g^{-\alpha})N$ .

Since both  $(g^\alpha)N \cdot (gN)^{-\alpha} = N$  and  $(g^\alpha)N \cdot (g^{-\alpha})N = N$ , we must have  $(gN)^{-\alpha} = (g^{-\alpha})N$ . We have now proven for all nonzero integers.

Finally, we note that  $(gN)^0 = N$  (the identity of  $G/N$ ) and that  $(g^0)N = eN = N$ , so  $(gN)^0 = (g^0)N$ . This concludes the proof that  $(gN)^\alpha = (g^\alpha)N$  for all  $\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}$ .  $\square$

## 5. (8/23/23)

Use the preceding exercise to prove that the order of the element  $gN$  in  $G/N$  is  $n$ , where  $n$  is the smallest positive integer such that  $g^n \in N$  (and  $gN$  has infinite order if no such positive integer exists). Give an example to show that the order of  $gN$  in  $G/N$  may be strictly smaller than the order of  $g$  in  $G$ .

*Proof.* Let  $gN \in G/N$ , and let  $n$  be the smallest positive integer such that  $g^n \in N$ . Suppose that  $g^n = h \in N$ .

From Exercise 4.,  $(gN)^n = (g^n)N = hN = N$  (because  $h \in N$ ), so the order of  $gN$  must divide  $n$ .

Suppose (toward contradiction) that the order of  $gN$  is  $k$ , where  $k < n$ . Then  $(gN)^k = (g^k)N = N$ , which implies that  $g^k$  lies in  $N$ , contradicting our assumption that  $n$  is the smallest such positive integer. Therefore the order of  $gN$  is  $n$ .

If there is no positive integer  $n$  such that  $g^n \in N$ , then for all  $k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ , we have  $(gN)^k = (g^k)N \neq N$ , so  $gN$  has infinite order.

As an example where  $|gN| < |g|$ , let  $G = Z_9 = \langle x \rangle$  and let  $N = \langle x^3 \rangle$ . Because all cyclic groups are abelian,  $N$  is normal in  $G$ , and so  $G/N$  is well-defined. The quotient group  $G/N$  contains three elements:  $N, xN$ , and  $(x^2)N$ . The element  $xN \in G/N$  has order 3:  $(xN)^3 = (x^3)N = N$  (because  $x^3 \in N$ ). However, the generating element  $x \in G$  has order 9.  $\square$

## 6. (8/24/23)

Define  $\varphi : \mathbb{R}^\times \rightarrow \{\pm 1\}$  by letting  $\varphi(x)$  be  $x$  divided by the absolute value of  $x$ . Describe the fibers of  $\varphi$  and prove that  $\varphi$  is a homomorphism.

*Proof.* We consider the two cases where  $x < 0$  and  $x > 0$  ( $0$  is not an element of  $\mathbb{R}^\times$ ). If  $x > 0$ , then  $\varphi(x) = x/|x| = x/x = 1$ . If  $x < 0$ , then  $\varphi(x) = x/|x| = x/-x = -1$ . Therefore the fiber above  $-1$  is every negative real number and the fiber above  $1$  is every positive real number.

To show that  $\varphi$  is a homomorphism, we let  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^\times$  and again consider the different cases: Where  $x$  and  $y$  are both positive, where they are both negative, and where one is positive and the other negative.

If both  $x$  and  $y$  are positive, then  $\varphi(x)\varphi(y) = 1 \cdot 1 = 1$  and  $\varphi(xy) = \frac{xy}{|xy|} = \frac{xy}{xy} = 1$ , so  $\varphi(x)\varphi(y) = \varphi(xy)$ .

If both  $x$  and  $y$  are negative, then  $\varphi(x)\varphi(y) = -1 \cdot -1 = 1$  and  $\varphi(xy) = \frac{xy}{|xy|} = \frac{xy}{xy} = 1$ , so  $\varphi(x)\varphi(y) = \varphi(xy)$ .

Suppose  $x$  is positive and  $y$  is negative. Then  $\varphi(x)\varphi(y) = 1 \cdot -1 = -1$  and  $\varphi(xy) = \frac{xy}{|xy|} = \frac{xy}{-xy} = -1$ , so  $\varphi(x)\varphi(y) = \varphi(xy)$ .

Thus, in every case of  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^\times$ , we have  $\varphi(x)\varphi(y) = \varphi(xy)$ , and  $\varphi$  is thus a homomorphism.  $\square$

## 7. (8/24/23)

Define  $\pi : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  by  $\pi((x, y)) = x + y$ . Prove that  $\pi$  is a surjective homomorphism and describe the kernel and fibers of  $\pi$  geometrically.

*Proof.* First, to show that  $\pi$  is surjective, let  $z \in \mathbb{R}$ . Now  $z = z + 0$ , so  $(z, 0)$  is an element of  $\mathbb{R}^2$  such that  $\pi((z, 0)) = z + 0 = z$ .

Next, to show that  $\pi$  is a homomorphism, let  $(x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ . We have  $\pi((x_1, y_1) + (x_2, y_2)) = \pi((x_1 + x_2, y_1 + y_2)) = x_1 + x_2 + y_1 + y_2$ , and  $\pi((x_1, y_1)) + \pi((x_2, y_2)) = x_1 + y_1 + x_2 + y_2$ . By the commutativity of addition in  $\mathbb{R}$ , these are equal to each other, and so  $\pi$  is a surjective homomorphism.

The kernel of  $\pi$  consists of all points  $(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2$  such that  $x + y = 0$ , that is, the diagonal line running from the upper-left to the bottom-right of the Cartesian plane. Geometrically, the fibers of  $\pi$  are translations of this line, such that for any  $z \in \mathbb{R}$ , the fiber of  $\pi$  above  $z$  is the diagonal line intersecting both  $(z, 0)$  and  $(0, z)$ .  $\square$

## 8. (8/24/23)

Let  $\varphi : \mathbb{R}^\times \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^\times$  be the map sending  $x$  to the absolute value of  $x$ . Prove that  $\varphi$  is a homomorphism and find the image of  $\varphi$ . Describe the kernel and the fibers of  $\varphi$ .

*Proof.* Let  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^\times$  (so  $x \neq 0, y \neq 0$ ). If both  $x$  and  $y$  are positive or both are negative, then:

$$\varphi(xy) = |xy| = |x||y| = \varphi(x)\varphi(y),$$

and if  $x$  is positive and  $y$  is negative, then:

$$\varphi(xy) = |xy| = x(-y) = |x||y| = \varphi(x)\varphi(y),$$

so  $\varphi$  is a homomorphism.

The image of  $\varphi$  consists of every positive real number. The kernel of  $\varphi$  is the set  $\{x \in \mathbb{R}^\times \mid |x| = 1\}$ , that is,  $\{\pm 1\}$ . For a given element  $z > 0$ , the fiber of  $\varphi$  above  $z$  is the set  $\{\pm z\}$ .  $\square$

## 9. (8/25/23)

Define  $\varphi : \mathbb{C}^\times \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^\times$  by  $\varphi(a + bi) = a^2 + b^2$ . Prove that  $\varphi$  is a homomorphism and find the image of  $\varphi$ . Describe the kernel and the fibers of  $\varphi$  geometrically (as subsets of the plane).

*Proof.* To show that  $\varphi$  is a homomorphism, let  $z_1 = a_1 + b_1i$ ,  $z_2 = a_2 + b_2i \in \mathbb{C}^\times$ . We calculate:

$$\begin{aligned}
\varphi(z_1 z_2) &= \varphi((a_1 + b_1i)(a_2 + b_2i)) \\
&= \varphi((a_1 a_2 - b_1 b_2) + (a_1 b_2 + a_2 b_1)i) \\
&= (a_1 a_2 - b_1 b_2)^2 + (a_1 b_2 + a_2 b_1)^2 \\
&= a_1^2 a_2^2 - 2a_1 a_2 b_1 b_2 + b_1^2 b_2^2 + a_1^2 b_2^2 + 2a_1 a_2 b_1 b_2 + a_2^2 b_1^2 \\
&= a_1^2 a_2^2 + b_1^2 b_2^2 + a_1^2 b_2^2 + a_2^2 b_1^2, \text{ and} \\
\varphi(z_1) \varphi(z_2) &= \varphi(a_1 + b_1i) \varphi(a_2 + b_2i) = (a_1^2 + b_1^2)(a_2^2 + b_2^2) \\
&= a_1^2 a_2^2 + b_1^2 b_2^2 + a_1^2 b_2^2 + a_2^2 b_1^2,
\end{aligned}$$

which proves that  $\varphi$  is a homomorphism.

The image of a complex number  $a + bi$  under  $\varphi$  is  $a^2 + b^2$ , which is always non-negative because it is the sum of two non-negative numbers. Since both  $\mathbb{C}^\times$  and  $\mathbb{R}^\times$  exclude 0, the image of  $\varphi$  is therefore all positive real numbers.

The kernel of  $\varphi$  are those complex numbers whose image under  $\varphi$  is 1. Geometrically,  $\varphi$  is a map from a point in the complex plane to its length, or distance from zero. Therefore the kernel of  $\varphi$  is the unit circle in the complex plane. The fibers of a given positive real number  $x$  is the circle of radius  $x$  centered at the origin in the complex plane.  $\square$

## 10. (8/28/23)

Let  $\varphi : \mathbb{Z}/8\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}$  by  $\varphi(\bar{a}) = \bar{a}$ . Show that this is a well-defined, surjective homomorphism and describe its fibers and kernel explicitly (showing that  $\varphi$  is well-defined involves the fact that  $\bar{a}$  has a different meaning in the domain and range of  $\varphi$ ).

*Proof.* The map  $\varphi$  is well-defined because it assigns to each member of  $\mathbb{Z}/8\mathbb{Z}$  a single, unique element of  $\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}$ . Let  $a \in \{0, \dots, 7\}$  be equal to  $\bar{a} \bmod 8$ . Then we have  $\varphi(\bar{a}) = \varphi(a)$ . Further,  $\varphi$  assigns each  $a \in \{0, \dots, 7\}$  to  $a \bmod 4$ ; that is, it assigns 0 and 4 to 0, 1 and 5 to 1, 2 and 6 to 2, and 3 and 7 to 3. This also shows that  $\varphi$  is surjective, since each  $\bar{a} \in \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}$  (represented by  $a = \bar{a} \bmod 4$ ) has a preimage in  $\mathbb{Z}/8\mathbb{Z}$ .

The kernel of  $\varphi$  is  $\{0, 4\} \leq \mathbb{Z}/8\mathbb{Z}$ , and the fiber of any  $a \in \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}$  is the tuple  $\{a, a + 4\}$ .  $\square$

## 11. (8/28/23)

Let  $F$  be a field and let  $G = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & c \end{pmatrix} \mid a, b, c \in F, ac \neq 0 \right\} \leq GL_2(F)$ .

- (a) Prove that the map  $\varphi : \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & c \end{pmatrix} \mapsto a$  is a surjective homomorphism from  $G$  onto  $F^\times$  (recall that  $F^\times$  is the multiplicative group of nonzero elements in  $F$ ). Describe the fibers and kernel of  $\varphi$ .

*Proof.* To show that  $\varphi$  is surjective, let  $a \in F^\times$  (so  $a \neq 0$ ). Then we have  $\varphi\left(\begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}\right) = a$ , so  $\varphi$  is onto.

Next, to show that it is a homomorphism, we note that:

$$\varphi\left(\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & c \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} d & e \\ 0 & f \end{pmatrix}\right) = \varphi\left(\begin{pmatrix} ad & ae + bf \\ 0 & cf \end{pmatrix}\right) = ad = \varphi\left(\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & c \end{pmatrix}\right)\varphi\left(\begin{pmatrix} d & e \\ 0 & f \end{pmatrix}\right),$$

so  $\varphi$  is also a homomorphism.

The kernel of  $\varphi$  is  $\left\{\begin{pmatrix} 1 & b \\ 0 & c \end{pmatrix} \mid b, c \in F, c \neq 0\right\}$ , and the fiber of  $\varphi$  over a given element  $a \in F^\times$  is  $\left\{\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & c \end{pmatrix} \mid b, c \in F, c \neq 0\right\}$ .  $\square$

- (b) Prove that the map  $\psi : \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & c \end{pmatrix} \mapsto (a, c)$  is a surjective homomorphism from  $G$  onto  $F^\times \times F^\times$ . Describe the fibers and kernel of  $\psi$ .

*Proof.* To show that  $\psi$  is surjective, let  $(a, c) \in F^\times \times F^\times$  (so  $a, c \neq 0$ ). Then we have  $\psi\left(\begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & c \end{pmatrix}\right) = (a, c)$ , so  $\psi$  is onto.

Next, to show that it is a homomorphism, we note that:

$$\begin{aligned} \psi\left(\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & c \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} d & e \\ 0 & f \end{pmatrix}\right) &= \psi\left(\begin{pmatrix} ad & ae + bf \\ 0 & cf \end{pmatrix}\right) = (ad, cf) \\ &= (a, c)(d, f) = \psi\left(\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & c \end{pmatrix}\right)\psi\left(\begin{pmatrix} d & e \\ 0 & f \end{pmatrix}\right), \end{aligned}$$

so  $\psi$  is also a homomorphism.

The kernel of  $\psi$  is the preimage of  $(1, 1)$ , that is,  $\left\{\begin{pmatrix} 1 & b \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \mid b \in F\right\}$ , and the fiber of  $\psi$  over a given element  $(a, c) \in F^\times \times F^\times$  is  $\left\{\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & c \end{pmatrix} \mid b \in F\right\}$ .  $\square$

- (c) Let  $H = \left\{\begin{pmatrix} 1 & b \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \mid b \in F\right\}$ . Prove that  $H$  is isomorphic to the additive group  $F$ .

*Proof.* As usual, to show that  $H$  is isomorphic to the additive group  $F$ , we must show that there exists a bijective homomorphism  $\varphi : H \rightarrow F$ . Define  $\varphi$  by  $\varphi\left(\begin{pmatrix} 1 & b \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}\right) = b$ . We will show that it is an isomorphism.

First,  $\varphi$  is injective: Suppose that  $\varphi\left(\begin{pmatrix} 1 & a \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}\right) = \varphi\left(\begin{pmatrix} 1 & b \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}\right) = c$ . Then we have  $a = c$  and  $b = c$ , so the two matrices are the same, and  $\varphi$  is injective.

Next,  $\varphi$  is surjective: Let  $b \in F$ . Then we have  $\varphi\left(\begin{pmatrix} 1 & b \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}\right) = b$ .

Finally,  $\varphi$  is a homomorphism:

$$\varphi\left(\begin{pmatrix} 1 & a \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}\right) \varphi\left(\begin{pmatrix} 1 & b \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}\right) = \varphi\left(\begin{pmatrix} 1 & a+b \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}\right) = a+b = \varphi\left(\begin{pmatrix} 1 & a \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}\right) + \varphi\left(\begin{pmatrix} 1 & b \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}\right).$$

□

## 12. (8/30/23)

Let  $G$  be the additive group of real numbers, let  $H$  be the multiplicative group of complex numbers of absolute value 1 (the unit circle  $S^1$  in the complex plane) and let  $\varphi : G \rightarrow H$  be the homomorphism  $\varphi : r \mapsto e^{2\pi ir}$ . Draw the points on the real line which lie in the kernel of  $\varphi$ . Describe similarly the elements in the fibers of  $\varphi$  above the points  $-1$ ,  $i$ , and  $e^{4\pi i/3}$  of  $H$ .

*Proof.* The kernel of  $\varphi$  is the set  $\{r \in \mathbb{R} \mid e^{2\pi ir} = 1\}$ . Recall that  $e^{2\pi ir} = \cos 2\pi r + i \sin 2\pi r$ , so the values of  $r$  for which  $e^{2\pi ir} = 1$  are those where  $\cos 2\pi r = 1$ , that is, all of the integers.

We similarly obtain the fiber of  $\varphi$  above  $-1$  by considering when  $\cos 2\pi r = -1$ , which occurs when  $r = 1/2, 3/2, 5/2, \dots$ , that is,  $r \in \{n + \frac{1}{2} \mid n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ . For the fiber above  $i$ , we must have  $\sin 2\pi r = 1$ , which occurs when  $r = 1/4, 5/4, 9/4, \dots$ , that is,  $r \in \{n + \frac{1}{4} \mid n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ . Finally, we have  $4\pi/3 = \frac{2}{3} \cdot 2\pi$ , so the fiber above  $e^{4\pi i/3}$  is  $\{n + \frac{2}{3} \mid n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ .

We can also write these as cosets of  $\mathbb{Z}$ , so the fibers are  $\frac{1}{2} + \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $\frac{1}{4} + \mathbb{Z}$ , and  $\frac{2}{3} + \mathbb{Z}$ , respectively. □

## 13. (8/31/23)

Repeat the preceding exercise with the map  $\varphi$  replaced by the map  $\varphi : r \mapsto e^{4\pi ir}$ .

*Proof.* In this case, the kernel of  $\varphi$  consists of values of  $r$  for which  $e^{4\pi ir} = 1 \Rightarrow \cos 4\pi r = 1$ . The period is now halved, so this occurs when  $r \in \{1/2, 1, 3/2, \dots\}$ ; the kernel is  $\{\frac{n}{2} \mid n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ .

The fiber of  $\varphi$  above  $-1$  has  $\cos 4\pi r = -1$ , when  $r = 1/4, 3/4, 5/4, \dots$ , that is,  $r \in \{\frac{1}{4} + \frac{n}{2} \mid n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ . Above  $i$ , we have  $\sin 4\pi r = 1$ , so  $r \in \{\frac{1}{8}, \frac{5}{8}, \dots\}$ , and the fiber is  $\{\frac{1}{8} + \frac{n}{2} \mid n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ . Finally, above  $4\pi/3$ , the fiber is  $\{\frac{1}{3} + \frac{n}{2} \mid n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ .

If we denote the kernel in this exercise as  $\frac{1}{2}\mathbb{Z}$ , then as cosets, the fibers are  $\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{2}\mathbb{Z}$ ,  $\frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{2}\mathbb{Z}$ , and  $\frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{2}\mathbb{Z}$ , respectively.  $\square$

## 14. (8/31/23)

Consider the additive quotient group  $\mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}$ .

- (a) Show that every coset of  $\mathbb{Z}$  in  $\mathbb{Q}$  contains exactly one representative  $q \in \mathbb{Q}$  in the range  $0 \leq q < 1$ .

*Proof.* The rational numbers under addition constitutes an abelian group, so  $\mathbb{Z}$  is a normal subgroup of  $\mathbb{Q}$ , and  $\mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}$  is therefore well-defined. The elements of the quotient group  $\mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}$  are cosets of  $\mathbb{Z}$  in  $\mathbb{Q}$ , for example,  $\mathbb{Z}$  itself (the identity), as well as  $\frac{1}{2} + \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $\frac{7}{4} + \mathbb{Z}$ , and so on.

Let  $q + \mathbb{Z}$  be a coset of  $\mathbb{Z}$  (for arbitrary  $q \in \mathbb{Q}$ ). If  $q > 1$ , then let  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$  be the largest integer such that  $q - n \geq 0$  (such an integer exists by the well-ordering property). Then  $q - n$  is the unique representative for  $q + \mathbb{Z}$  in the range  $[0, 1)$ , since  $q - n - 1 < 0$  and  $q - n + 1 > 1$ . Similarly, if  $q < 0$ , there exists a unique  $n$  such that  $0 \leq q + n < 1$ . Finally, if  $0 \leq q < 1$ , then  $q$  itself is the unique representative for  $q + \mathbb{Z}$  lying between 0 (inclusive) and 1 (exclusive).  $\square$

- (b) Show that every element of  $\mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}$  has finite order but that there are elements of arbitrarily large order.

*Proof.* Let  $\frac{a}{b} + \mathbb{Z} \in \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}$  (with  $0 \leq \frac{a}{b} < 1$ , as above, and suppose that  $\frac{a}{b}$  is in lowest terms). Then we have:

$$\underbrace{\left(\frac{a}{b} + \mathbb{Z}\right) + \dots + \left(\frac{a}{b} + \mathbb{Z}\right)}_{b \text{ times}} = \underbrace{\left(\frac{a}{b} + \dots + \frac{a}{b}\right)}_{b \text{ times}} + \mathbb{Z} = a + \mathbb{Z} = \mathbb{Z},$$

so the order of  $\frac{a}{b} + \mathbb{Z} \in \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}$  is at most  $b$ , and it therefore has finite order.

However, given a coset  $\frac{1}{b} + \mathbb{Z}$  of order  $b$ , there always exists an element of higher order, for example  $\frac{1}{b+1} + \mathbb{Z}$  and  $\frac{1}{2b} + \mathbb{Z}$ , which have order  $b+1$  and  $2b$ , respectively.  $\square$

- (c) Show that  $\mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}$  is the torsion subgroup of  $\mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z}$ .

*Proof.* Recall that the torsion subgroup of  $\mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z}$  is the set of elements of  $\mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z}$  of finite order (by Chapter 2.1, Exercise 6., this set is a subgroup when the parent group is abelian).



First, let  $q + \mathbb{Z} \in \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}$ . Since rational numbers are also real numbers,  $q + \mathbb{Z}$  also lies in  $\mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z}$ . From 14.b), it has finite order. Therefore it is an element of the torsion subgroup of  $\mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z}$ .

Next, let  $x + \mathbb{Z}$  be an element of the torsion subgroup of  $\mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z}$ . Suppose that  $|x + \mathbb{Z}| = n < \infty$ . Then we have:

$$\underbrace{(x + \mathbb{Z}) + \dots + (x + \mathbb{Z})}_{n \text{ times}} = \underbrace{(x + \dots + x)}_{n \text{ times}} + \mathbb{Z} = nx + \mathbb{Z} = \mathbb{Z},$$

which implies that  $nx$  is an integer. Suppose that  $nx = m \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Then  $x = m/n$ , and so we have  $x \in \mathbb{Q}$ , which implies that  $x + \mathbb{Z} \in \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}$ .

Therefore, because inclusion in one implies inclusion in the other and vice-versa, these groups are equal.  $\square$

- (d) Prove that  $\mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}$  is isomorphic to the multiplicative group of roots of unity in  $\mathbb{C}^\times$ .

*Proof.* Let  $\varphi : \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$  be defined by  $\varphi(r + \mathbb{Z}) = e^{2\pi ir}$ , where  $0 \leq r < 1$ . We will show that  $\varphi$  is a bijective homomorphism, and that the groups are thus isomorphic to each other.

First, to show that  $\varphi$  is a homomorphism, note that:

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi((q + \mathbb{Z}) + (r + \mathbb{Z})) &= \varphi((q + r) + \mathbb{Z}) = e^{2\pi i(q+r)}, \text{ and} \\ \varphi(q + \mathbb{Z})\varphi(r + \mathbb{Z}) &= e^{2\pi iq}e^{2\pi ir} = e^{2\pi iq+2\pi ir} = e^{2\pi i(q+r)}, \end{aligned}$$

as desired.

Next,  $\varphi$  is one-to-one: Suppose  $e^{2\pi ir} = \varphi(r + \mathbb{Z}) = \varphi(q + \mathbb{Z})$  for some  $r, q \in [0, 1)$ . In fact, there are many possible rational numbers fulfilling this if we open the range to all of  $\mathbb{Q}$ ; however, because the period of  $e^{2\pi ir}$  is 1, there is only one unique value in the range  $[0, 1)$ , so we must have  $r = q$ . Therefore  $\varphi$  is injective.

Finally,  $\varphi$  is surjective: Let  $z$  be a root of unity with order  $n$ . Then  $z$  can be expressed as  $e^{2\pi it/n}$  for some  $t \in \{0, 1, \dots, n-1\}$ . By definition of  $\varphi$ , the rational number  $t/n \in [0, 1)$  has  $\varphi(t/n) = e^{2\pi it/n} = z$ . Thus  $\varphi$  is a bijective homomorphism, and so  $\mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}$  is isomorphic to the roots of unity in  $\mathbb{C}^\times$ .  $\square$

## 15. (9/1/23)

Prove that the quotient of a divisible abelian group by any proper subgroup is also divisible. Deduce that  $\mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}$  is divisible.

*Proof.* Let  $A$  be a divisible abelian group and let  $B$  be a proper subgroup of  $A$ . Since  $A$  is abelian, all of its subgroups are normal, so the quotient group  $A/B$  is well-defined.

Let  $aB \in A/B$  and let  $k > 0$ . Since  $A$  is divisible, there exists an  $x \in A$  such that  $x^k = a$ . Then we have  $aB = (x^k)B = (xB)^k$  for  $xB \in A/B$ , so  $aB$  has a  $k$ -th root in  $A/B$ . Therefore  $A/B$  is divisible.

Note that the rational numbers under addition form a divisible abelian group (from Ch. 2.4, Exercise 19.) and the integers are a proper subgroup of the rational numbers. It follows that the quotient group  $\mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}$  is divisible.  $\square$

## 16. (9/5/23)

Let  $G$  be a group, let  $N$  be a normal subgroup of  $G$ , and let  $\overline{G} = G/N$ . Prove that if  $G = \langle x, y \rangle$  then  $\overline{G} = \langle \overline{x}, \overline{y} \rangle$ . Prove more generally that if  $G = \langle S \rangle$  for any subset  $S$  of  $G$  then  $\overline{G} = \langle \overline{S} \rangle$ .

*Proof.* If  $G = \langle x, y \rangle$ , then we can write any element  $g$  as a finite product of  $x$  and  $y$ , say  $g = x^{a_1}y^{b_1} \dots x^{a_n}y^{b_n}$ . It follows that, for  $\overline{g} \in \overline{G}$ , we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \overline{g} = gN &= (x^{a_1}y^{b_1} \dots x^{a_n}y^{b_n})N = (x^{a_1}N)(y^{b_1}N) \dots (x^{a_n}N)(y^{b_n}N) = \\ &= (xN)^{a_1}(yN)^{b_1} \dots (xN)^{a_n}(yN)^{b_n} = \overline{x}^{a_1}\overline{y}^{b_1} \dots \overline{x}^{a_n}\overline{y}^{b_n}, \end{aligned}$$

that is, we can write  $\overline{g}$  as a finite product of  $\overline{x}, \overline{y} \in \overline{G}$ , and so  $\overline{G} = \langle \overline{x}, \overline{y} \rangle$ .

More generally, if  $G = \langle S \rangle$ , then any element  $g$  can be written as a finite product of elements of  $S$ , say  $g = (s_1^{a_{11}} \dots s_n^{a_{n1}})(s_1^{a_{12}} \dots s_n^{a_{n2}}) \dots (s_1^{a_{1k}} \dots s_n^{a_{nk}})$ . Then we have:

$$\overline{g} = gN = \left( \prod_{j=1}^k \left( \prod_{i=1}^n s_i^{a_{ij}} \right) \right) N = \prod_{j=1}^k \prod_{i=1}^n (s_i^{a_{ij}} N) = \prod_{j=1}^k \prod_{i=1}^n (s_i N)^{a_{ij}} = \prod_{j=1}^k \prod_{i=1}^n \overline{s}_i^{a_{ij}},$$

and so similar to above, this means that any element  $\overline{g} = gN \in G/N$  can be written as a finite product of  $\overline{s}_1, \overline{s}_2, \dots, \overline{s}_n$ , and therefore  $\overline{G} = \langle \overline{S} \rangle$ .  $\square$

## 17. (9/6/23)

Let  $G$  be the dihedral group of order 16:  $G = \langle r, s \mid r^8 = s^2 = 1, rs = sr^{-1} \rangle$  and let  $\overline{G} = G/\langle r^4 \rangle$  be the quotient of  $G$  by the subgroup generated by  $r^4$  (this subgroup is the center of  $G$ , hence is normal).

(a) Show that the order of  $\overline{G}$  is 8.

The quotient group  $\overline{G}$  consists of cosets of the cyclic subgroup of  $G$  generated by  $r^4$ , that is, cosets of  $\{1, r^4\}$ . For example, the coset  $s\langle r^4 \rangle$  is  $\{s, sr^4\}$ . Notice that the coset for  $sr^4$  is the same as for  $s$ , and because  $\langle r^4 \rangle$  consists of two elements, for each element  $x \in G$ , there is another element whose coset is the same (namely  $xr^4$ ). Thus the order of  $\overline{G}$  is  $16/2 = 8$ .

- (b) Exhibit each element of  $\overline{G}$  in the form  $\overline{s}^a \overline{r}^b$ , for some integers  $a$  and  $b$ .

The elements of  $\overline{G}$  are:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \overline{1} = \{1, r^4\} & \overline{s} = \{s, sr^4\} \\ \overline{r} = \{r, r^5\} & \overline{s} \cdot \overline{r} = \{sr, sr^5\} \\ \overline{r}^2 = \{r^2, r^6\} & \overline{s} \cdot \overline{r}^2 = \{sr^2, sr^6\} \\ \overline{r}^3 = \{r^3, r^7\} & \overline{s} \cdot \overline{r}^3 = \{sr^3, sr^7\} \end{array}$$

- (c) Find the order of each of the elements of  $\overline{G}$  exhibited in (b).

The orders of the elements of  $\overline{G}$  are:  $\overline{1} : 1, \overline{r} : 4, \overline{r}^2 : 2, \overline{r}^3 : 4, \overline{s} : 2, \overline{s} \cdot \overline{r} : 2, \overline{s} \cdot \overline{r}^2 : 2, \overline{s} \cdot \overline{r}^3 : 2$ .

- (d) Write each of the following elements of  $\overline{G}$  in the form  $\overline{s}^a \overline{r}^b$ , for some integers  $a$  and  $b$  as in (b):

- $\overline{r\overline{s}} = \overline{sr^7} = \overline{s} \cdot \overline{r}^3$
- $\overline{sr^{-2}s} = \overline{sr^6s} = \overline{ssr^2} = \overline{r}^2$
- $\overline{s^{-1}r^{-1}sr} = \overline{sr^7sr} = \overline{ssr\overline{r}} = \overline{r}^2$

- (e) Prove that  $\overline{H} = \langle \overline{s}, \overline{r}^2 \rangle$  is a normal subgroup of  $\overline{G}$  and  $\overline{H}$  is isomorphic to the Klein 4-group. Describe the isomorphism type of the complete preimage of  $\overline{H}$  in  $G$ .

*Proof.* There is a clear isomorphism between  $\overline{G}$  and  $D_8$  given by  $\overline{x} \in \overline{G} \mapsto x \in D_8$ . Because of this, we know that the elements  $\overline{s}$  and  $\overline{r}$  generate  $\overline{G}$ . Since we know the generators of both  $\overline{G}$  and  $\overline{H}$ , in order to test for normality, we only have to check that the conjugates of the generators of  $\overline{H}$  by the generators of  $\overline{G}$  are in  $\overline{H}$ .

Now powers of  $\overline{s}$  and  $\overline{r}$  commute with other powers of  $\overline{s}$  and  $\overline{r}$ , respectively, so we can proceed to:

$$\begin{aligned} \overline{r} \cdot \overline{s} \cdot \overline{r}^{-1} &= \overline{rsr^{-1}} = \overline{rsr^7} = \overline{sr^7r^7} = \overline{sr^{14}} = \overline{sr^6} = \overline{s} \cdot \overline{r}^2 \in \overline{H}, \text{ and} \\ \overline{s} \cdot \overline{r}^2 \cdot \overline{s} &= \overline{sr^2s} = \overline{ssr^6} = \overline{r^6} = \overline{r}^2 \in \overline{H}. \end{aligned}$$

This demonstrates that the conjugates of the generators of  $\overline{H}$  by the generators of  $\overline{G}$  lie in  $\overline{H}$ , and so  $\overline{H} \trianglelefteq \overline{G}$ .

The elements of  $\overline{H}$  are  $\overline{1}, \overline{s}, \overline{r}^2$ , and  $\overline{s} \cdot \overline{r}^2$ . Any other product of elements gives an element of  $\overline{H}$ . All of these elements have order 2, and so from Ch. 1.1, Exercise 36,  $\overline{H} \cong V_4$ .

The complete preimage of  $\overline{H}$  under the natural projection homomorphism  $\pi(g) \mapsto \overline{g} = g\langle r^4 \rangle$  is the set  $\{g \in G \mid \pi(g) \in \overline{H}\}$ . The elements of  $G$  in the complete preimage of  $\overline{H}$  are  $1, r^2, r^4, r^6, s, sr^2, sr^4$ , and  $sr^6$ . This set of elements is isomorphic to  $D_4$  (given by  $s, r^2 \in \pi^{-1}(\overline{H}) \mapsto s, r \in D_4$ ).  $\square$

- (f) Find the center of  $\overline{G}$  and describe the isomorphism type of  $\overline{H}/Z(\overline{G})$ .

The center of  $\overline{G}$  consists of the elements of  $\overline{G}$  that commute with all other elements of  $\overline{G}$ . This is the subgroup  $\langle \overline{r^2} \rangle$ . Now the quotient group  $\overline{H}/Z(\overline{G}) = \langle \overline{s}, \overline{r^2} \rangle / \langle \overline{r^2} \rangle$  consists of the cosets of  $\langle \overline{r^2} \rangle$  in  $\overline{H}$ , that is, the elements  $\langle \overline{r^2} \rangle, \overline{s}\langle \overline{r^2} \rangle$ . We do not have  $\overline{r^2}$  as a unique element in  $\overline{H}/Z(\overline{G})$ , because

$$\overline{r^2}\langle \overline{r^2} \rangle = \overline{r^2}\{\overline{1}, \overline{r^2}\} = \{\overline{r^2}, \overline{r^4}\} = \{\overline{1}, \overline{r^2}\} = \langle \overline{r^2} \rangle.$$

Similarly,  $\overline{s} \cdot \overline{r^2} \notin \overline{H}/Z(\overline{G})$ . Therefore it is isomorphic to the cyclic group  $Z_2$ .

## 18. (9/10/23)

Let  $G$  be the quasidihedral group of order 16:  $G = \langle \sigma, \tau \mid \sigma^8 = \tau^2 = 1, \sigma\tau = \tau\sigma^3 \rangle$  and let  $\overline{G} = G/\langle \sigma^4 \rangle$  be the quotient of  $G$  by the subgroup generated by  $\langle \sigma^4 \rangle$  (this subgroup is the center of  $G$ , hence is normal).

- (a) Show that the order of  $\overline{G}$  is 8.

The elements of  $\overline{G}$  are the cosets of the subgroup generated by  $\sigma^4$ . For example, for  $\tau \in G$ , the element  $\overline{\tau} \in \overline{G} = \{\tau, \tau\sigma^4\}$ . As with 17.a), there are two elements in this set, and the cosets of  $\langle \sigma^4 \rangle$  partition  $G$ . Thus  $\overline{G}$  has  $16/2 = 8$  elements.

- (b) Exhibit each element of  $\overline{G}$  in the form  $\overline{\tau^a\sigma^b}$ , for some integers  $a$  and  $b$ .

The elements of  $\overline{G}$  are:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \overline{1} = \{1, \sigma^4\} & \overline{\tau} = \{\tau, \tau\sigma^4\} \\ \overline{\sigma} = \{\sigma, \sigma^5\} & \overline{\tau} \cdot \overline{\sigma} = \{\tau\sigma, \tau\sigma^5\} \\ \overline{\sigma^2} = \{\sigma^2, \sigma^6\} & \overline{\tau} \cdot \overline{\sigma^2} = \{\tau\sigma^2, \tau\sigma^6\} \\ \overline{\sigma^3} = \{\sigma^3, \sigma^7\} & \overline{\tau} \cdot \overline{\sigma^3} = \{\tau\sigma^3, \tau\sigma^7\} \end{array}$$

- (c) Find the order of each of the elements of  $\overline{G}$  exhibited in (b).

The orders of the elements of  $\overline{G}$  are:  $\overline{1} : 1, \overline{\sigma} : 4, \overline{\sigma^2} : 2, \overline{\sigma^3} : 4, \overline{\tau} : 2, \overline{\tau} \cdot \overline{\sigma} : 2, \overline{\tau} \cdot \overline{\sigma^2} : 2, \overline{\tau} \cdot \overline{\sigma^3} : 2$ .

- (d) Write the following elements of  $\overline{G}$  in the form  $\overline{\tau^a\sigma^b}$ , for some integers  $a$  and  $b$  as in (b):

- $\overline{\sigma\tau} = \overline{\tau\sigma^3} = \overline{\tau} \cdot \overline{\sigma^3}$
- $\overline{\tau\sigma^{-2}\tau} = \overline{\tau\sigma^6\tau} = \overline{\tau\tau\sigma^{18}} = \overline{\sigma^2} = \overline{\sigma^2}$
- $\overline{\tau^{-1}\sigma^{-1}\tau\sigma} = \overline{\tau\sigma^7\tau\sigma} = \overline{\tau\tau\sigma^{21}\sigma} = \overline{\sigma^{22}} = \overline{\sigma^6} = \overline{\sigma^2}$

- (e) Prove that  $\overline{G} \cong D_8$ .

*Proof.* Let  $\varphi : \overline{G} \rightarrow D_8$  be defined by  $\varphi(\overline{\sigma}) = r$  and  $\varphi(\overline{\tau}) = s$ . Now  $\overline{\sigma}$  and  $\overline{\tau}$  are generators for  $\overline{G}$ , since (as shown above) every element can be written in the form  $\overline{\tau}^a \overline{\sigma}^b$ , for some integers  $a$  and  $b$ . Then  $\varphi$  is a map from  $\overline{G}$  to  $D_8$  defined on the generators of  $\overline{G}$  to the generators of  $D_8$ . Since both groups have the same cardinality, in order to show that  $\varphi$  is an isomorphism, it only remains to check that the relations of  $\overline{G}$  are the same as those in  $D_8$ .

In  $D_8$ , we have  $s^2 = r^4 = 1$  and  $rs = sr^{-1}$ . In part (c) above, we computed the orders of  $\overline{\tau}$  and  $\overline{\sigma}$ , which are 2 and 4, respectively, matching their counterparts in  $D_8$ . Finally, we have  $\overline{\sigma} \cdot \overline{\tau} = \overline{\sigma\tau} = \overline{\tau\sigma^3} = \overline{\tau} \cdot \overline{\sigma^3} = \overline{\tau} \cdot \overline{\sigma}^{-1}$ , and so the relations hold. Thus  $\overline{G} \cong D_8$ .  $\square$

## 19. (9/13/23)

Let  $G$  be the modular group of order 16:  $G = \langle u, v \mid u^2 = v^8 = 1, vu = uv^5 \rangle$  and let  $\overline{G} = G/\langle v^4 \rangle$  be the quotient of  $G$  by the subgroup generated by  $v^4$  (this subgroup is contained in the center of  $G$ , hence is normal).

- (a) Show that the order of  $\overline{G}$  is 8.

The elements of  $\overline{G}$  are the cosets of the subgroup generated by  $v^4$ . For example, for  $u \in G$ , the element  $\overline{u} \in \overline{G} = \{u, uv^4\}$ . As with 17.a), there are two elements in this set, and the cosets of  $\langle v^4 \rangle$  partition  $G$ . Thus  $\overline{G}$  has  $16/2 = 8$  elements.

- (b) Exhibit each element of  $\overline{G}$  in the form  $\overline{u}^a \overline{v}^b$ , for some integers  $a$  and  $b$ .

The elements of  $\overline{G}$  are:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \overline{1} = \{1, v^4\} & \overline{u} = \{u, uv^4\} \\ \overline{v} = \{v, v^5\} & \overline{u} \cdot \overline{v} = \{uv, uv^5\} \\ \overline{v}^2 = \{v^2, v^6\} & \overline{u} \cdot \overline{v}^2 = \{uv^2, uv^6\} \\ \overline{v}^3 = \{v^3, v^7\} & \overline{u} \cdot \overline{v}^3 = \{uv^3, uv^7\} \end{array}$$

- (c) Find the order of each of the elements of  $\overline{G}$  exhibited in (b).

The orders of the elements of  $\overline{G}$  are:  $\overline{1} : 1, \overline{v} : 4, \overline{v}^2 : 2, \overline{v}^3 : 4, \overline{u} : 2, \overline{u} \cdot \overline{v} : 4, \overline{u} \cdot \overline{v}^2 : 2, \overline{u} \cdot \overline{v}^3 : 4$ .

- (d) Write each of the following elements of  $\overline{G}$  in the form  $\overline{u}^a \overline{v}^b$ , for some integers  $a$  and  $b$  as in (b):

- $\overline{vu} = \overline{uv^5} = \overline{u} \cdot \overline{v}$
- $\overline{uv^{-2}u} = \overline{uv^6u} = \overline{uuv^{30}} = \overline{v^{30}} = \overline{v^6} = \overline{v}^2$
- $\overline{u^{-1}v^{-1}uv} = \overline{uv^7uv} = \overline{uuv^{35}v} = \overline{v^{36}} = \overline{v^4} = \overline{1}$

- (e) Prove that  $\overline{G}$  is abelian and is isomorphic to  $Z_2 \times Z_4$ .

*Proof.* From part (d) above, we deduced that  $\overline{vu} = \overline{uv^5} = \overline{uv}$ . Since the generators of  $\overline{G}$  commute,  $\overline{G}$  is an abelian group.

For clarity, let us write the elements of  $Z_2 \times Z_4$  as  $(u^k, v^j)$ , with  $k \in \{0, 1\}$  and  $j \in \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$ . Then  $(u, 1)$  and  $(1, v)$  are generators of  $Z_2 \times Z_4$ .

Now let  $\varphi : \overline{G} \rightarrow Z_2 \times Z_4$  be defined on generators  $\overline{u}$  and  $\overline{v}$  by  $\varphi(\overline{u}) = (u, 1)$  and  $\varphi(\overline{v}) = (1, v)$ . As above, since  $\varphi$  is a map from  $\overline{G}$  to  $Z_2 \times Z_4$ , two groups of equal order, and  $\varphi$  is defined on and to the generators of each, respectively, we only have to check that the relations hold.

In  $\overline{G}$ , we have  $\overline{u}^2 = 1$ , and in  $Z_2 \times Z_4$ , we have  $\varphi(\overline{u})^2 = (u, 1)^2 = (u^2, 1) = (1, 1)$ , the identity of  $Z_2 \times Z_4$ . Also, we have  $\overline{v}^4 = 1$  and  $\varphi(\overline{v})^4 = (1, v)^4 = (1, v^4) = (1, 1)$ . Since  $\overline{G}$  and  $Z_2 \times Z_4$  are both abelian, there are no other relations we need to check. We conclude that  $\varphi$  is an isomorphism, and that the two groups are isomorphic.  $\square$

## 20. (9/14/23)

Let  $G = \mathbb{Z}/24\mathbb{Z}$  and let  $\tilde{G} = G/\langle \overline{12} \rangle$ , where for each integer  $a$  we simplify notation by writing  $\tilde{a}$  as  $\tilde{a}$ .

- (a) Show that  $\tilde{G} = \{\tilde{0}, \tilde{1}, \dots, \tilde{11}\}$ .

Now  $\tilde{G}$  consists of the cosets of  $\langle \overline{12} \rangle = \{0, 12\}$  in  $\mathbb{Z}/24\mathbb{Z}$ , for example,  $\tilde{4} = 4 + \{0, 12\} = \{4, 16\}$  and  $\tilde{21} = 21 + \{0, 12\} = \{21, 33\} = \{9, 21\} = \tilde{9}$ . For each  $n \in \{0, \dots, 11\}$ , the element  $n + 12 \in \mathbb{Z}/24\mathbb{Z}$  has the same coset as  $n$ , since  $n + 12 \cong n \pmod{12}$ . Thus the elements of  $\tilde{G}$  are:

$$\begin{array}{lll} \tilde{0} = \{0, 12\} & \tilde{4} = \{4, 16\} & \tilde{8} = \{8, 20\} \\ \tilde{1} = \{1, 13\} & \tilde{5} = \{5, 17\} & \tilde{9} = \{9, 21\} \\ \tilde{2} = \{2, 14\} & \tilde{6} = \{6, 18\} & \tilde{10} = \{10, 22\} \\ \tilde{3} = \{3, 15\} & \tilde{7} = \{7, 19\} & \tilde{11} = \{11, 23\} \end{array}$$

- (b) Find the order of each element of  $\tilde{G}$ .

$$\begin{array}{lll} \tilde{0} : 1 & \tilde{4} : 3 & \tilde{8} : 3 \\ \tilde{1} : 12 & \tilde{5} : 12 & \tilde{9} : 4 \\ \tilde{2} : 6 & \tilde{6} : 2 & \tilde{10} : 6 \\ \tilde{3} : 4 & \tilde{7} : 12 & \tilde{11} : 12 \end{array}$$

- (c) Prove that  $\tilde{G} \cong \mathbb{Z}/12\mathbb{Z}$ . (Thus  $(\mathbb{Z}/24\mathbb{Z})/(12\mathbb{Z}/24\mathbb{Z}) \cong \mathbb{Z}/12\mathbb{Z}$ , just as if we inverted and cancelled the  $24\mathbb{Z}$ 's.)

*Proof.* From Ch. 2.3, Theorem 4,  $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$  is another presentation of the unique cyclic group of order  $n$ . It suffices, then, to prove that  $\tilde{G}$  is cyclic in order to show that it is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}/12\mathbb{Z}$ .

We claim that  $\tilde{1}$  is a generator for  $\tilde{G}$ . For any element  $\tilde{a} \in \tilde{G}$  ( $0 \leq a < 12$ ), we can write:

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{a} &= \{a, a + 12\} = a + \{0, 12\} = \underbrace{(1 + \dots + 1)}_{a \text{ times}} + \{0, 12\} \\ &= \underbrace{(1 + \{0, 12\}) + \dots + (1 + \{0, 12\})}_{a \text{ times}} = \underbrace{\tilde{1} + \dots + \tilde{1}}_{a \text{ times}} \\ &= a \cdot \tilde{1},\end{aligned}$$

and so any element of  $\tilde{G}$  is generated from  $\tilde{1}$ . Thus  $\tilde{G}$  is isomorphic to the cyclic group of order 12, which is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}/12\mathbb{Z}$ .  $\square$

## 22. (9/14/23)

- (a) Prove that if  $H$  and  $K$  are normal subgroups of  $G$  then their intersection  $H \cap K$  is also a normal subgroup of  $G$ .

*Proof.* Let  $H$  and  $K$  be normal subgroups of  $G$ . Let  $h \in H \cap K$ , so  $h \in H$  and  $h \in K$ . Since both  $H$  and  $K$  are normal, we have  $ghg^{-1} \in H$  and  $ghg^{-1} \in K$  for all  $g \in G$ . It follows that  $ghg^{-1} \in H \cap K$  for all  $g \in G$ . Therefore  $H \cap K$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$ .  $\square$

- (b) Prove that the intersection of an arbitrary nonempty collection of normal subgroups of a group is a normal subgroup (do not assume the collection is countable).

*Proof.* Let  $\mathcal{H}$  be a nonempty collection of normal subgroups of  $G$ . Consider  $\bigcap_{H \in \mathcal{H}} H = \{h \in G \mid h \in H \text{ for all } H \in \mathcal{H}\}$ . From Ch. 2.1, Exercise 10., we know that  $\mathcal{H}$  is itself a subgroup of  $G$ . We will show that in this case it is normal in  $G$ .

Let  $h \in \bigcap_{H \in \mathcal{H}} H$ . Then for all  $H \in \mathcal{H}$ , we have  $h \in H$ . Since each  $H$  is normal in  $G$ , we have  $ghg^{-1} \in H$  for all  $g \in G, H \in \mathcal{H}$ . It follows that  $ghg^{-1} \in \bigcap_{H \in \mathcal{H}} H$ , and therefore  $\bigcap_{H \in \mathcal{H}} H$  is normal in  $G$ .  $\square$

## 23. (9/16/23)

Prove that the join of any nonempty collection of normal subgroups of a group is a normal subgroup.

*Proof.* Let  $\mathcal{H}$  be a nonempty collection of subgroups of  $G$  and let  $\langle \mathcal{H} \rangle$  be their join.

Let  $h \in \langle \mathcal{H} \rangle$ . Then  $h$  can be written as a finite product of elements, say  $h_1, h_2, \dots, h_n$ , where each  $h_i$  is an element of a corresponding normal subgroup  $H_i \in \mathcal{H}$ . We write this product:

$$h = (h_1^{a_{11}} \dots h_n^{a_{n1}})(h_1^{a_{12}} \dots h_n^{a_{n2}}) \dots (h_1^{a_{1k}} \dots h_n^{a_{nk}}) = \prod_{j=1}^k \prod_{i=1}^n h_i^{a_{ij}}.$$

Since each  $h_i$  belongs to a normal subgroup  $H_i$  of  $G$ , we have  $gh_i g^{-1} \in H_i$  for all  $g \in G$ . It follows that, for any  $m > 0$ , we have  $gh_i^m g^{-1} \in H_i$  (because  $(gh_i g^{-1})^m = gh_i^m g^{-1}$ ). Now note that, since  $(ga_1 g^{-1})(ga_2 g^{-1}) \dots (ga_n g^{-1}) = g(a_1 a_2 \dots a_n) g^{-1}$ , the product of conjugates of the constituent elements of  $h$  is equal to the conjugate of the product of those elements:

$$\prod_{j=1}^k \prod_{i=1}^n gh_i^{a_{ij}} g^{-1} = g \left( \prod_{j=1}^k \prod_{i=1}^n h_i^{a_{ij}} \right) g^{-1} = ghg^{-1}.$$

The left-hand side of the equation is the product of conjugates of elements  $h_i$  that each belong to the corresponding normal subgroup  $H_i$ . Therefore the product is an element of the join  $\langle \mathcal{H} \rangle$ . Since it is equal to the right-hand side, the conjugate of  $h$  by any element  $g \in G$ , we must have  $ghg^{-1} \in \langle \mathcal{H} \rangle$  for all  $g \in G$ . Thus the join of any nonempty collection of normal subgroups of a group is a normal subgroup.  $\square$

## 24. (9/16/23)

Prove that if  $N \trianglelefteq G$  and  $H$  is any subgroup of  $G$  then  $N \cap H \trianglelefteq H$ .

*Proof.* Let  $N \trianglelefteq G$ ,  $H \leq G$ , and let  $n \in N \cap H$ ,  $h \in H$ . Consider the conjugate element  $hnh^{-1}$ .

Since  $N$  is normal in  $G$  and  $h \in H \Rightarrow h \in G$ , we have  $hnh^{-1} \in N$ .

Since  $H$  is a subgroup of  $G$ , it is closed and closed under inverses. Also,  $n \in N \cap H \Rightarrow n \in H$ , so the product  $hnh^{-1}$  lies in  $H$ . We have both  $hnh^{-1} \in N$  and  $hnh^{-1} \in H$ , so  $hnh^{-1} \in N \cap H$ .

So the conjugate of any element of  $N \cap H$  by any element of  $H$  is again an element of  $N \cap H$ . Therefore  $N \cap H$  is normal in  $H$ .  $\square$

## 25. (9/17/23)

- (a) Prove that a subgroup  $N$  of  $G$  is normal if and only if  $gNg^{-1} \subseteq G$  for all  $g \in G$ .

*Proof.* Recall that  $N$  is defined to be normal in  $G$  if  $gNg^{-1} = N$  for all  $g \in G$ . Now if  $N \trianglelefteq G$ , then clearly  $gNg^{-1} \subseteq N$ , since  $gNg^{-1} = N$ .



Suppose that  $gNg^{-1} \subseteq N$  for all  $g \in G$ . Let  $x \in N, g \in G$ . The conjugate of  $x$  by  $g^{-1}$ ,  $g^{-1}x(g^{-1})^{-1}$ , must lie in  $N$ . Let us write  $g^{-1}x(g^{-1})^{-1} = n \in N$ . Then we have:

$$x = gg^{-1}xgg^{-1} = g(g^{-1}x(g^{-1})^{-1})g^{-1} = gng^{-1},$$

and so  $x \in gNg^{-1}$ . This implies that  $N \subseteq gNg^{-1}$ . Therefore  $gNg^{-1} = N$  for all  $g \in G$ , and so  $N \trianglelefteq G$ .  $\square$

- (b) Let  $G = GL_2(\mathbb{Q})$ , let  $N$  be the subgroup of upper triangular matrices with integer entries and 1's on the diagonal, and let  $g$  be the diagonal matrix with entries 2, 1. Show that  $gNg^{-1} \subseteq N$  but  $g$  does *not* normalize  $N$ .

*Proof.* Let  $N = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & n \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ , where  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$  and let  $g = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ , with inverse  $g^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 1/2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ .

Then we have:

$$gNg^{-1} = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & n \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1/2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \mid n \in \mathbb{Z} \right\} = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2n \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \mid n \in \mathbb{Z} \right\}.$$

Since  $2n \in \mathbb{Z}$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , we have  $gNg^{-1} \subseteq N$ . However, there is no  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $g \begin{pmatrix} 1 & n \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} g^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ . In order for  $g$  to normalize  $N$ , we must have  $gNg^{-1} = N$ . Therefore  $g$  does not normalize  $N$ .  $\square$

## 26. (9/18/23)

Let  $a, b \in G$ .

- (a) Prove that the conjugate of the product of  $a$  and  $b$  is the product of the conjugate of  $a$  and the conjugate of  $b$ . Prove that the order of  $a$  and the order of any conjugate of  $a$  are the same.

*Proof.* Let  $g \in G$ . Then:

$$g(ab)g^{-1} = gabg^{-1} = gag^{-1}gbg^{-1} = (gag^{-1})(gbg^{-1}),$$

as desired.

Next, we show that  $a^n = 1$  if and only if  $(gag^{-1})^n = 1$ . If  $a^n = 1$ , then we have  $(gag^{-1})^n = ga^n g^{-1} = gg^{-1} = 1$ . And, if  $(gag^{-1})^n = 1$ , then we have  $ga^n g^{-1} = 1$ . Left multiplying by  $g^{-1}$  and right-multiplying by  $g$ , we obtain  $a^n = 1$ . Therefore the order of  $a$  is equal to the order of any conjugate of  $a$ .  $\square$

- (b) Prove that the conjugate of  $a^{-1}$  is the inverse of the conjugate of  $a$ .

*Proof.* We can see that:

$$(gag^{-1})(ga^{-1}g^{-1}) = gag^{-1}ga^{-1}g^{-1} = gaa^{-1}g^{-1} = gg^{-1} = 1,$$

and so the conjugate of  $a^{-1}$  is the inverse of the conjugate of  $a$ .  $\square$

- (c) Let  $N = \langle S \rangle$  for some subset  $S$  of  $G$ . Prove that  $N \trianglelefteq G$  if  $gSg^{-1} \subseteq N$  for all  $g \in G$ .

*Proof.* Let  $x \in N$ . Since  $N = \langle S \rangle$ , we can write  $x$  as a finite product of elements of  $S$ :  $x = (s_1^{a_{11}} \dots s_n^{a_{n1}})(s_1^{a_{12}} \dots s_n^{a_{n2}}) \dots (s_1^{a_{1k}} \dots s_n^{a_{nk}})$ . Now for each  $s_i^{ij}$ , we have  $gs_i^{ij}g^{-1} \in N$  (since  $gSg^{-1} \subseteq N$ ). Therefore  $gxg^{-1} = g\left(\prod_{j=1}^k \prod_{i=1}^n s_i^{a_{ij}}\right)g^{-1} = \prod_{j=1}^k \prod_{i=1}^n (gs_i^{a_{ij}}g^{-1})$  lies in  $N$  (for all  $g \in G$ ), since it is a finite product of elements of  $N$ . Thus  $N \trianglelefteq G$ .  $\square$

- (d) Deduce that if  $N$  is the cyclic group  $\langle x \rangle$ , then  $N$  is normal in  $G$  if and only if for each  $g \in G$ ,  $gxg^{-1} = x^k$  for some  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

If  $N = \langle x \rangle$  is normal in  $G$ , then for all  $g \in G$ , we have  $gNg^{-1} = N$ , which implies that  $gxg^{-1} \in N$ . Since all elements of  $N$  can be written as  $x^k$  for some  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ , we have  $gxg^{-1} = x^k$ .

Conversely, if for all  $g \in G$ , we have  $gxg^{-1} = x^k$  for some  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ , then we clearly have  $gxg^{-1} \in N$ , which implies that  $gNg^{-1} \subseteq N$ . From Exercise 25. above, this implies that  $N \trianglelefteq G$ .

Therefore  $N \trianglelefteq G$  if and only for each  $g \in G$ ,  $gxg^{-1} = x^k$  for some  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

- (e) Let  $n$  be a positive integer. Prove that the subgroup  $N$  of  $G$  generated by all the elements of  $G$  of order  $n$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$ .

*Proof.* Let  $S \subseteq G$  be the subset of elements of order  $n$  in  $G$  and let  $N = \langle S \rangle$ . For each  $x \in N$ ,  $x$  can be written as a finite product of elements of  $S$ :  $x = (s_1^{a_{11}} \dots s_n^{a_{n1}})(s_1^{a_{12}} \dots s_n^{a_{n2}}) \dots (s_1^{a_{1k}} \dots s_n^{a_{nk}})$ , where  $|s_i| = n$  for each  $s_i \in S$ . From part (a) above, the conjugate of any element has the same order as the element itself, so  $|gs_i g^{-1}| = n$  for each  $s_i \in S$ ,  $g \in G$ . Then  $gs_i g^{-1} \in S \Rightarrow gs_i g^{-1} \in N$ , and it follows that:

$$gxg^{-1} = g\left(\prod_{j=1}^k \prod_{i=1}^n s_i^{a_{ij}}\right)g^{-1} = \prod_{j=1}^k \prod_{i=1}^n (gs_i^{a_{ij}}g^{-1})$$

is the product of a elements of  $N$ , and so belongs to  $N$  itself. Then  $gxg^{-1} \in N$  for all  $g \in G$ , which implies that  $gNg^{-1} \subseteq N$ , and thus  $N$  is normal in  $G$ .  $\square$

## 27. (9/18/23)

Let  $N$  be a *finite* subgroup of a group  $G$ . Show that  $gNg^{-1} \subseteq N$  if and only if  $gNg^{-1} = N$ . Deduce that  $N_G(N) = \{g \in G \mid gNg^{-1} \subseteq N\}$ .

*Proof.* Let  $g \in G$ . Now if  $gNg^{-1} = N$ , then clearly  $gNg^{-1} \subseteq N$ . So let us consider the case where  $gNg^{-1} \subseteq N$ .

Let  $\varphi : N \rightarrow gNg^{-1}$  be defined by  $\varphi(x) = gxg^{-1}$  for  $x \in N$ . We will show that  $\varphi$  is a bijection, which implies that its domain and range have equal cardinality.

To prove that  $\varphi$  is injective, let  $x, y \in N$  and suppose that  $\varphi(x) = \varphi(y)$ . Then:

$$gxg^{-1} = gyg^{-1} \Rightarrow gx = gy \Rightarrow x = y,$$

so  $\varphi$  is one-to-one.

Next, let  $z \in gNg^{-1}$ . Since  $gNg^{-1} = \{gxg^{-1} \mid x \in N\}$ , there exists some  $y \in N$  such that  $\varphi(y) = z$ , so  $\varphi$  is surjective. Therefore it is a bijection, and so  $|N| = |gNg^{-1}|$ .

Recall that the normalizer  $N_G(N)$  is defined to be the subgroup  $\{g \in G \mid gNg^{-1} = N\}$ . From above, when  $N$  is finite, this is equal to  $\{g \in G \mid gNg^{-1} \subseteq N\}$ .  $\square$

## 28. (9/19/23)

Let  $N$  be a *finite* subgroup of a group  $G$  and assume  $N = \langle S \rangle$  for some subset  $S$  of  $G$ . Prove that an element  $g \in G$  normalizes  $N$  if and only if  $gSg^{-1} \subseteq N$ .

*Proof.* First, let  $g \in G$  normalize  $N$ . Then  $gNg^{-1} = N$ . Since  $N = \langle S \rangle$ , we must have  $S \subseteq N$ , and so  $gSg^{-1} \subseteq gNg^{-1} = N$ .

Next, let  $gSg^{-1} \subseteq N$  and let  $n \in N$ . We can write  $n$  as a product of elements of  $S$  as in Exercises 16., 23., and 26.(a) above. For convenience, let us write  $n = \prod s_i^{ij}$ . Then:

$$gng^{-1} = g(\prod s_i^{ij})g^{-1} = \prod (gs_i^{ij}g^{-1}),$$

which is the product of elements of  $N$  and so lies in  $N$ . We then have  $gNg^{-1} \subseteq N$ . From 27., this implies that  $gNg^{-1} = N$ , and so  $g$  normalizes  $N$ .  $\square$

## 29. (9/21/23)

Let  $N$  be a *finite* subgroup of  $G$  and suppose  $G = \langle T \rangle$  and  $N = \langle S \rangle$  for some subsets  $S$  and  $T$  of  $G$ . Prove that  $N$  is normal in  $G$  if and only if  $tSt^{-1} \subseteq N$  for all  $t \in T$ .

*Proof.* First, let  $N \trianglelefteq G$ . Then, from Exercise 27.,  $gNg^{-1} \subseteq N$  for all  $g \in G$ . Now since  $T \subseteq G$  and  $S \subseteq N$ , this implies that  $tst^{-1} \in N$  for all  $t \in T, s \in S$ , and so  $tSt^{-1} \subseteq N$  for all  $t \in T$ .

Next, let  $tSt^{-1} \subseteq N$  for all  $t \in T$ . We will first show that we must have  $tNt^{-1} \subseteq N$  for all  $t \in T$ , and that this subsequently implies that  $gNg^{-1} \subseteq N$  for all  $g \in G$ . As above, let us write  $n \in N = \prod s_i^{ij}$ , and let  $t \in T$ . Then:

$$tnt^{-1} = t(\prod s_i^{ij})t^{-1} = \prod (ts_i^{ij}t^{-1}),$$

which is the product of elements of  $N$  and so lies in  $N$ . We then have  $tNt^{-1} \subseteq N$ .

Next, let  $g \in G$ . Let us write  $g$  as the product of elements of  $T$ ,  $g = (t_1^{11} \dots t_m^{1m})(t_1^{21} \dots t_m^{2m}) \dots (t_1^{p1} \dots t_m^{pm})$ . Then we have:

$$\begin{aligned} gng^{-1} &= (t_1^{11} \dots t_m^{1m}) \dots (t_1^{p1} \dots t_m^{pm}) (\prod s_i^{ij}) ((t_1^{11} \dots t_m^{1m}) \dots (t_1^{p1} \dots t_m^{pm}))^{-1} \\ &= t_1^{11} t_2^{12} \dots t_m^{pm} (\prod s_i^{ij}) (t_m^{pm})^{-1} \dots (t_2^{12})^{-1} (t_1^{11})^{-1} \\ &= t_1^{11} (t_2^{12} (\dots (t_m^{pm} (\prod s_i^{ij}) t_m^{-pm}) \dots) t_2^{-12}) t_1^{-11} \\ &= \prod (t_1^{11} (t_2^{12} (\dots (t_m^{pm} s_i^{ij} t_m^{-pm}) \dots) t_2^{-12}) t_1^{-11}). \end{aligned}$$

Now the inner-most conjugate,  $t_m^{pm} s_i^{ij} t_m^{-pm}$ , is an element of  $N$ . Evaluating from the parentheses outward, each conjugate is of the form  $t_a^{ab} s_i^{ij} t_a^{-ab}$ , that is, always an element of  $N$ . Therefore we have  $gng^{-1} \in N$  for all  $g \in G, n \in N$ , and so  $gNg^{-1} \subseteq N$ , which implies that  $N \trianglelefteq G$ .  $\square$

### 30. (9/21/23)

Let  $N \leq G$  and let  $g \in G$ . Prove that  $gN = Ng$  if and only if  $g \in N_G(N)$ .

*Proof.* Recall that  $N_G(N)$ , the normalizer of  $N$  in  $G$ , is  $\{g \in G \mid gNg^{-1} = N\}$ .

First, let  $g \in N_G(N)$  (to show that  $gN = Ng$ ). It follows that  $gNg^{-1} = N$ . Let  $y \in gN$ . Since  $gN = \{gn \mid n \in N\}$ , we have  $y = gx$  for some  $x \in N$ . From Chapter 2.2, the normalizer of  $N$  is a subgroup of  $G$ , and so is closed under inverses, so we also have  $g^{-1} \in N_G(N)$ , and so  $g^{-1}N(g^{-1})^{-1} = N$ . It follows that  $x = g^{-1}z(g^{-1})^{-1}$  for some (unique)  $z \in N$ . Then  $y = gx = g(g^{-1}z(g^{-1})^{-1}) = zg$ , so we have  $y \in Ng$ . This proves that  $gN \subseteq Ng$ . The proof showing that  $Ng \subseteq gN$  is structurally identical (let  $y \in Ng \Rightarrow y = xg$ , etc.), and so we have  $gN = Ng$ .

Next, let  $gN = Ng$  (to show that  $gNg^{-1} = N$ ). Let  $y \in N$ . Then  $yg = gx$  for some  $x \in N$ . So  $y = gxg^{-1}$ , which implies that  $y \in gNg^{-1}$ , and so  $N \subseteq gNg^{-1}$ .

Similarly, let  $y \in gNg^{-1}$ , so  $y = gxg^{-1}$  for some  $x \in N$ . Since  $gN = Ng$ , we know that  $gx = zg$  for some  $z \in N$ . Then  $y = gxg^{-1} = zgg^{-1} = z \in N$ , so  $gNg^{-1} \subseteq N$ . Thus  $gNg^{-1} = N$ , so  $g$  is in the normalizer of  $N$ .  $\square$

### 31. (9/22/23)

Prove that if  $H \leq G$  and  $N$  is a normal subgroup of  $H$  then  $H \leq N_G(N)$ . Deduce that  $N_G(N)$  is the largest subgroup of  $G$  in which  $N$  is normal (i.e., is the join of all subgroups  $H$  for which  $N \trianglelefteq H$ ).

*Proof.* Let  $H \leq G$ ,  $N \trianglelefteq H$ , and let  $h \in H$ . Since  $N$  is normal in  $H$ , we have  $hNh^{-1} = N$ . Recall that  $N_G(N) = \{g \in G \mid gNg^{-1} = N\}$ . It follows that  $h \in N_G(N)$ , and so  $H \subseteq N_G(N)$ . Since both are subgroups of  $G$ , more specifically, we have  $H \leq N_G(N)$ .

This implies that any subgroup in which  $N$  is normal is a subgroup of  $N_G(N)$ , and so  $N_G(N)$  is the largest subgroup of  $G$  in which  $N$  is normal. In particular, if  $N_G(N) \leq K$  for some subgroup  $K$  of  $G$ , then  $N$  is not normal in  $K$ , since otherwise we would have  $K \leq N_G(N)$ .  $\square$

### 32. (9/22/23)

Prove that every subgroup of  $Q_8$  is normal. For each subgroup find the isomorphism type of its corresponding quotient.

*Proof.* Recall that  $Q_8$  has four proper nontrivial subgroups. They are:

$$\begin{aligned}\langle i \rangle &= \{\pm 1, \pm i\}, \\ \langle j \rangle &= \{\pm 1, \pm j\}, \\ \langle k \rangle &= \{\pm 1, \pm k\}, \text{ and} \\ \langle -1 \rangle &= \{\pm 1\}.\end{aligned}$$

A subgroup is normal in  $Q_8$  if its normalizer is all of  $Q_8$ . Since a subgroup is contained in its normalizer, we know that  $\langle i \rangle \leq N_{Q_8}(\langle i \rangle)$ , so we only have to check that at least one element not in  $\langle i \rangle$  is in its normalizer in order to deduce that  $N_{Q_8}(\langle i \rangle) = Q_8$ .

We will use the element  $j$ . We know that  $j$  commutes with 1 and  $-1$ , so the conjugates of those elements by  $j$  are 1 and  $-1$ , respectively. Then we see that  $j \cdot i \cdot -j = j \cdot -k = -i$  and  $j \cdot -i \cdot -j = j \cdot k = i$ , so  $j \cdot \langle i \rangle \cdot -j = \langle i \rangle$ , which implies that  $j \in N_{Q_8}(\langle i \rangle)$ . Since the normalizer is a subgroup and therefore is closed under multiplication, it must be all of  $Q_8$ , and so  $\langle i \rangle \trianglelefteq Q_8$ . Because  $\langle i \rangle$  is isomorphic to  $\langle j \rangle$  and  $\langle k \rangle$  (map  $i$  to  $j$  and  $i$  to  $k$ , respectively), those subgroups are also normal in  $Q_8$ .

Next, we consider  $\langle -1 \rangle$ . From Chapter 2.2, Exercise 4., this is the center of  $Q_8$ , thus normal.

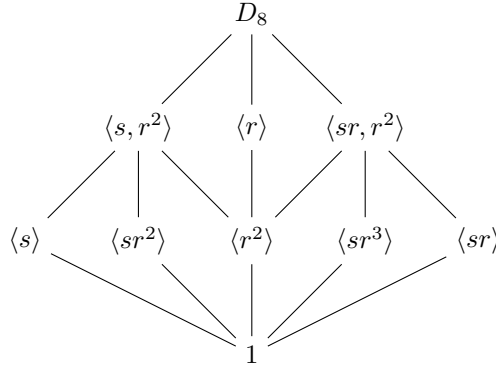
The quotient group  $Q_8/\langle i \rangle$  consists of the cosets of  $\langle i \rangle$  in  $Q_8$ . Now  $Q_8$  has 8 elements and  $\langle i \rangle$  has 4 elements, so there is only one other coset, which can be represented by  $j \cdot \langle i \rangle$ . Since it only has two elements and there is only one group of order 2, it is isomorphic to the cyclic group  $Z_2$ . As noted above, the quotient groups  $Q_8/\langle j \rangle$  and  $Q_8/\langle k \rangle$  are isomorphic.

Finally, the quotient group  $Q_8/\langle -1 \rangle$  will have four elements, so it is either isomorphic to  $V_4$  or  $Z_4$ . Consider the element  $i\langle -1 \rangle = \{\pm i\}$ . It has order 2, since any product of  $\pm i$  with  $\pm i$  is either 1 or  $-1$ , both of which lie in the identity element  $\langle -1 \rangle$ . Similarly, both  $j\langle -1 \rangle$  and  $k\langle -1 \rangle$  have order 2. Therefore  $Q_8/\langle -1 \rangle \cong V_4$ .  $\square$

### 33. (9/22/23)

Find all normal subgroups of  $D_8$  and for each of these find the isomorphism type of its corresponding quotient.

*Proof.* Recall that the lattice of subgroups of  $D_8$  is:



The center of  $D_8$  is  $\langle r^2 \rangle$ , so that subgroup is normal in  $D_8$ . Next, consider  $\langle r \rangle$ . For the generator  $s$ , we have  $srs^{-1} = srs = ssr^3 = r^3 \in \langle r \rangle$ , so  $s$  is in the normalizer of  $\langle r \rangle$ . Since both  $s$  and  $r$  are in  $N_G(\langle r \rangle)$ , we must have  $N_G(\langle r \rangle) = D_8$ , and so  $\langle r \rangle \trianglelefteq D_8$ .

Let us next consider the other 2-element subgroups (on the same horizontal line as  $\langle r^2 \rangle$ ). For  $\langle s \rangle$ , we have  $rsr^{-1} = sr^3r^{-1} = sr^2 \notin \langle s \rangle$ , so it is not normal in  $D_8$ . Likewise,  $r(sr^2)r^{-1} = s \notin \langle sr^2 \rangle$ ,  $r(sr^3)r^{-1} = sr \notin \langle sr^3 \rangle$ , and  $r(sr)r^{-1} = sr^3 \notin \langle sr \rangle$ . Then the only normal 2-element subgroup of  $D_8$  is  $\langle r^2 \rangle$ .

For the remaining 4-element subgroups  $\langle s, r^2 \rangle$  and  $\langle sr^3, r^2 \rangle$ , since they are maximal subgroups, we only have to check that an element outside of each is in the normalizer in order for each to be normal in  $D_8$ . From above, we have  $rsr^{-1} = sr^2 \in \langle s, r^2 \rangle$ , so  $r \in N_{D_8}(\langle s, r^2 \rangle)$ , and so  $\langle s, r^2 \rangle \trianglelefteq D_8$ . Lastly,  $r(sr)r^{-1} = sr^3 \in \langle sr, r^2 \rangle$ , so  $\langle sr, r^2 \rangle \trianglelefteq D_8$ .

In summary, the (proper, nontrivial) normal subgroups of  $D_8$  are exactly  $\langle r^2 \rangle$ ,  $\langle r \rangle$ ,  $\langle s, r^2 \rangle$ , and  $\langle sr, r^2 \rangle$ .

For each of the 4-element normal subgroups, we infer that the corresponding quotient group has 2 elements and so is isomorphic to  $Z_2$ . Next, consider  $D_8/\langle r^2 \rangle$ , which contains 4 elements. The cosets of  $\langle r^2 \rangle = \{1, r^2\}$  in  $D_8$  are  $\bar{r} = \{r, r^3\}$ ,  $\bar{s} = \{s, sr^2\}$ , and  $\overline{sr} = \{sr, sr^3\}$ . Each of these has order 2, and so we must have  $D_8/\langle r^2 \rangle \cong V_4$ .

□

### 34. (9/29/23)

Let  $D_{2n} = \{s, r \mid s^2 = r^n = 1, sr = rs^{-1}\}$  be the usual presentation of the dihedral group of order  $2n$  and let  $k$  be a positive integer dividing  $n$ .

- (a) Prove that  $\langle r^k \rangle$  is a normal subgroup of  $D_{2n}$ .

*Proof.* We will show that the normalizer of  $\langle r^k \rangle$  is all of  $D_{2n}$ , which suffices to show that it is normal in  $D_{2n}$ .

Since we are dealing with finite groups and subgroups with known generators, we only have to consider the conjugates of generators. Of course  $r$  commutes with all powers of itself, so  $r$  is in the normalizer of  $\langle r^k \rangle$ . Next, consider the conjugate  $s(r^k)s^{-1} = sr^ks = ssr^{-k} = r^{-k}$ . The cyclic group  $\langle r^k \rangle$  contains all elements of the form  $r^{mk}$ ,  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ , so  $r^{-k} \in \langle r^k \rangle$ . Therefore  $s$  is also in the normalizer of  $\langle r^k \rangle$ . Since  $r$  and  $s$ , the generators of  $D_{2n}$ , are both in the normalizer (and the normalizer is closed), it must then be the entire group  $D_{2n}$ . Therefore  $\langle r^k \rangle \trianglelefteq D_{2n}$ . □

- (b) Prove that  $D_{2n}/\langle r^k \rangle \cong D_{2k}$ .

*Proof.* The quotient group  $D_{2n}/\langle r^k \rangle$  consists of cosets of  $\langle r^k \rangle$ , of the form  $(s^a r^b)\langle r^k \rangle$ , which we will denote  $\bar{s}^a \bar{r}^b$  for some  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Given the relations of  $D_{2n}$ , we know that  $a = 0$  or  $1$ . Now if  $b \geq k$ , then there exists a  $c > 0$  such that  $0 \leq b - ck < k$ . Since  $b = b - ck \pmod{k}$ , we have both  $r^b, r^{b-ck} \in \bar{r}^b$ , so  $\bar{r}^{b-ck}$  is another representative with exponent between  $0$  and  $k - 1$ .

Let  $\varphi : D_{2n} \rightarrow D_{2n}/\langle r^k \rangle$  be defined on generators by  $\varphi(s) = \bar{s}$ ,  $\varphi(r) = \bar{r}$ . We see that  $\varphi(s)^2 = \bar{s}^2 = \bar{1}$  and  $\varphi(r)^k = \bar{r}^k = \langle r^k \rangle = \bar{1}$ . And,  $\varphi(s)\varphi(r) = \bar{s}\bar{r} = \bar{r}^{-1}\bar{s} = \varphi(s)^{-1}\varphi(r)$ , so the relations hold. Therefore  $\varphi$  is an isomorphism, and so  $D_{2n}/\langle r^k \rangle \cong D_{2k}$ . □

### 35. (9/29/23)

Prove that  $SL_n(F) \trianglelefteq GL_n(F)$  and describe the isomorphism type of the quotient group.

*Proof.* Let  $\varphi : GL_n(F) \rightarrow F^\times$  be defined by  $\varphi(A) = \det A$  for all  $A \in GL_n(F)$ . Recall from elementary linear algebra that  $\det A \cdot \det B = \det AB$  for all square invertible matrices  $A, B$ . Then we have:

$$\varphi(A)\varphi(B) = \det A \cdot \det B = \det AB = \varphi(AB),$$

so  $\varphi$  is a homomorphism. The kernel of  $\varphi$  consists of those matrices in  $GL_n(F)$  whose image under  $\varphi$  is 1 (the identity of  $F^\times$ ), that is, those matrices with determinant 1. By definition, this is  $SL_n(F)$ . Since  $SL_n(F)$  is the kernel of a homomorphism, by Proposition 7, it is normal in  $GL_n(F)$ .

Now consider the quotient group  $GL_n(F)/SL_n(F)$ . A representative  $\bar{A}$  is the set  $\{AS \mid S \in SL_n(F)\}$ . We will show that  $GL_n(F)/SL_n(F)$  is isomorphic to  $F^\times$ .

Let  $\gamma : GL_n(F)/SL_n(F) \rightarrow F^\times$  be defined by  $\gamma(\bar{A}) = \det A$ . By the same logic as  $\varphi$  above,  $\gamma$  is a homomorphism. It is also surjective: Let  $x \in F^\times$  (so  $x \neq 0$ ). Then the diagonal matrix with  $x$  in the top-left entry and 1's in every other diagonal entry has determinant  $x \cdot 1 \cdots 1 = x$ , so this matrix's image under  $\gamma$  is  $x$ .

Finally, to show that  $\gamma$  is injective, let  $\gamma(\bar{A}) = \gamma(\bar{B})$ , which implies that  $\det A = \det B$ . Let  $a \in F^\times$  be the determinants of  $A$  and  $B$ , respectively, and note that  $\det A^{-1} = \det B^{-1} = 1/a$ . Then we have  $A^{-1}B, B^{-1}A \in SL_n(F)$ , since the determinant of both products is  $a/a = 1$ . So we have  $A = B(B^{-1}A)$  and  $B = A(A^{-1}B)$ , which implies that  $A \in \bar{B}$  and  $B \in \bar{A}$ . In turn, this shows that  $\bar{A} \subseteq \bar{B}$  and  $\bar{B} \subseteq \bar{A}$ , and so  $\bar{A} = \bar{B}$ , which proves that  $\gamma$  is injective.

Since  $\gamma$  is a bijective homomorphism, it is an isomorphism. Therefore  $GL_n(F)/SL_n(F) \cong F^\times$ .  $\square$

## 36. (9/29/23)

Prove that if  $G/Z(G)$  is cyclic then  $G$  is abelian.

*Proof.* Let  $G/Z(G)$  be a cyclic subgroup of  $G$  with generator  $\bar{x} = xZ(G)$  for some  $x \in G$ . By definition the quotient group  $G/Z(G)$  consists of cosets of  $Z(G)$ , that is,  $\{Z(G), xZ(G), x^2Z(G), \dots\} = \{\bar{1}, \bar{x}, \bar{x}^2, \dots\}$ . Now the cosets of  $Z(G)$  partition  $G$ , so we have:

$$G = Z(G) \cup xZ(G) \cup x^2Z(G) \cup \dots = \bigcup_{i=0}^{|x|-1} x^i Z(G).$$

This implies that for any  $g \in G$ , we can write  $x = x^a z$  for some  $a \in \mathbb{Z}, z \in Z(G)$ .

Now let  $g_1 = x^a z_1, g_2 = x^b z_2$ . Then:

$$\begin{aligned} g_1 g_2 &= x^a z_1 x^b z_2 \\ &= x^a x^b z_1 z_2 \text{ (} z_1 \text{ commutes with } x^b \text{)} \\ &= x^b x^a z_2 z_1 \text{ (powers of } x \text{ commute, } z_1 \text{ commutes with } z_2 \text{)} \\ &= x^b z_2 x^a z_1 \text{ (} z_2 \text{ commutes with } x^a \text{)} \\ &= g_2 g_1, \end{aligned}$$

and so every element of  $G$  commutes with every other element of  $G$ . Thus  $G$  is abelian.  $\square$



### 37. (9/29/23)

Let  $A$  and  $B$  be groups. Show that  $\{(a, 1) \mid a \in A\}$  is a normal subgroup of  $A \times B$  and the quotient of  $A \times B$  by this subgroup is isomorphic to  $B$ .

*Proof.* Denote the subgroup  $\{(a, 1) \mid a \in A\} \in A \times B$  by  $A \times 1$ . Let  $\varphi : A \times B \rightarrow B$  be defined by  $\varphi(a, b) = b$ . Now  $\varphi(a, b)\varphi(c, d) = bd = \varphi(ac, bd) = \varphi((a, b)(c, d))$ , so  $\varphi$  is a homomorphism. The kernel of  $\varphi$  is the set of elements  $(a, b)$  whose image under  $\varphi$  is 1, that is, all elements of the form  $(a, 1) \in A \times B$ , which is exactly the set  $A \times 1$ . Since  $A \times 1$  is the kernel of a homomorphism, it is normal in  $A \times B$ .

Next consider the quotient group  $(A \times B)/(A \times 1)$ . This consists of cosets of  $A \times 1$  in  $A \times B$ , for example:

$$\overline{(a_1, b_1)} = (a_1, b_1)(A \times 1) = \{(a_1, b_1)(a, 1) \mid a \in A\} = \{(a_1 a, b_1) \mid a \in A\}.$$

Now since  $\{a_1 a \mid a \in A\} = A$  for all  $a_1, a \in A$ , another representative for this element of  $(A \times B)/(A \times 1)$  is  $(1, b_1)$ .

Let  $\varphi : (A \times B)/(A \times 1) \rightarrow B$  be defined by  $\varphi(\overline{(1, b)}) = b$  for all  $\overline{(1, b)} \in (A \times B)/(A \times 1)$ . We will show that  $\varphi$  is an isomorphism.

The map is a homomorphism:  $\varphi(\overline{(1, b_1)})\varphi(\overline{(1, b_2)}) = b_1 b_2 = \varphi(\overline{(1, b_1 b_2)}) = \varphi(\overline{(1, b_1)} \cdot \overline{(1, b_2)})$ . It is trivial to show that  $\varphi$  is surjective and injective (since  $(a, b) = (1, b)$  for all  $a \in A$ ). Thus it is an isomorphism, so the quotient group  $(A \times B)/(A \times 1)$  is isomorphic to  $B$ .  $\square$

### 38. (9/29/23)

Let  $A$  be an abelian group and let  $D$  be the (diagonal) subgroup  $\{(a, a) \mid a \in A\}$  of  $A \times A$ . Prove that  $D$  is a normal subgroup of  $A \times A$  and  $(A \times A)/D \cong A$ .

*Proof.* We offer three variations on this proof.

1. Let  $\varphi : A \times A \rightarrow A$  be defined by  $\varphi(a, b) = ab^{-1}$ . Then:

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(a, b)\varphi(c, d) &= ab^{-1}cd^{-1} \\ &= acb^{-1}d^{-1} = ac(db)^{-1} = ac(bd)^{-1} \\ &= \varphi(ac, bd) = \varphi((a, b)(c, d)), \end{aligned}$$

so  $\varphi$  is a homomorphism. The kernel of  $\varphi$  is the set  $\{(a, b) \in A \times A \mid ab^{-1} = 1\}$ , which happens only when  $a = b$ , and so is  $\{(a, a)\} = D$ . Since  $D$  is the kernel of a homomorphism, it is normal in  $A \times A$ .

2. Let  $(a, b) \in A \times A$ . Then we have:

$$\begin{aligned} (a, b)(D) &= \{(a, b)(d, d) \mid d \in A\} \\ &= \{(ad, bd)\} = \{(da, db)\} = \{(d, d)(a, b)\} \\ &= (D)(a, b), \end{aligned}$$

so any left coset of  $D$  is equal to the corresponding right coset, making  $D$  normal in  $A \times A$ .

3. Recall from Ch. 1.1, Exercise 29. that  $A \times B$  is abelian if and only if  $A$  and  $B$  are both abelian. Since  $A$  is abelian,  $A \times A$  is abelian, and thus every subgroup is normal.

Now, consider the quotient group  $(A \times A)/D$ , which consists of the cosets of  $D$  in  $A \times A$ . For example,  $\overline{(a, b)} = \{(a, b)(d, d) \mid d \in A\}$ . Since  $(b^{-1}, b^{-1}) \in D$ ,  $(a, b)(b^{-1}, b^{-1}) = (ab^{-1}, 1)$  is another representative of  $\overline{(a, b)}$ , so we can write any representative of  $(A \times A)/D$  in the form  $\overline{(ab^{-1}, 1)}$  for some  $a, b \in A$ .

Let  $\gamma : (A \times A)/D \rightarrow A$  be defined by  $\gamma(\overline{(ab^{-1}, 1)}) = ab^{-1}$ . Like  $\varphi$  in the first proof above,  $\gamma$  is a homomorphism, and is trivially bijective, thus an isomorphism. Therefore  $(A \times A)/D \cong A$ .  $\square$

### 39. (9/29/23)

Suppose  $A$  is the non-abelian group  $S_3$  and  $D$  is the diagonal subgroup  $\{(a, a) \mid a \in A\}$  of  $A \times A$ . Prove that  $D$  is not normal in  $A \times A$ .

*Proof.* Let us consider the conjugate of  $((1, 3), (1, 3)) \in D$  by  $((1, 2), (1, 3)) \in A \times A$ .

$$\begin{aligned} & ((1, 2), (1, 3)) \cdot ((1, 3), (1, 3)) \cdot ((1, 2), (1, 3))^{-1} = \\ & ((1, 2), (1, 3)) \cdot ((1, 3), (1, 3)) \cdot ((1, 2), (1, 3)) = \text{(2-cycle is its own inverse)} \\ & ((1, 2), (1, 3)) \cdot ((1, 3)(1, 2), (1, 3)(1, 3)) = \\ & ((1, 2), (1, 3)) \cdot ((1, 2, 3), (1)) = \\ & ((1, 2)(1, 2, 3), (1, 3)(1)) = \\ & ((2, 3), (1, 3)) \notin D, \end{aligned}$$

which shows that  $D$  is not normal in  $A \times A$ .  $\square$

### 40. (10/1/23)

Let  $G$  be a group, let  $N$  be a normal subgroup of  $G$ , and let  $\overline{G} = G/N$ . Prove that  $\overline{x}$  and  $\overline{y}$  commute in  $\overline{G}$  if and only if  $x^{-1}y^{-1}xy \in N$ . (The element  $x^{-1}y^{-1}xy$  is called the *commutator* of  $x$  and  $y$  and is denoted by  $[x, y]$ .)

*Proof.* Let  $x, y \in G$  and suppose that  $x^{-1}y^{-1}xy \in N$ . Let us write  $n = x^{-1}y^{-1}xy$ , so by left-multiplication we have  $yx(n) = xy$ . Since  $n \in N$ , for any  $g \in G$ ,  $gn$  and  $g = g \cdot 1$  are representatives of the same coset  $gN$ , so  $(gn)N = gN$ . Then:

$$\overline{x} \cdot \overline{y} = xN \cdot yN = (xy) \cdot N = \underbrace{(yx n) \cdot N}_{\text{substitution}} = \underbrace{(yx) \cdot N}_{(gn)N=gN} = yN \cdot xN = \overline{y} \cdot \overline{x},$$

so  $\bar{x}$  and  $\bar{y}$  commute in  $\bar{G}$ .

Next, suppose that  $\bar{x}$  and  $\bar{y}$  commute in  $\bar{G}$ . Then  $xN \cdot yN = (xy) \cdot N$  and  $yN \cdot xN = (yx) \cdot N$  are equal. That is, given  $xy \in (xy) \cdot N$ , we know that  $xy \in (yx) \cdot N$ , so  $xy = yxn$  for some  $n \in N$ . By left-multiplication, we have  $n = x^{-1}y^{-1}xy$ , and thus we have  $x^{-1}y^{-1}xy \in N$ .

Therefore  $\bar{x}$  and  $\bar{y}$  commute in  $\bar{G}$  if and only if  $x^{-1}y^{-1}xy \in N$ .  $\square$

## 41. (10/11/23)

Let  $G$  be a group. Prove that  $N = \langle x^{-1}y^{-1}xy \mid x, y \in G \rangle$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$  and  $G/N$  is abelian ( $N$  is called the *commutator subgroup* of  $G$ ).

*Proof.* Let  $x^{-1}y^{-1}xy$  be a generator of  $N$  (for some  $x, y$  in  $G$ ) and let  $g$  lie in  $G$ . We will show that the conjugate  $gx^{-1}y^{-1}xyg^{-1}$  lies in  $N$ , and so  $g$  normalizes  $N$ . Observe that:

$$\begin{aligned} gx^{-1}y^{-1}xyg^{-1} &= gx^{-1}g^{-1} \cdot gy^{-1}g^{-1} \cdot g x g^{-1} \cdot g y g^{-1} \\ &= (gxg^{-1})^{-1} (gyg^{-1})^{-1} (gxg^{-1}) (gyg^{-1}) \\ &= a^{-1}b^{-1}ab, \text{ where } a = gxg^{-1}, b = g y g^{-1}. \end{aligned}$$

Clearly  $a, b \in G$ , so the commutator element  $a^{-1}b^{-1}ab = gx^{-1}y^{-1}xyg^{-1}$  by definition lies in  $N$ . Since any element  $g \in G$  normalizes any generating element of  $N$ , it follows that  $N_G(N) = N$ , and so  $N \trianglelefteq G$ .

Now let  $\bar{x}, \bar{y}$  in  $G/N$ . By definition,  $x^{-1}y^{-1}xy \in N$ . From Exercise 40.,  $\bar{x}$  and  $\bar{y}$  commute, so  $G/N$  is abelian.  $\square$

## 42. (10/6/23)

Assume both  $H$  and  $K$  are normal subgroups of  $G$  with  $H \cap K = 1$ . Prove that  $xy = yx$  for all  $x \in H$  and  $y \in K$ . [Show  $x^{-1}y^{-1}xy \in H \cap K$ .]

*Proof.* Let  $x \in H, y \in K$ .

Since  $H \trianglelefteq G$ ,  $gxg^{-1} \in H$  for all  $g \in G$ . Then we have  $y^{-1}xy \in H$  (letting  $g = y^{-1}$ ). Further,  $H$  is closed and closed under inverses, so  $x^{-1}y^{-1}xy \in H$ .

Similarly,  $K \trianglelefteq G$  implies that  $x^{-1}y^{-1}x \in K$  (conjugating  $y^{-1} \in K$  by  $x^{-1}$ ). So  $x^{-1}y^{-1}xy$  also lies in  $K$ , giving us  $x^{-1}y^{-1}xy \in H \cap K$ . It follows that  $x^{-1}y^{-1}xy = 1$ , and left-multiplying by  $x$  and then  $y$ , we obtain  $xy = yx$  for all  $x \in H, y \in K$ .  $\square$