

Do the following exercises from Judson:  
Chapter 9, Section 9.3: 5, 11, 12, 16 (d)

5. Show that  $U(5)$  is isomorphic to  $U(10)$ , but  $U(12)$  is not isomorphic to  $U(10)$ .

► **Solution.**  $U(5) = \{2, 2^2 = 4, 2^3 = 3, 2^4 = 1\} = \langle 2 \rangle$  is cyclic of order 4 with generator 2.  $U(10) = \{3, 3^2 = 9, 3^3 = 7, 3^4 = 1\} = \langle 3 \rangle$  is cyclic of order 4 with generator 3. Thus, there is an isomorphism  $\phi : U(5) \rightarrow U(10)$  given by  $\phi(2^k) = 3^k$  for all  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ . This is well defined since  $2^4 = 1 \in U(5)$  while  $3^4 = 1 \in U(10)$ . Since there are only 4 elements, this amounts to  $\phi(1) = 1$ ,  $\phi(2) = 3$ ,  $\phi(4) = 9$ , and  $\phi(3) = 7$ , which is clearly one-to-one and onto. Since  $\phi(2^k 2^m) = \phi(2^{k+m}) = 3^{k+m} = 3^k 3^m$ , it follows that  $\phi$  is a group homomorphism.

$U(12) = \{1, 5, 7, 11\}$ . Since  $2^2 = 1$ ,  $5^2 = 1$ , and  $11^2 = 1$ , all elements other than the identity have order 2. Since there is no element of order 4,  $U(12)$  cannot be isomorphic to  $U(10)$ , which has an element, namely 3, of order 2. ◀

11. Find five non-isomorphic groups of order 8.

► **Solution.** The five groups are  $\mathbb{Z}_8$ ,  $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_4$ ,  $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$ ,  $D_4$  (the symmetry group of a square),  $Q_8$  (the quaternion group). The first 3 are abelian, so none of the first 3 are isomorphic to  $D_4$  or  $Q_8$ , since these are both non-abelian.  $D_4$  has 2 elements of order 4, namely  $r$  and  $r^3$ , where  $r$  is the rotation by  $90^\circ$ .  $Q_8$  has 6 elements of order 4, namely  $\pm i, \pm j, \pm k$ . Thus  $D_4$  is not isomorphic to  $Q_8$ .  $\mathbb{Z}_8$  has an element of order 8, namely 1,  $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_4$  has an element of order 4, but no element of higher order, and  $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$  has all non-identity elements of order 2. Thus, none of the three abelian groups are isomorphic to another of the three. Hence, all of these groups of order 8 are distinct, in that none is isomorphic to another of the listed groups of order 8. ◀

12. Prove that  $S_4$  is not isomorphic to  $D_{12}$ .

► **Solution.** Both groups have order 24 and are non-abelian. However,  $D_{12}$  has an element of order 12, namely, the rotation  $r$  by  $30^\circ$ , whereas, the largest order of an element in  $S_4$  is 4, given by a 4-cycle. Since  $S_4$  does not have an element of order 12, it cannot be isomorphic to  $D_{12}$ . ◀

1. Find the order of the element  $(8, 8, , 8)$  in  $\mathbb{Z}_{10} \times \mathbb{Z}_{24} \times \mathbb{Z}_{80}$ .

► **Solution.** In  $\mathbb{Z}_{10}$  the order of 8 is  $10/\gcd(8, 10) = 10/2 = 5$ . In  $\mathbb{Z}_{24}$  the order of 8 is  $24/\gcd(8, 24) = 24/8 = 3$ , while in  $\mathbb{Z}_{80}$  the order of 8 is  $80/\gcd(8, 80) = 80/8 = 10$ . Thus, the order of  $(8, 8, , 8)$  in  $\mathbb{Z}_{10} \times \mathbb{Z}_{24} \times \mathbb{Z}_{80}$  is the least common multiple of 5, 3, 10, which is 30. ◀

Chapter 10, Section 10.3: 4, 7

4. Let  $T$  be the group of nonsingular upper triangular  $2 \times 2$  matrices with entries in  $\mathbb{R}$ ; that is matrices of the form  $\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & c \end{bmatrix}$  where  $a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $ac \neq 0$ . Let  $U$  consist of matrices of the form  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & x \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$  where  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ .

(a) Show that  $U$  is a subgroup of  $T$ .

► **Solution.** First,  $U \subset T$  is clear since each element of  $U$  is upper triangular and nonsingular (each has determinant 1). The identity matrix is in  $U$ , and

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & x \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & y \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x+y \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \in U,$$

while  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & x \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -x \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ . Thus,  $U$  contains the identity of  $T$ , is closed under matrix multiplication, and is closed under inverses. Thus  $U$  is a subgroup of  $T$ . ◀

(b) Prove that  $U$  is abelian.

► **Solution.**

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & x \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & y \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x+y \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & y+x \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & y \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Thus, multiplication in  $U$  is commutative and  $U$  is abelian. ◀

(c) Prove that  $U$  is a normal subgroup of  $T$ .

► **Solution.** Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \in U$  and let  $B = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & c \end{bmatrix} \in T$  be arbitrary. To show that  $U$  is normal in  $T$  it is sufficient to show that  $BAB^{-1} \in U$  for all choices of  $A \in U$  and  $B \in T$ . (By Theorem 10.3.)

$$\begin{aligned} BAB^{-1} &= \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & c \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{a} & -\frac{b}{ac} \\ 0 & \frac{1}{c} \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & c \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{a} & -\frac{b}{ac} + \frac{x}{c} \\ 0 & \frac{1}{c} \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -\frac{b}{c} + \frac{xa}{c} + \frac{b}{c} \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

The last matrix is in  $U$  for all choices of  $A$  and  $B$ , so  $U$  is normal in  $T$ . ◀

(d) Show that the factor group  $T/U$  is abelian.

► **Solution.** The elements of  $T/U$  are the cosets  $AU$  where  $A \in T$ , and multiplication in  $T/U$  is coset multiplication, that is,  $(AU)(BU) = (AB)U$ . Thus, to show that  $T/U$  is abelian, it is necessary to show that  $(AB)U = (BA)U$  for all  $A, B \in T$ . The condition for the two left cosets to be equal is (from Lemma 6.3 (5)):  $(AB)^{-1}(BA) \in U$ . Thus, we need to show that  $B^{-1}A^{-1}BA \in U$  for all  $A, B \in T$ . If  $A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & c \end{bmatrix}$  and  $B = \begin{bmatrix} r & s \\ 0 & t \end{bmatrix}$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} B^{-1}A^{-1}BA &= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{r} & -\frac{s}{rt} \\ 0 & \frac{1}{t} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{a} & -\frac{b}{ac} \\ 0 & \frac{1}{c} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & c \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} r & s \\ 0 & t \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{ra} & -\frac{b}{rac} - \frac{s}{rct} \\ 0 & \frac{1}{tc} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} ar & rb + cs \\ 0 & ct \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \frac{b}{a} + \frac{cs}{ra} - \frac{bt}{ra} - \frac{s}{r} \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \in U \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $(AB)U = (BA)U$  so  $T/U$  is abelian. ◀

(e) Is  $T$  normal in  $\text{GL}_2(\mathbb{R})$ ?

► **Solution.** If  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ , then  $A = A^{-1}$  and  $B \in T$ . Then,

$$\begin{aligned} ABA^{-1} &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \notin T. \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $T$  is not a normal subgroup of  $\text{GL}_2(\mathbb{R})$ . Note that since the above  $B$  is also in  $U$ , we have also shown that  $U$  is not a normal subgroup of  $\text{GL}_2(\mathbb{R})$ . ◀

1. Prove or disprove: If  $H$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$  such that  $H$  and  $G/H$  are abelian, then  $G$  is abelian.

► **Solution.** This is false. One counterexample is provided by Exercise 4. Namely, the subgroup  $U$  of  $T$  is an abelian and normal subgroup of  $T$  and  $T/U$  is abelian, but the group  $T$  is not abelian. For example, if  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$  then

$$AB = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \neq \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} = BA$$

Another example is to take  $G = S_3$  and  $H = \langle [1 \ 2 \ 3] \rangle$ . Then  $H$  is a cyclic subgroup of  $G$  of order 3, so the index  $[G : H] = 2$  and hence  $H$  is a normal subgroup. The factor group  $G/H$  has order  $6/3 = 2$ . Since 2 is prime this means that  $G/H$  is cyclic of order 2, and hence abelian. Thus, both  $H$  and  $G/H$  are abelian, but  $G = S_3$  is not abelian. ◀

Exercises not from the text:

1. If  $G$  is any group, define  $\alpha : G \rightarrow G$  by  $\alpha(g) = g^{-1}$ . Show that  $G$  is abelian if and only if  $\alpha$  is a homomorphism.

► **Solution.** Assume that  $G$  is abelian. then

$$\alpha(gh) = (gh)^{-1} = h^{-1}g^{-1} = g^{-1}h^{-1} = \alpha(g)\alpha(h)$$

where the third equality is because  $G$  is abelian. Thus,  $\alpha$  is a group homomorphism.

Conversely, assume that  $\alpha$  is a group homomorphism and let  $g, h \in G$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} gh &= (g^{-1})^{-1}(h^{-1})^{-1} \\ &= \alpha(g^{-1})\alpha(h^{-1}) \\ &= \alpha(g^{-1}h^{-1}) \\ &= \alpha((hg)^{-1}) \\ &= ((hg)^{-1})^{-1} \\ &= hg \end{aligned}$$

where the third equality is because  $\alpha$  is a homomorphism. Since  $g$  and  $h$  are arbitrary, it follows that  $G$  is abelian. ◀

2. If  $\alpha : G \rightarrow G_1$  is a homomorphism, show that  $K = \{g \in G : \alpha(g) = 1\}$  is a subgroup of  $G$ .

► **Solution.** The identity  $1$  of  $G$  is in  $K$  since  $\alpha(1) = 1$  for any homomorphism. If  $g, h \in K$ , then  $\alpha(gh) = \alpha(g)\alpha(h) = 1 \cdot 1 = 1$  so  $gh \in K$ . If  $g \in K$  then  $\alpha(g^{-1}) = \alpha(g)^{-1} = 1^{-1} = 1$  so  $g^{-1} \in K$ . Thus  $K$  is a subgroup of  $G$ . ◀

3. In each case determine whether  $\alpha : G \rightarrow G_1$  is an isomorphism.

(a)  $G = G_1 = \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $\alpha(n) = 2n$ .

► **Solution.**  $\alpha$  is a homomorphism, but it is not an isomorphism since it is not onto. In fact  $\alpha(G) = 2\mathbb{Z} \neq \mathbb{Z}$ . ◀

(b)  $G = G_1 = \mathbb{Z}_5^*$ ,  $\alpha(g) = g^3$ .

► **Solution.** This is a homomorphism since  $\mathbb{Z}_5^*$  is abelian so  $\alpha(gh) = (gh)^3 = g^3h^3 = \alpha(g)\alpha(h)$ . Since  $0^3 = 0$ ,  $1^3 = 1$ ,  $2^3 = 3$ ,  $3^3 = 2$ , and  $4^3 = 4$  in  $\mathbb{Z}_5^*$ , it follows that  $\alpha$  is bijective, and hence an isomorphism. ◀

(c)  $G = G_1 = \mathbb{Z}_8$ ,  $\alpha(g) = 2g$ .

► **Solution.** This is a homomorphism since  $\alpha(g+h) = 2(g+h) = 2g+2h = \alpha(g) + \alpha(h)$ . It is not an isomorphism since it is not injective:  $\alpha(0) = 0 = \alpha(4)$  but  $4 \neq 0$  in  $\mathbb{Z}_8$ . ◀