

Let G and H be groups.

The direct product of G and H is

$$G \times H = \{ (g, h) \mid g \in G \text{ and } h \in H \} \text{ with}$$

$$(g_1, h_1) \cdot (g_2, h_2) = (g_1 g_2, h_1 h_2)$$

Example $\mu_2 \times \mu_2$ with $\mu_2 = \{1, -1\}$.

$\mu_2 \times \mu_2 = \{ (1, 1), (1, -1), (-1, 1), (-1, -1) \}$ with multiplication table

\cdot	$(1, 1)$	$(1, -1)$	$(-1, 1)$	$(-1, -1)$
$(1, 1)$	$(1, 1)$	$(1, -1)$	$(-1, 1)$	$(-1, -1)$
$(1, -1)$	$(1, -1)$	$(1, 1)$	$(-1, -1)$	$(-1, 1)$
$(-1, 1)$	$(-1, 1)$	$(-1, -1)$	$(1, 1)$	$(1, -1)$
$(-1, -1)$	$(-1, -1)$	$(-1, 1)$	$(1, -1)$	$(1, 1)$

$$\text{order}(1, 1) = 1$$

$$\text{order}(-1, 1) = 2$$

$$\text{order}(1, -1) = 2$$

$$\text{order}(-1, -1) = 1$$

Example $\mu_4 = \{1, i, -1, -i\} \cong \{1, \zeta, \zeta^2, \zeta^3\}$, $\mu_4 \cong \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}$

$$\text{order}(1) = 1$$

$$\text{order}(-1) = 2$$

$$\text{order}(i) = 4$$

$$\text{order}(-i) = 4$$

So $\mu_2 \times \mu_2$ is not isomorphic to $\mu_4 \cong \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}$.

Let G, H be groups.

A homomorphism from G to H is a function

$f: G \rightarrow H$ such that

$$(a) \text{ if } g_1, g_2 \in G \text{ then } f(g_1 g_2) = f(g_1) \circ f(g_2)$$

$$(b) f(1) = 1$$

$$(c) \text{ If } g \in G \text{ then } f(g^{-1}) = (f(g))^{-1}$$

Let $f: G \rightarrow H$ be a homomorphism.

$$\ker f = \{ g \in G \mid f(g) = 1 \}$$

$$\text{Im } f = \{ f(g) \mid g \in G \}.$$

A normal subgroup of G is a subgroup K such that

if $n \in K$ and $g \in G$ then $g^{-1}ng \in K$.

Proposition Let $f: G \rightarrow H$ be a homomorphism.

(a) $\ker f$ is a normal subgroup of G

(b) $\text{Im } f$ is a subgroup of H

Proof (a)

To show: (aa) If $n_1, n_2 \in \ker f$ then $n_1 n_2 \in \ker f$.

(ab) $1 \in \ker f$

(ac) If $n \in \ker f$ then $n^{-1} \in \ker f$

(ad) If $n \in \ker f$ and $g \in G$ then $g^{-1}ng \in \ker f$

(aa) Assume $n_1, n_2 \in \ker f$

To show: $n_1 n_2 \in \ker f$

To show: $f(n_1 n_2) = 1$.

Since $n_1, n_2 \in \ker f$ then

$$f(n_1 n_2) = f(n_1) f(n_2) = 1 \cdot 1 = 1$$

$\therefore n_1 n_2 \in \ker f$.

(ab) To show: $1 \in \ker f$

To show: $f(1) = 1$.

By property (b) in the definition of homomorphism, $f(1) = 1$.

$\therefore 1 \in \ker f$

(ac) To show: If $n \in \ker f$ then $n^{-1} \in \ker f$.

Assume $n \in \ker f$

To show: $n^{-1} \in \ker f$

To show: $f(n^{-1}) = 1$.

Since $n \in \ker f$ then $f(n) = 1$ and so

$$f(n^{-1}) = f(n)^{-1} = 1^{-1} = 1,$$

where the first equality is by property (c) in the definition of homomorphism.

(ad) To show: If $n \in \ker f$ and $g \in G$ then $g^{-1}ng \in \ker f$.

Assume $n \in \ker f$ and $g \in G$.

To show: $g^{-1}ng \in \ker f$

To show: $f(q^{-1}nq) = 1$.

Since $n \in \ker f$ then $f(n) = 1$ and so

$$\begin{aligned} f(q^{-1}nq) &= f(q^{-1})f(n)f(q) \\ &= f(q)^{-1}f(n)f(q) = f(q)^{-1} \cdot 1 \cdot f(q) \\ &= f(q)^{-1}f(q) = 1. \end{aligned}$$

So $\ker f$ is a normal subgroup of G .

(b) To show: $\text{im } f$ is a subgroup of H .

To show: (ba) If $h_1, h_2 \in \text{im}(f)$ then $h_1 h_2 \in \text{im}(f)$.

(bb) $1 \in \text{im}(f)$

(bc) If $h \in \text{im}(f)$ then $h^{-1} \in \text{im}(f)$.

(ba) Assume $h_1, h_2 \in \text{im}(f)$

Then there exist $g_1, g_2 \in G$ such that

$$f(g_1) = h_1 \text{ and } f(g_2) = h_2.$$

To show: $h_1 h_2 \in \text{im}(f)$.

To show: There exists $g \in G$ such that $f(g) = h_1 h_2$

$$\text{Let } g = g_1 g_2$$

To show: $f(g) = h_1 h_2$.

$$f(g) = f(g_1 g_2) = f(g_1) f(g_2) = h_1 h_2.$$

So $h_1 h_2 \in \text{im}(f)$.

(b) To show: $1 \in \text{im}(f)$.

Since $f(1) = 1$ then $1 \in \text{im}(f)$.

(b) To show: If $h \in \text{im} f$ then $h^{-1} \in \text{im} f$.

Assume $h \in \text{im} f$.

Then ~~to show~~ there exists $g \in G$ such that

$$f(g) = h.$$

To show: $h^{-1} \in \text{im} f$.

Since

$$f(g^{-1}) = f(g)^{-1} = h^{-1} \text{ then } h^{-1} \in \text{im} f.$$

So $\text{im} f$ is a subgroup of H . \square