

2.67 (i) Prove that $\text{Aut}(V) \cong S_3$ and that $\text{Aut}(S_3) \cong S_3$. Conclude that nonisomorphic groups can have isomorphic automorphism groups.

Proof:

$$S_3 = \{1, a, b, c, ab, bc\} = \{\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_6\}.$$

We first show that $\text{Aut}(V) \cong S_3$.

Let $\psi : \text{Aut}(V) \rightarrow S_3$ where $\forall \phi \in \text{Aut}(V)$, $\psi(\phi) = \phi(V)$.

We know $V = \{1, a', b', c'\}$ and $\forall \phi \in \text{Aut}(V)$, $\phi(1) = 1$.

Since V consists of 3 nonidentity elements, a', b', c' of the same order, then every $\phi \in \text{Aut}(V)$ permutes these 3 elements and there are 6 distinct permutations of 3 elements.

Then we can let $\text{Aut}(V) = \{\phi_1, \phi_2, \dots, \phi_6\}$.

One permutation, ϕ_1 , is the identity permutation.

Three permutations, ϕ_2, ϕ_3, ϕ_4 , permute only 2 elements and fix the other, hence have order 2.

And two permutations, ϕ_5, ϕ_6 , permute all 3 elements, and thus have order 3.

Define $\psi : \text{Aut}(V) \rightarrow S_3$ by $\psi(\phi_i) = \alpha_i$. Clearly, ψ is an isomorphism.

We now show that $\text{Aut}(S_3) \cong S_3$.

Let $S_3 = \{1, a, b, c, ab, bc\}$ where a, b, c have order 2; and ab and bc have order 3.

Since S_3 consists of 3 elements of order 2, 2 elements of order 3 and 1, then every $\phi \in \text{Aut}(S_3)$ permutes the 3 elements of order 2 and there are 6 distinct permutations of the 3 elements. By homomorphism properties, $\phi(ab) = \phi(a)\phi(b)$, thus each permutation of the order 2 elements determines the assignment of the order 3 elements.

Thus $\text{Aut}(S_3)$ has exactly 6 distinct elements. Let $\text{Aut}(S_3) = \{\phi_1, \phi_2, \dots, \phi_6\}$.

One permutation, ϕ_1 , is the identity permutation.

Three permutations, ϕ_2, ϕ_3, ϕ_4 , permute only 2 of the order 2 elements, a, b , and c , and fix the other, hence have order 2.

And two permutations, ϕ_5, ϕ_6 , permute all 3 of a, b , and c , and thus have order 3.

Define $\psi : \text{Aut}(S_3) \rightarrow S_3$ by $\psi(\phi_i) = \alpha_i$; hence ψ is an isomorphism from $\text{Aut}(S_3) \rightarrow S_3$.

(ii) Prove that $\text{Aut}(\mathbb{Z}) \cong \mathbb{Z}_2$. Conclude that an infinite group can have a finite automorphism group.

Proof:

Since $\mathbb{Z} = \langle 1 \rangle = \langle -1 \rangle$, then if $\phi \in \text{Aut}(\mathbb{Z})$, $\phi(1)$ and $\phi(-1)$ must be generators of the group.

Since 1 and -1 are the only generators of \mathbb{Z} , then there are only 2 automorphisms of \mathbb{Z} .

Hence $\text{Aut}(\mathbb{Z}) \cong \mathbb{Z}_2$.

2.68 If G is a group for which $\text{Aut}(G) = \{1\}$, prove that $|G| \leq 2$.

Proof:

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Assume that the only automorphism of G is the identity mapping. Then all inner automorphisms of G are trivial, so G must be abelian. Next, the function $\mu : G \rightarrow G$ defined by $\mu(x) = x^{-1}$, for all x in G , is an automorphism, so by hypothesis it must be trivial. This forces $x = x^{-1}$ for all x in G . If G is written additively, then G has a vector space structure over the field \mathbb{Z}_2 . (Since every element of G has order 2, it works to define $0 \cdot x = 0$ and $1 \cdot x = x$, for all x in G .) With this vector space structure, any group homomorphism is a linear transformation (and vice versa), so the automorphism group of G is a group of invertible matrices. Therefore $\text{Aut}(G)$ is nontrivial, unless G is zero or one-dimensional.

For $|G| = 1$, the result holds trivially.

For $|G| = 2$, $G = \{e, a\}$. Since $\forall \varphi \in \text{Aut}(G)$, $\varphi(e) = e$, then the bijection forces $\varphi(a) = a$. Thus we have only the identity map.

(*) Suppose $|G| \geq 3$ and $\text{Aut}(G) = \{1\}$.

We will show that over the field \mathbb{Z}_2 , G satisfies the axioms of a vector space.

We start with the commutativity axiom.

$\forall g \in G$, the inner automorphism $\varphi: G \rightarrow G$ defined by $\varphi(g) = gxg^{-1}$ is the identity map.

So then $\forall g, x \in G$, $gx = xg$, hence G is abelian.

The automorphism $\mu: G \rightarrow G$ defined by $\mu(x) = x^{-1}$ must be the identity map, hence

$\forall x \in G$, $x = x^{-1}$. This gives us that every nonidentity element of G has order 2.

So then we can define $0_{\mathbb{Z}_2} \cdot x = 0_G$ and $1_{\mathbb{Z}_2} \cdot x = x$ (If x has order > 2 , the distributive law fails; for example, if x has order 3, then $(1 + 1) \cdot x = 0 \cdot x = 0 \neq x + x = 1 \cdot x + 1 \cdot x$.)

So now we can assume G satisfies the axioms of a vector space.

Consider G^* , the set of all linear transformations from G to itself. The set of all automorphisms of G is a subgroup of G^* . Since automorphisms are bijective linear transformations, then $\text{Aut}(G)$ is a group of invertible matrices (that is matrix representations of the change of bases). Since $|G| \geq 3$, then $\text{Aut}(G)$ is a group of $n \times n$ matrices with entries from \mathbb{Z}_2 where $n \geq 2$. Since more than 1 invertible matrix exists for any $n \geq 2$, then $|\text{Aut}(G)| \neq 1$, a contradiction to our assumption (*).

$\therefore |G| \leq 2$.

2.69 Prove that if G is a group for which $G/Z(G)$ is cyclic, where $Z(G)$ denotes the center of G , then G is Abelian.

Hint: If $G/Z(G)$ is cyclic, prove that a generator gives an element that is possibly outside of $Z(G)$ which commutes with each element of G .

Proof:

Assume $G/Z(G)$ is cyclic. Then for some $a \in G$, $G/Z(G) = \langle aZ(G) \rangle = \{Z(G), aZ(G),$

$(aZ(G))^2, \dots\}$. And since $Z(G) \triangleleft G$, then $(aZ(G))^n = a^n(Z(G))^n = a^nZ(G)$.

Let $x, y \in G$.

Then for some integers i and j , $xZ(G) = (aZ(G))^i = a^iZ(G)$ and $yZ(G) = (aZ(G))^j = a^jZ(G)$. Since $1 \in Z(G)$ and $x = x \cdot 1$, then $x \in xZ(G)$. Thus, $x = a^i c$ and $y = a^j d$ where c, d are elements in $Z(G)$. As $c, d \in Z(G)$, then

$$\begin{aligned} xy &= (a^i c)(a^j d) = a^i (c a^j) d = a^i (a^j c) d = (a^i a^j)(cd) = (a^{i+j})(cd) \\ &= (a^{j+i})(dc) = (a^j a^i)(dc) = a^j (a^i d) c = a^j (d a^i) c = (a^j d)(a^i c) = yx. \end{aligned}$$

$\therefore G$ is Abelian.

2.71 Let G be a finite group with $K \triangleleft G$. If $(|K|, [G:K]) = 1$, prove that K is the unique subgroup of G having order $|K|$.

Proof:

Let $|K| = m$, then by Lagrange's Theorem, $|G| = mn$ for some positive integer n and $[G:K] = n$. Assume $(m, n) = 1$.

Suppose G has another subgroup H that has order m .

Let $h \in H, h \neq 1$. Then $\circ(hK) \mid n$ since $hK \in G/K$ and $|G/K| = n$.

Let $d = \circ(h)$. Then $K \triangleleft G \Rightarrow K = h^d K = (hK)^d$, hence $\circ(hK) \mid m$ as $\circ(h) \mid |H|$.

By assumption, $(m, n) = 1$. So $\circ(hK) = 1$.

$\therefore hK \in K$. $\therefore H \subseteq K$ and $|H| = |K|$. $\therefore H = K$.

$\therefore K$ is the unique subgroup of G having order $|K|$.

2.76 If H and K are normal subgroups of a group G with $HK = G$, prove that $G/(H \cap K) \cong (G/H) \times (G/K)$.

Hint: If $\phi: G \rightarrow (G/H) \times (G/K)$ is defined by $x \mapsto (xH, xK)$, then $\ker \phi = H \cap K$; moreover, we have $G = HK$ so that $\bigcup_a aH = HK = \bigcup_b bK$.

Proof:

Define $\phi: G \rightarrow (G/H) \times (G/K)$ by $x \mapsto (xH, xK)$. We will show (1) ϕ is a homomorphism, (2) $\phi(G) = (G/H) \times (G/K)$, and (3) $\ker \phi = H \cap K$.

(1) Let $x, y \in G$, and note that normalcy gives us that $xHyH = xyH$ and $xKyK = xyK$.

Then $\phi(x)\phi(y) = (xH, xK)(yH, yK) = (xHyH, xKyK) = (xyH, xyK) = \phi(xy)$.

$\therefore \phi$ is a homomorphism.

(2) We will show containment in both directions.

Let $(X, Y) \in \phi(G)$. Then $X = xH$ and $Y = xK$ for some $x \in G$.

$\therefore \phi(x) = (xH, xK) = (X, Y) \in (G/H) \times (G/K)$. $\therefore \phi(G) \subseteq (G/H) \times (G/K)$.

Let $(X, Y) \in (G/H) \times (G/K)$. Then $X = aH$ and $Y = bK$ for some $a, b \in G$.

Note that since $HK = G$, then $a = hk$ and $b = h'k'$ for some $h \in H, h' \in H, k \in K$, and $k' \in K$.

Also note that normalcy gives us that $hkH = h(Hk) = (hH)k = Hk = kH$.

$(aH, bK) = (hkH, h'k'K) = (hkH, h'K) = (kH, h'K)$.

Let $x = h'k$, then $(xH, xK) = (h'kH, h'kK) = (kH, h'K) = (aH, bK)$.

$\therefore (X, Y) \in \phi(G)$. $\therefore (G/H) \times (G/K) \subseteq \phi(G)$, as desired.

$\therefore \phi(G) = (G/H) \times (G/K)$.

(3) Again, we will show containment in both directions.

Let $x \in \ker \phi$. Then $\phi(x) = (xH, xK) = (H, K)$.

$\therefore xH = H$ and $xK = K$.

$\therefore x \in H$ and $x \in K$, hence $x \in H \cap K$.

Let $x \in H \cap K$. Then $x \in H$ and $x \in K$. $\therefore \phi(x) = (H, K)$.

$\therefore \ker \phi = H \cap K$.

And by the 1st Isomorphism Theorem, $G/(H \cap K) \cong (G/H) \times (G/K)$.