

# SOLUTIONS TO LECTURE 17 PROBLEMS 65-68

P65 Gallian #3 from pg. 169

Defn/ the commutator subgroup  $G'$  of  $G$  is

$$\text{by } G' = \langle x^{-1}y^{-1}xy \mid x, y \in G \rangle$$

the notation  $\langle \rangle$  indicates we use  $x^{-1}y^{-1}xy$  to generate  $G'$ . So,  $a_1^{i_1}a_2^{i_2}\dots a_n^{i_n}$  is a typical element of  $G'$  where  $a_i = x_i^{-1}y_i^{-1}x_iy_i$ , for each  $i=1, 2, \dots, n$  and  $x_i, y_i \in G$  and  $i_j = \pm 1$  for  $j=1, 2, \dots, k$ . Prove  $G'$  is characteristic subgroup of  $G$ . (#1 tells us  $N \leq G$  is characteristic subgroup if  $\phi(N) = N$  for all  $\phi \in \text{Aut}(G)$ )

Let  $\phi \in \text{Aut}(G)$ . Consider, for  $x, y \in G$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \phi(x^{-1}y^{-1}xy) &= \phi(x^{-1})\phi(y^{-1})\phi(x)\phi(y) : \phi \text{ homom.} \\ &= \phi(x)^{-1}\phi(y)^{-1}\phi(x)\phi(y) : \phi \text{ homomorphism} \\ &= a^{-1}b^{-1}ab \quad \text{where } a = \phi(x), b = \phi(y). \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $\phi$  sends generator of  $G'$  to generator of  $G'$ .

If  $a_1^{i_1}a_2^{i_2}\dots a_n^{i_n} \in G'$  where  $a_i = x_i^{-1}y_i^{-1}x_iy_i$ ,

then  $\phi(a_1^{i_1}\dots a_n^{i_n}) = \phi(a_1)^{i_1}\phi(a_2)^{i_2}\dots \phi(a_n)^{i_n} \in G'$

thus  $\phi(G') \subseteq G'$ . However, by the same argument  $\phi^{-1}(G') \subseteq G'$  and we deduce  $G' \subseteq \phi(G')$

and so  $\phi(G') = G' \therefore G'$  is characteristic.

P66 Gallian #6 from pg. 169

Let  $H, K \leq G$  and  $HK = \{hk \mid h \in H, k \in K\}$

and  $KH = \{kh \mid k \in K, h \in H\}$ . Prove that

$HK$  is a group  $\Leftrightarrow HK = KH$

$\Leftarrow$  Suppose  $HK = KH$ . Let  $a, b \in HK$  thus there exist  $h_1, h_2 \in H$  and  $k_1, k_2 \in K$  for which  $a = h_1 k_1 = k_2 h_2$  and  $\exists h_3, h_4 \in H$  and  $k_3, k_4 \in K$  for which  $b = h_3 k_3 = k_4 h_4$ .

Consider  $ab^{-1} = (h_1 k_1)(h_3 k_3)^{-1}$   
 $= h_1 k_1 k_3^{-1} h_3^{-1}$  : socks-shoes in group  $G$  for which  $HK \subseteq G$ .  
 $= h_1 h_5 k_6$

Thus  $ab^{-1} \in HK$ . Moreover,  
 $e \in H$  and  $e \in K$  thus  $ee \in HK \neq \emptyset$   
thus by one-step-subgroup test  
we deduce  $HK \leq G$ .

noting  $k_1 k_3^{-1} \in K$  and  $h_3^{-1} \in H$   
we have  $h_1 k_1 k_3^{-1} h_3^{-1} \in KH$   
and as  $KH = HK$  we  
know  $k_1 k_3^{-1} h_3^{-1} \in HK$  which  
implies  $\exists h_5 \in H, k_6 \in K$  s.t.  
 $h_5 k_6 = h_1 k_1 k_3^{-1} h_3^{-1}$ .

$\Rightarrow$  Suppose  $HK \leq G$ . Observe  $x \in H$  has  $x = xe \in HK$   
thus  $H \subseteq HK$  and as  $H \leq G$  we have  $H \leq_{x} HK$ . Likewise  $K \leq_{x} HK$ .

Suppose  $z \in KH$  then  $z = kh$  for  $k \in K$  and some  $h \in H$   
thus  $z$  is formed by product of elements in  $HK \leq G$  using \* & \*\*.  
and thus  $z \in HK \Rightarrow KH \subseteq HK$ . Conversely, suppose  
 $u \in HK$  so  $\exists h_2 \in H, k_2 \in K$  s.t.  $u = h_2 k_2$ . Since  $HK \leq G$   
 $\exists a \in HK$  for which  $a^{-1} = h_2 k_2$ . Suppose  $a = h_3 k_3$  for  
 $h_3 \in H$  and  $k_3 \in K$  then  $h_2 k_2 = (h_3 k_3)^{-1} = k_3^{-1} h_3^{-1} \in KH$   
 $\therefore u \in KH$  and  $HK \subseteq KH$  and we conclude  $HK = KH$ .

Remark: one can write less. See pg. 94 of Dummit & Foote.

P67 Gallian # 54 from pg. 164 / Show  $\mathcal{U}(144) \approx \mathcal{U}(140)$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{U}(144) &= \mathcal{U}(12^2) = \mathcal{U}(3^2 4^2) \approx \mathcal{U}(3^2) \times \mathcal{U}(4^2) : \gcd(3^2, 4^2) = 1. \\ &\approx \mathbb{Z}_{9-3} \times \mathcal{U}(2^4) : \mathcal{U}(p^n) = \mathbb{Z}_{p^n-p^{n-1}}^{\text{odd prime}} \\ &\approx \mathbb{Z}_6 \times \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_4 = \underbrace{\mathcal{U}(2^n) \approx}_{\begin{array}{l} \mathcal{U}(2^n) \approx \\ \approx \mathbb{Z}_{2^n} \times \mathbb{Z}_{2^{n-2}} \\ \approx \mathbb{Z}_{2^{n-1}} \times \mathbb{Z}_2 \end{array}} \\ &\approx \underline{\mathbb{Z}_6 \times \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_4}.\end{aligned}$$

Likewise,

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{U}(140) &= \mathcal{U}(20 \cdot 7) = \mathcal{U}(4 \cdot 5 \cdot 7) \\ &\approx \mathcal{U}(4) \times \mathcal{U}(5) \times \mathcal{U}(7) \\ &\approx \underline{\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_4 \times \mathbb{Z}_6}\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{But, } \mathcal{U}(144) \approx \mathbb{Z}_6 \times \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_4 \approx \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_4 \times \mathbb{Z}_6 \approx \mathcal{U}(140). //$$

Remark: Can you prove  $G \times H \approx H \times G$ ?

P68 (a.) Suppose  $G, H, K$  are finite groups. Suppose  $G \oplus H = G \oplus K$  which means  $G \cap H = \{e\} \neq G \cap K = \{e\}$  and  $G, H, K \trianglelefteq G' = G \oplus H = G \oplus K$ . Moreover, we have unique  $g \in G, h \in H$  to represent  $z \in G \oplus H$  that is,  $z = gh$ . Likewise  $y = gk$  for each  $y \in G \oplus K$  for unique  $g \in G$  and  $k \in K$ . We have all of this to work with here. I'll use an <sup>†</sup>isomorphism argument,

$$\phi: G \oplus H \rightarrow G \oplus H$$

$$\phi(gh) = h \quad \text{has } \text{Im } \phi = H \text{ and } \text{Ker } \phi = G$$

Hence, as  $\phi$  is homomorphism,  $G \oplus H / G \approx H$ . By nearly the same argument  $G \oplus K / G \approx K$ . Hence,

$$H \approx \frac{G \oplus H}{G} = \frac{G \oplus K}{G} \approx K \quad \therefore \underline{H \approx K}.$$

P68 continued:

(b.) find  $G, H, K$  possibly infinite for which  
 $G \oplus H = G \oplus K \not\Rightarrow H \approx K$

Well, I think this part is bogus.

Sorry, but, I see no reason our proof from (a.) does not extend here. This is probably what I meant,  $GH = GK \not\Rightarrow H \approx K$ . For example,

$$(\mathbb{R}^{\times})(\mathbb{R}^{\times}) = (\mathbb{R}^{\times})(\{1\}) \text{ yet } \mathbb{R}^{\times} \not\approx \{1\}.$$

(C.) Show  $G \oplus H = G \oplus K \not\Rightarrow H = K$

Infinite example,  $\mathbb{R}^2 = e_1\mathbb{R} \oplus e_2\mathbb{R} = e_1\mathbb{R} \oplus (e_1 + e_2)\mathbb{R}$

yet  $e_2\mathbb{R} \neq (e_1 + e_2)\mathbb{R}$ . (from linear algebra)

Finite Example:  $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2 = \{(0,0), (0,1), (1,0), (1,1)\}$

observe,

$$G = \langle (0,1) \rangle = \{(0,0), (0,1)\}$$

$$H = \langle (1,0) \rangle = \{(0,0), (1,0)\}$$

$$K = \langle (1,1) \rangle = \{(0,0), (1,1)\}$$

has  $G \cap H = \{(0,0)\} = G \cap K$  and

$$G+H = \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2 \text{ and } G+K = \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$$

yet  $H \neq K$  despite  $G \oplus H = G \oplus K$ .

(it is true that  $H \approx K$  in this example,  
indeed part (a.) makes this inevitable)