

**Algebra II. Exercise 2.**  
**Solutions.**

1. a) Let  $f: (\mathbb{Z}, +) \rightarrow (\mathbb{Z}, +)$  be a group homomorphism. Denote  $n = f(1)$ . Then  $f(2) = f(1 + 1) = f(1) + f(1) = 2n$ ,  $f(3) = 3n$  etc. Thus  $f(x) = nx$  for all  $x > 0$ . Furthermore  $f(0) = 0$  and  $f(-x) = -f(x) = -nx = n \cdot (-x)$ , when  $x > 0$ . Thus  $f(x) = nx$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{Z}$ .
- b) Suppose the contrary that  $f: \mathbb{Z}_n \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  is a homomorphism and  $f([x]) = a \neq 0$  for some  $[x] \in \mathbb{Z}_n$ . Since in the group  $\mathbb{Z}_n$  we have  $n \cdot [x] = [nx] = [0]$  and  $f$  is a homomorphism, then

$$f([0]) = f(n \cdot [x]) = n \cdot f([x]) = na \neq 0,$$

which is a contradiction, since for a homomorphism we always have  $f([0]) = 0$ .

- c) Consider the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{Z} & \xrightarrow{f} & \mathbb{Z}_m \\ \downarrow h & \nearrow g & \\ \mathbb{Z}_n & & \end{array}$$

where  $h(x) = [x]_n$  and  $f(x) = [x]_m$ ,  $x \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Especially  $h(1) = [1]_n$  and  $f(1) = [1]_m$ . The subgroup  $N$  appearing in Proposition 1.14 is here  $n\mathbb{Z}$  and  $\text{Ker}(f) = m\mathbb{Z}$ . Observe that  $n\mathbb{Z} \subset m\mathbb{Z}$ , if and only if  $m$  divides  $n$ .

" $\Rightarrow$ ": If  $m|n$ , we have  $n\mathbb{Z} \subset m\mathbb{Z}$ , and by Proposition 1.14 there exists a homomorphism  $g: \mathbb{Z}_n \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_m$ , such that the diagram commutes; especially  $g([1]_n) = [1]_m$ .

" $\Leftarrow$ ": Suppose that  $g: \mathbb{Z}_n \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_m$  is a group homomorphism, for which  $g([1]_n) = [1]_m$ . The homomorphism condition gives us  $g([2]_n) = [2]_m$ ,  $g([3]_n) = [3]_m$ ,  $g([-1]_n) = [-1]_m$  etc., and hence  $g([x]_n) = [x]_m$  for every  $x \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Thus the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{Z} & \xrightarrow{f} & \mathbb{Z}_m \\ \downarrow h & \nearrow g & \\ \mathbb{Z}_n & & \end{array}$$

commutes, so by Proposition 1.14 we have  $N \subset \text{Ker}(f)$ , that is,  $n\mathbb{Z} \subset m\mathbb{Z}$  and thus  $m|n$ .

2. a)

- $x \sim x$ , since  $x = ex$ .
- $x \sim y \Rightarrow x = gy$  for some  $g \Rightarrow g^{-1}x = g^{-1}gy = y \Rightarrow y = g^{-1}x \Rightarrow y \sim x$ .
- $x \sim y$  ja  $y \sim z \Rightarrow x = gy, y = hz$  for some  $h, g \Rightarrow x = gy = g(hz) = (gh)z \Rightarrow x \sim z$ .
- $y \in [x] \iff y = gx$  for some  $g \in G \iff y \in Gx$ .

b) Consider the stabilizer  $G_x$  of an element  $x \in X$ .

- $e \in G_x$ , because  $ex = x$ .
- If  $g, h \in G_x$ , then  $(gh)x = g(hx) = gx = x$ , and thus  $gh \in G_x$ .
- If  $g \in G_x$ , then  $gx = x$ , from which we get  $g^{-1}gx = g^{-1}x$ , that is,  $x = g^{-1}x$ . Thus  $g^{-1} \in G_x$ .

Thus  $G_x$  is a subgroup.

Consider the symmetry group of the triangle, which is isomorphic with  $S_3$ . Label the vertices of the triangle by 1,2,3; then the stabilizer of the vertex 1 is  $H = \{(1), (2\ 3)\}$ . This is not a normal subgroup of  $S_3$ , which can be seen by choosing for example  $g = (1\ 3) \in S_3$  and  $h = (2\ 3) \in H$  and noticing that  $ghg^{-1} = \dots = (1\ 2) \notin H$ .

Another, more general, example can be given as follows. Let  $G$  be a group and  $H \leq G$ ,  $H$  not a normal subgroup. Consider the action

$$G \times G/H \rightarrow G/H$$

$$(\bar{g}, gH) \mapsto (\bar{g}g)H$$

and the element  $eH \in G/H$ . Now  $\bar{g}(eH) = eH \iff \bar{g}H = eH \iff \bar{g} \in H$ , so the stabilizer of the element  $eH$  is  $H$ . Thus a stabilizer is not always a normal subgroup.

c) "⊂": If  $h \in G_{gx}$ , we have  $hgx = gx$ , that is  $g^{-1}hgx = x$ . From this we see that  $g^{-1}hg \in G_x$ , and hence  $h \in gG_xg^{-1}$ .

" $\supset$ ": If  $h \in gG_xg^{-1}$ , then  $h = g\bar{h}g^{-1}$  for some  $\bar{h} \in G_x$ . Now

$$h(gx) = g\bar{h}g^{-1}(gx) = g\bar{h}x = gx,$$

so  $h \in G_{gx}$  (in the last step we used the fact that  $\bar{h} \in G_x$ ).

3. We prove first, that  $G$  is a subgroup of the group  $Gl(2, \mathbb{R})$ :

$$I = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \in G,$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} a' & b' \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} aa' & ab' + b \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \in G$$

(Observe that  $aa' \neq 0$ , because  $a \neq 0$  and  $a' \neq 0$ ) and

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} a^{-1} & -ba^{-1} \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \in G,$$

from which the claim follows.

Then we prove that  $H \leq G$ :

$$I = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \in H,$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & n \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 & m \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & m+n \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \in H$$

and

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & n \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -n \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \in H,$$

from which the claim follows.

Let  $f: \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow H$  be the function

$$n \mapsto \begin{bmatrix} 1 & n \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Clearly  $f$  is bijective. Furthermore,

$$f(n) \cdot f(m) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & n \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & m \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & n+m \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = f(n+m),$$

and thus  $f$  is a homomorphism, that is, an isomorphism  $(\mathbb{Z}, +) \rightarrow (H, \cdot)$ .  
Because

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & n \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1/2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 2n \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1/2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2n \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix},$$

we see, that

$$g^{-1}Hg = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2n \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \mid n \in \mathbb{Z} \right\} \subsetneq H.$$

4.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} G & \xrightarrow{f} & H \\ p \downarrow & \nearrow \bar{f} & \\ G' & & \end{array}$$

" $\Leftarrow$ ": Let  $g' \in G'$ . Because  $p$  is surjective, we may choose  $g \in G$ , such that  $p(g) = g'$ . Define

$$\bar{f}(g') := f(g).$$

$\bar{f}$  is well defined: If  $\bar{g} \in G$  is another element, for which  $p(\bar{g}) = g'$ , then

$$p(g^{-1}\bar{g}) = p(g)^{-1}p(\bar{g}) = (g')^{-1}g' = e_{G'},$$

and thus  $g^{-1}\bar{g} \in \text{Ker}(p) \subset \text{Ker}(f)$ . Thus

$$f(g)^{-1}f(\bar{g}) = f(g^{-1}\bar{g}) = e_H,$$

and we have that  $f(g) = f(\bar{g})$ .

$\bar{f}$  is a homomorphism: Let  $g'_1, g'_2 \in G'$ ; choose  $g_1, g_2 \in G$  such that  $p(g_i) = g'_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ . Now

$$\bar{f}(g'_1 g'_2) = \bar{f}(p(g_1)p(g_2)) = \bar{f}(p(g_1 g_2)) = f(g_1 g_2) = f(g_1)f(g_2) = \bar{f}(g'_1)\bar{f}(g'_2).$$

The condition  $f = \bar{f} \circ p$  follows directly from the above definition of the function  $\bar{f}$ .

" $\Rightarrow$ ": Suppose that  $\text{Ker}(p) \not\subset \text{Ker}(f)$ , that is, there exists  $g \in G$ , such that  $p(g) = e_{G'}$  and  $f(g) \neq e_H$ . If  $\bar{f}$  would exist, then we would have  $\bar{f}(e_{G'}) = f(g) \neq e_H$ , which is a contradiction, since  $\bar{f}$  is a homomorphism.

5. a)

- $e = geg^{-1} \in gHg^{-1}$ .
- If  $ghg^{-1}, g\bar{h}g^{-1} \in gHg^{-1}$ , then  $(ghg^{-1})(g\bar{h}g^{-1}) = g(h\bar{h})g^{-1} \in gHg^{-1}$ .
- If  $ghg^{-1} \in gHg^{-1}$ , then  $(ghg^{-1})^{-1} = gh^{-1}g^{-1} \in gHg^{-1}$ .

b) We prove that  $\varphi: G \times G \rightarrow G$ ,  $(g, h) \mapsto ghg^{-1}$  is an action of  $G$ :

- Clearly  $\varphi(g, h) \in G$  for every  $g, h \in G$ .
- $\varphi(e, h) = ehe^{-1} = h$ .
- $\varphi(g_1g_2, h) = (g_1g_2)h(g_1g_2)^{-1} = g_1g_2hg_2^{-1}g_1^{-1} = g_1(g_2hg_2^{-1})g_1^{-1} = g_1(\varphi(g_2, h))g_1^{-1} = \varphi(g_1, \varphi(g_2, h))$ .

Denote  $\mathcal{G}$  is the set of all subgroups of  $G$ . We prove that the function  $\varphi: G \times \mathcal{G} \rightarrow \mathcal{G}$ ,  $(g, H) \mapsto gHg^{-1}$  defines an action of  $G$ :

- The function is well defined, since by item a) we have  $gHg^{-1} \in \mathcal{G}$ .
- $\varphi(e, H) = eHe^{-1} = H$ .
- $\varphi(g_1g_2, H) = (g_1g_2)H(g_1g_2)^{-1} = g_1g_2Hg_2^{-1}g_1^{-1} = g_1(g_2Hg_2^{-1})g_1^{-1} = g_1(\varphi(g_2, H))g_1^{-1} = \varphi(g_1, \varphi(g_2, H))$ .

6. Let  $\sim$  be a non-trivial equivalence relation in the set  $\mathbb{N}$ , which is compatible with addition. Because  $\sim$  is non-trivial, we can find  $a, b \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $a \neq b$  and  $a \sim b$ . Let  $n$  be the smallest number, which is in the relation with also some other number than itself. Observe that we may have  $n = 0$ . Then every number  $0, \dots, n-1$  is in the relation only with itself, that is, the equivalence classes are  $\{0\}, \dots, \{n-1\}$ .

We now have that the number  $n$  is in the relation with some number greater than  $n$ , but not with any number smaller than  $n$ . Then choose  $m \in \{1, 2, \dots\}$  such, that  $n+m$  is the smallest number (which is greater than  $n$ ), and which is in the relation with  $n$ . Thus  $n \sim n+m$ . From compatibility it now follows that  $n+m \sim (n+m)+m = n+2m$ ,  $n+2m \sim (n+m)+2m = n+3m$  etc. Thus

$$n \sim n + k \cdot m \text{ for every } k \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}.$$

Analogously  $n + 1 \sim n + m + 1$ ,  $n + m + 1 \sim n + 2m + 1$  etc., that is,

$$n + 1 \sim n + 1 + k \cdot m \text{ for every } k \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}.$$

We obtain a partition

$$\begin{aligned} & \{n, n + m, n + 2m, \dots\} \\ & \{n + 1, n + m + 1, n + 2m + 1, \dots\} \\ & \quad \vdots \\ & \{n + m - 1, n + 2m - 1, n + 3m - 1, \dots\}. \end{aligned}$$

Finally we prove that none of the numbers  $n, n + 1, \dots, n + m - 1$  are in the relation with each other. By the choice of the number  $m$  we have that  $n$  is not in the relation with any of the numbers  $n + 1, \dots, n + m - 1$ . Assume the contrary, that there exist  $i, j$ , for which  $n < i < j \leq n + m - 1$ , and  $i \sim j$ . Observe that we have  $0 < j - i < m$ . Now

$$n \sim n + m = i + (n + m - i) \sim j + (n + m - i) = (n + j - i) + m \sim n + j - i \leq n + m - 1.$$

This is a contradiction with the choice of the number  $m$ .

Thus the equivalence classes are exactly the above mentioned, that is,  $\sim$  is the relation  $R_{m,n}$ .

*Remark.* Actually the trivial relation  $[x \sim y \text{ for all } x, y]$  is also of the form  $R_{m,n}$ , namely  $R_{1,0}$ .