

1. Prove that the category of Abelian groups has coproducts. That is, given two abelian groups  $G$  and  $H$  show that there is a group  $P$  and homomorphisms  $i : G \rightarrow P$  and  $j : H \rightarrow P$  that satisfy the following property: given any Abelian group  $K$  and homomorphisms  $l : G \rightarrow K$  and  $r : H \rightarrow K$  there is a unique homomorphism  $\phi : P \rightarrow K$  such that  $\phi \circ i = l$  and  $\phi \circ j = r$ . This is given by the following commutative diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 & & K & & \\
 & \nearrow l & \uparrow \phi & \nwarrow r & \\
 G & \xrightarrow{i} & P & \xleftarrow{j} & H
 \end{array}$$

**Solution:** Define  $P := G \times H$  and  $i : G \hookrightarrow P$  as  $i(g) = (g, 0)$ . Similarly, define  $j(h) = (0, h)$ . Now assume  $K$ ,  $l : G \rightarrow K$ , and  $r : h \rightarrow k$  are given. Define

$$\phi : P \rightarrow K, \phi(a, b) = l(a) + r(b).$$

It's clear that this is the only map that satisfies  $\phi \circ i = l$  and  $\phi \circ j = r$ . We need to check that  $\phi$  is a homomorphism:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \phi((a, b) + (c, d)) &= \phi(a + c, b + d) \\
 &= l(a + c) + r(b + d) \\
 &= l(a) + l(c) + r(b) + r(d) \\
 &= l(a) + r(b) + l(c) + r(d) \\
 &= \phi(a, b) + \phi(c, d).
 \end{aligned}$$

2. Show that every group of order  $p^2q$  is not simple, where  $p$  and  $q$  are distinct primes.

**Solution:** Let  $n_p$  (resp.  $n_q$ ) denote the number of  $p$ -Sylow subgroups of  $G$ , where  $|G| = p^2q$ . Suppose  $p > q$ , then as  $n_p \mid q$  and  $n_p \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$  it is the case  $n_p = 1$  and consequently the  $p$ -Sylow subgroup is normal.

Suppose  $p < q$  and  $n_q > 1$ . As  $n_q \mid p^2$  then  $n_q = p$  or  $n_q = p^2$ , but as  $q > p$   $n_q = p^2$ . As  $n_q \equiv 1 \pmod{q}$ ,  $q \mid p^2 - 1 = (p + 1)(p - 1)$ .  $q$  is prime so either  $q \mid p - 1$  or  $q \mid p + 1$  and  $q > p$ , so  $q \mid p + 1$ , that is  $q = p + 1$ . The only possibility is  $p = 2$ ,  $q = 3$ , so  $|G| = 12$ .

3. Let  $p$  and  $q$  be primes such that  $p > q$ . If  $q \nmid p - 1$ , then every group of order  $pq$  is isomorphic to the cyclic group  $\mathbb{Z}_{pq}$ . If  $q \mid p - 1$ , then there are (up to isomorphism) exactly two distinct groups of order  $pq$ : the cyclic group  $\mathbb{Z}_{pq}$  and a non-abelian group  $K$  generated by elements  $c$  and  $d$  such that

$$|c| = p; \quad |d| = q; \quad dc = c^s d,$$

where  $s \not\equiv 1 \pmod{p}$  and  $s^q \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ .

*Hints:*  $x^q \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$  has exactly  $q$  distinct solutions modulo  $p$ . If  $r$  is a solution and  $k$  is the least positive integer such that  $r^k \not\equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ , then  $k \mid q$ .

**Solution:** It follows from (2) that  $n_p = 1$ , so let  $\text{Syl}_p = P = \langle a \rangle$ . Let  $b \in G$  have order  $q$ . Verify that  $G/P = \langle bP \rangle$  a group of order  $q$ , hence every element of  $G$  can be written as  $b^i a^j$  and  $G = \langle a, b \rangle$ .

Now  $n_q$  is either 1 or  $p$ , if it is 1 then  $G \cong \mathbb{Z}_{pq}$ . Suppose  $n_q = p$ , so that is  $p \mid q - 1$ , then  $bab^{-1} = a^r$  and  $r \not\equiv 1 \pmod{p}$  as  $G$  is not Abelian. Since  $bab^{-1} = a^r$ , by induction

$$b^j ab^{-j} = a^{r^j} \text{ so for } j = q, a = a^{r^q} \text{ hence } r^q \equiv 1 \pmod{p}.$$

Employing the hint with  $k = q$ , it follows that  $1, r, r^2, \dots, r^{q-1}$  are the distinct solutions modulo  $p$  of  $x^q \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ . Consequently,  $s \equiv r^t$  for some  $1 \leq t \leq q - 1$ . If  $b_1 = b^t \in G$ , then  $|b_1| = q$ . Applying the preceding paragraph to  $b_1$ , we see  $G = \langle a, b_1 \rangle$ . One can verify that  $a$  and  $b_1$  satisfy the relations of  $K$  and that the induced map  $K \rightarrow G$  is indeed an isomorphism.

4. If  $p$  is an odd prime, then every group of order  $2p$  is isomorphic either to the cyclic group  $\mathbb{Z}_{2p}$  or the dihedral group  $D_p$ .

**Solution:** Apply question (3) with  $q = 2$ . If  $G$  is not cyclic, the conditions on  $s$  imply  $s \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$ . Hence

$$G = \langle c, d \mid d^2 = c^p = c^{-1} d c d^{-1} = 1 \rangle.$$

Therefore,  $G \cong D_p$ .