

1. Let A and B be groups and set $G = A \times B$. Define the subgroup $H = \{(1, x) \mid x \in B\} \leq G$.

(a) [2 points] Show that $H \trianglelefteq G$. (You don't need to show that it's a subgroup - just that it's normal.)

Let $(a, b) \in G$, $(1, x) \in H$. Then

$$\begin{aligned}(a, b)(1, x)(a, b)^{-1} &= (a, b)(1, x)(a^{-1}, b^{-1}) \\ &= (aa^{-1}, bxb^{-1}) \\ &= (1, bxb^{-1}) \in H\end{aligned}$$

so $gHg^{-1} \subseteq H$, so $H \trianglelefteq G$.

(b) [3 points] Show that $G/H \cong A$. (Hint: 1st Isomorphism Theorem!)

Define $\varphi: G \rightarrow A$ by

$$\varphi(a, b) = a.$$

This is a homomorphism:

$$\begin{aligned}\varphi((a, b)(a', b')) &= \varphi(aa', bb') = aa' \\ &= \varphi(a, b)\varphi(a', b').\end{aligned}$$

It is surjective since for $a \in A$, $\varphi(a, 1) = a$.

$$\ker \varphi = \{(a, b) \mid a = 1\} = H.$$

Thus, the 1st Isom. Thm. says

$$G/H \cong \text{im } \varphi = A.$$