

Last time, Finished proving: if  $|G| = p^2$ ,  $p$  prime, then  
 $G \cong \mathbb{Z}_{p^2}$  or  $G \cong \mathbb{Z}_p \times \mathbb{Z}_p$ .

- Cauchy's theorem: if a prime  $p$  divides  $|G|$  then the group  $G$  has an element of order  $p$ .

### Semi-direct products

Recall the correspondence

{ action of  $G$  on a set  $X$  }  $\leftrightarrow$  { homomorphisms  $G \rightarrow \text{Sym}(X)$  }

In particular given a homomorphism  $\varphi: G \rightarrow \text{Sym}(X)$

$G$  acts on  $X$  by  $g \cdot x := \varphi(g)x$

Now suppose  $X$  is a group and  $\varphi: G \rightarrow \text{Aut}(X)$  is a homomorphism. Then  $G$  acts on  $X$  by homomorphism:

$$g \cdot x = \varphi(g)x$$

$$\text{And } g \cdot (x_1 x_2) = \varphi(g)(x_1 x_2) = (\varphi(g)x_1) \cdot (\varphi(g)x_2) = (g \cdot x_1) (g \cdot x_2)$$

$$\text{Ex } G = \{\pm 1\}, \quad X = \{ e^{2\pi ki/n} \mid 0 \leq k \leq n-1 \} = \langle e^{2\pi i/n} \rangle$$

$$G \text{ acts on } X: \quad (-1) \cdot e^{2\pi ki/n} = -e^{2\pi ki/n}$$

$$\text{Ex } X = A_n = \ker(\text{sign}: S_n \rightarrow \{\pm 1\}), \text{ a normal subgroup of } S_n$$

$$G = \langle (12) \rangle.$$

$$\forall \sigma \in S_n, \quad (12) \cdot \sigma = (12) \sigma (12)$$

$$(12) \cdot (\sigma_1 \sigma_2) = (12) \sigma_1 (12) (12) \sigma_2 (12) = ((12) \cdot \sigma_1) ((12) \cdot \sigma_2)$$

This corresponds to  $\varphi: \langle (12) \rangle \rightarrow \text{Aut}(A_n)$   $\varphi((12)) = C_{(12)} \leftarrow \text{conj by } (12)$ .

$$\text{Ex } G = O(n) \quad X = \mathbb{R}^n$$

$$\forall A \in O(n), \quad \forall v_1, v_2 \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

$$A(v_1 + v_2) = Av_1 + Av_2$$

This corresponds to  $\varphi: O(n) \rightarrow \text{Aut}(\mathbb{R}^n)$

Theorem 23.1 (Compare with 3.2.3 in Goodman)

Let  $A$  be a group acting on a group  $N$  by homomorphisms:

$$a * (n_1, n_2) = (\underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{mult. in } N}}{a * n_1}) (\underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{mult. in } N}}{a * n_2}) \quad \forall a \in A, n_1, n_2 \in N.$$

Then

i)  $G = N \times A$  with the multiplication defined by

$$(*) (n_1, a_1) (n_2, a_2) = (n_1 (a_1 * n_2), a_1 a_2)$$

for all  $n_1, n_2 \in N, a_1, a_2 \in A$  is a group

(2)  $N' = N \times \{e_A\}$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$

(3)  $A' = \{e_N\} \times A$  acts on  $N'$  by conjugation and

$$(e_N a) (n, e_A) (e_N a)^{-1} = (a * n, e_A). \text{ In particular } N' \triangleleft G.$$

Notation:  $G = N \times A$

Proof We abbreviate both  $e_N \in N$  and  $e_A \in A$  as  $e$ .

i)  $\forall (n, a) \in N \times A$ . Note:  $e_A * n = n \neq n \in N, a * e_N = e_N \quad \forall a \in A$ .

$$(e, e) (n, a) = (e (e * n), e a) = (e n, e a) = (n, a).$$

$$\text{and } (n, a) (e, e) = (n (a * e), a e) = (n e, a) = (n, a)$$

$\Rightarrow (e, e) \in N \times A$  is the identity element.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(ii)} \quad ((n_1, a_1) (n_2, a_2)) (n_3, a_3) &= (n_1 (a_1 * n_2), a_1 a_2) (n_3, a_3) \\ &= ((n_1 (a_1 * n_2)) (a_1 a_2 * n_3), (a_1 a_2) a_3) \end{aligned}$$

$$(n_1, a_1) ((n_2, a_2) (n_3, a_3)) = (n_1, a_1) (n_2 (a_2 * n_3), a_2 a_3)$$

$$= (n_1 (a_1 * (n_2 (a_2 * n_3))), a_1 (a_2 a_3)) = (n_1 ((a_1 * n_2) (a_1 * (a_2 * n_3))), (a_1 a_2) a_3)$$

$$= ((n_1 (a_1 * n_2)) (a_1 a_2 * n_3), (a_1 a_2) a_3)$$

$\therefore$  the multiplication in  $G = N \times A$  is associative.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(iii) [inverses]} \quad (n, a) (\bar{a}^{-1} * n^{-1}, \bar{a}^{-1}) &= (n (a * (\bar{a}^{-1} * n^{-1})), a \bar{a}^{-1}) \\ &= (n ((a \bar{a}^{-1}) * n^{-1}), e) = (n (e * n^{-1}), e) = (n n^{-1}, e) = (e, e). \end{aligned}$$

Similarly

$$\begin{aligned} (\bar{a}^{-1} * n^{-1}, \bar{a}^{-1}) \cdot (n, a) &= ((\bar{a}^{-1} * n^{-1}) (a^{-1} * n), \bar{a}^{-1} a) \\ &= (\bar{a}^{-1} * (n^{-1} n), e) = (\bar{a}^{-1} * e, e) = (e, e). \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow G = N \rtimes A$  is a group

(iv)  $N' = N \times \{e\} \cong N$  is normal in  $G$ ;

$$\begin{aligned} (e, a) \cdot (n, e) \cdot (e, a)^{-1} &= (e \cdot (a * n), a e) \cdot (a^{-1} * e^{-1}, a^{-1}) \\ &= (a * n, a) \cdot (e, a^{-1}) = ((a * n)(a \cdot e), a a^{-1}) = (a * n, e). \end{aligned}$$

Corollary 3.2.5 Suppose  $G$  is a group,  $N \triangleleft G$  a normal subgroup

$A < G$  a subgroup with  $A \cap N = \{e\}$  and  $G = NA$

Let  $\varphi: A \rightarrow \text{Aut}(N)$  be the homomorphism defined by

$$\varphi(a)(n) = ana^{-1}$$

Then  $f: N \rtimes A \rightarrow G$ ,  $f(n, a) = na$  is an isomorphism.

Ex  $G = D_n = \langle \rho, \tau \mid \rho^n = e, \tau^2 = e, \tau\rho = \rho^{-1}\tau \rangle$

$$N = \langle \rho \rangle, \quad A = \langle \tau \rangle$$

$$\tau\rho\tau^{-1} = \rho^{-1} \quad \rightarrow \quad \tau\rho^k\tau^{-1} = \rho^{-k}$$

$$D_n \cong \mathbb{Z}_n \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_2 \quad \text{by Cor 3.2.5.}$$

Ex  $G = \text{Euc}(\mathbb{R}^n) = \{ f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \mid f \text{ preserves distance} \}$ .

Recall:  $\forall f \in G$  there are unique  $A \in O(n)$ ,  $v \in \mathbb{R}^n$  st.

$$f(w) = Aw + v \quad \forall w \in \mathbb{R}^n.$$

$O(n) \subseteq \text{Euc}(\mathbb{R}^n)$  is a subgroup

Every  $v \in \mathbb{R}^n$  defines a translation  $T_v: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$

$$T_v(w) = v + w$$

The map  $v \mapsto T_v$ ,  $\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \text{Euc}(\mathbb{R}^n)$  is an injective group homomorphism. Proof:

$$\begin{aligned} T_{v+v'}(w) &= (w + v') + w = v + (v' + w) = T_v(T_{v'}(w)) \\ &= (T_v \circ T_{v'})(w) \end{aligned}$$

$$T_v = \text{id}_{\mathbb{R}^n} \Leftrightarrow v + w = w \quad \forall w \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

$$\Leftrightarrow v = 0.$$

We have the bijection  $\mathbb{R}^n \times O(n) \rightarrow \text{Euc}(\mathbb{R}^n)$

$$(v, A) \mapsto T_v \circ A$$

Note  $\forall w \in \mathbb{R}^n$   $(T_v \circ A)(w) = T_v(Aw) = Aw + v.$

Let  $\text{Trans}(\mathbb{R}^n) = \{T_v \mid v \in \mathbb{R}^n\}$ , the subgroup of translations

Claim  $\text{Trans}(\mathbb{R}^n) \triangleleft \text{Euc}(\mathbb{R}^n)$

Proof  $(A \circ T_v \circ A^{-1})(w) = A(A^{-1}w + v) = w + Av$   
 $= T_{Av}(w).$

$$\Rightarrow A \circ T_v \circ A^{-1} = T_{Av}.$$

Cor 3.2.5  $\Rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \rtimes O(n) \rightarrow \text{Euc}(\mathbb{R}^n)$

$$(v, A) \mapsto T_v \circ A$$

is an isomorphism where  $O(n)$  acts on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  by

$$A \cdot v = Av$$

Ex  $S_n \cong A_n \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_2.$

Reason Since  $A_n = \ker(\text{sign})$ ,  $A_n \triangleleft S_n.$

Since  $\text{sign}(12) = -1$ ,  $\langle (12) \rangle \cap A_n = \{e\}.$

Finally  $S_n = A_n \langle (12) \rangle$  since  $\forall \mu \in S_n$  with  $\mu \notin A_n$

$$\text{sign}(\mu(12)) = \text{sign}(\mu) \cdot \text{sign}(12) = (-1) \cdot (-1) = 1. \Rightarrow \mu \cdot (12) \in A_n.$$

$$\Rightarrow \mu = \underbrace{\mu(12)}_{\in A_n} \cdot \underbrace{(12)}_{\in \langle (12) \rangle}$$

$$\Rightarrow S_n = A_n \cdot \langle (12) \rangle.$$