

Theorems  
Algebra qualifying course  
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# 1 Groups

## 1.1 Monoids and sets

**Proposition 1.1.** *Let  $I, J$  be sets and let  $G$  be a commutative monoid. Let  $f : I \times J \rightarrow G$  such that  $f(i, j) = 1$  for all but finitely many pairs  $(i, j)$ . Then*

$$\prod_{i \in I} \left( \prod_{j \in J} f(i, j) \right) = \prod_{j \in J} \left( \prod_{i \in I} f(i, j) \right)$$

**Proposition 1.2.** *Let  $S, T$  be finite sets. Let  $M = \{f : S \rightarrow T\}$  be the set of maps from  $S$  to  $T$ . Then  $|M| = |T|^{|S|}$ .*

## 1.2 Basic properties of groups

**Proposition 1.3.** *Inverses are unique in groups. That is, if  $G$  is a group with identity  $e$  and  $x \in G$  and  $y, y'$  satisfy  $xy = yx = e$  and  $xy' = y'x = e$ , then  $y = y'$ .*

**Theorem 1.4.** *The intersection of subgroups is a subgroup.*

Note: The union of subgroups need to be a subgroup in general. However, the next theorem gives a decisive criterion for the union of subgroups to be a subgroup.

**Theorem 1.5.** *Let  $G$  be a group and  $H, K$  subgroups. Then  $H \cup K$  is a subgroup if and only if  $H \subset K$  or  $K \subset H$ .*

**Theorem 1.6.** *Two group homomorphisms that agree on a generating set are the same. More precisely, if  $f, f' : G \rightarrow G'$  are group homomorphisms and  $S$  is a set of generators for  $G$  and  $f(x) = f'(x)$  for  $x \in S$ , then  $f = f'$ .*

**Theorem 1.7.** *The composition of group homomorphisms is a homomorphism.*

**Theorem 1.8.** *A group homomorphism is injective if and only if its kernel is trivial.*

**Theorem 1.9.** *If  $\phi : G \rightarrow G'$  is a group homomorphism and  $g \in G$  has finite order, then the order of  $\phi(g)$  divides the order of  $g$ . In particular, the order of  $\phi(g)$  is less than or equal to the order of  $g$ .*

**Theorem 1.10** (Basic Properties of Cosets). *Let  $G$  be a group and  $H$  a subgroup and let  $a, b \in G$ . Then*

$$\begin{aligned} |aH| &= |bH| \\ h \in H &\iff hH = H \\ aH = bH &\iff aH \cap bH \neq \emptyset \end{aligned}$$

**Theorem 1.11.** *Let  $G$  be a group and  $H$  a subgroup. Then  $|G| = [G : H]|H|$ .*

**Corollary 1.12.** *The order of a subgroup divides the order of the group.*

**Corollary 1.13.** *Every finite group of prime order is cyclic.*

### 1.3 Normal subgroups

**Corollary 1.14.** *Let  $G$  be a finite group and let  $H$  be a normal subgroup. Then  $|G| = |G/H||H|$*

**Theorem 1.15.** *The intersection of normal subgroups is a normal subgroup. More precisely, if  $\{H_i\}_{i \in I}$  is a family of normal subgroups of  $G$ , then  $\bigcap_{i \in I} H_i$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$ .*

**Theorem 1.16.** *The kernel of a group homomorphism is a normal subgroup and the image of a group homomorphism is a subgroup.*

**Theorem 1.17.** *Let  $f : G \rightarrow G'$  be a group homomorphism and  $H'$  a normal subgroup of  $G'$ . Then  $f^{-1}(H')$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$ .*

**Theorem 1.18.** *Every normal subgroup is the kernel of some group homomorphism.*

**Theorem 1.19.** *The centralizer of a subset is a subgroup.*

**Theorem 1.20.** *The normalizer of a subset is a subgroup.*

**Theorem 1.21.** *The centralizer of a given set is a normal subgroup of the normalizer of that set. Symbolically, if  $S$  is a subset of a group  $G$ , then  $C_G(S)$  is normal in  $N_G(S)$ .*

**Theorem 1.22** (Proposition 2.1). *Let  $G$  be a group and let  $H, K$  be subgroups such that  $H \cap K = \{e\}$  and  $HK = G$  and  $xy = yx$  for  $x \in H, y \in K$ . Then the map*

$$\begin{aligned} H \times K &\rightarrow G \\ (x, y) &\mapsto xy \end{aligned}$$

*is an isomorphism.*

**Theorem 1.23.** *Let  $G$  be a group and  $H$  a subgroup. Then  $H$  is a normal subgroup of  $N_G(H)$ . Furthermore,  $N_G(H)$  is the largest subgroup of  $G$  in which  $H$  is normal. That is, if  $K$  is a subgroup of  $G$  such that  $H$  is normal in  $K$ , then  $K \subset N_G(H)$ .*

**Theorem 1.24.** *Let  $G$  be a group with a subgroup  $H$ . If  $K$  is a subgroup of  $N_G(H)$ , then  $KH$  and  $HK$  are groups and  $H \triangleleft KH$  and  $H \triangleleft HK$ .*

**Theorem 1.25.** *Let  $G$  be a group with subgroups  $H, K$ . If either of  $H, K$  is normal, then  $HK = KH$  and  $HK$  is a subgroup (of  $G$ ).*

**Theorem 1.26.** *Let  $G$  be a group with normal subgroups  $H, K$ . Then  $HK$  is normal.*

**Theorem 1.27.** *Let  $G$  be a group. A normal subgroup  $H$  is a maximal normal subgroup if and only if  $G/H$  is simple.*

**Lemma 1.28.** *Let  $G$  be a group and  $H, K$  be subgroups. We define  $\phi : H/(H \cap K) \rightarrow HK/K$  by  $g(H \cap K) \mapsto gK$ . Then  $\phi$  is a bijection. (Note that  $HK$  may not be a group.)*

**Proposition 1.29.** *Let  $H, K$  be subgroups of a finite group  $G$  with  $K \subset N_G(H)$ . Then*

$$|HK| = \frac{|H||K|}{|H \cap K|}$$

**Proposition 1.30.** *Let  $G$  be a group and  $H$  a subgroup of finite index. Then there is a finite number of right cosets of  $H$ , and the number of right cosets is equal to the number of left cosets.*

## 1.4 Exact sequences of groups

**Theorem 1.31.** Let  $G_1, G_2, G_3$  be groups and  $f_1, f_2$  be group homomorphisms so that the sequence

$$0 \xrightarrow{i} G_1 \xrightarrow{f_1} G_2 \xrightarrow{f_2} G_3 \xrightarrow{j} 0$$

is exact (where  $i : 0 \rightarrow G_1$  is the map  $0 \mapsto 0$  and  $j : G_3 \rightarrow 0$  is the trivial map). Then  $f_1$  is injective and  $f_2$  is surjective.

**Theorem 1.32.** Let  $G$  be a group and  $H$  a normal subgroup. Let  $\iota : H \hookrightarrow G$  be the inclusion map and  $\pi : G \rightarrow G/H$  be the canonical projection. Then the sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow H \xrightarrow{\iota} G \xrightarrow{\pi} G/H \longrightarrow 0$$

is exact.

**Theorem 1.33.** Let

$$0 \longrightarrow G' \xrightarrow{\psi} G \xrightarrow{\phi} G'' \longrightarrow 0$$

be an exact sequence of groups. Then there is an isomorphism  $\theta$  so that the following diagram commutes and has exact rows. Note that all the vertical maps are isomorphisms.

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & G' & \xrightarrow{\psi} & G & \xrightarrow{\phi} & G'' & \longrightarrow & 0 \\ & & \psi \downarrow & & \text{Id}_G \downarrow & & \theta \downarrow & & \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & \ker \phi & \xrightarrow{\iota} & G & \xrightarrow{\pi} & G/\ker \phi & \longrightarrow & 0 \end{array}$$

## 1.5 Group isomorphism theorems

**Theorem 1.34** (First Isomorphism Theorem). The image of a group homomorphism is isomorphic to the quotient by the kernel. More precisely, if  $\phi : G \rightarrow G'$  is a group homomorphism, then  $\text{im } \phi \cong G/\ker \phi$ .

**Theorem 1.35** (Second Isomorphism Theorem). Let  $G$  be a group with subgroups  $H, N$  where  $N$  is normal. Then  $HN$  is a subgroup of  $G$ , and  $H \cap N$  is a normal subgroup of  $H$ , and  $HN/N \cong H/(H \cap N)$ .

**Theorem 1.36** (Third Isomorphism Theorem). Let  $G$  be a group with normal subgroups  $H, K$  such that  $K \subset H$ . Then  $K$  is normal in  $H$ , so we can define a map  $G/K \rightarrow G/H$  by  $xK \mapsto xH$ . This is a homomorphism, and the kernel is  $\{xK : x \in H\}$ . Therefore,

$$(G/K)/(G/H) \cong G/H$$

**Theorem 1.37.** Let  $f : G \rightarrow G'$  be a group homomorphism and let  $H = \ker f$ . Let  $\phi : G/H \rightarrow G$  be the canonical map. Then there exists a unique homomorphism  $f_* : G/H \rightarrow G'$  such that  $f = f_* \circ \phi$  and  $f_*$  is injective. In particular,  $f_*$  is the map  $xH \mapsto f(x)$ .

**Theorem 1.38.** Let  $G$  be a group and  $H$  a subgroup. Let  $N$  be the intersection of all normal subgroups containing  $H$ . Let  $f : G \rightarrow G'$  be a homomorphism with  $H \subset \ker f$ , and let  $\phi : G/N \rightarrow G$  be the canonical map. Then  $N \subset \ker f$  and there exists a unique homomorphism  $f_* : G/N \rightarrow G'$  such that  $f_* \circ \phi = f$ . In particular,  $f_*$  is the map  $xN \mapsto f(x)$ .

## 1.6 Cyclic groups

**Theorem 1.39.** *Let  $H$  be a nontrivial subgroup of  $\mathbb{Z}$ . Then  $H = n\mathbb{Z}$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ .*

**Theorem 1.40.** *Every subgroup of a cyclic group is cyclic.*

**Theorem 1.41.** *Two finite cyclic groups of the same order are isomorphic.*

**Theorem 1.42.** *Let  $G$  be a finite cyclic group of order  $n$ , and let  $x$  be a generator of  $G$ . Then  $g \in G$  is a generator if and only if  $g = x^k$  where  $\gcd(k, n) = 1$ . That is, the generators of  $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$  are precisely those numbers that are relatively prime to  $n$ .*

**Theorem 1.43.** *Let  $G$  be a cyclic group and let  $a, b$  be generators of  $G$ . Then there exists a unique automorphism of  $G$  mapping  $a$  to  $b$ .*

**Theorem 1.44.** *Let  $G$  be a cyclic group of order  $n$  and let  $d$  be a positive integer dividing  $n$ . Then there exists a unique subgroup of  $G$  of order  $d$ .*

**Theorem 1.45.** *The direct sum of cyclic groups is cyclic if and only if the groups have relatively prime orders. More precisely, if  $G_1, G_2$  are cyclic groups, then  $G_1 \times G_2$  is cyclic if and only if  $\gcd(|G_1|, |G_2|) = 1$ .*

## 1.7 Towers and solvability

**Theorem 1.46.** *The preimage of a normal tower under a group homomorphism is a normal tower. More precisely, let  $f : G \rightarrow G'$  be a group homomorphism, and*

$$G' = G'_0 \supset G'_1 \supset \dots \supset G'_n$$

*be a normal tower for  $G'$ . Define  $G_i = f^{-1}(G'_i)$ . Then*

$$G = G_0 \supset G_1 \supset \dots \supset G_n$$

*is a normal tower for  $G$ .*

**Theorem 1.47.** *Every abelian group is solvable.*

*Proof.* Let  $G$  be abelian. Then  $G \supset \{e\}$  is an abelian tower ending in the trivial group, so  $G$  is solvable.  $\square$

**Theorem 1.48.** *The preimage of an abelian tower (under a group homomorphism) is an abelian tower.*

**Theorem 1.49.** *The preimage of a cyclic tower (under a group homomorphism) is a cyclic tower.*

**Theorem 1.50.** *Let  $G$  be a finite group with an abelian tower. Then there is a refinement of that tower that is cyclic.*

**Theorem 1.51.** *Let  $G$  be a finite solvable group. Then  $G$  has a cyclic tower ending in the trivial group.*

**Theorem 1.52.** *Let  $G$  be a group and  $H$  a normal subgroup. Then  $G$  is solvable if and only if  $H$  and  $G/H$  are solvable.*

**Theorem 1.53.** *The commutator subgroup is normal, and the quotient by the commutator subgroup gives an abelian group. More precisely, if  $G$  is a group, then  $[G, G]$  is normal in  $G$  and  $G/[G, G]$  is abelian.*

**Theorem 1.54.** *An abelian group is simple if and only if it is cyclic of prime order.*

**Theorem 1.55** (Butterfly Lemma). *Let  $U, V$  be subgroups of a group. Let  $u, v$  be normal subgroups of  $U$  and  $V$  respectively. Then*

$$\begin{aligned} u(U \cap v) &\triangleleft u(U \cap V) \\ (u \cap V)v &\triangleleft (U \cap V)v \\ u(U \cap V)/u(U \cap v) &\cong (U \cap V)v/(u \cap V)v \end{aligned}$$

**Theorem 1.56** (Schreier's Theorem). *Two normal towers of subgroups ending with the trivial group have equivalent refinements.*

**Theorem 1.57** (Jordan-Holder). *Let  $G$  be a group and let*

$$G = G_1 \supset G_2 \supset \dots \supset G_n = \{e\}$$

*be a normal tower so that each group  $G_i/G_{i+1}$  is simple and  $G_i \neq G_{i+1}$ . Then any other normal tower of  $G$  having these properties is equivalent to this tower.*

## 1.8 Group actions

**Theorem 1.58.** *Let  $G$  act on a set  $S$  and let  $s \in S$ . The stabilizer of  $s$  is a subgroup of  $G$ .*

**Theorem 1.59.** *Let  $G$  act on a set  $S$  and let  $s, t \in S$ . Then  $G_s$  and  $G_t$  are conjugate.*

**Theorem 1.60.** *Let  $G$  act on a set  $S$  and let  $s \in S$ . Let  $G$  also act on  $G/G_s$  by  $g \cdot xG_s = (gx)G_s$ . Define  $f : G/G_s \rightarrow S$  by  $xG_s \mapsto xs$ . Then  $f$  is well-defined and  $f$  is a morphism of  $G$ -sets. Furthermore,  $f$  is injective and the image of  $f$  is the orbit  $G \cdot s$ . Therefore,  $f$  induces a bijection between  $G/G_s$  and  $G \cdot s$ .*

**Theorem 1.61** (Orbit-Stabilizer Theorem). *Let  $G$  be a group acting on a set  $S$  and let  $s \in S$ . Then the order of the orbit  $G \cdot s$  is equal to the index of  $G_s$ , that is,  $|G \cdot s| = [G : G_s]$ . If  $G$  is finite, then we get  $|G \cdot s| = |G|/|G_s|$ .*

**Theorem 1.62.** *Let  $G$  be a group and let it act on itself by conjugation. Let  $x \in G$ . Then the stabilizer of  $x$  is the normalizer of  $x$ .*

**Theorem 1.63.** *Let  $G$  be a group and let it act on the set of subgroups by conjugation. Let  $H$  be a subgroup. Then the stabilizer of  $H$  is the normalizer of  $H$ .*

**Theorem 1.64.** *Let  $G$  act on its subgroups by conjugation and let  $H$  be a subgroup. By the Orbit-Stabilizer Theorem, the order of the orbit of  $H$  is equal to the index of the stabilizer of  $H$ . The order of the orbit of  $H$  is equal to the number of subgroups conjugate to  $H$ , and the index of the stabilizer is equal to the index of the normalizer of  $H$ .*

**Theorem 1.65** (Orbit Decomposition Formula). *Let  $G$  act on a set  $S$ . The orbits of the group action form a partition of  $S$ . Thus*

$$|S| = \sum_{i \in I} [G : G_{s_i}]$$

where  $I$  is an indexing set so that each  $s_i$  is a representative of a distinct orbit.

**Theorem 1.66** (Class Equation). *Let  $G$  act on itself by conjugation. Then for  $x \in G$ , we have  $x \in Z(G)$  if and only if the orbit of  $x$  is just  $\{x\}$ . Thus*

$$|G| = |Z(G)| + \sum_{i \in I} [G : G_{x_i}] = |Z(G)| + \sum_{i \in I} |\text{cl}(x_i)|$$

where  $I$  is an indexing set so that  $x_i \notin Z(G)$  and each  $x_i$  is a representative of a distinct conjugacy class.

## 1.9 Symmetric group

**Theorem 1.67.** *There exists a unique homomorphism  $\epsilon : S_n \rightarrow \{-1, 1\}$  such that for every transposition  $\tau$ , we have  $\epsilon(\tau) = -1$ . For  $\sigma \in S_n$ , we call  $\epsilon(\sigma)$  the **sign** of  $\sigma$ .*

**Theorem 1.68.**  *$S_n$  is generated by transpositions.*

**Theorem 1.69.**  *$S_n$  is generated by  $(1\ 2)$  and  $(1\ 2\ \dots\ n)$ .*

**Theorem 1.70.** *If  $n$  is prime and  $\sigma$  is an  $n$ -cycle and  $\tau$  is a transposition, then  $\sigma, \tau$  generate  $S_n$ .*

**Theorem 1.71.** *If  $n \geq 5$ , then  $S_n$  is not solvable.*

**Theorem 1.72.** *If  $n \geq 5$ , then  $A_n$  is simple.*

## 1.10 Sylow theory

**Lemma 1.73.** *Let  $G$  be a finite abelian group of order  $m$  and let  $p$  be a prime dividing  $m$ . Then  $G$  has a subgroup of order  $p$ . (Note: This is true for non-abelian groups as well.)*

**Lemma 1.74.** *Let  $H$  be a  $p$ -group acting on a finite set  $S$ . Then*

1. *The number of fixed points of  $H$  is congruent to  $|S| \pmod{p}$ .*
2. *If  $H$  has exactly one fixed point, then  $|S|$  is congruent to 1  $\pmod{p}$ .*
3. *If  $p$  divides  $|S|$ , then the number of fixed points of  $H$  is congruent to 0  $\pmod{p}$ .*

**Theorem 1.75** (First Sylow Theorem). *Let  $G$  be a finite group and  $p$  a prime dividing  $|G|$ . Then there exists a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $G$ .*

**Theorem 1.76** (Second Sylow Theorem). *Let  $G$  be a finite group and  $p$  a prime dividing  $|G|$ . Then all Sylow  $p$ -subgroups of  $G$  are conjugate.*

**Theorem 1.77.** *Let  $G$  be a finite group, and  $H$  a  $p$ -subgroup. Then  $H$  is contained in some Sylow  $p$ -subgroup.*

**Theorem 1.78** (Third Sylow Theorem). *Let  $G$  be a finite group, and  $p$  a prime dividing  $|G|$ . Let  $n_p$  be the number of distinct Sylow  $p$ -subgroups of  $G$  and let  $P$  be a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $G$ . Then  $n_p \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$  and  $n_p = [G : N_G(P)]$  and  $n_p$  divides  $[G : P]$ . Hence,  $n_p$  divides  $|G|/|P|$ . Thus  $n_p$  divides  $|G|/p^\alpha$ , where  $\alpha$  is the highest power of  $p$  that divides  $|G|$ .*

**Theorem 1.79.** *Let  $G$  be a finite group and  $p$  a prime dividing  $|G|$ . If there is a unique  $p$ -Sylow subgroup, then it is normal.*

*Proof.* Let  $P$  be the unique  $p$ -Sylow subgroup and  $n_p$  the number of  $p$ -Sylow subgroups. We have  $n_p = 1 = [G : N_G(P)]$ , so  $|N_G(P)| = |G|$  so  $N_G(P) = G$ . So the normalizer of  $P$  is all of  $G$ . Every subgroup is normal in its normalizer, so  $P$  is normal in  $G$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 1.80.** *Every (nontrivial)  $p$ -group has a nontrivial center.*

**Theorem 1.81.** *Every  $p$ -group is solvable.*

**Theorem 1.82.** *Let  $G$  be a nontrivial  $p$ -group. Then there exists a sequence of subgroups*

$$G = G_n \supset G_{n-1} \supset \dots \supset G_1 \supset G_0 = \{e\}$$

*such that  $G_i$  is normal in  $G$  and  $G_{i+1}/G_i$  is cyclic of order  $p$ .*

**Theorem 1.83.** *Let  $G$  be a finite group and let  $p$  be the smallest prime dividing the order of  $G$ . Then any subgroup of index  $p$  is normal in  $G$ .*

**Proposition 1.84.** *Let  $G$  be a group, and let  $P$  be a  $p$ -subgroup and  $Q$  be a  $q$ -subgroup, where  $p, q$  are distinct primes. Then  $P \cap Q = \{e\}$ .*

**Theorem 1.85.** *Let  $p, q$  be distinct primes and let  $G$  be a group of order  $pq$ . Then  $G$  is solvable.*

**Lemma 1.86.** *Let  $P, P'$  be  $p$ -Sylow subgroups of  $G$  with  $|P| = |P'| = p$ . Then  $P = P'$  or  $P \cap P' = \{e\}$ .*

## 1.11 Abelian groups

**Theorem 1.87.** *Let  $\{A_i\}_{i \in I}$  be a family of abelian groups. Define the map  $\lambda_i : A_i \rightarrow \bigoplus_i A_i$  by  $x \mapsto (0, \dots, x, \dots, 0)$ . Then  $\lambda_i$  is an injective group homomorphism.*

**Theorem 1.88** (Universal Property of Direct Sum). *Let  $f_i : A_i \rightarrow B$  be a family of homomorphisms into an abelian group. Then there is a unique homomorphism  $f : \bigoplus_i A_i \rightarrow B$  so that  $f \circ \lambda_i = f_i$  for each  $i$ . In particular,  $f$  is given by*

$$(x_i) \mapsto \sum_{i \in I} f_i(x_i)$$

**Theorem 1.89.** *If  $\lambda : S \rightarrow S'$  is a map of sets, there is a unique homomorphism  $\tilde{\lambda}$  so that the following diagram commutes:*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} S & \xrightarrow{f_S} & \mathbb{Z}\langle S \rangle \\ \lambda \downarrow & & \tilde{\lambda} \downarrow \\ S' & \xrightarrow{F_{S'}} & \mathbb{Z}\langle S' \rangle \end{array}$$

**Theorem 1.90.** *Let  $f : A \rightarrow A'$  be a surjective homomorphism of abelian groups and assume that  $A'$  is free. Let  $B = \ker f$ . Then there exists a subgroup  $C$  of  $A$  such that  $f|_C : C \rightarrow A'$  is an isomorphism, and  $A = B \oplus C$ .*

**Theorem 1.91.** *Let  $A$  be a free abelian group and let  $B$  be a subgroup. Then  $B$  is also a free abelian group, and the cardinality of a basis of  $B$  is less than or equal to the cardinality of a basis of  $A$ .*

**Theorem 1.92.** *Let  $A$  be a free abelian group. Then any two bases of  $A$  have the same cardinality.*

### 1.11.1 Finitely generated abelian groups

**Theorem 1.93** (Bezout's Identity). *Let  $a, b \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $d = \gcd(a, b)$ . Then there exist integers  $x, y$  so that  $ax + by = d$ .*

**Theorem 1.94.** *Let  $A$  be a torsion abelian group. Then  $A$  is the direct sum of its subgroups  $A(p)$  for all primes  $p$  such that  $A(p) \neq 0$ .*

**Theorem 1.95.** *Every finite abelian  $p$ -group is isomorphic to a product of cyclic  $p$ -groups. If it is of type  $(p^{r_1}, \dots, p^{r_n})$  with  $1 \leq r_1 \leq \dots \leq r_n$  then the sequence of (positive) integers  $r_1, \dots, r_n$  are unique.*

**Theorem 1.96.** *Let  $A$  be a finitely generated, torsion-free, abelian group. Then  $A$  is free.*

**Theorem 1.97.** *Let  $A$  be a finitely generated abelian group, and let  $A_{\text{tor}}$  be the torsion subgroup. Then  $A_{\text{tor}}$  is finite and  $A/A_{\text{tor}}$  is free. There exists a free subgroup  $B$  of  $A$  such that  $A = B \oplus A_{\text{tor}}$ .*

### 1.11.2 Dual group

**Theorem 1.98.** *Let  $f : A \rightarrow B$  be an abelian group homomorphism and suppose  $A, B$  both have exponent  $m$ . Then the map  $f^\wedge : B^\wedge \rightarrow A^\wedge$  defined by  $f^\wedge(\psi) = \psi \circ f$  is a homomorphism. Note that  $\text{id}^\wedge = \text{id}$  and  $(f \circ g)^\wedge = g^\wedge \circ f^\wedge$ .*

**Theorem 1.99.** *Let  $A, B$  be finite abelian groups. Then  $(A \times B)^\wedge \cong A^\wedge \times B^\wedge$ .*

**Theorem 1.100.** *A finite abelian group is isomorphic to its own dual.*

**Theorem 1.101.** *Let  $A$  and  $C$  be abelian groups. Then the map  $A \times \text{Hom}(A, C) \rightarrow C$  given by  $(a, f) \mapsto f(a)$  is a bilinear pairing.*

## 2 Categories

**Theorem 2.1.** *Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a category and let  $A$  be an object. The set of automorphisms of  $A$  forms a group.*

**Theorem 2.2.** *The usual direct product of groups is a product in the category of groups. More precisely, if  $A, B$  are groups, then the triple  $(A \times B, \pi_A, \pi_B)$  is a product, where  $\pi_A : A \times B \rightarrow A$  and  $\pi_B : A \times B \rightarrow B$  are given by  $\pi_A(a, b) = a$  and  $\pi_B(a, b) = b$ . Specifically, given a group  $C$  and morphisms  $\phi : C \rightarrow A$  and  $\psi : C \rightarrow B$ , the unique morphism  $h : C \rightarrow A \times B$  is  $c \mapsto (\phi(c), \psi(c))$ .*

## 3 Rings

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $A$  be a ring. The set of units, denoted  $A^*$ , forms a group.*

**Theorem 3.2.** *Let  $A$  be a commutative ring and  $\mathfrak{a}, \mathfrak{b}$  be ideals. Then*

$$\mathfrak{a}\mathfrak{b} \subset \mathfrak{a} \cap \mathfrak{b}$$

*If  $\mathfrak{a} + \mathfrak{b} = A$ , then equality holds.*

**Theorem 3.3.** *The kernel of a ring homomorphism is an ideal.*

**Theorem 3.4.** *A ring homomorphism is completely determined by its effect on a set of generators.*

**Theorem 3.5.** *A bijective ring homomorphism is an isomorphism.*

**Theorem 3.6.** *The image of a ring (or subring) under a ring homomorphism is a subring.*

**Theorem 3.7.** *The preimage of an ideal under a ring homomorphism is an ideal.*

**Theorem 3.8.** *Products exist in the category of rings. More specifically, the product is just the product as abelian groups, with an obvious multiplication structure.*

**Theorem 3.9.** *Let  $A$  be an integral domain and let  $a, b \in A$  be nonzero. Then  $a$  and  $b$  generate the same ideal if and only if  $a$  and  $b$  are associates.*

**Theorem 3.10.** *If an ideal contains a unit, then it is the whole ring.*

**Theorem 3.11.** *Every maximal ideal is prime.*

**Theorem 3.12.** *Every proper ideal is contained in some maximal ideal.*

**Theorem 3.13.** *Let  $A$  be a commutative ring and  $\mathfrak{m}$  an ideal.  $\mathfrak{m}$  is maximal if and only if  $A/\mathfrak{m}$  is a field.*

**Theorem 3.14.** *The preimage of a prime ideal under a ring homomorphism of commutative rings is a prime ideal.*

**Theorem 3.15.** Let  $f : A \rightarrow A'$  be a surjective ring homomorphism of commutative rings. If  $\mathfrak{m}'$  is maximal in  $A'$ , then  $f^{-1}(\mathfrak{m}')$  is maximal in  $A$ .

**Theorem 3.16.** The integers are a principal ideal domain.

**Theorem 3.17** (Chinese Remainder Theorem). Let  $\mathfrak{a}_1, \dots, \mathfrak{a}_n$  be ideals of  $A$  such that  $\mathfrak{a}_i + \mathfrak{a}_j = A$  for all  $i \neq j$ . Then if  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in A$ , there exists  $x \in A$  such that  $x \equiv x_i \pmod{\mathfrak{a}_i}$  for all  $i$ .

**Theorem 3.18.** Let  $\mathfrak{a}_1, \dots, \mathfrak{a}_n$  be ideals of  $A$  such that  $\mathfrak{a}_i + \mathfrak{a}_j = A$  for  $i \neq j$ . Define  $f : A \rightarrow \prod_{i=1}^n A/\mathfrak{a}_i$  be the map

$$x \mapsto (x + \mathfrak{a}_1, x + \mathfrak{a}_2, \dots, x + \mathfrak{a}_n)$$

Then  $\ker f = \bigcap_{i=1}^n \mathfrak{a}_i$  and  $f$  is surjective. Hence there is an isomorphism

$$A/\bigcap_{i=1}^n \mathfrak{a}_i \cong \prod_{i=1}^n A/\mathfrak{a}_i$$

**Theorem 3.19.** Let  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ , and write  $m$  as a product of prime powers,  $m = \prod_i p_i^{r_i}$ . Then

$$\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z} \cong \prod_i \mathbb{Z}/p_i^{r_i}\mathbb{Z}$$

This induces an isomorphism

$$(\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z})^* \cong \prod_i (\mathbb{Z}/p_i^{r_i}\mathbb{Z})^*$$

**Theorem 3.20.** If  $p$  is a prime number and  $r \in \mathbb{N}$ , then

$$\phi(p^r) = p^{r-1}(p-1)$$

**Theorem 3.21.** Let  $f, g$  be polynomials over an integral domain. Then  $\deg(fg) = \deg f + \deg g$ . We also have  $\deg(f+g) \leq \max(\deg f, \deg g)$ .

**Theorem 3.22.** If  $A$  is an integral domain, then  $A[x]$  is an integral domain.

## 4 Localization

**Theorem 4.1.** Let  $A$  be an integral domain and  $S$  a multiplicative subset not containing zero. Then  $\phi : A \rightarrow S^{-1}A$  given by  $a \mapsto \frac{a}{1}$  is injective.

**Theorem 4.2.** Let  $\mathfrak{p}$  be a prime ideal of a commutative ring  $A$ . Then  $S = A \setminus \mathfrak{p}$  is a multiplicative subset.

**Theorem 4.3.** Let  $\mathfrak{p}$  be a prime ideal of a commutative ring  $A$ . Then  $A_{\mathfrak{p}}$  is a local ring.

**Theorem 4.4.** Let  $a \in A$  such that  $(a)$  is a prime ideal. Then  $a$  is irreducible.

**Theorem 4.5.** *Let  $A$  be a commutative ring. Then left and right cancellation hold in  $A$  if and only if  $A$  is an integral domain.*

**Theorem 4.6.** *Let  $A$  be a commutative ring. If  $p \in A$  is irreducible and  $u$  is a unit, then  $up$  is irreducible.*

**Theorem 4.7.** *Every principal ideal domain is a unique factorization domain.*

**Theorem 4.8.** *Greatest common denominators exist in unique factorization domains. That is, if  $a, b \in A$ , there exists  $d \in A$  such that  $d$  is a gcd of  $a$  and  $b$ .*

**Theorem 4.9.** *Let  $A$  be a principal ideal domain and  $a, b$  be nonzero elements. If  $(a) + (b) = (c)$ , then  $c$  is a gcd of  $a$  and  $b$ .*

**Theorem 4.10.** *Let  $A$  be a unique factorization domain and  $p$  be an irreducible element. Then  $(p)$  is prime.*

**Theorem 4.11.** *Let  $f : A \rightarrow A'$  be a surjective ring homomorphism. If  $A$  is local and  $A' \neq 0$ , then  $A'$  is local.*

**Theorem 4.12.** *Let  $A$  be a principal ideal domain and  $S$  a multiplicative subset not containing zero. Then  $S^{-1}A$  is a principal ideal domain.*

**Theorem 4.13.** *Let  $A$  be a unique factorization domain and  $S$  a multiplicative subset not containing zero. Then  $S^{-1}A$  is a unique factorization domain.*

## 4.1 Polynomials

**Theorem 4.14.** *Let  $A$  be a commutative ring and let  $f, g \in A[x]$  be polynomials with nonzero degree, where the leading coefficient of  $g$  is a unit. Then there exist unique polynomials  $q, r \in A[x]$  such that*

$$f = gq + r$$

*and  $\deg r < \deg g$ .*

**Theorem 4.15.** *Let  $k$  be a field. Then  $k[x]$  is a principal ideal domain. Consequently,  $k[x]$  is a unique factorization domain.*

**Theorem 4.16.** *Let  $k$  be a field and  $f \in k[x]$  with  $\deg f = n \geq 0$ . Then  $f$  has at most  $n$  roots in  $k$ . If  $a \in k$  is a root of  $f$ , then  $(x - a)$  divides  $f(x)$ .*

**Theorem 4.17.** *Let  $k$  be a field and  $f \in k[x]$ . If there is an infinite subset  $S$  of  $k$  such that  $f(s) = 0$  for  $s \in S$ , then  $f(a) = 0$  for all  $a \in K$ .*

**Theorem 4.18.** *Let  $k$  be an infinite field and  $f$  a polynomial in  $n$  variables over  $k$ . If  $f$  induces the zero function on  $k^n$ , then  $f = 0$ .*

**Theorem 4.19.** *Let  $k$  be a field and  $U$  a finite multiplicative subgroup. The  $U$  is cyclic.*

**Theorem 4.20.** *If  $k$  is a finite field, then  $k^*$  is cyclic.*

**Theorem 4.21.** Let  $A$  be a unique factorization domain and  $K$  its quotient field. Let  $a, b \in K$  such that  $ab \neq 0$ . Then  $\text{ord}_p(ab) = \text{ord}_p a + \text{ord}_p b$ .

**Theorem 4.22** (Gauss's Lemma). Let  $A$  be a unique factorization domain and  $K$  its quotient field. Let  $f, g \in k[x]$ . Then the content of  $fg$  is the content of  $f$  times the content of  $g$ .

**Theorem 4.23.** The product of primitive polynomials is primitive.

**Theorem 4.24.** Let  $A$  be a unique factorization domain with quotient field  $K$ . Then  $A[x]$  is a unique factorization domain. The prime elements of  $A[x]$  are primes of  $A$  and primitive polynomials that are irreducible in  $K[x]$ .

**Theorem 4.25** (Eisenstein's Criterion). Let  $A$  be a unique factorization domain with quotient field  $K$ . Let  $f(x) = a_n x^n + \dots + a_0 \in A[x]$ . If there is a prime  $p \in A$  such that

$$a_n \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p} \quad a_i \equiv 0 \pmod{p} \quad a_0 \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p^2}$$

for  $i < n$ , then  $f$  is irreducible in  $k[x]$ .

**Theorem 4.26** (Reduction Criterion). Let  $A, B$  be integral domains with quotient fields  $K, L$  and  $\phi : A \rightarrow B$  a homomorphism. Let  $f \in A[x]$  such that  $\phi f \neq 0$  and  $\deg \phi f = \deg f$ . If  $\phi f$  is irreducible in  $L[x]$ , then  $f$  is irreducible in  $A[x]$ . If  $A$  is a unique factorization domain, then  $f$  is irreducible in  $K[x]$ .

**Theorem 4.27** (Integral Root Test). Let  $A$  be a unique factorization domain with quotient field  $K$ . If  $f(x) = a_n x^n + \dots + a_0 \in A[x]$ . If  $\alpha = b/d \in K$  is a root of  $f$  with  $\gcd(b, d) = 1$ , then  $b|a_0$  and  $d|a_n$ .

**Theorem 4.28.** Let  $A$  be a commutative Noetherian ring. Then  $A[x]$  is Noetherian.

**Theorem 4.29.** Let  $k$  be a field and  $f \in k[x]$  a non-zero polynomial. The following are equivalent: the ideal generated by  $f$  is prime, the ideal generated by  $f$  is maximal, and  $f$  is irreducible.

**Theorem 4.30.** Let  $k$  be a field. A polynomial of degree 2 or 3 in  $k[x]$  is reducible if and only if it has a root in  $k$ .

**Theorem 4.31.** Let  $R$  be an integral domain containing a field  $k$  as a subring, such that  $R$  is a finite-dimensional vector space over  $k$ . Then  $R$  is a field.

**Theorem 4.32.** Let  $R$  be a commutative ring with unity. Then  $f = a_0 + a_1 x + \dots + a_n x^n \in R[x]$  is a unit if and only if  $a_0$  is a unit in  $R$  and  $a_i$  is nilpotent for  $i \geq 1$ .

## 5 Modules

**Theorem 5.1.** The kernel, image, and cokernel of a module homomorphism are submodules.

**Theorem 5.2.** Direct products exist in the category of  $A$ -modules. In particular, they are simply direct products of abelian groups, with obvious actions from  $A$ .

**Theorem 5.3.** Let  $R$  be a commutative ring and  $M$  be an  $R$ -module.  $M$  is cyclic if and only if there exists an ideal  $I \subset R$  such that  $M \cong R/I$ . (Note that this is an isomorphism of  $R$ -modules.)

## 5.1 The hom functor

**Theorem 5.4.** *Let  $A$  be a ring and let*

$$X' \xrightarrow{f} X \xrightarrow{g} X'' \longrightarrow 0$$

*be a sequence of  $A$ -modules. This sequence is exact if and only if, for every  $A$ -module  $Y$ , the induced sequence*

$$\mathrm{Hom}_A(X', Y) \xleftarrow{\mathrm{Hom}_A(f, Y)} \mathrm{Hom}_A(X, Y) \xleftarrow{\mathrm{Hom}_A(g, Y)} \mathrm{Hom}_A(X'', Y) \longleftarrow 0$$

*is exact.*

**Theorem 5.5.** *Let  $A$  be a ring and let*

$$0 \longrightarrow Y' \xrightarrow{f} Y \xrightarrow{g} Y''$$

*be a sequence of  $A$ -modules. This sequence is exact if and only if, for every  $A$ -module  $X$ , the induced sequence*

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathrm{Hom}_A(X, Y') \xrightarrow{\mathrm{Hom}_A(X, f)} \mathrm{Hom}_A(X, Y) \xrightarrow{\mathrm{Hom}_A(X, g)} \mathrm{Hom}_A(X, Y'')$$

*is exact.*

## 5.2 Free modules

**Theorem 5.6.** *Let  $A$  be a ring with unit 1. Then as a module over itself,  $A$  is free, with basis  $\{1\}$ .*

**Theorem 5.7.** *Let  $I$  be a nonempty set and let  $A$  be a ring. Let  $A_i = A$  for  $i \in I$ . Then  $\bigoplus_{i \in I} A_i$  is a free  $A$ -module. A basis is given by  $\{e_i\}_{i \in I}$  where  $e_i$  has a one in the  $i$ th component and zero elsewhere.*

**Theorem 5.8.** *Let  $M$  be a free  $A$ -module with basis  $\{x_i\}_{i \in I}$ . Let  $N$  be an  $A$ -module with a subset  $\{y_i\}_{i \in I}$ . There exists a unique  $A$ -module homomorphism  $f : M \rightarrow N$  such that  $f(x_i) = y_i$  for  $i \in I$ .*

**Theorem 5.9.** *Let  $M, N$  be free  $A$  modules with bases  $\{x_i\}_{i \in I}$  and  $\{y_i\}_{i \in I}$  respectively. Then there is a unique  $A$ -module isomorphism  $f : M \rightarrow N$  defined by  $f(x_i) = y_i$ .*