

Direct Products of Groups

Def: Let ~~$(G, *)$~~ $(G, *)$, (H, \square) be two gps. We define the Cartesian (or direct) product of G and H to be the group $(G \times H, \Delta)$, where

$$G \times H = \{ (g, h) : g \in G, h \in H \} \text{ and } \Delta \text{ is defined by}$$

$$(a, b) \Delta (c, d) = (a * b, b \square d)$$

Exercise: Show that this makes $G \times H$ into a gp.

Examples: Good ~~idea~~ way to make abelian gps:

1. $\mathbb{R}^n = \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \times \dots \times \mathbb{R}$ is the Cartesian product of \mathbb{R} with itself n -times

2. $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} = \{ (a, b) : a, b \in \mathbb{Z} \}$, $(a, b) + (c, d) = (a+c, b+d)$

3. $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z}$, $(1, 0)$ has infinite order
 $(0, \bar{1})$ has ~~order~~ order 5
 $(1, \bar{1})$ has infinite order

4. $\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ $(\bar{2}, \bar{1})$ - has order 2

$$(\bar{2}, \bar{1}) + (\bar{2}, \bar{1}) = (\bar{4}, \bar{2}) = (0, 0)$$

~~$\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ $(\bar{2}, \bar{1})$ has order 2~~

5. $\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \ni (\bar{1}, \bar{1})$ has order 6

$$2 \cdot (\bar{1}, \bar{1}) = (\bar{2}, \bar{1}) + (\bar{1}, \bar{1}) = (\bar{1}, \bar{0})$$

$$3 \cdot (\bar{1}, \bar{1}) = (\bar{0}, \bar{3}) = (\bar{0}, \bar{1})$$

$$4 \cdot (\bar{1}, \bar{1}) = (\bar{1}, \bar{4}) = (\bar{1}, \bar{0})$$

$$5 \cdot (\bar{1}, \bar{1}) = (\bar{2}, \bar{5}) = (\bar{1}, \bar{1})$$

$$6 \cdot (\bar{1}, \bar{1}) = (\bar{6}, \bar{6}) = (\bar{0}, \bar{0})$$

Therefore $\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} = \langle (\bar{1}, \bar{1}) \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z}$
 $\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ is cyclic

6. $\mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z} \ni (\bar{2}, \bar{2})$ has order 6

$$2 \cdot (\bar{2}, \bar{2}) = (\bar{4}, \bar{4}) = (\bar{4}, \bar{0})$$

$$3 \cdot (\bar{2}, \bar{2}) = (\bar{6}, \bar{6}) = (\bar{0}, \bar{2})$$

$$4 \cdot (\bar{2}, \bar{2}) = (\bar{8}, \bar{8}) = (\bar{2}, \bar{0})$$

$$5 \cdot (\bar{2}, \bar{2}) = (\bar{10}, \bar{10}) = (\bar{4}, \bar{2})$$

$$6 \cdot (\bar{2}, \bar{2}) = (\bar{12}, \bar{12}) = (\bar{0}, \bar{0})$$

$\mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z} \cong \langle (\bar{2}, \bar{2}) \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z}$

Question: Is $\mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}$ cyclic?

What are the subgroups of $\mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}$?