

Groups of order 12

Fix • a group G with $|G| = 12$

• $H \leq G$ a Sylow 2-subgroup $|H| = \cancel{2}^4$

• $K \leq G$ a Sylow 3-subgroup $|K| = \cancel{3}^3$

Sylow 3 $\Rightarrow H$ has 1 or 3 conjugates $|3 \text{ and } \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$

K has 1 or 4 conjugates $|4 \text{ and } \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$

$H \cong C_4$ or $H \cong C_2 \times C_2$ Klein 4-group

Lemma: $H \triangleleft G$ or $K \triangleleft G$ or both.

Pf: $K \not\triangleleft G \Rightarrow 4$ conjugates of K

$\Rightarrow 8$ elements of order 3 in G

$\Rightarrow 4$ elements remain.

Since H has no elements of order 3,

$H = G \setminus \{\text{elements of order 3}\}$.

$H \triangleleft G$ since same is true of gHg^{-1} . \square

Lemma $\Rightarrow G = H \times K$ if both are normal

$H \rtimes K$ if $K \not\triangleleft G$

$K \rtimes H$ if $H \not\triangleleft G$

• $H \times K$: $G \cong C_4 \times C_3$ or $G \cong C_2 \times C_2 \times C_3$

• $H \rtimes K$: $G \curvearrowright X = \{\text{conjugates of } K\}$ by conjugation

$|X| = 4 \Rightarrow G \rightarrow S_4$

$X = \{K_1, \dots, K_4\}$

$\ker(G \rightarrow S_4) = N_G(K_1) \cap \dots \cap N_G(K_4)$
 $\bigcup_{K_i} K_i$

$N_G(K_i) = |G_{K_i}| = |G|/|O_{K_i}| = 12/4 = 3$

$\Rightarrow N_G(K_i) = K_i$

$\Rightarrow \bigcap_{i=1}^4 N_G(K_i) = \{1\}$

$\Rightarrow G \hookrightarrow S_4$.

But G has ~~8~~ elements of order 3 in S_4
generated by 3-cycles

(why? $| \text{subgroup} | \mid |G| = 12$)

\Rightarrow every permutation in G is even

$\Rightarrow G = A_4$ since $|A_4| = 12$.

Note: $H \cong C_2 \times C_2$ is forced

• $K \rtimes H$: Let $K = \{1, y, y^2\}$.

$\text{Aut } K \cong C_2 = \{\text{id}_K, (y \leftrightarrow y^2)\}$

Case 1: $H \cong C_4 \Rightarrow \exists!$ nontrivial $H \rightarrow \text{Aut } K$

\parallel
 $\{1, x, x^2, x^3\}$

$x \mapsto (y \leftrightarrow y^2)$

$x^2 \mapsto \text{id}_K$

$G = \langle x, y \mid x^4 = 1, y^2 = 1, xyx^{-1} = y^2 \rangle$.

Case 2: $H \cong C_2 \times C_2'$

$H \xrightarrow{\varphi} \text{Aut } K$ nontrivial $\Rightarrow \exists! u \in H$ with $u: y \mapsto y$
 $u \neq 1$

$\langle u \rangle = \ker \varphi$; choose this to be C_2'

$\left. \begin{array}{l} C_2 \hookrightarrow \text{Aut } K \\ C_2' \text{ commutes with } K \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow G = (K \rtimes C_2) \times C_2$
 $\cong S_3 \times C_2$
 $\cong D_6 \quad [M1\#1(c)].$

Conclusion: $\#(\text{groups of order } 12) = 5$.