

132. On Sylow Subgroups and an Extension of Groups

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Let A and B be groups. If there are homomorphisms f and g such that a sequence $\xrightarrow{f} A \xrightarrow{g} B \xrightarrow{f} A \xrightarrow{g} B \xrightarrow{f}$ is exact, then we denote this collection by $(A, B: f, g)$ and we say $(A, B: f, g)$ to be *well defined*. Let $(A, B: f, g)$ and $(C, D: f_1, g_1)$ be well defined. If C and D are subgroups of A and B , respectively, and if $f=f_1$ on C and $g=g_1$ on D , then we call $(C, D: f_1, g_1)$ a *subgroup* of $(A, B: f, g)$ and in this case, we denote $(C, D: f_1, g_1)$ by $(C, D: f, g)$. Furthermore, we call $(C, D: f, g)$ a *normal subgroup* of $(A, B: f, g)$ if $C \triangleleft A$ and $D \triangleleft B$, and a *Sylow subgroup* of $(A, B: f, g)$ if C is a Sylow subgroup of A (in this case D is also a Sylow subgroup of B). We shall discuss the existence of such Sylow subgroups $(C, D: f, g)$ of $(A, B: f, g)$. It is easy to see that there are homomorphisms f and g such that $(A, B: f, g)$ is well defined iff there are groups M, N and homomorphisms $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \beta_1, \beta_2$ such that sequences $1 \rightarrow M \xrightarrow{\alpha_1} A \xrightarrow{\alpha_2} N \rightarrow 1$ and $1 \rightarrow N \xrightarrow{\beta_1} B \xrightarrow{\beta_2} M \rightarrow 1$ are exact. This shows that the results given in this note are related to an extension of groups.

Lemma 1. *Let $(A, B: f, g)$ be well defined. Let M and N be subgroups of A and B , respectively. Then $(M, N: f, g)$ is well defined iff $f(M)=f(A) \cap N$ and $g(N)=g(B) \cap M$.*

Proof. Since $(A, B: f, g)$ is well defined, $A/g(B) \cong f(A)$ and so $M/M \cap g(B) \cong Mg(B)/g(B) \cong f(M)$. Assume that $(M, N: f, g)$ is well defined. Then $M/g(N) \cong f(M)$. Hence $M/g(N) \cong M/M \cap g(B)$ where this isomorphism is given by $xg(N) \rightarrow x(M \cap g(B))$ for all $x \in M$. Hence $M \cap g(B) = g(N)$. Similarly $N \cap f(A) = f(M)$. Conversely, let $f(M) = N \cap f(A)$ and $g(N) = M \cap g(B)$. Then $M/g(N) = M/M \cap g(B) \cong Mg(B)/g(B) \cong f(M)$, i.e., $M/g(N) \cong f(M)$ where this isomorphism is given by $xg(N) \rightarrow f(x)$ for all $x \in M$. Similarly $N/f(M) \cong g(N)$ where this isomorphism is given by $yf(M) \rightarrow g(y)$ for all $y \in N$. Hence $(M, N: f, g)$ is well defined.

Lemma 2. *Let $(A, B: f, g)$ be well defined and let $(M, N: f, g)$ be a normal subgroup of $(A, B: f, g)$. Then $(A/M, B/N: \bar{f}, \bar{g})$ is well defined, where \bar{f} and \bar{g} are homomorphisms which are naturally induced by f and g , respectively.*

Proof. By Lemma 1, $f(A) \cap N = f(M)$. Hence $f^{-1}(N) = f^{-1}(f(A))$