

## Part A.

1. (a) *Closure:* If  $(h, k), (h', k') \in H \times K$ , then  $h, h' \in H$  and  $k, k' \in K$ , so  $hh' \in H$  and  $kk' \in K$ , so  $(h, k)(h', k') = (hh', kk') \in H \times K$ .  
*Associativity:*  $((h, k)(h', k'))(h'', k'') = (hh', kk')(h'', k'') = (hh'h'', kk'k'') = (h, k)(h'h'', k'k'') = (h, k)((h', k')(h'', k''))$ .  
*Identity:*  $(h, k)(e, e) = (he, ke) = (h, k) = (eh, ek) = (e, e)(h, k)$ , so  $(e, e) = 1_{H \times K}$ .  
*Inverse:*  $(h, k)(h^{-1}, k^{-1}) = (hh^{-1}, kk^{-1}) = (e, e) = (h^{-1}h, k^{-1}k) = (h^{-1}, k^{-1})(h, k)$ , so  $(h, k)^{-1} = (h^{-1}, k^{-1}) \in H \times K$ .
- (b) Since  $hk = kh$  for any  $h \in H$  and  $k \in K$ ,  $HK = KH$ , hence  $HK$  is a group. Consider a map  $f : H \times K \rightarrow HK$  given by  $f(h, k) = hk$ . Then  $f((h, k)(h', k')) = f(hh', kk') = hh'kk' = hkh'k' = f(h, k)f(h', k')$ , so  $f$  is a homomorphism. Any element in  $HK$  can be written as  $hk = f(h, k)$  for some  $h \in H$  and  $k \in K$ , so  $f$  is onto. By the First Homomorphism Theorem,  $HK = (H \times K)/\ker(f)$ . What is  $\ker(f)$ ? If  $h \in H$  and  $k \in K$ , then  $(h, k) \in \ker(f)$  if and only if  $hk = f(h, k) = e$ , i.e. if and only if  $k = h^{-1}$ . But then  $k \in H$  and  $h \in K$ , so  $h, k \in H \cap K$ . Thus,  $\ker(f) = \{(h, h^{-1}) \mid h \in H \cap K\}$  which is obviously isomorphic to  $H \cap K$  via the isomorphism  $h \mapsto (h, h^{-1})$  (check that this is an isomorphism).
- (c) Consider the same map  $f : H \times K \rightarrow HK$ ,  $f(h, k) = hk$ . How many elements are in the inverse image of a given element  $hk \in HK$ ? We have  $f(h', k') = hk \iff h'k' = hk \iff h^{-1}h' = k(k')^{-1}$ . Let  $a = h^{-1}h' = k(k')^{-1}$ , then  $a \in H$  and  $a \in K$ , so  $a \in H \cap K$ . Then  $h' = ha$  and  $k' = a^{-1}k$ , so  $(h', k') = (ha, a^{-1}k)$  for some  $a \in H \cap K$ . Conversely, for any  $a \in H \cap K$ ,  $f(ha, a^{-1}k) = haa^{-1}k = hk = f(h, k)$ . Thus, the inverse image of  $hk$  is  $f^{-1}(hk) = \{(ha, a^{-1}k) \mid a \in H \cap K\}$ . Thus, there is a bijection between  $f^{-1}(hk)$  and  $H \cap K$  given by  $a \mapsto (ha, a^{-1}k)$ , so  $f^{-1}(hk)$  has  $o(H \cap K)$  elements. Since any element of  $HK$  can be written as  $hk$  for some  $h \in H$  and  $k \in K$ , the inverse image of any element of  $HK$  under  $f$  has  $o(H \cap K)$  elements. In other words,  $o(H)o(K) = o(H \times K) = o(HK)o(H \cap K)$ , so  $o(HK) = o(H)o(K)/o(H \cap K)$ .  
*Note:* This holds even if  $HK$  is not a group.
- (d) Suppose  $H \triangleleft G$  and  $K \triangleleft G$ . Then for any  $g \in G$ , we have  $gHg^{-1} = H$  and  $gKg^{-1} = K$ , so  $gHKg^{-1} = gHg^{-1}gKg^{-1} = HK$ , i.e.  $HK \triangleleft G$ .
2. (a) Suppose that  $a, b \in N(H)$ , then  $a^{-1}Ha = H$  and  $b^{-1}Hb = H$ , so  $(ab)^{-1}Hab = b^{-1}a^{-1}Hab = b^{-1}Hb = H$ , hence  $ab \in N(H)$ . If  $a \in N(H)$ , then  $a^{-1}Ha = H$ , so  $H = aHa^{-1} = (a^{-1})^{-1}Ha^{-1}$ , so  $a^{-1} \in N(H)$ . Thus,  $N(H)$  is a subgroup of  $G$ .
- (b) For any element  $a \in N(H)$ , we have  $a^{-1}Ha = H$ , hence  $H \triangleleft N(H)$ .
- (c) If  $K$  is a subgroup of  $G$  such that  $H \triangleleft K$ , then for any  $k \in K$ ,  $k^{-1}Hk = H$ , so  $k \in N(H)$ . Therefore,  $K \subseteq N(H)$ .

## Part B.

1. We know that  $A' \triangleleft A$  and  $B' \triangleleft B$ , so by the Second Homomorphism Theorem, we have that  $A' \cap C \triangleleft A \cap C = C$  and  $C \cap B' \triangleleft C \cap B = C$ . Hence, by Problem A2(d),  $(A' \cap C)(C \cap B') \triangleleft C$ . Let  $C' = (A' \cap C)(C \cap B')$ .

Since  $A' \triangleleft A$ , it follows that  $A'C$  is a subgroup of  $AC = A(A \cap B) = A \cap AB = A$ . Consider a map from  $f : A'C \rightarrow C/C'$  given by  $f(a'c) = cC'$  for any  $a' \in A'$  and  $c \in C$ . Then  $f$

is well-defined, since  $a'c = a'_1c_1 \iff a'(a'_1)^{-1} = c^{-1}c_1 \in A' \cap C \subseteq (A' \cap C)(C \cap B') = C' \iff cC' = c_1C'$ . Also, for any  $c \in C$ ,  $cC' = f(ec)$ , and  $ec \in A'C$ , so  $f$  is onto. Finally, if  $a'c, a'_1c_1 \in A'C$ , then  $(a'c)(a'_1c_1) = a'(ca'_1c^{-1})cc_1$ , and  $ca'_1c^{-1} \in A'$  since  $A' \triangleleft A$  and  $c \in C \subseteq A$ . Thus,  $f((a'c)(a'_1c_1)) = f(a'(ca'_1c^{-1})cc_1) = cc_1C' = (cC')(c_1C') = f(a'c)f(a'_1c_1)$ , so  $f$  is a homomorphism. Hence,  $C/C' \simeq (A'C)/\ker(f)$  by the First Homomorphism Theorem. What is  $\ker(f)$ ? We have  $a'c \in \ker(f) \iff f(a'c) = C' \iff cC' = C' \iff c \in C'$ . But then  $a'c \in A'(A' \cap C)(C \cap B')$ , and  $A'(A' \cap C) = A' \cap A'C = A'$ , so  $a'c \in A'(C \cap B')$ . Therefore,  $\ker(f) \subseteq A'(C \cap B')$ . On the other hand, any element in  $A'(C \cap B')$  is of the form  $a'c$  for some  $a' \in A'$  and  $c \in C \cap B' \subseteq (A' \cap C)(C \cap B') = C'$ , so  $f(a'c) = cC' = C'$ , i.e.  $a'c \in \ker(f)$ . Therefore,  $A'(C \cap B') \subseteq \ker(f)$ . Thus,  $\ker(f) = A'(C \cap B')$ , so  $C/C' \simeq (A'C)/A'(C \cap B')$  and  $A'(C \cap B') \triangleleft A'C$ . Switching  $A$  and  $B$  as well as  $A'$  and  $B'$ , we get  $C/C' \simeq (B'C)/B'(A' \cap C)$  and  $B'(A' \cap C) \triangleleft B'C$ .

2. For  $\sigma \in G$ , we have  $\sigma = \begin{pmatrix} 1/c & b \\ 0 & c \end{pmatrix}$  for some  $c > 0$  and some real  $b$ . Let  $(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ . From the definition of the action of  $G$  on  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , it is clear that the action of any  $\sigma \in G$  preserves the sign of  $y$ , and if  $y = 0$  then the action of any  $\sigma \in G$  preserves the sign of  $x$ .

If  $y > 0$ , then

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1/y & x \\ 0 & y \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}; \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1/c & b \\ 0 & c \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} b \\ c \end{pmatrix}, \quad c > 0.$$

If  $y < 0$ , then

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -1/y & -x \\ 0 & -y \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}; \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1/c & b \\ 0 & c \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -b \\ -c \end{pmatrix}, \quad -c < 0.$$

If  $y = 0$  and  $x > 0$ , then

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x & 0 \\ 0 & 1/x \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}; \quad \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & 1/a \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad a > 0.$$

If  $y = 0$  and  $x < 0$ , then

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -x & 0 \\ 0 & -1/x \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}; \quad \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & 1/a \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -a \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad -a < 0.$$

If  $y = 0$  and  $x = 0$ , then

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & 1/a \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Thus, the upper half-plane,  $y > 0$ , is the orbit of  $(0, 1)$ ; the lower half-plane,  $y < 0$ , is the orbit of  $(0, -1)$ ; the positive  $x$ -axis,  $y = 0$  and  $x > 0$ , is the orbit of  $(1, 0)$ ; the negative  $x$ -axis,  $y = 0$  and  $x < 0$ , is the orbit of  $(-1, 0)$ ; and the origin,  $(0, 0)$ , is in a separate orbit by itself. Altogether, there are 5 orbits.

3. Consider the action of  $G$  on the set of its subgroups by conjugation. In other words,  $\sigma * H = \sigma H \sigma^{-1}$  for  $\sigma \in G$  and a subgroup  $H$  of  $G$ . Then the orbit of any subgroup  $H$  of  $G$  is the set of all subgroups conjugate to  $H$ , and the stabilizer of  $H$  is the set of elements  $\sigma \in G$  such that  $\sigma H \sigma^{-1} = H$ , i.e.  $N(H)$ . By the orbit-stabilizer theorem, the number of elements in the orbit of  $H$  is the index of its stabilizer in  $G$ . In our case this means that the number of subgroups conjugate to  $H$  is  $i_G(N(H))$ .