

Math 3322  
Algebra 3, Assignment 1  
Due January 22 at the start of class.

1. Prove each of the claims in the following theorem:

**Theorem 1.** *If  $\{G_i \mid i \in I\}$  is a family of groups, then*

- $\prod_{i \in I}^w G_i$  is a normal subgroup of  $\prod_{i \in I} G_i$ .
  - For each  $k \in I$  the map  $i_k : G_k \rightarrow \prod_{i \in I}^w G_i$  given by  $i_k(g) = f$ , where  $f(j) = e_j$  for all  $j \neq k$  and  $f(k) = g$  for all  $g \in G_k$  is a one-to-one homomorphism.
  - For each  $k \in I$ , the subgroup  $i_k(G_k)$  is normal in  $\prod_{i \in I}^w G_i$ .
2. Find a pair of groups  $G, H$  such that  $G \times H$  does not satisfy the universal property of the external (weak) direct product. Specifically, show that  $G \times H$ , together with the obvious homomorphisms  $i_G : G \rightarrow G \times H$  and  $i_H : H \rightarrow G \times H$ , does not satisfy the following: For every group  $K$  with homomorphisms  $f_G : G \rightarrow K$  and  $f_H : H \rightarrow K$  there exists a unique homomorphism  $f : G \times H \rightarrow K$  such that  $f \circ i_G = f_G$  and  $f \circ i_H = f_H$ .
3. Consider a family of groups  $\{G_i \mid i \in \mathbb{N}\}$  where each group  $G_i$  is isomorphic to a copy of  $\mathbb{Z}$ . Show that  $\bigoplus_{i \in \mathbb{N}} G_i$  is not isomorphic to  $\prod_{i \in \mathbb{N}} G_i$  (Hint: It may help to do the next question first, in order to get a feel for  $\bigoplus_{i \in \mathbb{N}} G_i$ ).
4. Let  $\mathbb{Q}_{>0}$  denote the positive rational numbers with multiplication as the operation. Show that  $\mathbb{Q}_{>0}$  is isomorphic to  $\bigoplus_{i \in \mathbb{N}} G_i$  from the previous question (Hint: To define your map, consider writing each element of  $\mathbb{Q}_{>0}$  as a product of powers of primes).
5. Suppose that  $\{x_1, x_2, x_3\}$  are the generators of a free group  $F$ . Let  $N$  be the smallest normal subgroup of  $F$  containing  $x_3$ , meaning that if  $K$  is any other normal subgroup of  $F$  containing  $x_3$ , then  $N \subset K$ . Show that  $F/N$  is free. (Hint: Verify that  $F/N$  satisfies the required universal property, with  $x_1N, x_2N$  as its generating set. You will need to use the fact that  $N \subset K$  implies that there is a quotient map  $F/N \rightarrow F/K$ ).
6. Show that the group  $\langle a, b \mid a^2 = b^3 = a^{-1}b^{-1}ab = e \rangle$  is isomorphic to a cyclic group of order 6.