



# Enumeration of Homomorphisms From Modular Group into Some Finite Groups

Research Article

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**Abstract:** We derive general formulae for counting the number of homomorphisms from modular group into each of modular group, dihedral group, quaternion group and quasi-dihedral group by using only elementary group theory.

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## 1. Introduction

Enumeration of homomorphisms between two groups or rings is a basic problem in abstract algebra. For instance, in [2] and [3], this problem was settled in the case of finite cyclic groups and specific type of rings respectively by using only elementary methods. But in general counting homomorphisms between groups needs advanced tools of algebra; see, for instance [1, 5]. So in [4] Jeremiah Johnson, described a method of enumerating homomorphisms between two specified dihedral groups by using only elementary methods. Now we consider dihedral group, quaternion group, quasi-dihedral group and modular group. In [6], [7] and [8] authors give the enumeration of homomorphisms, monomorphisms and epimorphisms from each of dihedral group, quaternion group and quasi-dihedral group into each of these four groups respectively by using elementary techniques. In this paper, we consider the problem of enumerating the homomorphisms, monomorphisms and epimorphisms from a modular group into each of these four groups by using elementary methods.

We use the following notations in this paper: for a positive integer  $n > 1$ , the dihedral group  $D_n := \langle x_n, y_n \mid x_n^n = e = y_n^2, x_n y_n = y_n x_n^{-1} \rangle$ ; and for a positive integer  $m > 1$ , the quaternion group  $Q_m := \langle a_m, b_m \mid a_m^{2m} = e = b_m^4, a_m b_m = b_m a_m^{-1} \rangle$ ; and for a positive integer  $\alpha > 3$ , the quasi-dihedral group  $QD_{2^\alpha} := \langle s_\alpha, t_\alpha \mid s_\alpha^{2^{\alpha-1}} = e = t_\alpha^2, t_\alpha s_\alpha = s_\alpha^{2^{\alpha-2}-1} t_\alpha \rangle$ ; and for a positive integer  $\beta > 2$ , the modular group  $M_{p^\beta} := \langle r_\beta, f_\beta \mid r_\beta^{p^{\beta-1}} = e = f_\beta^p, f_\beta r_\beta = r_\beta^{p^{\beta-2}+1} f_\beta \rangle$ .

## 2. The Number of Homomorphisms From $M_{p^\alpha}$ into $M_{q^\beta}$

**Theorem 2.1.** Let  $\alpha, \beta > 3$  be any two positive integers. Then the number of homomorphisms from  $M_{p^\alpha}$  into  $M_{q^\beta}$  is

$$p^3 \left( \sum_{k \mid \gcd(p^{\alpha-1}, p^{\beta-1})} \phi(k) \right), \text{ if } p = q; 1, \text{ if } p \neq q.$$

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*Proof.* Suppose  $\rho : M_{p^\alpha} \rightarrow M_{q^\beta}$  is a group homomorphism. Then  $|\rho(r_\alpha)|$  must divide  $|r_\alpha| = p^{\alpha-1}$  and  $|\rho(f_\alpha)|$  must divide  $|f_\alpha| = p$ .

Suppose  $p \neq q$ , this is possible only when  $\rho(r_\alpha) = e$  and  $\rho(f_\alpha) = e$  which gives the trivial homomorphism.

Suppose  $p = q$ , then  $\rho(r_\alpha)$  must be of the form  $r_\beta^{k_1} f_\beta^{k_2}$ , where  $|r_\beta^{k_1}|$  divides both  $p^{\alpha-1}$  and  $p^{\beta-1}$  and  $0 \leq k_2 < p$  and  $\rho(f_\alpha)$  must be of the form  $r_\beta^{m_1} f_\beta^{m_2}$ , where  $|r_\beta^{m_1}|$  divides  $p$  and  $0 \leq m_2 < p$ . Then by simple calculation, we can verify that  $|\rho(r_\alpha^l f_\alpha)|$  divides  $|r_\alpha^l f_\alpha|$ . Since  $\rho(r_\alpha)$  has  $p \left( \sum_{k|\gcd(p^{\alpha-1}, p^{\beta-1})} \phi(k) \right)$  choices and  $\rho(f_\alpha)$  has  $p^2$  choices, we get the result.  $\square$

**Corollary 2.1.** *Let  $\alpha > 2$  be any positive integer. Then the number of monomorphism from  $M_{p^\alpha}$  into  $M_{q^\beta}$  is  $(p^3 - p)p^{\alpha-2}$ , if  $p = q$  and  $\alpha \leq \beta$ ; 0, otherwise. The number of epimorphisms from  $M_{p^\alpha}$  onto  $M_{q^\beta}$  is  $(p^3 - p)p^{\beta-2}$ , if  $p = q$  and  $\alpha \geq \beta$ ; 0, otherwise.*

*Proof.* By the Theorem 2.1, the trivial homomorphism is the only homomorphism from  $M_{p^\alpha}$  to  $M_{q^\beta}$ , which is neither 1-1 nor onto. So, assume that  $p = q$ . If  $\alpha > \beta$ , then there is no element in  $M_{p^\beta}$  having order  $p^{\alpha-1}$ . Thus there is no monomorphisms in this case. Now, assume that  $\alpha \leq \beta$ . Then the homomorphisms  $\rho(r_\alpha) = r_\beta^{k_1} f_\beta^{l_1}$ , where  $|r_\beta^{k_1}| = p^{\alpha-1}$  and  $0 \leq l_1 < p$ , and  $\rho(f_\alpha) = r_\beta^{k_2 p^{\beta-2}} f_\beta^{l_2}$ ,  $0 \leq k_2 < p$  and  $0 \leq l_2 < p$  obtained in the Theorem 2.1, preserve the order of  $r_\alpha$  and  $f_\alpha$ . And also  $|r_\alpha^k f_\alpha^l| = |\rho(r_\alpha^k f_\alpha^l)|$ . Hence there are  $p(p^2 - 1)\phi(p^{\alpha-1}) = (p^3 - p)p^{\alpha-2}$  number monomorphisms from  $M_{p^\alpha}$  into  $M_{p^\beta}$ , if  $\alpha \leq \beta$ .

Suppose  $\alpha < \beta$ , then there is no epimorphism from  $M_{p^\alpha}$  onto  $M_{p^\beta}$ . So, assume that  $\alpha \geq \beta$ . Then the homomorphisms  $\rho(r_\alpha) = r_\beta^{k_1} f_\beta^{l_1}$ , where  $|r_\beta^{k_1}| = p^{\beta-1}$  and  $0 \leq l_1 < p$ , and  $\rho(f_\alpha) = r_\beta^{k_2 p^{\beta-2}} f_\beta^{l_2}$ ,  $0 \leq k_2 < p$  and  $0 \leq l_2 < p$  obtained in the Theorem 2.1, are onto. Hence we get the result.  $\square$

### 3. The Number of Homomorphisms From $M_{p^\alpha}$ into $D_n$

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $p \neq 2$  be a prime number and  $\alpha > 2$  be any positive integer. Then the number of homomorphisms from  $M_{p^\alpha}$  into  $D_n$  is  $p \left( \sum_{k|\gcd(n, p^{\alpha-1})} \phi(k) \right)$ , if  $n$  is a multiple of  $p$ ; 1, if  $n$  is not a multiple of  $p$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose  $\rho : M_{p^\alpha} \rightarrow D_n$  is a group homomorphism, where  $p \neq 2$  and  $n$  is positive integer. Then  $|\rho(r_\alpha)|$  must divide  $|r_\alpha| = p^{\alpha-1}$  and  $|\rho(f_\alpha)|$  must divide  $|f_\alpha| = p$ .

If  $n$  is not a multiple of  $p$ , this is possible only when  $\rho(r_\alpha) = e$  and  $\rho(f_\alpha) = e$  which gives the trivial homomorphism.

Next, we assume that  $n$  is a multiple of  $p$ . Then  $|\rho(r_\alpha)|$  must be of the form  $x_n^{k_1}$ , where  $|x_n^{k_1}|$  divides both  $n$  and  $p^{\alpha-1}$  and  $|\rho(f_\alpha)|$  must be of the form  $x_n^{k_2}$ , where  $|x_n^{k_2}|$  divides  $p$ . Then  $\rho(r_\alpha^l f_\alpha^m) = x_n^{lk_1 + mk_2}$ . Then  $|\rho(r_\alpha^l f_\alpha^m)|$  divides  $|r_\alpha^l f_\alpha^m|$ , for every  $0 \leq l < p^{\alpha-1}$  and  $0 \leq m < p$ . For suppose  $|r_\alpha^l| = p^\beta$ ,  $\beta \geq 1$ , then  $(x_n^{lk_1 + mk_2})^{p^\beta} = x_n^{lk_1 p^\beta + mk_2 p^\beta} = e$ . That is  $|x_n^{lk_1 + mk_2}|$  divides  $p^\beta$ . Thus we have  $p \left( \sum_{k|\gcd(n, p^{\alpha-1})} \phi(k) \right)$  homomorphisms.  $\square$

**Theorem 3.2.** *Let  $n$  be a positive odd integer and  $\alpha > 3$  be any positive integer. Then the number of homomorphisms from  $M_{2^\alpha}$  into  $D_n$  is  $3n + 1$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose  $\rho : M_{2^\alpha} \rightarrow D_n$  is a group homomorphism. Then  $|\rho(r_\alpha)|$  must divide  $|r_\alpha| = 2^{\alpha-1}$  and  $|\rho(f_\alpha)|$  must divide  $|f_\alpha| = 2$ . Since  $n$  is odd,  $\rho(r_\alpha)$  must be either  $e$  or  $x_n^{k_1} y_n$ ,  $0 \leq k_1 < n$ , and  $\rho(f_\alpha)$  must be either  $e$  or  $x_n^{k_2} y_n$ ,  $0 \leq k_2 < n$ .

Suppose  $\rho(r_\alpha) = e$  and  $\rho(f_\alpha) = x_n^{k_2} y_n$ ,  $0 \leq k_2 < n$ . Then  $\rho(r_\alpha^l f_\alpha) = x_n^{k_2} y_n$ . Since  $|x_n^{k_2} y_n|$  is 2,  $|\rho(r_\alpha^l f_\alpha)|$  divides  $|r_\alpha^l f_\alpha|$ . Thus we have  $n$  homomorphisms. Suppose  $\rho(r_\alpha) = x_n^{k_1} y_n$ ,  $0 \leq k_1 < n$  and  $\rho(f_\alpha) = e$ . Then  $\rho(r_\alpha^l f_\alpha) = (x_n^{k_1} y_n)^l$ . Since  $|(x_n^{k_1} y_n)^l|$  is 1 or 2,  $|\rho(r_\alpha^l f_\alpha)|$  divides  $|r_\alpha^l f_\alpha|$ . Thus we have another  $n$  homomorphisms.

Suppose  $\rho(r_\alpha) = x_n^{k_1} y_n$ ,  $0 \leq k_1 < n$  and  $\rho(f_\alpha) = x_n^{k_2} y_n$ ,  $0 \leq k_2 < n$ . Then  $\rho(r_\alpha^l f_\alpha) = x_n^{k_2} y_n$  or  $x_n^{k_1 - k_2}$ . Then  $\rho$  is a homomorphism only when  $|x_n^{k_1 - k_2}|$  divides  $|r_\alpha^l f_\alpha|$ . Since  $n$  is odd, this is possible only when  $k_1 - k_2 = 0$ . Thus we have  $n$  such homomorphisms. Therefore, in addition to the trivial homomorphism, we have  $3n + 1$  homomorphisms.  $\square$

**Theorem 3.3.** *Let  $n$  be a positive even integer and  $\alpha > 3$  be any positive integer. Then the number of homomorphisms from  $M_{2^\alpha}$  into  $D_n$  is  $4n + (n + 2) \left( \sum_{k | \gcd(n, 2^{\alpha-1})} \phi(k) \right)$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose  $\rho : M_{2^\alpha} \rightarrow D_n$  is a group homomorphism. Then  $\rho(r_\alpha)$  must be either  $x_n^{k_1} y_n$ ,  $0 \leq k_1 < n$  or  $x_n^{k_2}$ , where  $|x_n^{k_2}|$  divides both  $n$  and  $2^{\alpha-1}$ , and  $\rho(f_\alpha)$  must be one of  $e$ ,  $x_n^{\frac{n}{2}}$  or  $x_n^{k_3} y_n$ ,  $0 \leq k_3 < n$ .

As in the proof of the Theorem 3.2,  $\rho(r_\alpha) = x_n^{k_1} y_n$ ,  $0 \leq k_1 < n$  and  $\rho(f_\alpha) = e$  is a homomorphism. Suppose  $\rho(f_\alpha) = x_n^{\frac{n}{2}}$ , then  $\rho(r_\alpha^l f_\alpha) = x_n^{k_1 - \frac{n}{2}} y_n$  or  $x_n^{\frac{n}{2}}$ . Then  $|\rho(r_\alpha^l f_\alpha)|$  divides  $|r_\alpha^l f_\alpha|$ . Thus we have  $2n$  homomorphisms.

Suppose  $\rho(r_\alpha) = x_n^{k_1} y_n$ ,  $0 \leq k_1 < n$  and  $\rho(f_\alpha) = x_n^{k_3} y_n$ ,  $0 \leq k_3 < n$ . As in the proof of Theorem 3.2,  $\rho$  is a homomorphism only when  $|x_n^{k_1 - k_3}|$  divides  $|r_\alpha^l f_\alpha|$ . This is possible if  $k_1 - k_3 = 0$  or  $\frac{n}{2}$ . Thus we have another  $2n$  homomorphisms in this case.

Suppose  $\rho(r_\alpha) = x_n^{k_2}$ , where  $|x_n^{k_2}|$  divides both  $n$  and  $2^{\alpha-1}$ , and  $\rho(f_\alpha) = e$ . Then  $\rho(r_\alpha^l f_\alpha) = x_n^{lk_2}$ . Since  $|x_n^{k_2}|$  divides  $|r_\alpha|$ ,  $|x_n^{lk_2}|$  divides  $|r_\alpha^l| = |r_\alpha^l f_\alpha|$ . Thus we have  $\left( \sum_{k | \gcd(n, 2^{\alpha-1})} \phi(k) \right)$  homomorphisms. Suppose  $\rho(r_\alpha) = x_n^{k_2}$ , where  $|x_n^{k_2}|$  divides

both  $n$  and  $2^{\alpha-1}$ , and  $\rho(f_\alpha) = x_n^{\frac{n}{2}}$ , then  $\rho(r_\alpha^l f_\alpha) = x_n^{lk_2 + \frac{n}{2}}$ . This gives another  $\left( \sum_{k | \gcd(n, 2^{\alpha-1})} \phi(k) \right)$  homomorphisms.

Suppose  $\rho(r_\alpha) = x_n^{k_2}$ , where  $|x_n^{k_2}|$  divides both  $n$  and  $2^{\alpha-1}$ , and  $\rho(f_\alpha) = x_n^{k_3} y_n$ ,  $0 \leq k_3 < n$ . Then  $\rho(r_\alpha^l f_\alpha) = x_n^{lk_2 + k_3}$ . Since  $|\rho(r_\alpha^l f_\alpha)|$  divides  $|r_\alpha^l f_\alpha|$ , we have  $n \left( \sum_{k | \gcd(n, 2^{\alpha-1})} \phi(k) \right)$  homomorphisms. Hence we get the result.  $\square$

**Corollary 3.1.** *Let  $n$  be a positive even integer and  $\alpha > 2$  be any positive integer. Then there is no monomorphism and epimorphism from  $M_{p^\alpha}$  into  $D_n$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose  $p \neq 2$ , then the group  $M_{p^\alpha}$  contains  $p(p-1)$  elements having order  $p$  but  $D_n$  contains atmost  $p-1$  elements having order  $p$ . And  $M_{2^\alpha}$  contains 4 elements having order 4 but  $D_n$  contains atmost 2 elements having order 4. Thus there is no monomorphism from  $M_{p^\alpha}$  into  $D_n$ . Also we can verify that the homomorphisms obtained in the Theorem 3.3, are not onto.  $\square$

## 4. The Number of Homomorphisms From $M_{p^\alpha}$ into $Q_m$

**Theorem 4.1.** *Let  $p \neq 2$  be a prime number and  $\alpha > 2$  be any positive integer. Then the number of homomorphisms from  $M_{p^\alpha}$  into  $Q_m$  is  $p \left( \sum_{k | \gcd(n, p^{\alpha-1})} \phi(k) \right)$ , if  $n$  is a multiple of  $p$ ; 1, if  $n$  is not a multiple of  $p$ .*

*Proof.* The proof is similar to the Theorem 3.1  $\square$

**Theorem 4.2.** *Let  $m$  be a positive integer and  $\alpha > 2$ . Then the number of homomorphisms from  $M_{2^\alpha}$  into  $Q_m$  is  $4m + 2 \left( \sum_{k | \gcd(2m, 2^{\alpha-1})} \phi(k) \right)$*

*Proof.* Suppose  $\rho : M_{2^\alpha} \rightarrow Q_m$  is a group homomorphism. Then  $|\rho(r_\alpha)|$  divides  $|r_\alpha| = 2^{\alpha-1}$  and  $|\rho(f_\alpha)|$  divides  $|f_\alpha| = 2$ . Then  $\rho(r_\alpha)$  is either  $a_m^{k_1}$ , where  $|a_m^{k_1}|$  divides both  $2m$  and  $2^{\alpha-1}$ , or  $a_m^{k_2} b_m$ ,  $0 \leq k_2 < 2m$  and  $\rho(f_\alpha) = e$  or  $a_m^m$ .

Assume that  $\rho(r_\alpha) = a_m^{k_1}$ , where  $|a_m^{k_1}|$  divides both  $2m$  and  $2^{\alpha-1}$ . Suppose  $\rho(f_\alpha) = e$ . Then  $\rho(r_\alpha^l f_\alpha) = a_m^{lk_1}$ . Since  $|a_m^{k_1}|$  divides  $|r_\alpha|$ ,  $|a_m^{lk_1}|$  divides  $|r_\alpha^l| = |r_\alpha^l f_\alpha|$ . Thus we have  $\left( \sum_{k|\gcd(2m, 2^{\alpha-1})} \phi(k) \right)$  homomorphisms. Suppose  $\rho(f_\alpha) = a_m^m$ , then  $\rho(r_\alpha^{l_1} f_\alpha) = a_m^{l_1 k + m}$ ,  $0 \leq l_1 < 2^{\alpha-1}$ . Thus we have  $\left( \sum_{k|\gcd(2m, 2^{\alpha-1})} \phi(k) \right)$  homomorphisms. Suppose  $\rho(r_\alpha) = a_m^{k_2} b_m$ ,  $0 \leq k_2 < 2m$  and  $\rho(f_\alpha) = e$ , then  $\rho(r_\alpha^l f_\alpha) = (a_m^{k_2} b_m)^l$ . Since  $|(a_m^{k_2} b_m)^l| = 1, 2$  or  $4$ , then  $|\rho(r_\alpha^l f_\alpha)|$  divides  $|r_\alpha^l f_\alpha|$ , for each  $l, 0 \leq l < 2^{\alpha-1}$ . Suppose  $\rho(f_\alpha) = a_m^m$ , then  $\rho(r_\alpha^l f_\alpha) = (a_m^{k_2} b_m)^l a_m^m$  is one of  $a_m^m, a_m^{k_2-m} b_m, e$  or  $a_m^{k_2} b_m$ . Then  $|\rho(r_\alpha^l f_\alpha)|$  divides  $|r_\alpha^l f_\alpha|$ . Thus we have  $4m$  homomorphisms in this case. Hence we get the result.  $\square$

**Corollary 4.1.** *Let  $m$  be a positive integer and  $\alpha > 2$ . Then there is no monomorphism and epimorphisms from  $M_{p^\alpha}$  into  $Q_m$ .*

*Proof.* If  $p \neq 2$ , then the trivial homomorphism is the only homomorphism from  $M_{p^\alpha}$  into  $Q_m$ , which is neither 1-1 nor onto. So, assume that  $p = 2$ . Since  $M_{p^\alpha}$  has 2 elements of order 2. But  $Q_m$  have only one element of order 2. Thus there is no monomorphism from  $M_{2^\alpha}$  into  $Q_m$ .

Also, we can verify that none of the homomorphisms obtained in the proof of Theorem 4.2 generate all the elements of  $Q_m$ . Hence there is no epimorphism from  $M_{p^\alpha}$  onto  $Q_m$ .  $\square$

## 5. The Number of Homomorphisms From $M_{p^\beta}$ into $QD_{2^\alpha}$

**Theorem 5.1.** *Let  $p \neq 2$  be a prime number. Then there is only the trivial homomorphism from  $M_{p^\beta}$  into  $QD_{2^\alpha}$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose  $\rho : M_{p^\beta} \rightarrow QD_{2^\alpha}$  is a group homomorphism. Then  $|\rho(r_\beta)|$  divides  $|r_\beta| = p^{\beta-1}$  and  $|\rho(f_\beta)|$  divides  $|f_\beta| = p$ . That is the trivial homomorphism is the only homomorphism exist from  $M_{p^\beta}$ ,  $p \neq 2$  into  $QD_{2^\alpha}$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 5.2.** *Suppose  $\alpha, \beta > 3$  are two positive integers. Then the number of homomorphisms from  $M_{2^\beta}$  into  $QD_{2^\alpha}$  is  $2^\alpha + (2 + 2^{\alpha-1}) \left( \sum_{k|\gcd(2^{\alpha-1}, 2^{\beta-1})} \phi(k) \right)$*

*Proof.* Suppose  $\rho : M_{2^\beta} \rightarrow QD_{2^\alpha}$  is a group homomorphism. Then  $|\rho(r_\beta)|$  divides  $|r_\beta| = 2^{\beta-1}$  and  $|\rho(f_\beta)|$  divides  $|f_\beta| = 2$ . That is,  $\rho(r_\beta)$  is either  $s_\alpha^k$ , where  $|s_\alpha^k|$  divides both  $2^{\alpha-1}$  and  $2^{\beta-1}$  or  $\rho(r_\beta) = s_\alpha^{k_1} t_\alpha$ ,  $0 \leq k_1 < 2^{\alpha-1}$ , and  $\rho(f_\beta)$  is one of  $e, s_\alpha^{2^{\alpha-2}}$  or  $s_\alpha^m t_\alpha$ ,  $0 \leq m < 2^{\alpha-1}$  where  $m$  is even.

Suppose  $\rho(r_\beta) = s_\alpha^k$ , where  $|s_\alpha^k|$  divides both  $2^{\alpha-1}$  and  $2^{\beta-1}$ . First assume that  $\rho(f_\beta) = e$ . Then  $\rho(r_\beta^l f_\beta) = s_\alpha^{lk}$ . Since  $|s_\alpha^k|$  divides  $|\rho(r_\beta)|$ ,  $|s_\alpha^k|$  divides  $|r_\beta^l| = |r_\beta^l f_\beta|$ . Thus in the case, we have  $\left( \sum_{k|\gcd(2^{\alpha-1}, 2^{\beta-1})} \phi(k) \right)$  homomorphisms.

Now, suppose  $\rho(f_\beta) = s_\alpha^{2^{\alpha-2}}$ . Then  $\rho(r_\beta^l f_\beta) = s_\alpha^{lk+2^{\alpha-2}}$  for each  $k$ , this  $\rho$  is a homomorphism. Thus we have another  $\left( \sum_{k|\gcd(2^{\alpha-1}, 2^{\beta-1})} \phi(k) \right)$  homomorphisms.

Suppose  $\rho(r_\beta) = s_\alpha^k$ , where  $|s_\alpha^k|$  divides both  $2^{\alpha-1}$  and  $2^{\beta-1}$ , and  $\rho(f_\beta) = s_\alpha^m t_\alpha$ ,  $0 \leq m < 2^{\alpha-1}$  and  $m$  is even. Then  $\rho(r_\beta^l f_\beta) = s_\alpha^{lk+m} t_\alpha$ . Since  $|s_\alpha^{lk+m} t_\alpha| = 2$  or  $4$ ,  $|\rho(r_\beta^l f_\beta)|$  divides  $|r_\beta^l f_\beta|$ . Thus we have  $2^{\alpha-2} \left( \sum_{k|\gcd(2^{\alpha-1}, 2^{\beta-1})} \phi(k) \right)$  homomorphisms.

Suppose  $\rho(r_\beta) = s_\alpha^{k_1} t_\alpha$ ,  $0 \leq k_1 < 2^{\alpha-1}$  and  $\rho(f_\beta) = e$ , then  $\rho(r_\beta^l f_\beta) = (s_\alpha^{k_1} t_\alpha)^l$ . Since  $|(s_\alpha^{k_1} t_\alpha)^l| = 1$  or  $2$  or  $4$  which divides  $|\rho(r_\beta^l f_\beta)| = |r_\beta^l|$ . Thus we have  $2^{\alpha-1}$  homomorphisms.

Similarly  $\rho(r_\beta) = s_\alpha^{k_1} t_\alpha$ ,  $0 \leq k_1 < 2^{\alpha-1}$  and  $\rho(f_\beta) = s_\alpha^{2^{\alpha-2}}$  are also homomorphisms. Thus we have another  $2^{\alpha-1}$  homomorphisms.

Suppose  $\rho(r_\beta) = s_\alpha^{k_1} t_\alpha$ ,  $0 \leq k_1 < 2^{\alpha-1}$  and  $\rho(f_\beta) = s_\alpha^{k_2} t_\alpha$ ,  $0 \leq k_2 < 2^{\alpha-1}$  and  $k_2$  is even. Then  $\rho(r_\beta^l f_\beta) = (s_\alpha^{k_1} t_\alpha)^l (s_\alpha^{k_2} t_\alpha)$ . If  $l$  is even,  $\rho(r_\beta^l f_\beta) = s_\alpha^{k_1 2^{\alpha-2} + k_2} t_\alpha$  or  $s_\alpha^{k_2} t_\alpha$ . That is  $|\rho(r_\beta^l f_\beta)|$  divides  $|r_\beta^l f_\beta|$ . If  $l$  is odd,  $|r_\beta^l f_\beta| = 2^{\beta-1}$  and  $\rho(r_\beta^l f_\beta) =$

$s_\alpha^{k_1+k_2(2^{\alpha-2}-1)}$  or  $s_\alpha^{k_1 2^{\alpha-2}+k_2 s_\alpha^{k_2(2^{\alpha-2}-1)}}$ . If  $\rho$  is a homomorphism, then  $|s_\alpha^{k_1-k_2}|$  divides  $2^{\beta-1}$ . That is, for each  $k_2$ , we have to choose  $k_1$  such that  $|s_\alpha^{k_1-k_2}|$  divides  $2^{\beta-1}$ . Therefore, for each  $k_2$ , we have  $\left(\sum_{k|\gcd(2^{\alpha-1}, 2^{\beta-1})} \phi(k)\right)$  choices for  $k_1$ . Thus we have  $2^{\alpha-2} \left(\sum_{k|\gcd(2^{\alpha-1}, 2^{\beta-1})} \phi(k)\right)$  homomorphisms. Hence we get the result.  $\square$

**Corollary 5.1.** *Let  $p$  be a prime number and  $\alpha, \beta > 3$ . Then there is no monomorphism and epimorphism from  $M_{p^\beta}$  into  $QD_{2^\alpha}$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose  $p \neq 2$ , then by the Theorem 5.1, the trivial homomorphism is the only homomorphism from  $M_{p^\beta}$  into  $QD_{2^\alpha}$ , which is not  $1-1$ . So, assume that  $p = 2$ . If  $\beta > \alpha$ , then there is no element in  $QD_{2^\alpha}$  having order  $2^{\beta-1}$ , thus we have no monomorphism from  $M_{2^\beta}$  into  $QD_{2^\alpha}$ . Suppose  $\beta \leq \alpha$ ,  $\rho(r_\beta) = s_\alpha^k$ , where  $|s_\alpha^k| = 2^{\beta-1}$  and  $\rho(f_\beta) = s_\alpha^m t_\alpha$ ,  $0 \leq m < 2^{\alpha-1}$  is the homomorphism which preserve the order of  $r_\beta$  and  $f_\beta$ . Then  $\rho(r_\beta f_\beta) = s_\alpha^{k+m} t_\alpha$ .  $|r_\beta f_\beta| = 2^{\alpha-1}$  but  $|s_\alpha^{k+m} t_\alpha| = 2$  or  $4$ . Thus this  $\rho$  is not a monomorphism. Also, we can verify that the homomorphisms obtained in the Theorem 5.2 are not onto.  $\square$

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