

# Math 110B (Algebra)

## *University of California, Los Angeles*

Aaron Chao

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These are my lecture notes for Math 110B (Algebra), which is the second course in Algebra taught by Nicolle Gonzales. The textbook for this class is *Abstract Algebra: An Introduction, 3rd edition* by Hungerford.

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# 1 Jan 3, 2022

## 1.1 Groups

- Algebra  $\rightarrow$  study of mathematical structure.
- Rings  $\leftrightarrow$  “numbers” e.g.  $\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{C}, \mathbb{Z}_p$   
2 operations  $(+, \cdot)$

**Question 1.1:** What happens if we have only 1 operation (either  $\cdot$  or  $+$  but not both)?  
What kind of structure is this more basic setup?

Answer: Groups! It turns out groups encode the mathematical structures of the symmetries in nature.

### Definition 1.2 (Group)

A group  $(G, *)$  is a nonempty set with a binary operation  $*$  :  $G \times G \rightarrow G$  that satisfies

1. (Closure):  $a * b \in G \quad \forall a, b \in G$
2. (Associativity):  $(a * b) * c = a * (b * c) \quad \forall a, b, c \in G$
3. (Identity):  $\exists e \in G$  such that  $e * a = a = a * e \quad \forall a \in G$
4. (Inverse):  $\forall a \in G, \exists d \in G$  such that  $d * a = e = a * d$

Note:

- If  $*$  is addition, we just divide  $*$  by the usual  $+$  sign. In this case

$$e = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad d = -a$$

- If the operation  $*$  is multiplication, we just divide  $*$  by the usual  $\cdot$  sign. In this case

$$e = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad d = a^{-1}$$

- Be aware that sometimes  $*$  is neither.

### Definition 1.3 (Abelian)

If the  $*$  operation is commutative, i.e.  $a * b = b * a$ , then we say that  $G$  is abelian (named after the mathematician N.H. Abel)

### Definition 1.4 (Order, Finite Group vs. Infinite Group)

The order of a group  $G$ , denoted  $|G|$ , is the number of elements it contains (as a set).  
Thus,  $G$  is a finite group if  $|G| < \infty$   
and  $G$  is an infinite group if  $|G| = \infty$

### Examples 1.5 (Examples of a group)

1. Rings where you “forget” multiplication.  
 $\rightarrow (\mathbb{Z}, +)$  integers with  $*$  =  $+$ ,  $(\mathbb{R}[X], +)$ , etc.  
Note:  $(\mathbb{Z}, *)$  with  $*$  =  $\cdot$  is not a group. Why?

**Theorem 1.6**

Every ring is an abelian group under addition.

**Proof.**  $e = 0$ , inverse  $= -a$  for each  $a \in R$ . □

Fact: If  $R \neq 0$  then  $(R, \cdot)$  is never a group since 0 has no multiplicative inverse.

**Examples 1.7** (More examples of a group)

2. Fields without zero.

**Theorem 1.8**

Let  $\mathbb{F}^*$  denote the nonzero elements of a field  $\mathbb{F}$ . Then  $(\mathbb{F}^*, \cdot)$  is an abelian group.

Recall: A unit in a ring  $R$  is an element  $a \in R$  with a multiplicative inverse  $a^{-1} \in R$  such that  $aa^{-1} = 1 = a^{-1}a$ .

**Theorem 1.9**

The set of units  $\mathcal{U}$  inside a ring  $R$  is a group under multiplication.

**Examples 1.10** (More examples of a group cont.)

3.  $\mathcal{U}_n = \{m \mid (m, n) = 1\} \subseteq \mathbb{Z}_n$  is also a group, but under multiplication,

$n = 4$   $\mathbb{Z}_4 = \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$ ,  $\mathcal{U}_4 = \{1, 3\}$

$(\mathbb{Z}_4, +)$  and  $(\mathcal{U}_4, \cdot)$  are groups with different binary operation!

$n = 6$   $\mathbb{Z}_6 = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$ ,  $\mathcal{U}_6 = \{1, 5\}$

$(\mathcal{U}_6, \cdot)$  is a group

- $1 \cdot 5 = 5 \pmod{6} \in \mathcal{U}_6$  (closure)
- $1 = e$  (identity)
- $1 \cdot 1 = 1$ ,  $5 \cdot 5 = 25 \equiv 1 \pmod{6}$  (inverse)
- Associativity is clear

## 2 Jan 5, 2022

### 2.1 Groups (Cont'd)

#### Examples 2.1

4.  $(M_{n \times m}(\mathbb{F}), +) = m \times n$  matrices over  $\mathbb{F}$  under addition  
 $e$  = zero matrix, inverse of a matrix  $-M$

#### Definition 2.2 (General linear group)

Denote by  $GL_n(\mathbb{F})$  the set of  $n \times n$  invertible matrices under multiplication. ( $\det(A) \neq 0 \quad \forall A \in GL_n$ )

- Closed:  $\det(A \cdot B) = \det(A) \cdot \det(B) \neq 0 \implies AB \in GL_n \quad \forall A, B \in GL_n$
- Associativity: Obvious.
- Identity:  $\det(I) = 1 \neq 0 \implies I \in GL_n(\mathbb{F})$
- Inverse:  $A \in GL_n; \det(A^{-1}) = \frac{1}{\det(A)} \neq 0 \implies A^{-1} \in GL_n(\mathbb{F})$

Fact:  $GL_n(\mathbb{F})$  is a group for any field  $\mathbb{F}$ .

Comment:

- $\det(A + B) \neq \det(A) + \det(B)$
- $\det(AB) = \det(A) \cdot \det(B)$

#### Definition 2.3 (Special linear group)

Let  $SL_n(\mathbb{F})$  denote the set of invertible matrices over  $\mathbb{F}$  with  $\det = 1$

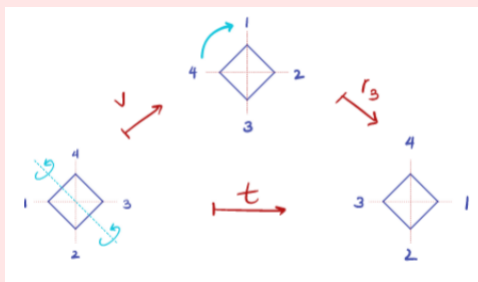
**Exercise.** Show that  $SL_n(\mathbb{F})$  is a group.

## 2.2 Symmetries

### Example 2.4 (Symmetries over a square)

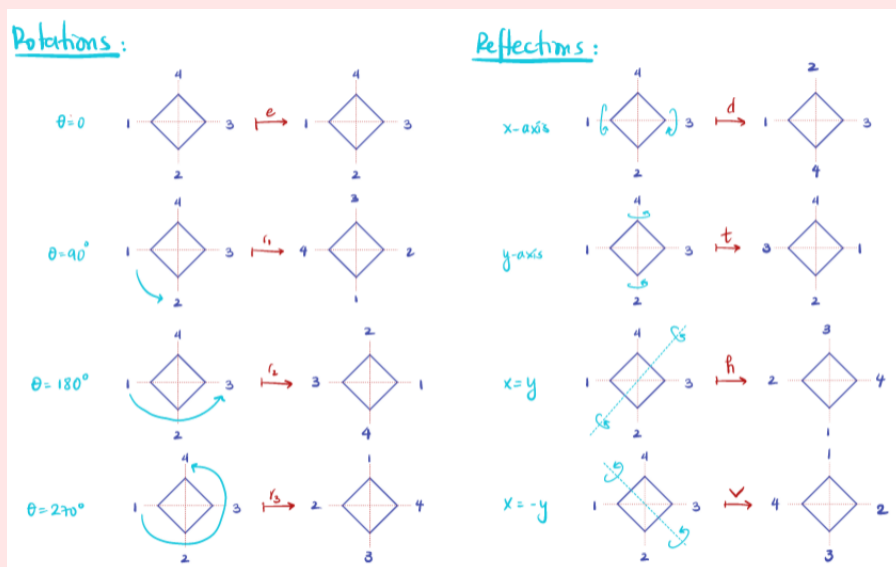
Rotations and reflection These operations (maps) form a group under composition. So  $*$  = 0. For instance, suppose

$$r_3 \circ t = h$$



The group of rotations/reflections of a square is called Dihedral Group of degree 4, denoted  $D_4$ .

$$D_4 = \{r_1, r_2, r_3, r_4, d, t, h, v \mid \text{under } \circ\}$$

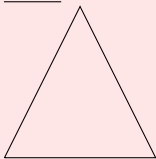


These are Professor Gonzales's lovely drawings.

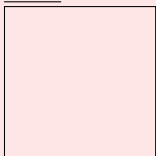
**Example 2.5** (Symmetries of a regular polygon with  $n$  sides)

Called the dihedral groups of degree  $n$ ,  $D_n$ .

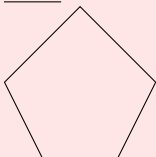
- $\underline{n=3}$



- $\underline{n=4}$



- $\underline{n=5}$



- $\underline{n=6}$

etc...

Observe:  $|D_n| = 2n$  because you have  $n$ -axes of reflection and  $n$ -angles of notation.

**Example 2.6** (The symmetric group)

Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , and  $S_n$  be the set of all permutations of the numbers  $\{1, \dots, n\}$ .

Note: any permutation of  $\{1, \dots, n\}$  can be thought of as a bijection  $\{1, \dots, n\} \rightarrow \{1, \dots, n\}$ .

$\implies$  This allows us to compose permutations just like functions.

$\implies S_n$  is a group!

**Definition 2.7** (Symmetric group)

The symmetric group  $S_n$  is the group of permutations of the integers of the integers  $\{1, \dots, n\}$ .

Given any permutation  $\sigma \in S_n$ ,

$$\sigma : \{1, \dots, n\} \rightarrow \{1, \dots, n\},$$

$$i \mapsto \sigma_i$$

$$\sigma = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & \cdots & n-1 & n \\ \sigma_1 & \sigma_2 & \cdots & \sigma_{n-1} & \sigma_n \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow e = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & \cdots & n \\ 1 & 2 & \cdots & n \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\sigma^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & \cdots & n \\ \sigma_1^{-1} & \sigma_2^{-1} & \cdots & \sigma_n^{-1} \end{pmatrix}$$

Group operation: function composition.

**Example 2.8**n=2:

$$e = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \tau = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\tau \circ \tau = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \circ \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} = e$$

$$\tau \circ e = \tau$$

$$e \circ \tau = \tau$$

$$e \circ \tau = e$$

 $\implies S_2 = \{e, \tau\}$  is a group

$$e^{-1} = e$$

$$\tau^{-1} = \tau$$

Associativity: obvious because of function composition



## 3 Jan 7, 2022

### 3.1 Symmetries (Cont'd)

#### Example 3.1

$n=3$   $S_3$ : permutations of  $\{1, 2, 3\}$

$$e = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \tau_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \tau_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 3 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\tau_{21} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \tau_{12} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 3 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \tau_{121} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 3 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\tau_1 \circ \tau_2 \circ \tau_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 3 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 3 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \tau_{121}$$

Note:  $\tau_{21} = \tau_2 \circ \tau_1$ ,  $\tau_{12} = \tau_1 \circ \tau_2$

$\tau_{21} \neq \tau_{12} \implies S_3$  is not abelian!

**Exercise.**  $\tau_{212}$ ?

### 3.2 Direct Product of Groups

#### Definition 3.2 (Direct product)

Given  $(G, *)$ ,  $(H, \star)$  both groups define the binary operation:

$$\square: (G \times H) \times (G \times H) \rightarrow G \times H$$

$$(g, h) \square (g', h') \mapsto (g * g', h \star h')$$

Side note:  $(S, \odot)$

$\odot: S \times S \rightarrow S \implies S$  group

#### Example 3.3

$S_2 \times D_4$ :

$$(\tau_1, r_{270^\circ}) \square (\tau_1, v) = (\tau_1 \circ \tau_1, r_{270^\circ} v) = (e, t)$$

#### Example 3.4

$(\mathbb{R}, +) \times (\mathbb{R}^*, \cdot)$

$$(5, 2) \square (-5, \pi) = (0, 2\pi)$$

**Example 3.5**
 $\mathbb{Z}_n \times \mathbb{Z}_m \quad n, m \in \mathbb{N}.$ 

$$(a, b) \square (a', b') = (\underbrace{a + a'}_{\text{mod } n}, \underbrace{b + b'}_{\text{mod } m})$$

$$\begin{aligned} (5, 5) \square (2, 2) &= (5 + 2, 5 + 2) \\ &= (7, 1) \end{aligned}$$

**3.3 Properties of Groups**

Notation: Going forward, we omit  $*$  in the notation:  $(G, *) \rightarrow G$ . Use multiplicative notation for abstract groups. Instead  $a * b \rightarrow ab$ .

$$\underbrace{a * a * a * a \cdots * a}_{n \text{ times}} \rightarrow a^n$$

However, for very explicit groups like

$(\mathbb{Z}, +), (\mathbb{R}, +), (\mathbb{Z}_n, +)$ , etc, we use additive notation. ( $*$  =  $+$ )

$$a * b \rightarrow a + b$$

$$\underbrace{a * \cdots * a}_{n \text{ times}} \rightarrow n \cdot a$$

(Review notation on page 198 of book)

**Theorem 3.6**

$G$  group,  $a, b, c \in G$ . Then

1.  $e \in G$  is unique
2. if  $ab = ac$  or  $ba = ca \implies b = c$
3.  $\forall a \in G : a^{-1}$  is unique.

**Proof.**

1. Suppose  $\exists e' \in G$  s.t  $e \neq e'$  but  $e'a = a = ae' \forall a \in G$ .  $\implies$  let  $a = e \implies e'e = e = ee'$

On the other hand  $e \cdot e' = e' = e'e$   
 $\implies e = e'$

2.  $ab = ac, \quad a, b, c \in G$ .  
 Since  $a^{-1} \in G$

$$\begin{aligned} \implies \underbrace{a^{-1}a}_e b &= \underbrace{a^{-1}a}_e c \\ \implies e \cdot b &= e \cdot c \\ \implies b &= c \end{aligned}$$

3. Suppose  $a \in G \exists$  two distinct inverses.

$d_1, d_2 \in G$ .

$$d_1 a = e = a d_1$$

$$d_2 a = e = a d_2$$

$$\implies d_1 = d_1 e = d_1 a d_2 = e \cdot d_2 = d_2$$

□

**Corollary 3.7**

$G$  group,  $a, b \in G$ . Then

1.  $(ab)^{-1} = b^{-1}a^{-1}$
2.  $(a^{-1})^{-1} = a$

■ **Proof.** Exercise. □

Note:  $ab = ba$  ( $G$  is abelian)

$$\implies (ab)^{-1} = a^{-1}b^{-1} = b^{-1}a^{-1}$$

Generally:  $ab \neq ba \implies a^{-1}b^{-1} \neq b^{-1}a^{-1}$

### 3.4 Order of an Element

**Definition 3.8** (Order (of an element) and Finite vs. Infinite order)

The order of an element  $a \in G$  is the smallest  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $a^k = e$ . We denote this by  $|a|$ .

If  $k$  is finite  $\implies a$  has finite order.

If  $k$  is infinite  $\implies a$  has infinite order.

**Example 3.9**

$$S_2; e, \tau_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$|e| = 1; e^1 = e$$

$$|\tau_1| = 2 \quad \tau_1^2 = \tau_1 \circ \tau_1 = e$$

$$\tau_1^4 = \tau_1^2 \circ \tau_1^2 = e \circ e = e$$

**Example 3.10**

$$\mathbb{Z} \leftarrow e = 0.$$

$$|1| = ?$$

$$1 \cdot n = 0 \text{ for which } n?$$

Answer none!

$$\implies |1| = \infty$$

## 4 Jan 10, 2022

### 4.1 Order of an Element (Cont'd)

#### Theorem 4.1

$G$ -group,  $a \in G$

1. If  $|a| = \infty$ , then  $a^i \neq a^j$  for any  $i, j \in \mathbb{Z}$  with  $i \neq j$ .
2. If  $\exists i \neq j$  such that  $a^i = a^j \implies |a| < \infty$ .

**Proof.** We prove (2) (because  $1 \Leftrightarrow 2$ ).

WLOG suppose  $i > j$ , then if  $a^i = a^j \implies a^{i-j} = a^i a^{-j} \implies a^j a^{-j} = a^0 = e$   
 $\implies |a| \leq i - j < \infty$  □

#### Theorem 4.2

$G$  group,  $a \in G$   $|a| = n$

1.  $a^k = e \Leftrightarrow n \mid k$  ( $n \leq k$ )
2.  $a^i = a^j \Leftrightarrow i \equiv j \pmod{n}$
3. if  $n = td$   $d \geq 1 \implies |a^t| = d$ .

**Proof.**

1. If  $a^k = e$  and since  $a^n = e$  with  $n$ -smallest such integer, then  $k > n$ , and so  $k = nd + r$  with  $0 \leq r < n$

$$a^k = a^{nd+r} = (a^n)^d a^r = e^d a^r = a^r$$

If  $0 < r < n \implies a^r \neq e \implies a^k \neq e$   
 $\implies r = 0 \implies k = nd \implies n \mid k$ .

2. If  $a^i = a^j \implies a^{i-j} = e$   
 $\implies n \mid i - j$  by (1).  
 $\implies i - j \equiv 0 \pmod{n}$   
 $\implies i \equiv j \pmod{n}$

3. If  $n = td$  ( $d \geq 1$ )  $\stackrel{?}{\implies} |a^t| = d$

Since  $a^n = e \implies (a^t)^d = e \implies |a^t| \leq d$ .

If  $|a^t| = k < d \implies (a^t)^k = a^{tk} = e$

But  $tk < td = n \implies a^{tk} = e$  for  $tk < n \implies \neq$  because  $n$  is the smallest positive integer such that  $a^n = e$ .

$\implies k = d \implies |a^t| = d$ . □

#### Corollary 4.3

$G$ -abelian group with  $|a| < \infty \quad \forall a \in G$ . Suppose  $c \in G$  such that  $|a| \leq |c| \quad \forall a \in G$ . Then  $|a| \mid |c|$ .

**Proof.** Suppose not.  $\exists$  some  $a \in G$  such that  $|a| \nmid |c|$ . Consider prime factorizations of  $|a|$  and  $|c|$ .

$\implies$  Then  $\exists$  some prime  $p$  such that  $|a| = p^r m$   $|c| = p^s n$  where  $r > s$  ( $s$  might be zero) and  $(p_1 m) = 1 = (p_1 n)$ .

Then by (3) of Theorem 4.2,

$$\begin{aligned} |a^m| &= p^r \quad \text{and} \quad |c^{p^s}| = n \\ &\implies \text{because } (p^r, n)=1 \quad \underbrace{|a^m \cdot c^{p^s}|}_{\in G} = p^r \cdot n \end{aligned}$$

Note:  $|a| = n, |b| = m, |a \cdot b| \neq n \cdot m$  unless  $(n, m) = 1$

Recall:  $|c| = p^s \cdot n$  where  $s < r$

$$\implies p^r > p^s$$

$$\implies p^r n > p^s n$$

$$\implies |a^m \cdot c^{p^s}| > |c|$$

$\implies \neq$  because  $c$  is the element in  $G$  with maximal order! So  $a^m c^{p^s} \in G$  cannot have order larger than  $c$ .  $\square$

## 4.2 Subgroups

### Definition 4.4 (Subgroup)

A subset  $H \subseteq G$  is a subgroup of  $(G, *)$  if it is also a group under  $*$ .

Note:

$G \subseteq G \implies G$  is always a subgroup of itself (Improper subgroup)

$\{e\} \subseteq G \implies \{e\}$  is always a subgroup of  $G$  (Trivial subgroup of  $G$ )

$\implies$  Any subgroup  $e \neq H \neq G$  is called a nontrivial proper subgroup.

### Examples 4.5

- $(\mathbb{Z}, +) \subseteq (\mathbb{Q}, +)$
- $\{e, r_{90}, r_{180}, r_{270}\} \subseteq D_4$
- $SL_n(\mathbb{F}) \subseteq GL_n(\mathbb{F})$

Note: any subgroup always contains  $e$ .

### Theorem 4.6

A nonempty subset  $H$  of  $G$  is a subgroup if:

1.  $ab \in H \quad \forall a, b \in H$
2.  $a^{-1} \in H \quad \forall a \in H$

**Proof.** Since  $H \neq \emptyset \quad \exists a \in H$ . By (2),  $\exists a^{-1} \in H$ .  $\implies$  By (1)  $aa^{-1} = e \in H \implies e \in H$ .  $\square$

### Theorem 4.7

Any closed nonempty finite subset  $H$  of  $G$  is a subgroup.

**Proof.** By Theorem 4.6, we need only show that  $H$  contains inverses.

If  $a \in H$   $a^k \in H \quad \forall k \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

Since  $H$  is finite, not all  $a^k$  can be distinct.

$\implies |a| = n < \infty$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

$\implies a^n = e$

$\implies a^{n-1} \cdot a = e = a \cdot a^{n-1}$

$\implies a^{n-1} = a^{-1}$

If  $n > 1 \implies a^{-1} \in H$

If  $n = 1 \implies a^{-1} = e \implies a = e \implies a^{-1} = e \in H.$

□

## 5 Jan 12, 2022

### 5.1 Subgroups (Cont'd)

#### Example 5.1

$\mathbb{Z}_5 \leftarrow$  group under addition =  $\{0, 1, 2, 3, 4\}$

Units of  $\mathbb{Z}_5$ :  $\mathcal{U}_5 = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$

Clearly,  $\mathcal{U}_5 \subseteq \mathbb{Z}_5$

Question: Is  $\mathcal{U}_5$  a subgroup of  $\mathbb{Z}_5$

No, because  $\mathcal{U}_5$  is a group under multiplication.

#### Example 5.2

$S_3$ : set of permutations that fix 1.

$$e = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \quad \tau_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 3 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \tau_2 e = \tau_2 = e \tau_2 \\ \tau_2 \cdot \tau_2 = e \end{array} \right\} \implies \underbrace{\{e, \tau_2\}}_H \text{ is closed.}$$

By Theorem 4.7,  $H$  is a subgroup because  $H$  is finite, nonempty, and closed.

### 5.2 Center of a Group

#### Definition 5.3 (Center of a group)

The center of a group  $G$  is the subset

$$Z(G) := \{a \in G \mid ag = ga \quad \forall g \in G\}$$

**Note 5.4:** When  $G$  is abelian  $\implies Z(G) = G$

**Question 5.5:** Is  $Z(G) = \emptyset$ ? No, because  $e \in Z(G)$

#### Examples 5.6

- $Z(S_n) = e$

- $Z(D_4) = \{e, r_{180}\}$

- $Z(GL_n) = \{aI \mid a \in \mathbb{F}\}$

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & a \end{pmatrix}$$

- $Z(SL_n) = \{I\} = e$

#### Theorem 5.7

$Z(G)$  is a subgroup of  $G$ .

**Proof.** By Theorem 4.6, since  $Z(G) \neq \emptyset$ , we need only show closure and inverses.

1.  $a, b \in Z(G) \stackrel{?}{\implies} ab \in Z(G), \forall g \in G.$   
 $(ab)g \stackrel{b/c \ g \in Z(G)}{=} a(gb) \stackrel{\text{by assoc.}}{=} (ag)b \stackrel{a \in Z(G)}{=} (ga)b = g(ab)$   
 $\implies ab \in Z(G)$
2.  $a \in Z(G), ag = ga \quad \forall g \in G.$   
 $\implies a^{-1}(ag)a^{-1} = a^{-1}(ga)a^{-1}$   
 $\implies ga^{-1} = a^{-1}g \implies a^{-1} \in Z(G)$

□

## 5.3 Cyclic Group

### Definition 5.8 (Cyclic group)

For any  $a \in G$ , the set

$$\langle a \rangle = \{a^n \mid n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$$

is a subgroup of  $G$ . We say  $\langle a \rangle$  is the cyclic subgroup generated by  $a$ .

**Note 5.9:** Cyclic groups are always abelian.

If  $G = \langle a \rangle$  for some  $a \in G$ , then  $G$  is a cyclic group.

### Example 5.10

$$\langle r_{90} \rangle \subseteq D_4$$

$\langle r_{90} \rangle = \{e, r_{90}, r_{180}, r_{270}\} \leftarrow$  is a cyclic subgroup of  $G$ .

**Note 5.11:** In additive notation:  $a * a = a + a$  (not  $a \cdot a = a^2$ )

$$\langle a \rangle = \{n \cdot a \mid n \in \mathbb{Z}\} \quad n \cdot a = \underbrace{a + a + \cdots + a}_{n \text{ times}}$$

$$a^n = \underbrace{a \cdot a \cdot a \cdots a}_{n \text{ times}}$$

### Example 5.12

$$(\mathbb{Z}, +) = \langle 1 \rangle = \langle -1 \rangle$$

**Note 5.13:** The generating element  $a$  is not unique.

### Example 5.14

$$(\mathbb{Z}_3, +) = \langle 1 \rangle = \langle 2 \rangle$$

$\quad \quad \quad = -1$

**Exercise.** Which elements generate  $\mathbb{Z}_n$  for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ?

Hint: Look at units (i.e. relatively prime) of  $\mathbb{Z}_n$

### Example 5.15

$$\mathbb{Z}_n = \langle 1 \rangle$$

$\implies$  All  $\mathbb{Z}_n$  are cyclic groups of order  $n$



**Theorem 5.16**Let  $a \in G$ 

1. If  $|a| = \infty$ , then  $\langle a \rangle = \{a^k \mid k \in \mathbb{Z}\}$  is an infinite group.
2. If  $|a| = n < \infty$ , then  $\langle a \rangle$  is a finite group. In fact,  $\langle a \rangle = \langle e, a, a^2, a^3, \dots, a^{n-1} \rangle \implies |\langle a \rangle| = |a| = n$ .

**Proof (Sketch).**

$$|a| = \infty \implies a^i \neq a^j \text{ for } i \neq j \\ \implies \{a^k \mid k \in \mathbb{Z}\} \implies \text{infinite set.}$$

$$|a| = n \implies \langle a, a^2, \dots, a^{n-1}, a^n = e \rangle$$

$$\text{Since: } a \cdot a^{n-1} = a^n = e = a^{n-1} \cdot a$$

$$\implies a^{n-1} = a^{-1}$$

$$a^2 a^{n-2} = a^n = e = a^{n-2} a^2$$

$$\implies a^{-2} = a^{n-2}$$

□

**Theorem 5.17**Let  $\mathbb{F}$  be any field. Then any finite subgroup  $G \subseteq \mathbb{F}^*$  is cyclic.**Recall 5.18**  $\mathbb{F}^* = \mathbb{F} - \{0\}$  is a group under multiplication.

**Proof.** Since  $|G| < \infty$ ,  $\exists c \in G$  such that order of  $c$  is maximal ( $|a| \leq |c| \quad \forall a \in G$ ). By Corollary 4.3,  $\forall a \in G$ ,  $|a| \mid |c|$  so if  $|c| = m \implies a^m = 1$

Consider  $p(x) = x^m - 1$ . Since  $p(a) = 0 \quad \forall a \in G$ .

Since  $p(x)$  has degree  $m$  it can have at most  $m$  solutions  $\implies |G| \leq m$ .

Since  $|c| = m$  so  $|\langle c \rangle| = m$ .

$$\implies \langle c \rangle \subseteq G \implies \langle c \rangle = G.$$

$$\implies G \text{ is cyclic.}$$

□

# 6 Jan 14, 2022

## 6.1 Cyclic Group (Cont'd)

**Recall 6.1**  $a \in G$

$$\langle a \rangle := \{a^n \mid n \in \mathbb{Z}\} = \{\dots a^{-2}, a^{-1}, e, a, a^2, \dots\}$$

cyclic group gen. by  $a$

$G = \langle a \rangle \leftarrow G$  is cyclic group

**Recall 6.2** Thm:

$$|a| = \infty \rightarrow |\langle a \rangle| = \infty$$

$$|a| = n < \infty \rightarrow |\langle a \rangle| = n$$

**Recall 6.3**  $\mathbb{F}$ -field,  $G \subseteq \mathbb{F}^*$  if  $G$  finite  $\implies G$  is cyclic. ( $G$  is any subgroup)

**Theorem 6.4**

Subgroups of cyclic groups are cyclic.

**Proof.** Suppose  $G = \langle a \rangle$  and  $H \subseteq G$ . We want to show that  $H = \underbrace{\langle b \rangle}_{b=a^j \text{ for some } j}$  for some  $b \in G$ .

If  $H = e \implies H = \langle e \rangle$  we're done.

If  $H \neq e$ , then we can find  $k$ -smallest positive integer such that  $a^k \in H$

Suppose  $b \in H$ . Then,

$$b = a^i \text{ for some } i \text{ then } i = kd + r \quad 0 \leq r < k.$$

$$\implies a^r = a^{i-kd} = b(a^k)^{-d} \in H \text{ by closure.}$$

If

$$r \neq 0 \implies \begin{cases} a^r \in H \\ a^k \in H \end{cases}$$

with  $0 < r < k$  which is a contradiction because  $k$  was supposed to be smallest positive integer with  $a^k \in H$ .

$$\implies r = 0 \implies b = a^i = a^{kd+r} = a^{kd} = (a^k)^d$$

$$\implies b \in \langle a^k \rangle$$

$$\implies H \subseteq \langle a^k \rangle$$

Since  $a^k \in H \implies \langle a^k \rangle \subseteq H$

$$\implies \langle a^k \rangle = H$$

□

## 6.2 Generating Sets for Groups

### Definition 6.5

Given a subset  $S$  of  $G$ , let  $\langle S \rangle$  denote the set of all possible products of all elements of  $S$  and their inverses.

**Note 6.6:**  $S \subseteq \langle S \rangle$

### Example 6.7

$$a, b \in G, \quad S = \{a, b\}$$

$$\langle S \rangle = \langle a, b \rangle$$

$$= \{a^n, b^m, a^n b^m, a^{n_1} b^{m_1} a^{n_2} b^{m_2}, b^m a^n, b^{m_1} a^{n_2} b^{m_2} a^{n_1}, \dots\}$$

$$= \left\{ \prod_{i=0}^k a^{n_i} b^{m_i}, \prod_{i=0}^k b^{n_i} a^{m_i} \mid k \in \mathbb{N}, n_i, m_i \in \mathbb{Z} \right\}$$

### Theorem 6.8

$S$ - any subset of  $G$ .

1.  $\langle S \rangle$  is always a subgroup of  $G$ .
2. If  $H$  is any other subgroup of  $G$  such that  $S \subseteq H \implies \langle S \rangle \subseteq H$ .

### Proof (Sketch).

1. Use the fact that very definition of  $\langle S \rangle$  ensures closure and inverses  $\implies \langle S \rangle$  is a subgroup.
2. Again follows from closure and inverses contained in  $H$  because  $H$  is a subgroup.

□

### Definition 6.9 (Generators)

For any  $S \subseteq G$ , the group  $\langle S \rangle$  is called the subgroup generated by  $S$ . If  $G = \langle S \rangle$ , then we call elements in  $S$ , the generators of  $G$  and  $S$  the generating set of  $G$

**Example 6.10** (Symmetric group)

$$S_3 = \{e, \tau_1, \tau_2, \tau_{121}, \tau_{21}, \tau_{12}\}$$

$$\tau_{121} = \tau_1 \circ \tau_2 \circ \tau_1$$

$$\tau_{21} = \tau_2 \circ \tau_1$$

$$\tau_{12} = \tau_1 \circ \tau_2$$

$$e = \tau_1 \circ \tau_1 = \tau_2 \circ \tau_2$$

$$S_3 = \left\langle \underbrace{\tau_1}_{\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix}}, \underbrace{\tau_2}_{\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 3 & 2 \end{pmatrix}} \right\rangle$$

$$S_n \leftarrow \text{order } n!$$

$$S_n = \left\langle \underbrace{\tau_1}_{\text{flips } 1-2}, \underbrace{\tau_2}_{2-3}, \tau_3, \dots, \underbrace{\tau_{n-1}}_{\text{flips } n, n-1} \right\rangle$$

$$S_4 = \langle \tau_1, \tau_2, \tau_3 \rangle$$

$$S_5 = \langle \tau_1, \tau_2, \tau_3, \tau_4 \rangle$$

### 6.3 Isomorphisms and Homomorphisms

**Definition 6.11** (Homomorphism (of groups))

$G, H$  are groups. A homomorphism of groups is a map  $\varphi: G \rightarrow H$  such that  $\forall a, b \in G$

$$\varphi(\underbrace{ab}_{\text{ab prod in } G}) = \varphi(a) \cdot \varphi(b)_{\text{prod in } H}$$

**Note 6.12:** This means that the “multiplication” table for  $G$  is mapped onto “multiplication” table for  $H$  i.e.  $\varphi$  preserves group structures.

**Note 6.13:**  $\varphi(a) = \varphi(e_G \cdot a) = \varphi(e_G)\varphi(a)$

$$\implies \varphi(e_G) = e_H$$

$\implies \varphi$  takes identities to identities.

**Definition 6.14** (Isomorphism (of groups))

An isomorphism of groups  $G$  and  $H$  is a homomorphism of  $\varphi: G \rightarrow H$  that is also a bijection, i.e. an isomorphism is an invertible homomorphism.

If  $G$  is isomorphic to  $H$ , then  $G \cong H$ , which is the same as writing  $\exists \varphi: G \rightarrow H$  with  $\varphi$  one-to-one and onto. Alternatively,  $\tilde{\varphi}: H \rightarrow G$  is also one-to-one and onto.

**Example 6.15**

$$\mathbb{Z}_8 = \{0, \dots, 7\}$$

$$\mathcal{U}_8 \text{ of units} \implies \mathcal{U}_8 = \{1, 3, 5, 7\}$$

$$\text{Consider } \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2 = \{(0, 0), (1, 0), (0, 1), (1, 1)\}$$

$$\text{Claim: } \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2 \cong \mathcal{U}_8$$

Let

$$\varphi: \mathcal{U}_8 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$$

$$\varphi(1) = (0, 0)$$

$$\varphi(3) = (1, 0)$$

$$\varphi(5) = (0, 1)$$

$$\varphi(7) = (1, 1)$$

$$\varphi(ab) = \varphi(a) + \varphi(b)$$

Check,

- $\varphi$  is a homomorphism
- multiplication table is preserved
- $\varphi$  is one to one and onto

# 7 Jan 19, 2022

## 7.1 Isomorphisms and Homomorphisms (Cont'd)

**Example 7.1** (Example 6.15 Cont'd)

Let

$$\begin{aligned}\varphi: \mathcal{U}_8 &\rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2 \\ \varphi(1) &= (0, 0) \leftarrow \text{fixed} \\ \varphi(3) &= (1, 0) \\ \varphi(5) &= (0, 1) \\ \varphi(7) &= (1, 1)\end{aligned}$$

Check,

$$\begin{aligned}(0, 0) + (1, 0) &= \varphi(1) + \varphi(3) \stackrel{\checkmark}{=} \varphi(1 \cdot 3) = \varphi(3) = (1, 0) \\ (0, 0) + 2(0, 1) &= \varphi(5) + \varphi(5) \stackrel{\checkmark}{=} \varphi(5 \cdot 5) = \varphi(1) = (0, 0) \\ &\vdots\end{aligned}$$

Verify every time  $\varphi(ab) = \varphi(a) + \varphi(b) \implies \varphi$  is a homomorphism.

$\varphi$  is one-to-one<sup>a</sup> and onto<sup>b</sup>  $\implies$  DONE.

Iso's are not unique. In fact,

$$\begin{aligned}\varphi(1) &= (0, 0) \\ \varphi(3) &= (0, 1) \\ \varphi(5) &= (1, 0) \\ \varphi(7) &= (1, 1)\end{aligned}$$

is also an iso. However,

$$\begin{aligned}\varphi(1) &= (0, 0) \\ \varphi(3) &= (1, 1)\end{aligned}$$

Does it work? Why? (Exercise)

---


$$^a \varphi(x) = \varphi(y) \implies x = y$$

$$^b \forall y \in \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2 \exists x \in \mathcal{U}_8 \text{ s.t. } \varphi(x) = y$$

**Example 7.2**

$$\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_5$$

$$n \mapsto [n] \pmod{5}$$

Let's construct a homomorphism.

1. Check  $\varphi$  is well defined.

$$n \equiv m \pmod{5} \stackrel{?}{\implies} \varphi(n) = \varphi(m). \checkmark$$

2.  $\varphi$  is a homomorphism.

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(a+b) &= \varphi(a) + \varphi(b) \\ [a+b] &\stackrel{\text{true}}{=} [a] + [b] \end{aligned}$$

$$\implies \varphi \text{ is a homomorphism}$$

Note:  $\varphi$  is not injective because  $|\mathbb{Z}| > |\mathbb{Z}_5|$   
 $\varphi$  is not an iso.

**Fact 7.3:** Isomorphic groups always have the same order.

Converse?  $|G| = |H| \implies G \cong H$ ?

FALSE!

**Example 7.4**

Consider  $S_3$  and  $\mathbb{Z}_6$ .

$$|S_3| = 3! = 6$$

$$|\mathbb{Z}_6| = 6$$

Not isomorphic. Let's suppose  $\varphi: S_3 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_6$  an isomorphism.

$$\varphi(ab) = \varphi(a) + \varphi(b) \tag{1}$$

So,

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(a) + \varphi(b) &= \varphi(b) + \varphi(a) && \text{(because } \mathbb{Z}_6 \text{ is abelian)} \\ &= \varphi(ab) \end{aligned}$$

$$\implies \text{if (1) holds since } \mathbb{Z}_6 \text{ is abelian}$$

$$\implies \varphi(ab) = \varphi(ba) \quad \forall b, a \in S_3$$

$$\implies S_3 \text{ is abelian}$$

False,  $S_3$  is not abelian, so you can't define such an iso  $\varphi$ .

**Theorem 7.5**

If  $G$  is abelian,  $H$  is not abelian  $\implies G \not\cong H$ .

**Fact 7.6:** Isomorphisms preserve order of elements, i.e.

$$|a| = |\varphi(a)|$$

**Definition 7.7** (Automorphism)

An automorphism is an isomorphism from  $G \rightarrow G$ . They capture internal symmetries of a group.

**Example 7.8**

identity:

$$\begin{aligned} i_G: G &\rightarrow G \\ g &\mapsto g \end{aligned}$$

Clearly:  $i(ab) = i(a)i(b) = ab \stackrel{\checkmark}{=} ab$

**Definition 7.9** (Inner automorphism of  $G$  induced by  $c$ )

For any  $c \in G$ , the inner automorphism of  $G$  induced by  $c$  is:

$$\varphi_c: G \rightarrow G; \quad \varphi_c(g) = c^{-1}gc \leftarrow \text{conjugation by } c.$$

1. Then  $\varphi_c$  is a homomorphism:

$$\varphi_c(ab) = c^{-1}abc = (c^{-1}ac)(c^{-1}bc) = \varphi_c(a)\varphi_c(b)$$

2.  $\varphi$  is surjective: Given any  $g \in G$ .

$$\varphi_c(cgc^{-1}) = c^{-1}(cgc^{-1})c = g$$

3.  $\varphi$  is injective:  $\varphi_c(a) = \varphi_c(b)$  for some  $a, b \in G$

$$\implies c^{-1}ac = c^{-1}bc$$

$$\implies a = b$$

$$\implies \varphi \text{ is an isomorphism.}$$

## 7.2 Classification of Cyclic Groups

**Theorem 7.10**

Suppose  $G$  is a cyclic group.

1.  $|G| = \infty \implies G \cong (\mathbb{Z}, +)$
2.  $|G| = n < \infty \implies G \cong (\mathbb{Z}_n, +)$

**Proof.**

1. If  $G = \langle a \rangle$  infinite. Then  $G = \{a^n \mid n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ . So let

$$\varphi: G \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$$

$$a^n \mapsto n$$

So  $\varphi$  is one-to-one and onto by definition.

Then,



$$n + m = \varphi(a^{n+m}) = \varphi(a^n a^m) \stackrel{?}{=} \varphi(a^n) + \varphi(a^m) = n + m$$

$\implies \varphi$  is a homomorphism and  $\varphi$  is bijection.

$\implies \varphi$  is an isomorphism.

$$2. |G| = n \implies G = \{e, a, a^2, \dots, a^{n-1}\}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi: G &\rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_n = \{0, 1, \dots, n-1\} \\ a^i &\mapsto i \end{aligned}$$

Exactly for the same reasons: check  $\varphi$  is an isomorphism.

$$k = \underbrace{\varphi(a^k)}_{i+j \equiv k \pmod n} = \varphi(a^{i+j}) = \underbrace{\varphi(a^i) + \varphi(a^j)}_{i+j \equiv k \pmod n}$$

$\varphi$  is an isomorphism.

□

# 8 Jan 21, 2022

## 8.1 Homomorphisms

**Recall 8.1** Let  $\varphi: G \rightarrow H$  any map. Then

$$\text{Im } \varphi = \{h \in H \mid h = \varphi(g) \text{ some } g \in G\}$$

### Theorem 8.2

If  $\varphi: G \rightarrow H$  is a homomorphism, then:

1.  $\varphi(e_G) = e_H$
2.  $\varphi(a^{-1}) = (\varphi(a))^{-1}$
3.  $\text{Im } \varphi$  is a subgroup of  $H$
4. If  $\varphi$  is injective, then  $G \cong \text{Im } \varphi$

**Note 8.3:** If  $\varphi$  is surjective, then  $\text{Im } \varphi = H$

**Proof.**

1. Did before.
2. By (1),  $e_H = \varphi(e_G) = \varphi(aa^{-1}) = \varphi(a) \cdot \varphi(a^{-1}) \stackrel{?}{=} e_H \stackrel{?}{=} \varphi(a^{-1})\varphi(a) = \varphi(a^{-1}a) = \varphi(e_G) = e_H$  by (1).
3. Claim  $\text{Im } \varphi$  subgroup of  $H$ . Since  $\varphi(e_G) = e_H$  by (1)  $\implies e_H \in \text{Im } \varphi$ . If  $a, b \in \text{Im } \varphi \implies \exists a', b' \in G$  s.t.  $\varphi(a') = a, \varphi(b') = b \implies ab = \varphi(a')\varphi(b') = \varphi(a'b')$  since  $G$  is closed,  $a'b' \in G \implies ab \in \text{Im } \varphi \implies \text{Im } \varphi$  is closed.
4. By (2), if  $\varphi(g) = a$  then

$$a^{-1} = \varphi(g)^{-1} = \varphi(g^{-1})$$

$$\implies a^{-1} = \varphi(g^{-1}) \text{ but } g^{-1} \in G \implies a^{-1} \in \text{Im } \varphi$$

$\text{Im } \varphi$  has inverses  $\implies \text{Im } \varphi$  is subgroup.

5.  $\varphi$  injective  $\implies G \cong \text{Im } \varphi$ . Since  $\varphi: G \rightarrow \text{Im } \varphi$  is surjective by construction, if  $\varphi$  is also injective, then  $\varphi: G \rightarrow \text{Im } \varphi$  is a bijection and a homomorphism  $\implies \varphi: G \rightarrow \text{Im } \varphi$  is an isomorphism  $\implies G \cong \text{Im } \varphi$ .

□

### Example 8.4

$\varphi: G \rightarrow H$  where  $\varphi$  is an injective homomorphism and  $H$  is abelian.

Question: Is  $G$  abelian?

Yes, because  $G \cong \text{Im } \varphi$  by bijectivity, and  $\text{Im } \varphi$  subgroup of  $H$  and subgroups of abelian groups are abelian  $\implies G$  has to be abelian.

## 8.2 Congruence

### Definition 8.5 (Congruence of a group)

Suppose  $H$  is a subgroup of  $G$ . Let  $a, b \in G$ . We say  $a \equiv b \pmod{H}$  if  $ab^{-1} \in H$ .

**Recall 8.6** An equivalence relation on a set  $S$  is a relation  $a \sim b$  for  $a, b \in S$  that is:

reflexive:  $a \sim a \quad \forall a \in S$

transitive:  $a \sim b$  and  $b \sim c \implies a \sim c$

symmetric:  $a \sim b \implies b \sim a$ .

### Theorem 8.7

The congruence relation  $a \equiv b \pmod{H}$  is an equivalence relation for any subgroup  $H \subseteq G$ .

### Definition 8.8 (Right coset (and left coset))

Given any  $a \in G$ , the right coset of  $H$  in  $G$  is:

$$Ha = \{ha \in G \mid h \in H\} \text{ where } a \text{ is any } a \in G \text{ fixed}$$

This is a right coset because  $a$  is multiplied on the right.

The left coset of  $H$  in  $G$  is:

$$aH = \{ah \in G \mid h \in H\} \text{ where } a \text{ is any } a \in G \text{ fixed}$$

**Note 8.9:**  $Ha$  is just the congruence class of  $a$  in  $G \pmod{H}$ .

For any  $a \in G$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} [a] &= \{b \in G \mid b \equiv a \pmod{H}\} \\ &= \{b \in G \mid ba^{-1} \in H\} \\ &= \{b \in G \mid \underbrace{ba^{-1}}_{b=ha} = h \text{ for some } h \in H\} \\ &= \{ha \in G \mid h \in H\} = Ha. \end{aligned}$$

**Theorem 8.10** 1.  $Ha = Hb$  iff  $ab^{-1} \in H$  (i.e.  $a \equiv b \pmod{H}$ )

2. Given  $a \neq b$  either  $Ha = Hb$  or  $Ha \cap Hb = \emptyset$ .

**Proof.** Analogous as for rings (seen this in 110A). □

## 8.3 Lagrange's Theorem

### Theorem 8.11

$H$ -subgroup of  $G$  then:

1.  $G = \bigcup_{a \in G} Ha$
2.  $\forall a \in G, \exists$  bijection between  $H \rightarrow Ha$ . So if  $|H| < \infty$ , then  $|Ha| = |Hb| \forall a, b \in G$ .

### Proof.

1.  $\bigcup_{a \in G} Ha \subseteq G$  obvious. Given  $g \in G, g = eg$  where since  $e \in H \implies eg \in Hg \implies g \in Hg \implies G \subseteq \bigcup_{g \in G} Hg$
2. Consider

$$\begin{aligned} \psi: H &\rightarrow Ha = \{ha \mid h \in H\} \\ h &\mapsto ha \end{aligned}$$

$\psi$  is surjective by definition. If  $\psi(h) = \psi(h') \implies ha = h'a \implies h = h' \implies \psi$  is injective  $\implies \psi$  is a bijection.

□

### Definition 8.12 (Index)

Given any subgroup  $H$  of  $G$ , the index of  $H$  in  $G$  denoted  $[G:H]$  is the number of distinct right cosets of  $H$  in  $G$ .

### Theorem 8.13 (Lagrange's Theorem)

If  $H \subseteq G$  is a finite subgroup, then:

$$[G:H] = |G|/|H|$$