

L17: Applications of Sylow's theorem

Applications

Cor $n_p = 1 \iff$ There exists a normal Sylow p -subgroup.

Pf " \Rightarrow " Let P be the unique Sylow p -subgroup. For any $g \in G$, gPg^{-1} is another Sylow p -subgroup, hence $gPg^{-1} = P$ and thus $P \triangleleft G$.

" \Leftarrow " Let P be a normal Sylow p -subgroup. Let Q be any other Sylow p -subgroup. Then $\exists g \in G$ st. $Q = gPg^{-1} \stackrel{P \text{ normal}}{=} P \quad \square$

Groups of order 6: Let G be a group of order $6 = 2 \cdot 3$

$$n_2: n_2 \mid 3 \text{ \& } n_2 \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$$

$$\hookrightarrow n_2 \in \{1, 3\}$$

$$n_3: n_3 \mid 2 \text{ \& } n_3 \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$$

$$\hookrightarrow n_3 \in \{1, 2\} \quad \downarrow \quad n_3 = 1$$

Case $n_2 = 1$: The Sylow 2-subgroup is normal

Let $K, H \triangleleft G$ be the Sylow 2 and 3 subgroups.

As $K \cap H \leq K$ and $K \cap H \leq H$ we get $K \cap H = \{e\}$ by Lagrange.

By the theorem below we get $K \times H \cong G$
 $\downarrow \quad \downarrow$
 $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \quad \mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z}$

Case $n_2 = 3$: Let $X = \{\text{Sylow 2-subgroups}\}$

Then $G \curvearrowright X$ transitively & $|X| = 3$

We get $\psi: G \rightarrow S_X \cong S_3$

Note that $\ker \psi \leq \text{Stab}_G(x)$ for all $x \in X$
 $\quad \quad \quad \downarrow$
 $\quad \quad \quad N_G(x)$

$$\text{And } n_2 = \left| \frac{G}{N_G(x)} \right|$$

$$\text{Thus } |N_G(x)| = 2.$$

If $\ker \psi \neq \{e\} \Rightarrow \ker \psi = N_G(x) \ni x$

and then $\ker \psi = x \quad \forall x \in X$

Hence $\ker \psi = \{e\}$ & ψ is an isomorphism.

Prop (characterization of direct products)

Let G be a group and $H, K \triangleleft G$ normal subgroups such that

i) $HK = G$

ii) $H \cap K = \{e\}$

Then $H \times K \cong G$.

Pf Define $\psi: H \times K \rightarrow G$.
 $(h, k) \mapsto hk$

Claim ψ is a bijection

Pf ψ surj: i)

$$\begin{aligned}\psi \text{ inj: } \psi(h_1, k_1) &= \psi(h_2, k_2) \Rightarrow h_1 k_1 = h_2 k_2 \\ &\Rightarrow h_2^{-1} h_1 = k_2 k_1^{-1} \in H \cap K \stackrel{\text{ii)}}{=} \{e\} \\ &\Rightarrow h_2^{-1} h_1 = k_2 k_1^{-1} = e \\ &\Rightarrow h_1 = h_2, k_1 = k_2\end{aligned}$$

Claim $hk = kh \quad \forall h \in H, k \in K$

Pf $H \triangleleft G \Rightarrow kh = hk'$ for some $k' \in K$ (nearly $k' = h^{-1}kh$)

$K \triangleleft G \Rightarrow kh = h'k$ for some $h' \in H$ ($h' = khk^{-1}$)

$$\Rightarrow \psi(h', k) = kh = \psi(h, k') \stackrel{\text{above claim}}{\Rightarrow} h' = h, k = k'$$

I.e. $kh = hk$.

Claim ψ is a group hom.

Pf $\psi(h_1, k_1) \psi(h_2, k_2) = h_1 k_1 h_2 k_2 = h_1 h_2 k_1 k_2 = \psi(h_1 h_2, k_1 k_2)$

□