Chapter 7: Products and quotients

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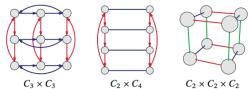
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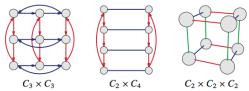
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Here are some examples (take from Figure 7.1 on page 118 of VGT).



Do you notice anything about the orders of the product groups above?

Our observation on the previous slide that the order of the direct product is equal to the product of the orders of the smaller groups is true in general.

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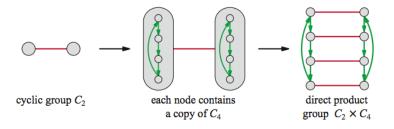
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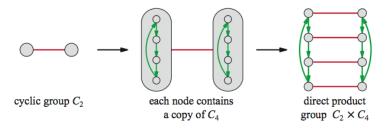
It'll certainly be in our best interest to work through a couple of examples.

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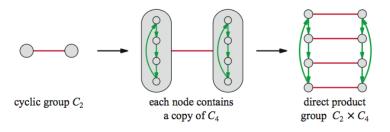


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We call A and B the factors of the product.

It turns out that $A \times B$ and $B \times A$ always have the same structure (Exercise 8.36 asks you to prove this).

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Let's see if we can label the nodes of our Cayley diagram for $C_4 \times C_3$.

Group work

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- 1. In groups of 2–3, complete the following exercises (not collected):
 - Create a Cayley diagram with labeled nodes for $C_2 \times C_2$. What familiar group is this?
 - Exercise 7.4(a)
 - Exercise 7.7(a)
 - Exercise 7.2(a)

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 - Create a Cayley diagram with labeled nodes for $C_2 \times C_2$. What familiar group is this?
 - Exercise 7.4(a)
 - Exercise 7.7(a)
 - Exercise 7.2(a)
- 2. Let's discuss your solutions.

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As we can see, the left and right cosets agree.

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As we can see, the left and right cosets agree. Therefore, the group in $C_4 \times C_3$ that "is" C_3 is normal.

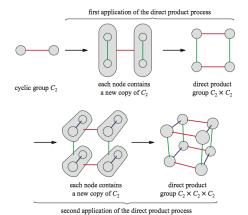
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If we wanted to form the Cayley diagram for $A \times B \times C$, we could first construct the diagram for $A \times B$ and then construct the diagram for $(A \times B) \times C$. Here is the construction of $C_2 \times C_2 \times C_2$ (taken from Figure 7.6 on page 122 of VGT).



In your group work, you learned that V_4 is isomorphic to $C_2 \times C_2$.

In your group work, you learned that V_4 is isomorphic to $C_2 \times C_2$. Also, recall that V_4 is isomorphic to the 2-Light Switch Group.

One interesting observation is that for the 2 light switches, the action performed on one light switch has no impact on the other and vice versa.

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In a Cayley diagram for $A \times B$, following A arrows neither impacts or is impacted by the location in group B.

Imagine you are at some node (a, b) in the Cayley diagram for $A \times B$.

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Following a B arrow amounts to moving to another node in $A \times B$ that was also contained in the same inflated node of A.

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On the other hand, following an A arrow results in moving to another cluster of nodes that were contained in a different inflated node of A. This will only change the A coordinate of (a,b).

One of the benefits of this revelation is that instead of forming large and complicated Cayley diagrams for $A \times B$, we can think of an action in $A \times B$ as simply instructions for where to go in the Cayley diagram for A and where to go in the Cayley diagram for B.

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The actions are: spin one or both of the wheels. Each action can be labeled by where we end up on the first wheel and where we end up on the second wheel:

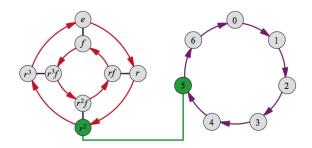
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The actions are: spin one or both of the wheels. Each action can be labeled by where we end up on the first wheel and where we end up on the second wheel: say (i,j).

Here is an example of a visual for more general direct products (taken from Figure 7.11 on page 125 of VGT) showing the element $(r^2,5)$ in $D_4 \times C_7$.

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Suppose that $(a,b),(c,d)\in A\times B$. Then

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It is important to point out that our construction of $A \times B$ along with our method for labeling the nodes respects this binary operation.

One hugely important consequence of the independence of the factors in a direct product is that it tells us that the binary operation in $A \times B$ is simply done coordinate-wise.

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$$(a, b), (c, d) \in A \times B$$
. Then

$$(a,b)*(c,d)=(ac,bd).$$

It is important to point out that our construction of $A \times B$ along with our method for labeling the nodes respects this binary operation.

As an example, in
$$D_3 \times C_4$$
, $(r^2, 1) * (fr, 3) = (fr^2, 0)$.



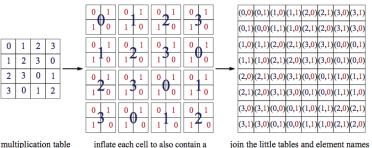
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multiplication table for the group C_{4}

inflate each cell to also contain a copy of the multiplication table for C_2

to form the final direct product table

More group work

In groups of 2–3, complete all parts of Exercise 7.3. I want each group to turn in a complete solutions.

Let's discuss your solutions.

We saw how we can use direct products to form larger groups from smaller groups.

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As we did with direct products, we will first describe the quotient operation using Cayley diagrams and then we will explore some properties of the resulting group.



To attempt to divide a group G by one of its subgroups H, follow these steps.

1. Organize a Cayley diagram of G by H (so that we can "see" the subgroup H in the diagram for G).

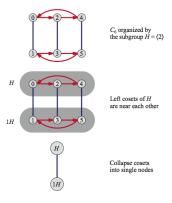
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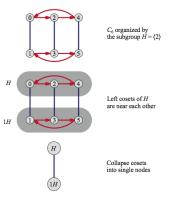
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- 3. IF the resulting diagram is a Cayley diagram of a group, then you have obtained the quotient group of G by H, denoted G/H and often read "G mod H." If not, then G cannot be divided by H.

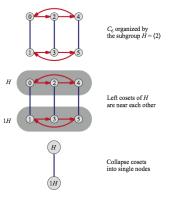


(Labeling of nodes 1, 3, 5 is wrong.)



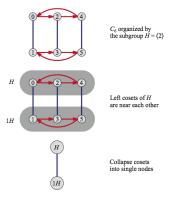
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In this example, the resulting diagram *is* a Cayley diagram. So, we can divide C_6 by $\langle 2 \rangle$. In fact, we see that $C_6/\langle 2 \rangle$ is isomorphic to C_2 .



• Step 3 of Definition 7.5 says "If the new diagram is a Cayley diagram . . . "

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- As one would expect, if $G = A \times B$ and we divide G by A, then the quotient group is B (it turns out that this always works; we'll see why shortly).

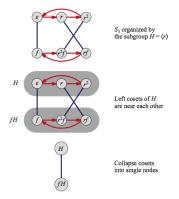
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- Step 3 of Definition 7.5 says "If the new diagram is a Cayley diagram . . ." It is important to point out that sometimes it won't be, in which case there is no quotient.
- Important: The elements of the quotient G/H (if it exists) are the cosets of H. We focus our attention on the teams rather than the individual players.
- As one would expect, if G = A × B and we divide G by A, then the quotient group is B (it turns out that this always works; we'll see why shortly). However, the converse is not generally true. That is, if we can divide G by H, then that does not necessarily mean that G is equal to a direct product of H and the result of dividing G by H.

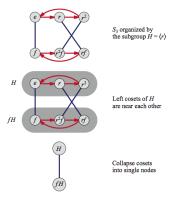
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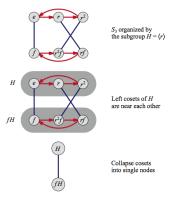


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The resulting diagram is a Cayley diagram. So, S_3/C_3 makes sense and is isomorphic to C_2 .

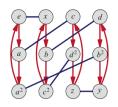
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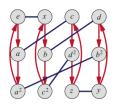


The resulting diagram is a Cayley diagram. So, S_3/C_3 makes sense and is isomorphic to C_2 . However, you can tell by the inconsistent wiring of nodes in the middle step that S_3 is not a direct product of C_3 and C_2 .

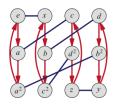
Here's another example.

Here's another example. Consider the group A_4 and its subgroup $\langle x, z \rangle$.





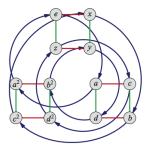
However, the subgroup $H = \langle x, z \rangle$ is not obvious from this diagram.



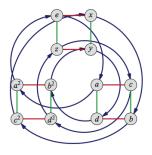
However, the subgroup $H = \langle x, z \rangle$ is not obvious from this diagram. It turns out that $H = \langle x, z \rangle$ is isomorphic to V_4 .

Here is a Cayley diagram for A_4 (with generators x, z, and a) organized by $H = \langle x, z \rangle$.

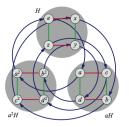
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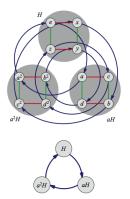
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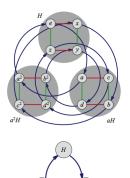
We can now see the left cosets of H clearly.



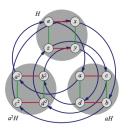




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As we can see, the resulting diagram is a Cayley diagram. So, A_4/V_4 is isomorphic to C_3 . However, A_4 is not isomorphic to $V_4 \times C_3$.

The last 3 examples may have tricked you into thinking that we can divide G by any H,

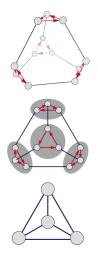
Again, consider the group A_4 .

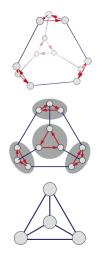
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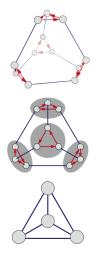
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The figure on the next slide (taken from Figure 7.26 on page 138 of VGT) shows the result of trying to divide A_4 by $H = \langle a \rangle$.

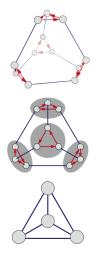




OK, so what's wrong?



OK, so what's wrong? This diagram is not a Cayley diagram.



OK, so what's wrong? This diagram is *not* a Cayley diagram. It violates Rule 1.7; there is ambiguity about which blue arrow to travel anytime we leave a node.

The big question is:

It turns out that the answer depends on whether H is normal or not.

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First, let's determine whether the subgroup in A_4 isomorphic to C_3 is normal or not.

Using the following Cayley diagram for A_4 , the left cosets of $H = \langle a \rangle$ are easy to pick out.

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So, $H = \langle a \rangle$ is *not* normal in A_4 .

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Are the right cosets the same as the left cosets? The answer is no. For example, following blue arrows out of any single coset scatters the nodes.

So, $H = \langle a \rangle$ is *not* normal in A_4 .

If we took the effort to check our first 3 examples, we would find out that in each case, the left cosets and right cosets coincide. So, in those examples, where G/H exists, H was normal.

However, these 4 examples do not constitute a proof;

Let's see if we can gain some more insight.

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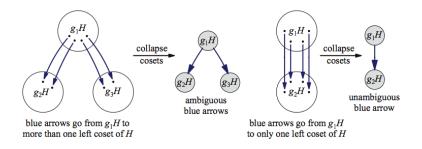
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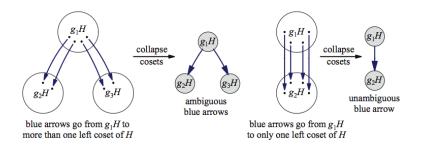
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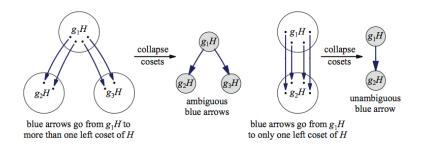
Recall that:

- each left coset gH is the set of nodes that H arrows can reach from g (which looks like a copy of H at g);
- each right coset Hg is the set of nodes to which the g arrows take the elements of H.





Note that the action of the blue arrows above is illustrating multiplication of a left coset on the *right* by some element.



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When H is normal, gH = Hg for all $g \in G$.

Finally, let's state the answer to our original question to when we can take a quotient.

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Theorem 7.6

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Theorem 7.6

If H < G, then a quotient group G/H can be constructed only when $H \triangleleft G$.

Proof. The quotient process of Definition 7.5 succeeds only when the resulting diagram is a valid Cayley diagram.

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Since we begin with a regular diagram and we collapse identically structured sections distributed uniformly throughout the diagram, we end up with a regular diagram.

The only problem that can arise is ambiguity of arrow color at a given node. But we have already argued that this problem is avoided when H is normal.

- 1. In groups of 2–3, complete the following exercises (not collected):
 - Exercise 7.18(a)
 - Exercise 7.18(b)

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At a minimum, we know that every $g \in H$ vote in favor of H being normal.

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At a minimum, we know that every $g \in H$ vote in favor of H being normal. Why? Well, since H is closed, if $g \in H$, we must have gH = H = Hg.

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Let's explore some possibilities for what the normalizer of a subgroup can be.

Chapter 7

First, observe that if some $g \in G$ satisfies gH = Hg, then every element of the coset gH does, too.

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Furthermore, the deciding factor in how a left coset will vote is simply whether it is also a right coset (because gH votes as a block exactly when gH = Hg).

Since $N_G(H)$ is composed of left cosets of H that are also right cosets, we can describe the normalizer visually.

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We saw earlier that the subgroup $H = \langle x, z \rangle$ is normal in A_4 .

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As we discussed earlier, this subgroup is *not* normal.

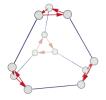


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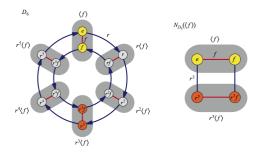
We see that no right coset coincides with a left coset other than $\langle a \rangle$ itself.

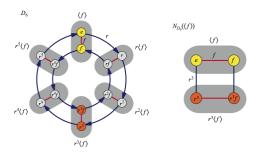


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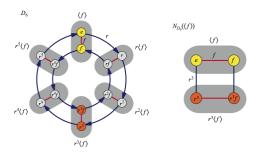
We see that no right coset coincides with a left coset other than $\langle a \rangle$ itself. Thus, $N_{\mathcal{A}_4}(\langle a \rangle) = \langle a \rangle$.

For our third example, consider D_6 and its subgroup $\langle f \rangle$.

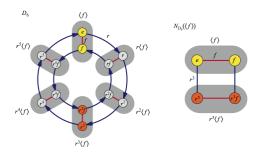




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For any H < G, $N_G(H) < G$, as well.

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For a proof, see pages 141–142 of VGT.

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Comments

We have

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 The closer N_G(H) is to being all of G, the closer H is to being normal.

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