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Chapter 1

Preliminary

$R \subset A \times A$ is an equivalence relations if

Reflexive: $\forall a \in A, (a, a) \in R$.

Symmetric: $(a, b) \in R \implies (b, a) \in R$.

Transitive: $(a, b) \in R, (b, c) \in R \implies (a, c) \in R$.

A binary relations can be also denoted as aRb whenever $(a, b) \in R$.

If A is a set and if \sim is an equivalence relation on A , then the equivalence class of $a \in A$ is the set $\{x \in A \mid x \sim a\}$ denoted by $\text{cl}(a)$.

Theorem 1.1. *Equivalence classes partition the set into mutually disjoint subsets and conversely, mutually disjoint subsets give rise to equivalence classes.*

If S and T are non-empty sets, then a mapping from S to T is a subset $M \subset S \times T$ such that for every $s \in S$ there is a unique $t \in T$ that $(s, t) \in M$. $\sigma : S \rightarrow T$ maybe denoted as $t = s\sigma$ or $t = \sigma(s)$.

Chapter 2

Group Theory

2.1 Introduction

Definition: A set S equipped with an associative binary operation is a **semigroup**.

A semigroup can have multiple left or right identities. However, if it has both left identity, e , and right identity, f , then those two are equal since $e = ef = f$. Two sided identity are unique. We have the same story with inverses.

Definition: A non-empty set of elements G together with a binary operation \circ are said to be a **group** if

Closure: $\forall a, b \in G, a \circ b \in G$.

Associative: $\forall a, b, c \in G, (a \circ b) \circ c = a \circ (b \circ c)$.

Identity: $\exists e \in G$ such that $\forall a \in G, a \circ e = e \circ a = a$.

Inverse: $\forall a \in G \exists b \in G$ such that $a \circ b = b \circ a = e$.

Definition: A group G is said to be **abelian** or **commutative** if for any two element a and b commute. i.e. $a \circ b = b \circ a$.

Definition: The number of elements in a group is called the **order** of the group and it is denoted by $o(G)$.

Definition: Let $\langle a \rangle = \{a^n \mid n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$. If for some choice of a , $G = \langle a \rangle$, then G is said to be a **cyclic group**. More generally, for a set $W \subset G$, $\langle W \rangle = \bigcap W \subset H \subset GH$ where H is a subgroup of G .

Lemma 2.1. *Given $a, b \in G$ the equation $ax = b$ and $ya = b$ have unique solutions for $x, y \in G$.*

Proof. Note that a^{-1} and b^{-1} are unique. Therefore, $x = a^{-1}b$ and $y = ba^{-1}$ are unique. \square

Exercises

1. Let S be a finite semi-group. Prove that there exists $e \in S$ such that $e^2 = e$.

Proof. Pick $a \in S$ and consider $a_i = a^{2^i}$ for $i \geq 1$. After some point, a_i s repeat, by the pigeon hole principle. Let that point be a_j . Therefore, for some $m \geq 1$.

$$a_j = (a_j)^{2^m}$$

Let $e = a_j^{2^m-1}$, then

$$e^2 = a_j^{2^{m+1}-2} = a_j^{2^m} a_j^{2^m-2} = a_j a_j^{2^m-2} = e$$

we are done. ■

2. Show that if a group G is abelian, then for $a, b \in G$ and any integer n , $(ab)^n = a^n b^n$.

Proof. Induct over positive n . It is trivially true for $n = 1$. Suppose it is true for $n = k$, then

$$(ab)^{k+1} = (ab)^k ab = a^k b^k ab = a^k ab^k b = a^{k+1} b^{k+1}$$

For negative n , note that

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

hence it is true for all integers n . ■

3. If a group has an even order, then there exists $a \neq e$ such that $a^2 = e$.

Proof. Let $A = \{g \mid g \neq g^{-1}\}$ and $B = \{g \mid g = g^{-1}\}$. Note that, $|A|$ is even since $g \in A \implies g^{-1} \in A$. Moreover, $o(G) = |A| + |B|$, therefore $|B|$ must be even and since $e \in B$, $|B| \geq 2$. ■

4. For any $n > 2$ construct a non-abelian group of order $2n$.

Proof. Consider ϕ, ψ where $\psi^n = \phi^2 = e$ and $\psi\phi = \phi\psi^{-1}$. Then

$$G = \{I, \phi, \psi, \psi^2, \dots, \psi^{n-1}, \phi\psi, \dots, \phi\psi^{n-1}\}$$

is a group of order $2n$. Because, by the product rules defined, any combination of ψ and ϕ can be reduced to $\phi^b \psi^k$ where $b = 0, 1$ and $k = 0, 1, \dots, n-1$. It is clearly non-abelian as well. ■

5. Find the order of $\text{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$ and $\text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$ for a prime p .

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned} o(\text{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)) &= (p+1)p(p-1)^2 \\ o(\text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)) &= (p+1)p(p-1) \end{aligned}$$

which we can calculate with some basic casing. ■

2.2 Subgroup

Definition: A non-empty subset H of a group G is called a **subgroup** if under the product in G , H itself forms a group.

Lemma 2.2. H is a subgroup of G if and only if

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

Proof. If H is a subgroup, then the conditions hold. Suppose H is a subset of G that satisfies the conditions. Then,

1. $e \in H$ since $(a \in H \implies a^{-1} \in H) \implies e = aa^{-1} \in H$.
2. Associativity is inherited from G .

invertibility and closure are given from the conditions. Therefore, H is a subgroup. \square

Lemma 2.3. If H is a non-empty finite subset of a group G and H is closed under multiplication, then H is a subgroup of G .

Proof. Since H is non-empty there exists a $a \in H$. By closure, a^n for positive integer n , are also in H . We know that for some N , $a^N = e$ and therefore $a^{-1} = a^{N-1} \in H$. By , H is a subgroup. \square

Definition: Let G be a group and H a subgroup of G . For $a, b \in G$ we say that a is congruent to $b \pmod H$, written as $a \equiv b \pmod H$ if $ab^{-1} \in H$.

Lemma 2.4. The relation $a \equiv b \pmod H$ is an equivalence relation.

Proof. We show the equivalence axioms:

1. for any a , $a \equiv a \pmod H$ because, $aa^{-1} = e \in H$.
2. for any a, b , $a \equiv b \pmod H \implies b \equiv a \pmod H$ since $ab^{-1} \in H$ because of invertibility implies that $(ab^{-1})^{-1} = ba^{-1} \in H$.
3. for any a, b, c , $a \equiv b \pmod H, b \equiv c \pmod H \implies a \equiv c \pmod H$ since $ab^{-1}, bc^{-1} \in H$ because of closure implies that $ab^{-1}bc^{-1} = ac^{-1} \in H$. \square

Definition: If H is a subgroup of G and $a \in G$, then $Ha = \{ha \mid h \in H\}$ is a **right coset** of H in G . Similarly, $aH = \{ah \mid h \in H\}$ is a **left coset** of H in G .

Lemma 2.5. For all $a \in G$,

$$Ha = \{x \in G \mid a \equiv x \pmod H\}$$

Proof. Suppose $x \in G$ and $x \equiv a \pmod H$. That is, $xa^{-1} = h$ for some $h \in H$. Then, $x = ha$. Suppose $h \in H$ and $x = ha$. Then, $xa^{-1} = h$ and hence $x \equiv a \pmod H$. \square

This implies, two right/left coset of H are either identical or disjoint.

Lemma 2.6. *There is a one-to-one correspondence between any two right/left cosets of H .*

Proof. Let R_1, R_2 be two right cosets of H with $a_1 \in R_1$ and $a_2 \in R_2$. Note that, $R_1 = Ha_1$ and $R_2 = Ha_2$, therefore the map $g \mapsto ga_1^{-1}a_2$ is a bijective map from R_1 to R_2 . \square

Theorem 2.7 (Lagrange's theorem). *If G is a finite group and H is a subgroup of G , then $o(H) \mid o(G)$.*

Proof. By and , and from finiteness of G , the order of G is equal to the number of right cosets multiplied by the cardinality of a right coset which is equal to the order of H . Hence, $o(H) \mid o(G)$ \blacksquare

Definition: If H is a subgroup of G , the **index** of H in G is the number of distinct right cosets of H , denoted by $[G : H]$ or $i_G(H)$.

Definition: Let G be a group and $a \in G$, then the **order** or **period** of a is the least positive integer m such that $a^m = e$. If no such integer exists we say that a is of infinite order. The order of a is denoted by $\text{ord}_G(a)$.

Corollary 2.8. *If G is a finite group, then*

1. $o(G) = i_G(H)o(H)$.
2. $\text{ord}_G(a) \mid o(G)$.
3. $a^{o(G)} = e$.
4. *If $o(G)$ is a prime, then G is cyclic.*

2.3 A counting principle

Let H and K be two subgroups of G , then

$$HK = \{hk \mid h \in H, k \in K\}$$

Lemma 2.9. *HK is a subgroup of G if and only if $HK = KH$.*

Proof. Suppose HK is a subgroup. If $hk \in HK$, then

$$k^{-1}h^{-1} \in HK \implies k^{-1} \in H, h^{-1} \in K \implies k \in H, h \in K \implies hk \in KH$$

hence $HK \subset KH$. If $kh \in KH$, then

$$hk \in HK \implies k^{-1} \in H, h^{-1} \in K \implies k \in H, h \in K \implies kh \in HK$$

thus $HK = KH$. Suppose $HK = KH$ with $h_1k_1, h_2k_2 \in HK$.

1. for closure we have

$$h_1k_1h_2k_2 = h_1k_1(k'_2h'_2) = h_1(k_1k'_2)h'_2 = h_1(k^*h'_2) = h_1h''_2k^{*'}$$

2. for inverse

$$(h_1k_1)^{-1} = k_1^{-1}h_1^{-1} = h'_1k'_1 \quad \blacksquare$$

Corollary 2.10. *If H and K are subgroups of an abelian group G , then HK is a subgroup of G .*

Lemma 2.11. *If H and K are finite subgroups G , then*

$$|HK| = \frac{o(H)o(K)}{o(H \cap K)}$$

Proof. If $h_1 \in H \cap K$ then $hk = (hh_1)(h_1^{-1}k)$. Therefore, hk appears at least $o(H \cap K)$ times. If $hk = h'k'$, then $h'^{-1}h = k'k^{-1} \in H \cap K$. Let $u = h'^{-1}h$ then $h' = hu^{-1}$ and $k' = uk$. Thus, all duplicates are accounted for. \square

Corollary 2.12. *If H and K are subgroups of G and $o(H), o(K) > \sqrt{o(G)}$, then $H \cap K \neq \{e\}$.*

Proof. $HK \subset G$ therefore, $|HK| \leq o(G)$ and

$$o(G) \geq |HK| = \frac{o(H)o(K)}{o(H \cap K)} > \frac{o(G)}{o(H \cap K)}$$

which implies that $o(H \cap K) > 1$. \blacksquare

Exercises

1. Let G be a group such that the intersection of all of its subgroups that are different from $\{e\}$ is different from $\{e\}$. Prove that every element in G has finite order.

Proof. For the sake of contradiction, suppose $a \in G$ has infinite order. Then, a^k are all different and

$$\bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} \langle a^k \rangle = \{e\}$$

which is a contradiction. \blacksquare

2. Show that there is one-to-one correspondence between the right and left cosets of a subgroup.
3. Suppose H and K are finite index subgroups in G . Show that $H \cap K$ is a finite subgroup in G .

Proof. Let Ha_1, \dots, Ha_n be the right cosets of H in G and Kb_1, \dots, Kb_m be the right cosets of K in G . Then,

$$G = G \cap G = \bigcap_i Ha_i \cap \bigcap_j Kb_j = \bigcap_{i,j} Ha_i \cap Kb_j$$

Suppose $Ha_i \cap Kb_j$ is not empty. Let $g \in Ha_i \cap Kb_j$, then $Hg = Ha_i$ and $Kg = Kb_j$. Thus,

$$Ha_i \cap Kb_j = Hg \cap Kg = (H \cap K)g$$

Therefore, $Ha_i \cap Kb_j$ are either empty or a right coset of $H \cap K$. Since there finitely many $Ha_i \cap Kb_j$, there finitely many right cosets of $H \cap K$ in G . Moreover, $[G : H \cap K] \leq$

$[G : H][G : K]$ by this construction. Note that, $H \cap K$ is finite index in H , and let $(H \cap K)c_1, \dots, (H \cap K)c_l$ be the right cosets of $H \cap K$ in H . We claim that $(H \cap K)c_r a_i$ are the right cosets of $H \cap K$ in G . By definition, for each $x \in G$, there exists i such that $x \in Ha_i$ and hence $x = ha_i$ for some $h \in H$. Similarly, there exists r such that $h \in (H \cap K)c_r$ and hence $h = fc_r$ for some $f \in H \cap K$. Therefore, $x = fc_r a_i$ and $x \in (H \cap K)c_r a_i$. Lastly, we must show that $(H \cap K)c_r a_i$ are disjoint. Consider $(H \cap K)c_{r_1} a_{i_1}$ and $(H \cap K)c_{r_2} a_{i_2}$. Since $(H \cap K)c_{r_1}, (H \cap K)c_{r_2} \subset H$, then

$$\begin{aligned} (H \cap K)c_{r_1} a_{i_1} = (H \cap K)c_{r_2} a_{i_2} &\implies a_{i_1} = a_{i_2}, (H \cap K)c_{r_1} = (H \cap K)c_{r_2} \\ &\implies a_{i_1} = a_{i_2}, c_{r_1} = c_{r_2} \end{aligned}$$

As a result, $[G : H \cap K] = [G : H][H : H \cap K]$. ■

4. Let H be a finite index subgroup in G . Show that there is only finitely many subgroups of form aHa^{-1} in G .

Proof. Let a_1H, \dots, a_nH be left cosets of H . Then, $Ha_1^{-1}, \dots, Ha_n^{-1}$ are right cosets of H . Suppose $aH = a_iH$, then $Ha^{-1} = Ha_i^{-1}$ and therefore, $aHa^{-1} = a_iHa_i^{-1}$. Since there are finitely many $a_iHa_i^{-1}$, then there are finitely many aHa^{-1} . ■

5. If an abelian group has subgroups of orders m and n , respectively, then show it has a subgroup whose order is the least common multiple of m and n .
6. Let G be a finite (abelian) group in which the number of solutions in G of the equation $x^n = e$ is at most n for every positive integer n . Prove that G must be a cyclic group.

2.4 Normal subgroups

Definition: A subgroup N of G is **normal** if $\forall g \in G, n \in N, gng^{-1} \in N$.

Lemma 2.13. N is normal if and only if $gNg^{-1} = N$ for every $g \in G$.

Proof. By definition, $gNg^{-1} \subset N$. Let $n \in N$, then $g^{-1}ng = n'$ for some $n' \in N$. Hence, $n \in gNg^{-1}$ for all $n \in N$. □

Lemma 2.14. N is a normal subgroup if and only if every left coset of N is a right coset.

Proof. If N is normal, then by 2.13, $gN = Ng$ for all g . Suppose, for all $g \in G, gN = Nh$ for some $h \in G$. Then, $h = gn \implies gN = Nggn$ for $n \in N$. This implies, $gNn^{-1} = gN = Ng$ and therefore, $gNg^{-1} = N$ which by 2.13 means that N is normal. □

Lemma 2.15. N is a normal subgroup if and only if the product of two right cosets of N is a right coset as well.

Proof. If N is normal, then

$$NaNb = N(aN)b = N(Na)b = Nab$$

Then, suppose $NaNb = Nc$ for all $a, b \in G$ and some $c \in G$. This implies $NaNb = Nab$ and therefore, $NaN a^{-1} = N \implies NaN = Na$.

$$\begin{aligned} NaN = Na &\implies \forall n, an \in Na \implies aN \subset Na \\ Na^{-1}N = Na^{-1} &\implies \forall n \exists n', a^{-1}n = n'a^{-1} \implies na = an' \implies Na \subset aN \end{aligned}$$

therefore, $aN = Na$. □

Definition: G/N is called a **quotient group** is the set of all right cosets of N .

Theorem 2.16. *If N is normal in G , then G/N is a group. Furthermore, for finite G , $o(G/N) = \frac{o(G)}{o(N)}$.*

Proof. Checking axioms is pretty easy. Note that, $o(G/N) = i_G(N)$. ■

Exercises

1. The groups in which all subgroups are normal are called **Dedekind groups**. Non-abelian dedekind groups are called **Hamiltonian groups**. Show that quaternion group is a Hamiltonian group.
2. Show that if K is a normal subgroup of N and N is a normal subgroup of G , then K is not necessarily a subgroup of G .

2.5 Homomorphism

Definition: A mapping ϕ from a group G to another group \bar{G} is a **homomorphism** if for all $a, b \in G$

$$\phi(ab) = \phi(a)\phi(b)$$

Lemma 2.17. *Suppose G is a group, N a normal subgroup of G , $\phi : G \rightarrow G/N$ given by $\phi(x) = Nx$ for all $x \in G$. Then, ϕ is a homomorphism.*

Proof. Note that $\phi(xy) = Nxy$ and $\phi(x)\phi(y) = NxNy = Nxy$. □

Definition: If ϕ is a homomorphism of G into \bar{G} , the **kernel** of ϕ , K_ϕ is defined as $K_\phi = \{x \in G \mid \phi(x) = \bar{e}\}$.

Lemma 2.18. *If $\phi : G \rightarrow \bar{G}$ is a homomorphism, then*

1. $\phi(e) = \bar{e}$.
2. $\phi(x^{-1}) = (\phi(x))^{-1}$.

Proof.

$$\phi(xe) = \phi(x) = \phi(x)\phi(e) \implies \phi(e) = \bar{e}$$

and

$$\phi(x^{-1})\phi(x) = \phi(x^{-1}x) = \bar{e} \implies \phi(x^{-1}) = (\phi(x))^{-1}$$

□

Lemma 2.19. *If ϕ is a homomorphism, then K_ϕ is a normal subgroup of G .*

Proof. Pick an arbitray $x \in G$ and $y \in K_\phi$. Then,

$$\phi(xyx^{-1}) = \phi(x)\phi(y)\phi(x^{-1}) = \bar{e}$$

hence, $xyx^{-1} \in K_\phi$. □

Lemma 2.20. *If ϕ is a homomorphism, then the set all inverse images of $\bar{g} \in \bar{G}$ under ϕ is given by $K_\phi x$ for any particular inverse image of \bar{g} .*

Proof. Suppose y is another inverse image of \bar{g} .

$$\begin{aligned} \phi(y) = \bar{g} & & \phi(x) = \bar{g} \\ \implies \phi(yx^{-1}) = \bar{e} & & \implies yx^{-1} \in K_\phi \end{aligned}$$

which means $y \in K_\phi x$. Also, clearly each $y \in K_\phi x$ is an inverse image of \bar{g} . \square

Definition: A homomorphism $\phi : G \rightarrow \bar{G}$ is an **isomorphism** if ϕ is one-to-one.

Definition: Two groups G and \bar{G} are **isomorphic** if there exists an isomorphism of G onto \bar{G} . Isomorphic groups are denoted by $G \approx \bar{G}$.

Corollary 2.21. *Let ϕ be a homomorphism. Then, ϕ is an isomorphism if and only if $K_\phi = \{e\}$.*

Proof. If ϕ is an isomorphism, then it is injective and hence only $e \in K_\phi$. Suppose $K_\phi = \{e\}$, then we must show that ϕ is a injective function. Suppose $\phi(x) = \phi(y)$, then by 2.20, $yx^{-1} \in K_\phi$. Thus, $y = x$ and ϕ is injective. \square

Theorem 2.22. *If $\phi : G \rightarrow \bar{G}$ is a surjective homomorphism, then $G/K_\phi \approx \bar{G}$*

Proof. Consider the following mapping, $\psi : G/K_\phi \rightarrow \bar{G}$. For any $X \in G/K_\phi$, $\psi(X) = \phi(g)$ for some $g \in X$. This is well-defined since if $g, g' \in X$, then $g' = xg$ for some $x \in K_\phi$ and hence

$$\phi(g') = \phi(g)\phi(x) = \phi(g)$$

Furthermore, ψ is injective. Suppose $xK_\phi, yK_\phi \in G/K_\phi$. Then,

$$\psi(xK_\phi) = \psi(yK_\phi) \implies \phi(x) = \phi(y) \implies xy^{-1} \in K_\phi$$

which implies that $x \in K_\phi y$ and hence $K_\phi y = K_\phi x$. Moreover, this map is surjective. Let $\bar{g} \in \bar{G}$. Since ϕ is surjective, then there exists an inverse image g . Therefore, $\psi(gK_\phi) = \bar{g}$. Finally, we must show that ψ is a homomorphism. Since K_ϕ is normal in G we have

$$\psi(xK_\phi yK_\phi) = \psi(xyK_\phi) = \phi(xy) = \phi(x)\phi(y) = \psi(xK_\phi)\psi(yK_\phi)$$

which concludes the proof. \square

Thus, we can find all homomorphic images of G by going through normal subgroups of G .

Definition: A group is **simple** if it has no non-trivial homomorphic images. i.e. it has no non-trivial normal subgroup.

Theorem 2.23 (Cauchy's theorem for finite abelian groups). *Suppose G is a finite abelian group, and $p \mid o(G)$ where p is a prime number. Then, there is an element $a \neq e$ such that $a^p = e$.*

Proof. We induct over $o(G)$. For G with a single element, the theorem is true trivially. If G has non-trivial subgroup H , then G is cyclic and hence all its elements satisfy the condition. Suppose H is a non-trivial group of G . Since G is abelian, then H is normal in G . If $p \mid o(H)$ then by induction we are done. Suppose otherwise, then $p \mid o(G/H)$. Consider a set S where each element correspond to a right coset of H . Clearly, there is a isomorphism between G/H and S . Since S is a subgroup of G and $p \mid o(S)$ by induction hypothesis we are done. ■

Theorem 2.24 (Sylow's theorem for finite abelian groups). *Suppose the group G is a finite abelian group and $p^\alpha \parallel o(G)$, then G has a unique subgroup of order p^α .*

Proof. We first prove the existence of such group. For $\alpha = 0$, the claim holds trivially as $\{e\}$ is a subgroup of order 1. . Suppose $H = \{x \in G \mid x^{p^n} = e\}$ is a subgroup of G . Since $p \mid o(G)$ there is a non identity element g such that $g^p = e$. Hence $g \in H$. We show that $q \nmid o(H)$ for any other prime $q \neq p$. Since otherwise there is a an element $h \in H$ where $h \neq e$ and $h^q = e$ by 2.23. Since q and p^n are coprime, then $h = e$ which is a contradiction. Lastly, we claim that $p^\alpha \parallel o(H)$. Suppose the contrary that $p^\beta \parallel o(H)$ for some $\beta < \alpha$. Then, the quotient group of H , $p \mid o(G/H)$. By 2.23, there is a right coset $Hx \neq H$ such that $(Hx)^p = Hx^p = H$. This implies that $x^p \in H$ which means $(x^p)^{p^n} = e$ for some n . $x^{p^{n+1}} = e \implies x \in H$. which is a contradiction. Thus, $o(H) = p^\alpha$.

Finally, suppose $K \neq H$ is another subgroup of G such that $o(K) = p^\alpha$. Then, note that

$$|HK| = \frac{o(H)o(K)}{o(H \cap K)} = \frac{p^{2\alpha}}{p^\alpha} \implies p^\gamma \parallel |HK|$$

However, this is a contradiction since HK is a subgroup in G . Therefore H is unique in G . ■

Lemma 2.25. *Suppose $\phi : G \rightarrow \bar{G}$ is a surjective homomorphism and \bar{H} is a subgroup of \bar{G} . Let $H = \{x \in G \mid \phi(x) \in \bar{H}\}$. Then, H is a subgroup of G and $H \supset K_\phi$. If \bar{H} is normal in \bar{G} , then H is normal. Moreover, this association sets up a one-to-one mapping from the set of all subgroups \bar{G} onto the set of all subgroups of G which contain K_ϕ .*

Proof. Since $\bar{e} \in \bar{H}$, then $K_\phi \subset H$. Let $x, y \in H$. $xy \in H$ since $\phi(xy) = \phi(x)\phi(y) \in \bar{H}$ and $x^{-1} \in H$ since $\phi(x^{-1}) = (\phi(x))^{-1} \in \bar{H}$. Thus, H is a subgroup in G . Assume that \bar{H} is normal and pick arbitray elements $g \in G$ and $h \in H$.

$$\phi(ghg^{-1}) = \phi(g)\phi(h)(\phi(g))^{-1} \in \bar{H} \implies ghg^{-1} \in H$$

hence H is normal in G . Let \bar{H}, \bar{H}' be two subgroups of \bar{G} and $H = \phi^{-1}(\bar{H}), H' = \phi^{-1}(\bar{H}')$. Thus far we have proved that $H, H' \supset K_\phi$ are subgroups of G and ϕ^{-1} is surjective. If $\bar{H} \neq \bar{H}'$, then there is an element $x \in \bar{H}$ but $x \notin \bar{H}'$. We should see that for any $y = \phi^{-1}(x)$, $y \in H$ but $y \notin H'$. Since $\phi(y) = x \in \bar{H}$, then $y \in H$. If $y \in H'$, then $\phi(y) = x \in \bar{H}'$ which is a contradiction. Therefore, ϕ^{-1} is a injective as well. So ϕ^{-1} is a bijection between the subgroups of \bar{G} and subgroups of G that contain K_ϕ . □

Theorem 2.26. *Let $\phi : G \rightarrow \bar{G}$ be a surjective homomorphism, \bar{N} a normal subgroup of \bar{G} , and $N = \{x \in G \mid \phi(x) \in \bar{N}\}$. Then, $G/N \approx \bar{G}/\bar{N}$ and equivalently $G/N \approx (G/K_\phi)/(N/K_\phi)$.*

Proof. The last equivalency results immediately from 2.22. ■

Exercises

1. Let U be a subset of a group G . The subgroup generated by U , denoted by $\langle U \rangle$ is the smallest subgroup that contains U . Show that $\langle U \rangle$ exists and give a construction for it.
2. Let $U = \{xyx^{-1}y^{-1} \mid x, y \in G\}$. In this case, $\langle U \rangle$ is usually written as \hat{G} and is called the **commutator subgroup** of G .
 - (a) Prove \hat{G} is normal in G .
 - (b) Prove G/\hat{G} is abelian.
 - (c) If G/N is abelian, prove that $N \supset \hat{G}$.
 - (d) Prove that if H is a subgroup of G and $H \supset \hat{G}$, then H is normal in G .
 - (e) Let $G = \text{GL}_2(\mathbb{R})$ and $N = \text{SL}_2(\mathbb{R})$. Show that $N = \hat{G}$.

2.6 Automorphism

Definition: An isomorphism of a group onto itself is called an **automorphism**.

Lemma 2.27. *If G is a group, then $\mathcal{A}(G)$, the set of all automorphisms of G is also a group. The $\mathcal{A}(G)$ is also denoted by $\text{Aut}(G)$.*

Proof. The $\text{Aut}(G)$ is a group under composition. Suppose $\theta, \phi, \psi \in \text{Aut}(G)$.

1. It is closed under composition. Since ϕ, θ are both bijective, then their composition is a bijection as well. Moreover, it is a homomorphism

$$\phi(\psi(xy)) = \phi(\psi(x)\psi(y)) = \phi(\psi(x))\phi(\psi(y))$$

therefore, $\phi \circ \psi \in \text{Aut}(G)$.

2. The identity is the identity transformation I .

$$I \circ \phi = \phi \circ I = \phi$$

3. the inverse of each automorphism is its inverse map. Suppose ϕ^{-1} is inverse of ϕ

$$xy = \phi(\phi^{-1}(x))\phi(\phi^{-1}(y)) = \phi(\phi^{-1}(x)\phi^{-1}(y)) \implies \phi^{-1}(xy) = \phi^{-1}(x)\phi^{-1}(y)$$

4. composition is associative

$$\phi \circ (\psi \circ \theta) = (\phi \circ \psi) \circ \theta$$

for any maps ϕ, ψ, θ from G to G . □

Example 2.1. $T_g : G \rightarrow G$ with $gT_g = g^{-1}xg$. T_g is an automorphism. T_g is called the **inner automorphism corresponding to g** . Let $\mathcal{T}(G) = \{T_g \in \text{Aut}(G) \mid g \in G\}$ is the **inner automorphism group** and is also denoted by $\text{Inn}(G)$. $\Psi : G \rightarrow \text{Aut}(G)$ given by $g\Psi = T_g$ is a homomorphism. The kernel of Ψ is the **center** of G , $Z(G)$, the set of the elements that commute with all other elements. Note that, if $g_0 \in K_\Psi$, then $T_{g_0} = I$, hence $g_0^{-1}xg_0 = x$ implying $g_0x = xg_0$ for all $x \in G$. If $g_0 \in Z(G)$, then $xg_0 = g_0x$ for all x , thus $T_{g_0} = I$ and $g_0 \in K_\Psi$.

Lemma 2.28. $G/Z \approx \text{Inn}(G)$.

Proof. Since $K_\psi = Z$, this is an immediate result of 2.22, by considering $\Psi : G \rightarrow \text{Inn}(G)$. \square

Lemma 2.29. Let G be a group and ϕ be an automorphism of G . If $a \in G$ is of order $o(a) > 0$, then $o(\phi(a)) = o(a)$.

Proof. For any homomorphism $\phi : G \rightarrow \bar{G}$, $o(\phi(a)) \mid o(a)$ since

$$\phi(a)^{o(a)} = \phi(a^{o(a)}) = \phi(e) = \bar{e}$$

since both ϕ and ϕ^{-1} are homomorphism from G to \bar{G} , then

$$\begin{aligned} o(\phi(a)) &\mid o(a) \\ o(\phi^{-1}(\phi(a))) &= o(a) \mid o(\phi(a)) \\ \implies o(\phi(a)) &= o(a) \end{aligned}$$

\square

Exercises

1. A subgroup C of G is said to be a **characteristics subgroup** of G if $CT \subset C$ for all automorphisms T of G . For any group G , prove that the commutator subgroup \hat{G} is a characteristic subgroup of G .
2. Let G be a finite group, T an automorphism of G with property that $XT = X$ if and only if $X = e$. Suppose further that $T^2 = I$. Prove that G must be abelian.
3. Let G be a finite group, T an automorphism of G that sends more than three-quarters of the elements of G onto their inverses. Prove that $XT = X^{-1}$ and that G is abelian.
4. Let G be a group of order $2n$. Suppose that half of the elements of G are of order 2, and the other half form a subgroup H of order n . Prove that H is of odd order and is an abelian subgroup of G .

2.7 Cayley's theorem

Theorem 2.30 (Cayley). Every group is isomorphic to a subgroup of $A(S)$ for some set S .

Proof. Take $S = G$ and let $\tau_g : S \rightarrow S$ be given by $\tau_g : x \mapsto xg$ for a $g \in G$. We claim that $\theta : G \rightarrow A(S)$ given by $\theta : g \mapsto \tau_g$ is an isomorphism. First, we must show that θ is well defined. That is, for all $g \in G$, $\tau_g \in A(S)$. Note that, if $xg = yg$, then $x = y$, hence τ_g is injective. For every $y \in G$, $y = yg^{-1}\tau_g$, hence τ_g is surjective. Thus, $\tau_g \in A(S)$. Second, we show that θ is a homomorphism. For all $g, h, x \in G$, $x(gh) = (xg)h$ therefore, $\tau_{gh} = \tau_g\tau_h$. Finally, to show that θ is an isomorphism, we must show that it is injective. If for all $x \in G$, $x\tau_g = x\tau_h$, then $g = h$. Which was what was wanted. \blacksquare

The construction above, describes a group G as a subgroup of $A(G)$ that for finite G , is of order $o(G)!$. Too BIG. We wish to make it smaller. Consider the following results.

Theorem 2.31. *If G is a group, H a subgroup of G , and S is the set of all right cosets of H in G , then there is a homomorphism $\theta : G \rightarrow A(S)$ and the kernel of θ is the largest normal subgroup of G which is contained in H .*

Proof. Let $\tau_g : S \rightarrow S$ be given by $Hx\tau_g = Hxg$ and then let $\theta : G \rightarrow A(S)$ be given by $\theta : g \mapsto \tau_g$. One can easily check that, $\tau_g \in A(S)$ for all g and that θ is a homomorphism. Suppose K is the kernel of θ . Since K is a kernel of a homomorphism, it is normal. Moreover, if $g \in K$, then $Hxg = Hx$ for all $x \in G$. In particular, $Hg = H$ which implies that $g \in H$. As a result, $K \subset H$. Lastly, suppose K' is another normal subgroup of G which is contained in H . If $g' \in K'$, then for all $x \in G$, $xg'x^{-1} \in K' \subset H$. That is, there exists a $h_x \in H$ such that $xg' = h_x x$ which implies $Hxg' = Hx$ for all x . Therefore, $g' \in K$ and $K' \subset K$. Which was what was wanted. ■

Given the above theorem, if H has no non-trivial normal subgroup of G inside it, then θ is an isomorphism.

Lemma 2.32. *If G is a finite group, and $H \neq G$ is a subgroup of G such that $o(G) \nmid i(H)!$, then H must contain a non-trivial normal subgroup of G . In particular, G is not simple.*

Proof. Suppose H contains no non-trivial normal subgroup of G . Then, by preceding theorem, θ is an isomorphism and G is isomorphic to a subgroup of $A(S)$, where $A(S) = i(H)!$. By Lagrange, theorem, $o(G) \mid i(H)!$ which was what was wanted. ■

Exercises

1. Let $o(G) = pq$, $p > q$ are primes, prove
 - (a) G has a subgroup of order p and a subgroup of order q .
 - (b) If $q \nmid p - 1$, then G is cyclic.
 - (c) Given two primes, p and q with $q \mid p - 1$, there exists a non-abelian group of order pq .
 - (d) Any two non-abelian groups of order pq are isomorphic.

2.8 Permutation group

Suppose S is a finite set having n elements x_1, \dots, x_n . If $\phi \in A(S)$, then ϕ is a one-to-one correspondence and it can be represented as

$$\phi : \begin{pmatrix} x_1 & x_2 & \dots & x_n \\ x_{i_1} & x_{i_2} & \dots & x_{i_n} \end{pmatrix}$$

where $x_{i_j} = \phi(x_j)$. More simply

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & \dots & n \\ i_1 & i_2 & \dots & i_n \end{pmatrix}$$

By considering composition of $\theta, \psi \in A(S)$, we can define multiplication on their representation.

For $\theta \in A(S)$ and $a, b \in S$, $a \stackrel{\theta}{\equiv} b \iff a = b\theta^i$ for some $i \in \mathbb{Z}$. This defines an equivalence relation.

1. $a \stackrel{\theta}{\equiv} a$ for all a , since $a = a\theta^0$.
2. $a \stackrel{\theta}{\equiv} b$ implies $b \stackrel{\theta}{\equiv} a$, since $a = b\theta^i \implies b = a\theta^{-i}$.
3. $a \stackrel{\theta}{\equiv} b$ and $b \stackrel{\theta}{\equiv} c$ implies $a \stackrel{\theta}{\equiv} c$, since $a = b\theta^i$ and $b = c\theta^j$ implies $a = c\theta^{i+j}$.

We call the equivalence classes of $s \in S$, the **orbit** of s under θ . The orbit of s consists of all elements in form of $s\theta^i$, $i \in \mathbb{Z}$. If S is finite, then there is a smallest positive integer $l = l(s)$ such that $s\theta^l = s$. By **cycle** of θ we mean the ordered set $(s, s\theta, \dots, s\theta^{l-1})$.

Lemma 2.33. *Every permutation is a product of its cycles.*

Proof. Note that the cycles of a permutation are disjoint, and each is a permutation, hence their product is a permutation. Suppose ψ is the permutation of the product of cycles of θ . ψ is well-defined since the product of disjoint permutation is commutative. Furthermore, for each $s \in S$, $s\psi = \theta s$ thus, $\theta = \psi$. \square

Lemma 2.34. *Every cycle can be written as a product of 2-cycle or **transpositions**.*

Proof. Every m -cycle can be written as a product of 2-cycles.

$$(1 \ 2 \ \dots \ m) = (1 \ 2)(2 \ 3) \dots (m-1 \ m) \quad \square$$

Definition: A permutation $\theta \in S_n$ is said to be an **even permutation** if it can be represented as a product of an even number of transpositions,

The proof of well-definition of even permutation involves the polynomial $p(x_1, \dots, x_n)$

$$p(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \prod_{i < j} (x_i - x_j)$$

Define the action of $\theta \in A(S_n)$ on the polynomial p

$$\theta \cdot p = \prod_{i < j} (x_{\theta(i)} - x_{\theta(j)})$$

It can be easily seen that $\theta \cdot p = \pm p$. In fact, if θ is a transposition, then $\theta \cdot p = -p$. Since this is an action on p , if θ is the product of m transposition, $\theta \cdot p = (-1)^m p$. Therefore, even permutations are well-defined. That is, no permutation can be written as a product of even number of transpositions and odd number of transpositions simultaneously.

Let $A_n \subset S_n$ be the set of even permutations. A_n is a subgroup of S_n and it is called the **alternating group**.

Lemma 2.35. *The alternating group is a normal subgroup of S_n of index 2, .*

Proof. A way to prove this lemma, is to show that every odd permutation is in one coset of A_n .

Another way, is to show that $\Psi : S_n \rightarrow W$ given by

$$\theta\Psi = \begin{cases} 1 & \theta \text{ is even} \\ -1 & \theta \text{ is odd} \end{cases}$$

is an onto homomorphism. W is the group of $\{1, -1\}$ under multiplication. Then A_n is the kernel of Ψ . Since $S_n/A_n \approx W$, then

$$\frac{o(S_n)}{o(A_n)} = o(W) = 2$$

Which was what was wanted. □

Exercises

1. (a) What is the order of an n -cycle.
 (b) What is the order of the product of disjoint cycles of length m_1, m_2, \dots, m_k .
 (c) How do you find the order of a given permutation?
2. Prove that A_5 has no non-trivial normal subgroups.
3. If $n \geq 5$ prove that A_n is the only non-trivial normal subgroup in S_n .

2.9 Another counting principle

Definition: If $a, b \in G$, then b is said to be a **conjugate** of a in G , denoted by $a \sim b$, if there exists an element $c \in G$ such that $b = c^{-1}ac$

Lemma 2.36. *Conjugacy is an equivalence relation on G .*

Proof. 1. $a \sim a$ for all $a \in G$, $a = e^{-1}ae$.

2. $a \sim b \implies b \sim a$ for all $a, b \in G$, since $a = c^{-1}bc$ implies that $b = cac^{-1}$.

3. $a \sim b, b \sim c \implies a \sim c$ for all $a, b, c \in G$, since $a = d^{-1}bd = d^{-1}e^{-1}ced = (ed)^{-1}c(ed)$.
□

For $a \in G$ let $C(a) = \{x \in G \mid x \sim a\}$. $C(a)$ is called the **conjugate class** of a in G . It consists all elements in form of $y^{-1}ay$ for $y \in G$. Suppose G is a finite group and A is a set of representative of conjugacy classes. Then,

$$o(G) = \sum_{a \in A} |C(a)|$$

Definition: Suppose $a \in G$. The **normalizer** of a in G , denoted by $N(a)$, is the set of all elements that commute with a , $N(a) = \{x \in G \mid ax = xa\}$.

Lemma 2.37. $N(a)$ is a subgroup of G .

Proof. Suppose $x, y \in N(a)$, then $a(xy) = (ax)y = (xa)y = x(ay) = x(ya) = (xy)a$. And $x^{-1}a = ax^{-1}$ holds. Therefore, $N(a)$ is a subgroup of G . □

Theorem 2.38. *If G is a finite group, then $|C(a)| = i_G(N(a))$. i.e. the number of elements conjugate to a in G is the index of normalized of a in G .*

Proof. Let S be the set of right cosets of $N(a)$ in G . Consider $\varphi : S \rightarrow C(a)$ given by $\varphi : N(a)g \mapsto g^{-1}ag$. This function is well-defined since if $N(a)g = N(a)h$, then $g = nh$ for some $n \in N(a)$. Then, $g^{-1}ag = h^{-1}n^{-1}anh = h^{-1}ah$. Similarly, it is injective. If $N(a)g\varphi = N(a)h\varphi$, then $g^{-1}ag = h^{-1}ah \implies a = (gh^{-1})a(hg^{-1}) \implies hg^{-1} \in N(a)$ hence $N(a)g = N(a)h$. φ is clearly surjective. Suppose $x \in C(a)$, then there exists $g \in G$ such that $x = g^{-1}ag$. Then, $N(a)g\varphi = g^{-1}ag = x$. Therefore, φ is a bijection and $|C(a)| = i_G(N(a))$. ■

Corollary 2.39. *The class equation of G*

$$o(G) = \sum_{a \in A} \frac{o(G)}{o(N(a))}$$

Recall that the center $Z(G)$ of a group G is the set of all $a \in G$ such that $ax = xa$ for all $x \in G$.

Lemma 2.40. *$a \in Z(G)$ if and only if $N(a) = G$. If G is finite, $a \in Z(G)$ if and only if $o(N(a)) = o(G)$.*

Proof. It can be readily proven by applying the definitions. □

2.9.1 Applications of 2.38

Theorem 2.41. *If $o(G) = p^n$ where p is a prime number, then $Z(G) \neq \{e\}$.*

Proof. Let $z = o(Z(G))$. For each $a \in Z(G)$, $|C(a)| = 1$. For each $b \notin Z(G)$, $N(a) \neq G$, hence $o(N(a)) = p^k$ for some $0 < k < n$. Therefore, $|C(a)| = p^{n-k}$ with $n - k \geq 1$. Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} p^n &= \sum_{a \in A} |C(a)| \\ &= \sum_{A \cap Z(G)} |C(a)| + \sum_{A \cap (Z(G))^c} |C(a)| \\ &= z + \sum_{A \cap (Z(G))^c} |C(a)| \end{aligned}$$

We have shown that, for $a \notin Z(G)$, then $p \mid |C(a)|$, thus $p \mid z$. Since $e \in Z(G)$, then $Z(G)$ contains at least p elements. ■

Corollary 2.42. *If $o(G) = p^2$ where p is a prime number, then G is abelian.*

Proof. Based on the proof last theorem, $o(Z(G)) = p, p^2$. Suppose $o(Z(G)) = p$ and $a \notin Z(G)$. Then, $Z(G) \subsetneq N(a)$. By Lagrange's theorem, $o(N(a)) \mid o(G)$, thus $o(N(a)) = p^2$ which means $a \in Z(G)$, a contradiction. Therefore, $o(Z(G)) = p^2$ and G is abelian. ■

Theorem 2.43 (Cauchy). *If p is a prime number and $p \mid o(G)$, then G has an element of order p .*

Proof. If $o(G) = p$, then G is cyclic and the theorem holds. Suppose, the statement is true for all groups with $o(G) = pk$ for $1 \leq k \leq n - 1$, we will show that it is also true for $o(G) = np$. That is, we will prove the theorem by induction. If G has a non-trivial subset H where $p \mid o(H)$, then we would be done. Suppose, that p divides the order of no non-trivial

subgroup of H . Consider the normalizer subgroups, $N(a)$. If a normalizer subgroup is trivial, then $N(a) = G$ and hence $a \in Z(G)$. If it is not trivial, then its index divides p .

$$p^n = z + \sum_{A \cap (Z(G))^c} |C(a)| \implies p \mid z$$

That is $p \mid o(Z(G))$. Therefore, $Z(G) = G$ which means G is abelian. By Cauchy's theorem for abelian groups, there exists $a \neq e$ such that $a^p = e$. ■

Recall that every permutation in S_n can be decomposed into disjoint cycles. We shall say a permutation $\sigma \in S_n$ has the **cycle decomposition** $\{n_1, \dots, n_r\}$ if it can be written as product of disjoint cycles of length n_1, \dots, n_r with $n_1 \leq n_2 \leq \dots \leq n_r$.

Lemma 2.44. *Two permutations in S_n are conjugate if and only if they have the same cycle decomposition.*

Proof. Conjugation in S_n leaves the cyclic decomposition unchanged. Also, for any two permutations with the same cyclic decomposition, we can find a $\theta \in S_n$ such that $\sigma_1 = \theta^{-1}\sigma_2\theta$. □

Corollary 2.45. *The number of conjugate classes in S_n is $p(n)$, the number of partitions of n .*

Proof. Every conjugate class corresponds to a partition of n . □

Exercises

1.

2.10 Sylow's theorem

Theorem 2.46 (Sylow). *If p is a prime number and $p^\alpha \mid o(G)$, then G has a subgroup of order p^α .*

Corollary 2.47. *If $p^m \mid o(G)$, $p^{m+1} \nmid o(G)$, then G has a subgroup of order p^m .*

A subgroup of G of order p^m where $p^m \parallel o(G)$ is called a p -Sylow group.

Let $e_p(n)$ be $p^{e_p(n)} \parallel n!$.

Lemma 2.48. $e_p(p^k) = 1 + p + \dots + p^{k-1}$.

Lemma 2.49. S_{p^k} has a p -Sylow group.

Definition: Let G be a group, A, B subgroups of G . If $x, y \in G$ define $x \sim y$ if $y = axb$ for some $a \in A$ and $b \in B$.

Lemma 2.50. *The relation \sim defines an equivalence relation on G . The equivalence class of $x \in G$ is the set $AxB = \{axb \mid a \in A, b \in B\}$.*

Lemma 2.51. *If A, B are finite subgroups of G then*

$$|Ax B| = \frac{o(A)o(B)}{o(A \cap x B x^{-1})}$$

Lemma 2.52. *Let G be a finite group and suppose G is a subgroup of the finite group M . Suppose further that M has a p -Sylow group subgroup Q . Then G has a p -Sylow subgroup P . In fact, $P = G \cap x Q x^{-1}$ for some $x \in M$.*

Theorem 2.53 (Second part of Sylow's theorem). *If G is a finite group, p is a prime and $p^n \parallel o(G)$, then any two subgroups of G of order p^n are conjugate.*

Lemma 2.54. *The number of p -Sylow subgroups in G equals $o(G)/o(N(P))$ where P is any p -Sylow subgroup of G . In particular, this number is a divisor of $o(G)$.*

Theorem 2.55 (Second part of Sylow's theorem). *The number of p -Sylow subgroups in G , is of the form $1 + kp$.*

2.11 Direct product

Let A and B be any two groups and $G = A \times B$. Define the operation \circ_G as $(a_1, b_1) \circ_G (a_2, b_2) = (a_1 \circ_A a_2, b_1 \circ_B b_2)$. It can be readily verified that G is group under the operation \circ_G . We call (G, \circ_G) the **external direct product** of A and B .

Now suppose $G = A \times B$ and consider $\bar{A} = \{(a, f) \in G \mid a \in A\}$ where f is the unit element of B . Then, \bar{A} is a normal subgroup in G and is isomorphic to A . We claim that $G = \bar{A}\bar{B}$ and every $g \in G$ has a unique decomposition in the form of $g = \bar{a}\bar{b}$ where $\bar{a} \in \bar{A}$ and $\bar{b} \in \bar{B}$. Thus we have realized G as an **internal product** $\bar{A}\bar{B}$ of two normal subgroups.

Definition: Let G be a group and N_1, \dots, N_n normal subgroups of G such that

1. $G = N_1 \dots N_n$.
2. Any $g \in G$ can be uniquely represented as $g = n_1 n_2 \dots n_n$ where $n_i \in N_i$.

We then say that G is the **internal direct product** of N_1, \dots, N_n .

Lemma 2.56. *Suppose that G is the internal product of N_1, \dots, N_n . Then for $i \neq j$, $N_i \cap N_j = \{e\}$ and if $a \in N_i$ and $b \in N_j$ then $ab = ba$.*

Theorem 2.57. *Suppose that G is the internal product of N_1, \dots, N_n and let $T = N_1 \times \dots \times N_n$. Then G and T are isomorphic.*

2.12 Finite abelian groups

Theorem 2.58 (The fundamental theorem on finite abelian groups). *Every finite abelian group is the direct product of cyclic groups.*

Definition: If G is an abelian group of order p^n , p a prime, and $G = A_1 \times \dots \times A_k$ where A_i is cyclic of order p^{n_i} with $n_1 \geq n_2 \geq \dots \geq n_k > 0$, then the integers n_1, n_2, \dots, n_k are called the **invariants** of G .

Definition: If G is an abelian group and s is any integer, then $G(s) = \{x \in G \mid x^s = e\}$.

Lemma 2.59. *If G and G' are isomorphic abelian groups, then for every integer s , $G(s)$ and $G'(s)$ are isomorphic.*

Chapter 3

Ring Theory

Definition: A non-empty set R is an **associative ring** if in R there are defined two operations $(+, \cdot)$ such that for all $a, b, c \in R$

1. R is closed under $+$.
2. $+$ is commutative.
3. $+$ is associative.
4. There exists an element $0 \in R$, which is the identity element of $+$.
5. For each a , there exists b such that $a + b = b + a = 0$.
6. R is closed under \cdot .
7. \cdot is associative.
8. \cdot is distributive over $+$. That is, $a \cdot (b + c) = a \cdot b + a \cdot c$ and $(a + b) \cdot c = a \cdot c + b \cdot c$.

If there is an element $1 \in R$ such that $a \cdot 1 = 1 \cdot a = a$ for all $a \in R$, R is said to be a **ring with unity**. If \cdot is commutative, R is said to be a **commutative ring**. If the non-zero elements of R form an abelian group under \cdot , R is said to be a **field**.

Example 3.1. Consider the **real quaternions**, $Q = \{\alpha_0 + \alpha_1 i + \alpha_2 j + \alpha_3 k \mid \alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3 \in \mathbb{R}\}$ with multiplication rules; $i^2 = j^2 = k^2 = ijk = 1$, $ij = -ji = k$, $jk = -kj = i$, $ki = -ik = j$. Then, Q is a non-commutative ring and its non-zero elements form a non-commutative group under multiplication.

3.1 Some special classed of ring

Definition: If R is a commutative ring, then a non-zero element $a \in R$ is a **zero-divisor** if there exists another non-zero element b such that $ab = 0$.

Definition: A commutative ring is an **integral domain** if it has no zero-divisors.

Definition: A ring in which all non-zero elements form a group under multiplication is called a **division ring** or **skew-field**.

Definition: A field is a commutative division ring.

Lemma 3.1. *for all $a, b, c \in R$*

1. $a \cdot 0 = 0 \cdot a = 0$.
2. $a(-b) = (-a)b = -ab$.
3. $(-a)(-b) = ab$.

If $1 \in R$

1. $(-1)a = -a$.
2. $(-1)(-1) = 1$.

Lemma 3.2. *A finite integral domain is a field.*

Corollary 3.3. *If p is a prime, \mathbb{Z}_p is a field.*

Definition: An integral domain D is said to be of characteristic 0 if the relation $ma = 0$ where $a \neq 0$ and $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ holds only if $m = 0$. D is of finite characteristic if there exists a positive integer m such that for all $a \in D$, $ma = 0$. The characteristic of D is the smallest such integer. We say that a ring R has n -**torsion** if there exists $a \neq 0$ in R such that $na = 0$ and $ma \neq 0$ for $0 < m < n$.

3.2 Homomorphisms

Definition: A mapping ϕ from the ring R into the ring R' is a homomorphism if

$$\phi(a + b) = \phi(a) + \phi(b)$$

and

$$\phi(ab) = \phi(a)\phi(b)$$

for all $a, b \in R$.

Lemma 3.4. *If $\phi : R \rightarrow R'$ is a homomorphism*

1. $\phi(0) = 0$.
2. $\phi(-a) = -\phi(a)$.

Definition: Suppose $\phi : R \rightarrow R'$ is a homomorphism. The kernel $I(\phi) = \{a \in R \mid \phi(a) = 0\}$.

Lemma 3.5. *If $\phi : R \rightarrow R'$ is a homomorphism*

1. $I(\phi)$ is a subgroup of R under addition.
2. If $a \in I(\phi)$ and $r \in R$, then $ra, ar \in I(\phi)$.

Definition: A homomorphism R into R' is an isomorphism if it is one-to-one. R and R' are isomorphic if there is an onto isomorphism between them.

Lemma 3.6. *The homomorphism $\phi : R \rightarrow R'$ is an isomorphism if and only if $I(\phi) = \{0\}$.*

3.3 Ideals and quotient ring

Definition: A non-empty subset U of R is a **two-sided ideal** of R if

1. U is a subgroup of R under addition.
2. For all $u \in U$ and $r \in R$, $ur, ru \in U$.

R/U is the set of distinct cosets of U in R as a group under addition. R/U is a ring with $(a + U)(b + U) = ab + U$.

If R is commutative or it has unit element, then R/U is commutative or has unit element. But the converse is not necessarily true. — give an example.

Lemma 3.7. *If U is an ideal of the ring R . then R/U is a ring and is a homomorphic image of R .*

Theorem 3.8. *Suppose $\phi : R \rightarrow R'$ is a homomorphism and let $U = I(\phi)$. Then, $R' \approx R/U$. Moreover, there is a one-to-one correspondence between the set of ideals of R' and the set of ideals of R that contain U . This correspondence can be achieved by associating with an ideal W' of R' , the ideal W in R defined by $W = \{x \in R \mid \phi(x) \in W'\}$, then $W' \approx R/W$.*

3.4 More ideals and quotient rings

Lemma 3.9. *Let R be a commutative ring with unit element whose only ideals are (0) and R . Then, R is a field.*

Definition: An ideal $M \neq R$ is said to be **maximal ideal** of R whenever U is an ideal of R such that $M \subset U \subset R$, then either UR or $U = M$.

If a ring has unit element, then using axiom of choice it can be shown that there is a maximal ideal.

Theorem 3.10. *If R is a commutative ring with unit element and M is an ideal of R , then M is maximal ideal if and only if R/M is a field.*

3.5 The field of quotients of integral domain

Definition: A ring R can be **imbedded** in ring R' if there is an isomorphism of R into R' . If R and R' have unit elements, this isomorphism should take 1 onto 1'. R' will be called an **over ring or extension** of R .

Theorem 3.11. *Every integral domain can be imbedded in a field.*

Proof. Take a look at quotients $\frac{a}{b}$. $M = \{(a, b) \mid a, b \in D, b \neq 0\}$. $(a, b) \sim (c, d)$ if $ad = bc$. F be the set of equivalence classes. F is a field and D can be imbedded in F . ■

F is called the **field of quotients** of D .

3.6 Euclidean ring

Definition: An integral domain R is an **Euclidean ring** if for every $a \neq 0$ in R there exists a non-negative integer $d(a)$ such that

1. For all non-zero $a, b \in R$, $d(a) \leq d(ab)$.
2. For all non-zero $a, b \in R$, there exists $t, r \in R$ such that $a = tb + r$ where either $r = 0$ or $d(r) < d(b)$.