

# Math 245A

Fall 2015

## Chapter 2

### 2.2 Groups

A group  $G$  is a 4-tuple  $G = (|G|, \mu, \iota, e)$  with  
underlying set  $|G|$   
law of composition  $\mu$   
inverse function  $\iota$   
neutral element  $e$

(Exercise 2.2:1) A homomorphism from a group  $G$  to a group  $H$  is a function  $\phi : G \rightarrow H$  satisfying the following for  $a, b \in G$ :

$$\begin{aligned}\phi(e_G) &= e_H \\ \phi(\iota_G(a)) &= \iota_H(\phi(a)) \\ \phi(\mu_G(a, b)) &= \mu_H(\phi(a), \phi(b))\end{aligned}$$

A more common representation of a group uses symbols  $G = (|G|, \cdot, {}^{-1}, e)$

(2.2.1) The conditions for a 4-tuple to be a group are as follows

$$\begin{aligned}(\forall x, y, z \in |G|) \quad (x \cdot y) \cdot z &= x \cdot (y \cdot z) \\ (\forall x \in |G|) \quad e \cdot x &= x = x \cdot e \\ (\forall x \in |G|) \quad x^{-1} \cdot x &= e = x \cdot x^{-1}\end{aligned}$$

(2.2.2) We may also say that a set  $|G|$  with a map  $|G| \times |G| \rightarrow |G|$  constitutes a group if

$$\begin{aligned}(\forall x, y, z \in |G|) \quad (x \cdot y) \cdot z &= x \cdot (y \cdot z) \\ \text{there exists } e \in |G| \text{ such that } (\forall x) e \cdot x &= x = x \cdot e \text{ and } (\forall x \in |G|) (\exists y \in |G|) y \cdot x = e = x \cdot y\end{aligned}$$

(2.2.1) consists of identities (universally quantified equations) and (2.2.2) does not

note: universal quantification is a "for all" quantification

(Exercise 2.2:2)

- (i)
- (ii)

(Exercise 2.2:3)

### 2.3 Indexed Sets

An  $I$ -tuple of elements of  $X$ ,  $(x_i)_{i \in I}$  is formally defined as an  $f : I \rightarrow X$

The set of all functions from  $I$  to  $X$  is denoted  $X^I$

## 2.4 Arity

The *arity* of an operation is, e.g., 1 if unary, 2 if binary, etc.

An  $I$ -ary operation on  $S$  is a map  $S^I \rightarrow S$

Group: a set, a binary operation, a unary operation, and a distinguished element

Can think of the identity as a 0-ary/zeroary operation of the structure

$S^0$  has exactly one map,  $\emptyset \rightarrow S$ , so a map  $S^0 \rightarrow S$  is determined by one element

Note these are not strictly identical since one is a map and the other the element itself

But they are in 1-to-1 correspondence and give equivalent information

## 2.5 Group-theoretic terms

A *group-theoretic relation* in  $(\eta_i)_I$  is an equation  $p(\eta_i) = q(\eta_i)$  holding in  $G$

$p$  and  $q$  are *group-theoretic terms* which we formally define

The terms in the elements of  $X$  under the formal group operations  $\mu, \iota, e$  form a set  $T$ :

given with functions  $\text{symb}_T : X \rightarrow T$ ,  $\mu_T : T^2 \rightarrow T$ ,  $\iota_T : T \rightarrow T$ , and  $e_T : T^0 \rightarrow T$

such that each map is one-to-one, its images disjoint, and  $T$  is the union of those images

and  $T$  is generated by  $\text{symb}_T(X)$  under the aforementioned operations

that is,  $T$  has no proper subset containing  $\text{symb}_T(X)$  and closed under those operations

We can represent these terms, for groups, using strings of symbols

We need full parentheses notating order of operations to ensure disjoint images

A set-theoretic approach dispenses with strings and allows for infinite arities

For the example of a group, we would have (using ordered pair, 3-tuple, etc.):

for  $x \in X$ ,  $\text{symb}_T(x) := (*, x)$

for  $s, t \in T$ ,  $\mu_T(s, t) := (\cdot, s, t)$

for  $s \in T$ ,  $\iota_T(s) := (-^1, s)$

and  $e_T = (e)$

and by set theory, no element can be written as such an  $n$ -tuple in more than one way

## 2.6 Evaluation

Given a set map  $f : X \rightarrow |G|$  for a group  $G$

Recursive evaluation of  $s_f \in |G|$  given an  $X$ -tuple of symbols  $s \in T = T_{X, \cdot, -^1, e}$

if  $s = \text{symb}_T(x)$  for some  $x \in X$ , then  $s_f := f(x)$

$s = \mu_T(t, u) \rightarrow s_f = \mu_G(t_f, u_f)$ , assuming that given  $t, u \in T$  we know  $t_f, u_f \in |G|$

similarly,  $s = \iota_T(t) \rightarrow s_f = \iota_G(t_f)$ , assuming we know  $t_f$  given  $t$

finally  $s = e_T \rightarrow s_f = e_G$

Varying  $f$  in addition to  $T$  gives an evaluation map  $(T_{X, \cdot, -^1, e}) \times |G|^X \rightarrow |G|$

Alternatively, fixing  $s \in T$  gives a map  $s_G : |G|^X \rightarrow |G|$

these represent substitution into  $s$

these  $s_G$  are the *derived  $n$ -ary operations* (aka *term operations*) of  $G$

distinct terms can induce the same derived operation

e.g.  $(x \cdot y) \cdot z = x \cdot (y \cdot z)$  in general or others for certain groups

Examples of derived operations on groups

conjugation  $\zeta^\eta = \eta^{-1} \zeta \eta$  (binary)

commutator  $[\zeta, \eta] = \zeta^{-1}\eta^{-1}\zeta\eta$  (binary)  
 squaring (unary)  
 $\delta$  (Exercise 2.2:2)  
 $\sigma$  (Exercise 2.2:3)

## Class Question #1

end of Section 2.6: Unimportant

The last example of a derived operation on groups cited the trivial “second component” function,  $p_{3,2}(\zeta, \eta, \zeta) = \eta$  induced by  $y \in T_{\{x,y,z\}, -1, \cdot, e}$ . I wasn’t entirely sure how this derived operation would be represented as an element of  $T_{\{x,y,z\}, -1, \cdot, e}$ . Would  $p_{3,2}$  be the element  $(*, y)$  (in the set-theoretic notation)?

## Terms in other families of operations

An  $\Omega$ -algebra is a system  $A = (|A|, (\alpha_A)_{\alpha \in |\Omega|})$

here  $|A|$  is some set, and for each  $\alpha \in |\Omega|$ ,  $\alpha_A : |A|^{\text{ari}(\alpha)} \rightarrow |A|$

note that often people will use  $n(\alpha)$  (rather than  $\text{ari}(\alpha)$ ) for the arity of an operation  $\alpha$   
 e.g. for a group,  $|\Omega| = \{\mu, \iota, e\}$ ,  $\text{ari}(\mu) = 2$ ,  $\text{ari}(\iota) = 1$ , and  $\text{ari}(e) = 0$

## Lecture 8/28

### Operations, terms, algebra

revisit the difficulty with distinguished elements as a zeroary operation when dealing with the empty set

the idea behind distinguishing between terms is e.g. to have distinct objects that we can compare

$(x \cdot y) \cdot z \neq x \cdot (y \cdot z)$  as terms, allowing

$(x \cdot y) \cdot z = x \cdot (y \cdot z)$  to be a useful statement about groups

set-theoretic approach, infinite arity

$(\mu, s, t)$

$(\mu, (s, t))$

$\alpha_T : T^X \rightarrow T$  using  $(\alpha, (S_X)_{x \in X})$

$X$  here shall be some cardinal

### Next reading: free groups

$x, y, z \in G$  and  $\zeta, \eta, \zeta \in H$

when can we have a homomorphism  $G \rightarrow H$

if and only if the relations that hold in  $G$  hold in  $H$  for the corresponding elements

## Exercises in today's reading

2.7:3

can't have  $s(,,,,,…) = s'(,,,,,…) = s''(,,,,,…) where the  $s''$  term is the same as the  $s$  term$

2.2:2 and 2.2:3

$$\delta_G(x, y) = xy^{-1} \text{ and } \sigma_G(x, y) = xy^{-1}x$$

$G = \mathbb{Z}$  knowledge of the identity

$$x * + y = (x - 1) + (y - 1) + 1$$

## Chapter 3

### 3.1 Motivation

### 3.2 The logician's approach: construction from terms

### 3.3 Free groups as subgroups of big enough direct products

### 3.4 The classical construction: groups of words

### Class Question #2

near 3.3.1 Important

The question concerns the set of all groups  $G$  (I'll call it  $X$ ) whose underlying sets  $|G|$  are subsets of  $S$ , some countably infinite set. I wanted to clarify for myself why for any countable group  $H$  we can find an isomorphism from one of these groups to  $H$ . Is it sufficient to justify the statement by declaring that  $X$  contains all countable groups up to isomorphism and hence for some  $G' \in X$ ,  $G'$  is isomorphic to  $H$ ? For some reason this feels like incomplete justification to me, and there may be some set-theoretic considerations that may need to be explicated more clearly.

## Lecture 8/31

### Free Groups: the motivation

factor-set: given a set and an equivalence relation, the set of equivalence classes

### ... as subgroups of big products

If  $G$  generated by an  $X$ -tuple of elements then has cardinality  $\leq \max(\text{card}(X), \aleph_0)$

## Chapter 4.1-4.5

### 4.1 The subgroup and normal subgroup of $G$ generated by $S \subset |G|$

$\langle S \rangle$  contains  $S$  and is contained in every subgroup which contains  $S$

$$\forall x \in \langle S \rangle \ x = e \text{ or } x = \prod s_i, s_i \in S \text{ or } s_i^{-1} \in S$$

$\langle S \rangle$  is also the image of the map into  $G$  of the free group  $F$  on  $S$  induced by the inclusion map  $S \rightarrow |G|$

There is additionally a least *normal* subgroup of  $G$  containing  $S$ .

### 4.2 Imposing relations on a group. Quotient groups

Quotient groups: homomorphisms causing certain elements to fall together.

$$\text{Satisfies e.g. } (\forall i \in I) f(x_i) = f(y_i) \leftrightarrow (\forall i \in I) f(x_i y_i^{-1}) = e$$

A set of elements annihilated by a group homomorphism form a normal subgroup.

Leads to  $q : G \rightarrow G/N$ , where  $N$  is this normal subgroup.

We have a quotient map and a quotient group.

This map has the universal property desired:

For every homomorphism  $h : G \rightarrow K$  satisfying the above,  $\exists! g : N \rightarrow K$ , s.t.  $h = g \circ q$ .

This construction *imposes the relations*  $x_i = y_i (i \in I)$  on  $G$ , forming  $G/(x_i = y_i | i \in I)$ .

For  $G$  a group, a  $G$ -set is a pair  $S = (|S|, m)$ ,  $|S|$  a set and  $m : |G| \times |S| \rightarrow |S|$ , satisfying

$$(\forall s \in |S|, g, g' \in |G|) \ g(g's) = (gg')s$$

$$(\forall s \in |S|) \ es = s$$

That is, a set on which  $G$  acts by permutations.

A homomorphism  $S \rightarrow S'$  of  $G$ -sets (for  $G$  fixed) is a map  $a : |S| \rightarrow |S'|$  satisfying

$$(\forall s \in |S|, g \in |G|) \ a(gs) = ga(s)$$

The set of left cosets of  $H$  in  $G$  is  $|G/H|$  and a typical coset  $[g] = gH$ .

Then  $|G/H|$  is the underlying set of a left  $G$ -set  $G/H$  by  $g[g'] = [gg']$

### 4.3 Groups presented by generators and relations

Let  $X$  be a set,  $T$  the set of all group-theoretic terms in  $X$ , and  $R \subset T \times T$ .

$\exists$  a universal example of a group with  $X$ -tuples of elements satisfying the relations  $R$ .

That is, there is a pair  $(G, u)$  with  $G$  a group and  $u : X \rightarrow |G|$  satisfying:

$$(\forall (s, t) \in R) \ s_u = t_u$$

such that for any group  $H$  and  $X$ -tuple  $v$  of elements in  $H$  satisfying

$$(\forall (s, t) \in R) \ s_u = t_u$$

$\exists! f : G \rightarrow H$  a homomorphism, such that  $v = fu$

The pair  $(G, u)$  is determined up to canonical isomorphism by these properties

The group  $G$  is generated by  $u(X)$

Proving the existence of such a universal construction.

Two ways: construction from terms and subgroups of direct products.

In these approaches, apply the additional conditions to the group axioms.

A proof that builds upon prior constructions:

Let  $(F, u_F)$  be the free group on  $X$  and  $N$  be a normal subgroup.

Define  $N$  such that it is generated by  $\{s_{u_F} t_{u_F}^{-1} \mid (s, t) \in R\}$

Take a canonical map  $q : F \rightarrow F/N$ .

Then the pair  $(F/N, q \circ u_F)$  has the desired universal properties.

As a consequence of the universal properties of free and quotient groups.

### Class Question #3

#### 3.3 proof of a universal group satisfying relations Important

I am unsure about the maps in the diagram describing the construction of the pair  $(F/N, q \circ u_F)$  using the free group on  $X$  and an appropriate quotient group. The map  $q : F \rightarrow G$  is a map between groups as indicated in the right-sided diagram, whereas it is composed to form a set map  $u : X \rightarrow |G|$  as in the left-hand diagram. What sort of distinctions between  $q$  as set-map and  $q$  as group-map do I need to consider here? I feel that I might not be clearly expressing the source of my confusion, so I apologize for that, but maybe my question betrays some fundamental misunderstanding about the nature of free groups or quotient groups to be cleared up.

P.S. I do not yet see how to show  $X$  contains all countable groups up to isomorphism, but hope to spend some more time thinking about it.

### 4.4 Abelian groups, free abelian groups, and abelianizations

### 4.5 The Burnside Problem