

Review V(Slides 280 - 311)

Homomorphism & Coset

Hold on! This is difficult!

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Symmetric Group

Definition

Given $n \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0\}$, we have the following symmetric group of degree n ,

$$\begin{aligned} S_n &= \{\text{All permutations on } n \text{ letters/numbers}\} \\ &= \text{Sym}\{1, 2, 3, \dots, n\} \\ &= \{f : [n] \rightarrow [n] \mid f \text{ bijective}\} \end{aligned}$$

Note that it is a finite group of order $n!$ (the number of bijections from $[n]$ to $[n]$), *i.e.*, $|S_n| = n!$.

- A subgroup of S_n is called a **permutation group**.
- A permutation of the form (ab) where $a \neq b$ is called a **transposition**.

Permutation

A permutation that can be expressed as a product of an **even/odd number of transpositions** is called an even/odd permutation.

The set of even permutations in S_n forms a subgroup of S_n , denoted as A_n , is called the alternating group of degree n .

Permutation \rightarrow transportation: $(132)(5648) = (13)(32)(56)(64)(48)$
(not unique, but only can be either all odd or all even).

Inverse of permutation: $\sigma = (132)(5648) \Rightarrow \sigma^{-1} = (8465)(231)$
(Separate permutations to be **disjoint** first. Since $\sigma(a_i) = a_j$ implies $\sigma^{-1}(a_j) = a_i$, we only need to reverse the order of the cyclic pattern).

Composition: $(12)(245)(13)(125) = (14532)$.
(Apply the **right** permutation first. Demo!).

Exercise

1. True or false:

- Can an abelian group have a non-abelian subgroup?
- Can a non-abelian group have an abelian subgroup?
- Can a non-abelian group have a non-abelian subgroup?

Answer: No; Yes; Yes.

Exercise

2. Prove the following properties:

- ① S_n is non-abelian for $n \geq 3$;
- ② A_n is a subgroup of S_n ;
- ③ $|A_n| = n!/2$.



Homomorphism

Given groups G, G' , a homomorphism is a map $f : G \rightarrow G'$ such that

$$f(x \cdot y) = f(x) \cdot f(y)$$

We have:

- $f(a_1 \cdots a_k) = f(a_1) \cdots f(a_k)$
- $f(1_G) = 1_{G'}$
- $f(a^{-1}) = f^{-1}(a)$

Compare and Contrast

Recall the concept of **structure preserving**

$$\begin{array}{ccc} y & \xrightarrow{f} & f(y) \\ x \cdot \downarrow & & \downarrow f(x) \cdot \\ x \cdot y & \xleftarrow{f^{-1}} & f(x \cdot y) \end{array}$$

Image & Kernel

The **image** of a homomorphism $f : G \rightarrow G'$, often denoted by $\text{im } f$, or $f(G)$, is simply the image of f as a map of sets:

$$\text{im } f = \{x \in G' \mid x = f(a) \text{ for some } a \in G\}.$$

The **kernel** of f , denoted by $\ker f$, is the set of elements of G that are mapped to the identity in G' :

$$\ker f = \{a \in G \mid f(a) = 1_{G'}\}.$$

Compare and Contrast

Let U, V be real or complex vector spaces and $L \in \mathcal{L}(U, V)$, then we define the range and kernel of L by:

$$\text{ran } L := \{v \in V : \exists u \in U, v = Lu\}$$

$$\ker L := \{u \in U : Lu = 0\}$$

Properties

Let $f : G \rightarrow G'$ be a group homomorphism, and let $a, b \in G$. Let $K = \ker f$. The following are equivalent:

- ① $f(a) = f(b)$
- ② $a^{-1}b \in K$
- ③ $b \in aK$
- ④ $aK = bK$

! A homomorphism $f : G \rightarrow G'$ is injective iff $\ker f = \{1_G\}$.

! Isomorphism $G \cong G' \Leftrightarrow f$ is **bijective**.

! How to check if a **homomorphism** is an **isomorphism**:

verify $\ker f = \{1_G\}$ (injection) and $\text{im } f = G'$ (bijection)

Exercise

3. Prove: Let a homomorphism $f : G \rightarrow G'$. If H is a subgroup of G' , then $f^{-1}(H)$ is a subgroup of G .

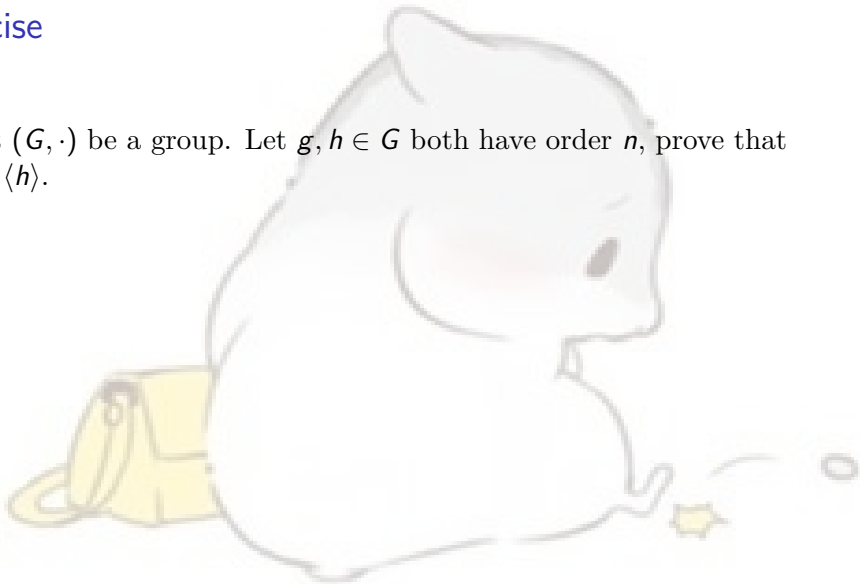
Solution:

Let $x, y, f(a) \in H$.

- ① Closure: $f^{-1}(x)f^{-1}(y) = f^{-1}(xy) = f^{-1}(f(a)) = a \in f^{-1}(H)$.
- ② Identity: $1_{G'} = f(1_G) \in H$. So, $1_G \in f^{-1}(H)$.
- ③ Inverse: $f(a^{-1}) = f^{-1}(f(a)) = a \in f^{-1}(H)$. So, $a^{-1} \in f^{-1}(H)$.

Exercise

4. Let (G, \cdot) be a group. Let $g, h \in G$ both have order n , prove that $\langle g \rangle \cong \langle h \rangle$.



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Solution:

Define $f : \langle g \rangle \rightarrow \langle h \rangle$ by $f(g) = h$ and for all $0 \leq k \leq n$, $f(g^k) = f(g)^k$. So, f is a well-defined function, and, by definition, f preserves the group product. It is clear that the function f sends $1_G \mapsto 1_G$, $g \mapsto h$, \dots , $g^{n-1} \mapsto h^{n-1}$, and so f is a bijection.

(Directly taken from Zach's slides)

Cosets

Given a group G , if H is a subgroup of G and $a \in G$, the notation aH will stand for the set of all products ah with $h \in H$,

$$aH = \{g \in G \mid g = ah \text{ for some } h \in H\}$$

This set is called a **left coset** of H in G .

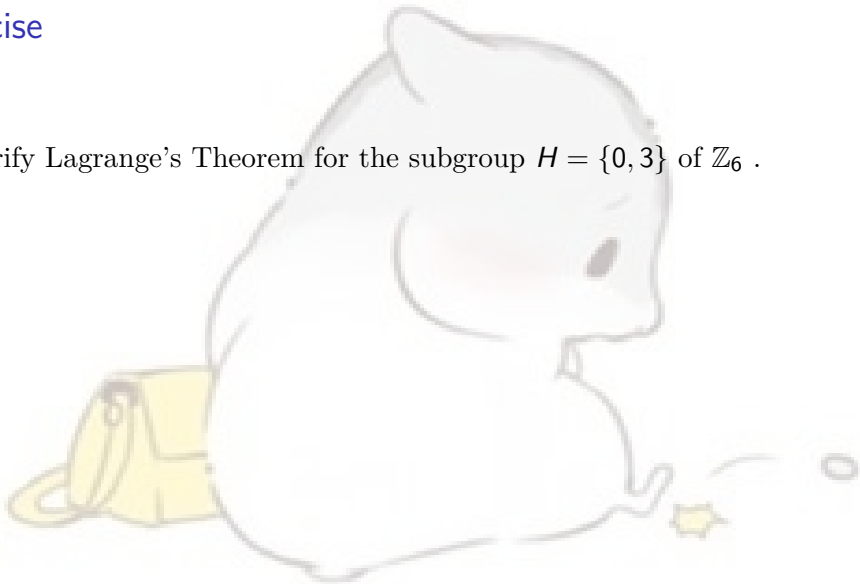
The number of left cosets of a subgroup is called the index of H in G . The index is denoted by $[G : H]$ (can be infinite, why?).

All left cosets aH of a subgroup H of a group G have the same order.

- **Counting formula:** $|G| = |H| \cdot [G : H]$.
- **Lagranges Theorem:** Let H be a subgroup of a finite group G . The order of H divides the order of G .

Exercise

5. Verify Lagrange's Theorem for the subgroup $H = \{0, 3\}$ of \mathbb{Z}_6 .



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Solution:

The cosets are

$$0 + H = \{0, 3\}, \quad 1 + H = \{1, 4\}, \quad 2 + H = \{2, 5\}.$$

Notice there are 3 cosets, each containing 2 elements, and that the cosets form a **partition** of the group.

Exercise

6. Prove that for any subgroup $H \leq G$, the (left) cosets of H partition the group G .

Hint:

We need to show that the union of the left cosets is the whole group, and that different cosets do not overlap.

Normal Subgroup

Given group G , and $a, g \in G$, the element $gag^{-1} \in G$ is called the conjugate of a by g .

A subgroup N of G is a normal subgroup, denoted by $N \trianglelefteq G$, if for all $a \in N$ and $g \in G$, $gag^{-1} \in N$.

Properties:

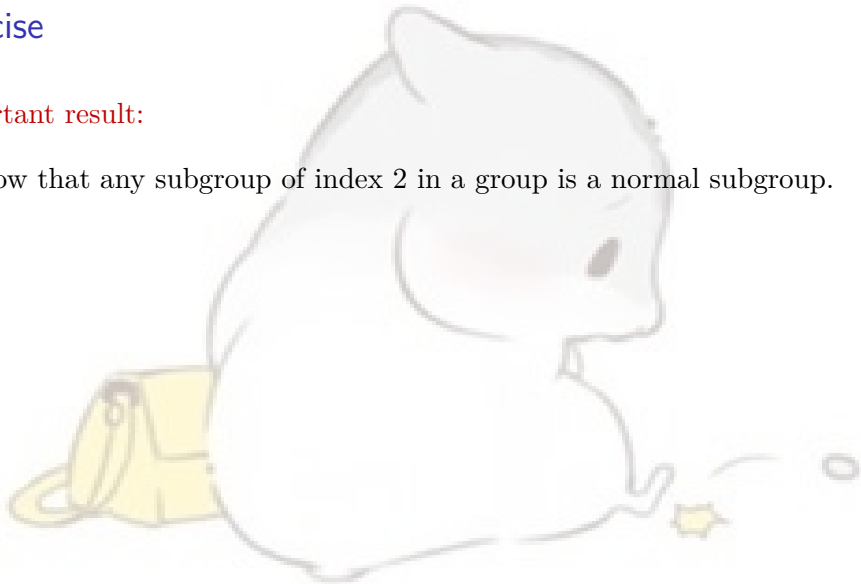
- $f : G \rightarrow G'$ a homomorphism, then $\ker f \trianglelefteq G$.
- Every subgroup of an abelian group is normal.
- The center is always a normal subgroup.
- $gH = Hg$ for all $g \in G$ iff $H \trianglelefteq G$.
- $A_n \trianglelefteq S_n$.

Try your best! Remember them!

Exercise

Important result:

7. Show that any subgroup of index 2 in a group is a normal subgroup.



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Solution:

Denote the subgroup as H . Obviously, the left cosets of a subgroup of index 2 are $1_H H = H$ and aH , where $a \notin H$; (why?) the right cosets are $H1_H = H$ and Ha . Since the cosets form a partition of the origin group, and $1_H H = H1_H = H$, so the remaining is another coset, namely $aH = Ha$. (left=right) So H is normal.

University of zhihu: <https://zhuanlan.zhihu.com/p/163548084>

Distribution of Primes (Part I)

Proposition

Let K be any positive integer larger than 2, then there exists two adjacent primes p and p' ($p' < p$), such that $p - p' \geq K$.

Proof:

Let $K! + 2 = M$, then $2 \mid M, 2 + 1 \mid M + 1, \dots, K \mid M + K - 2$. Since $M > 2$, we conclude that $M, M + 1, \dots, M + K - 2$ are all composite. Let p' be the largest prime that is smaller than M , but the next prime p is definitely larger than $M + K - 2$, namely

$$p - p' \geq (M + K - 1) - (M - 1) = K.$$

Distribution of Primes (Part I)

Definition

We denote $\pi(x)$ as the number of primes no larger than x . Namely

$$\pi(x) = \sum_{p \leq x} 1.$$

We already know that as $x \rightarrow \infty$, $\pi(x) \rightarrow \infty$. But how fast it grows?

Here, we're going to prove that $\pi(x) = \Theta(x/\ln x)$. Namely, there exists two positive numbers A_1 and A_2 , such that

$$A_1 \frac{x}{\ln x} < \pi(x) < A_2 \frac{x}{\ln x} \quad (x \geq 2)$$

This is so called **Чебышев** (Chebyshev) inequality in number theory.

Distribution of Primes (Part I)

Before prove the above inequality, we need to prove the following two lemmas.

Lemma 1

Let n be any positive integer, set

$$N = \frac{(2n)!}{(n!)^2}$$

then

$$(\pi(2n) - \pi(n)) \ln n \leq \ln N \leq \pi(2n) \ln(2n).$$

Proof of Lemma 1

Let

$$N = \prod_{p \leq 2n} p_p^\alpha$$

to be the standard decomposition of N , we have

$$\alpha_p = \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} \left[\frac{2n}{p^r} \right] - 2 \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} \left[\frac{n}{p^r} \right] = \sum_{r=1}^{\left[\frac{\ln(2n)}{\ln p} \right]} \left(\left[\frac{2n}{p^r} \right] - 2 \left[\frac{n}{p^r} \right] \right),$$

(this is because when $r > \lfloor \ln(2n)/\ln(p) \rfloor$, $p^r > 2n > n$). Obviously,

$$\alpha_p \leq \sum_{r=1}^{\left[\frac{\ln(2n)}{\ln p} \right]} 1 = \left[\frac{\ln(2n)}{\ln p} \right] \leq \frac{\ln(2n)}{\ln p}.$$

Proof (Cont.)

Therefore

$$\ln N = \sum_{p \leq 2n} \alpha_p \ln p \leq \sum_{p \leq 2n} \ln(2n) = \pi(2n) \ln(2n).$$

On the other hand, if $n < p \leq 2n$, then $p \mid (2n)!$, $\left(p, (n!)^2\right) = 1$, so $p \mid N$. We have

$$N \geq \prod_{n < p \leq 2n} p.$$

Take logarithm on both side,

$$\ln N \geq \sum_{n < p \leq 2n} \ln p > \ln n \sum_{n < p \leq 2n} 1 = (\pi(2n) - \pi(n)) \ln n,$$

this complete our proof.

Estimation of $\ln N$

Now it's time to estimate how large $\ln N$ is.

Lemma 2

For the same n, N defined in Lemma 1, we have

$$n \ln 2 \leq \ln N \leq 2n \ln 2.$$

Proof:

Considering that N is the coefficient of term x^n when expanding $(1+x)^{2n}$, so

$$N \leq (1+1)^{2n} = 2^{2n}$$

On the other hand,

$$N = \frac{2n(2n-1)\cdots(n+1)}{n!} = 2 \left(2 + \frac{1}{n-1} \right) \cdots \left(2 + \frac{n-1}{1} \right) \geq 2^n.$$

Reference

- Example From Zach's Slides (P196)
- Exercises from 2021-Fall-Ve203 TA Zhao Jiayuan
- Yan Shijian, etc. *Basic Number Theory*, fourth edition. Beijing: Higher Education Press, 2020.5 print.