

MATH 601 HOMEWORK (DUE 9/4)

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Exercise. (2.1) Show that the function $g : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow S^1$, $g(r) = \exp(2\pi ir)$, where $i^2 = -1$, satisfies the property that $g(r) = g(r')$ if and only if $r \sim r'$. Use this to explicitly construct a bijective map from the orbit space of the action to S^1 , $g : \mathbb{R}/\sim = \mathbb{Z}\backslash\mathbb{R} \rightarrow S^1$.

Proof.

- Let $r, r' \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $r \sim r'$. Let $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $k * r' = r$. Therefore, $k + r' = r$.

$$\begin{aligned} g(r) &= \exp(2\pi ir) \\ &= \exp(2\pi i(k + r')) \\ &= \exp(2\pi ik + 2\pi ir') \\ &= \exp(2\pi ik) \exp(2\pi ir') \\ &= \exp(2\pi ir') \\ &= g(r'). \end{aligned}$$

- Let $r, r' \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $g(r) = g(r')$.

$$\begin{aligned} \exp(2\pi ir) = \exp(2\pi ir') &\implies \exp(2\pi i(r - r')) = 1 \\ &\implies \cos(2\pi(r - r')) + i \sin(2\pi(r - r')) = 1 \\ &\implies \sin(2\pi(r - r')) = 0 \\ &\implies r - r' \in \mathbb{Z} \\ &\implies \exists k \in \mathbb{Z}, r = k * r' \\ &\implies r \sim r'. \end{aligned}$$

Let $g : \mathbb{Z}\backslash\mathbb{R} \rightarrow S^1$ be defined such that $g([r]) = g(r)$ for each $[r] \in \mathbb{Z}\backslash\mathbb{R}$.

- Well-defined? Let $[r] = [r'] \in \mathbb{Z}\backslash\mathbb{R}$. Then $r \sim r'$. We showed that $g(r) = g(r')$ if $r \sim r'$ earlier. Therefore, g is indeed well-defined.
- Injective? Let $[r], [r'] \in \mathbb{Z}\backslash\mathbb{R}$. Suppose $g([r]) = g([r'])$. Then $g(r) = g(r')$. We showed earlier that this implies $r \sim r'$. In other words, $[r] = [r']$. Therefore, g is injective.

- Surjective? Let $z \in S^1$. Express z as $re^{i\theta}$ where $r, \theta \in \mathbb{R}$. Since $|z| = 1$, we can assume that $r = 1$ without loss of generality. (If $r = -1$, then $e^{i\pi} = -1$, so θ can be redefined as $\theta + \pi$.)
Then $[\theta/2\pi]$ is an element in \mathbb{Z}/\mathbb{R} , and $g([\theta/2\pi]) = g(\theta/2\pi) = \exp(2\pi i \cdot \theta/2\pi) = \exp(i\theta) = z$. Therefore, g is indeed surjective.

□

Exercise. (2.2) Let $\star : G \times S \rightarrow S$ be a left action of G . Show that $s \star g = g^{-1} \star s$ defines a right action of G on S .

Proof. Let $s \in S, g, h \in G$ be given.

$$\begin{aligned}
 (s \star g) \star h &= h^{-1} \star (s \star g) \\
 &= h^{-1} \star (g^{-1} \star s) \\
 &= (h^{-1}g^{-1}) \star s \\
 &= (gh)^{-1} \star s \\
 &= s \star (gh).
 \end{aligned}$$

Let $e \in G$ denote the identity element and let $s \in S$ be given.

$$\begin{aligned}
 s \star e &= e^{-1} \star s \\
 &= e \star s \\
 &= s.
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, \star is indeed a right action of G on S .

□

Exercise. (2.3)

- (1) Let $h, h' \in G$ lie in the same conjugacy class. Show that h and h' have the same order.
- (2) Give an example of a group and two elements of the same order which do not lie in the same conjugacy class.

Proof. (1) Since h and h' lie in the same conjugacy class, there must exist an element $g \in G$ such that $h = g \star h'$. In other words, $h = g \cdot h' \cdot g^{-1}$. We will show that $h^n = g \cdot (h')^n \cdot g^{-1}$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$ using mathematical induction.

- When $n = 1$, the statement is true.

- Suppose $h^n = g \cdot (h')^n \cdot g^{-1}$ for some $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

$$\begin{aligned}
 h^{n+1} &= h^n \cdot h \\
 &= (g \cdot (h')^n \cdot g^{-1}) \cdot (g \cdot h' \cdot g^{-1}) \\
 &= g \cdot (h')^n \cdot (g^{-1} \cdot g) \cdot h' \cdot g^{-1} \\
 &= g \cdot (h')^n \cdot h' \cdot g^{-1} \\
 &= g \cdot (h')^{n+1} \cdot g^{-1}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, $h^n = g \cdot (h')^n \cdot g^{-1}$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

For any $n \in \mathbb{N}$, if $h^n = e$, then $g \cdot (h')^n \cdot g^{-1} = e$, so $(h')^n = g^{-1}g = e$. For any $n \in \mathbb{N}$, If $(h')^n = e$, then $h^n = geg^{-1} = e$. Therefore, $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}, h^n = e \iff (h')^n = e$.

This implies that if the order of one of h or h' is infinite, the other has to be infinite as well. On the other hand, if the order of one of h or h' is finite, the other has to be finite as well. Suppose that the orders of h and h' are finite and let n denote the order of h . Then $h^n = e$ and $h^m \neq e$ for each natural number $m < n$. Then $(h')^n = e$ and $(h')^m \neq e$ for each natural number $m < n$. Therefore, the order of h' is n as well.

We showed that, regardless of whether the order is finite, h and h' have the same order.

- (2) We will consider the Klein 4-group $K = \{e, a, b, c\}$. Since $a^2 = b^2 = e$, a and b have the order 2. Suppose that a and b lie in the same conjugacy class. Then there must exist a $g \in K$ such that $a = gb g^{-1}$. Since K is abelian, $a = gb g^{-1} = gg^{-1}b = eb = b$. This is a contradiction, so a and b do not lie in the same conjugacy class. Thus we found two elements of the same order which do not lie in the same conjugacy class.

□