

Basic Algebra

Part III preparatory notes based on Basic Algebra by Nathan Jacobson

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Part III requires a load of complex and interesting Mathematics that I have not covered thus far in my course and will not. These collections of notes are my thoughts on topics and needed intuition to bits of Mathematics. They aren't here to teach or to be used a stand alone text.

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1 Monoids and Groups

Let's start from the beginning as the beginning is a good place to start,

1.1 Monoids

Definition 1.1 (Monoid). A triple (M, p, e) where M is a nonempty set, or carrier, p is an associative binary operation and e is an identity such that, $p(e, a) = p(a, e) = a$

If we let p be non-associative, then we have a *monad* and if we drop the hypothesis on 1, then we get a *semigroup*.

Lemma 1.2 (Unique Identity). The identity of a monoid is unique.

We can define a submonoid,

Definition 1.3 (Submonoid). A subset N of M is a submonoid if it contains e and is closed under p .

Definition 1.4 (Finite Monoid). A monoid is said to be finite if it has a finite number of elements. We shall call its cardinality, its *order*.

1.2 Groups

An element u of a monoid is said to be invertible if there exists a $v \in M$ such that,

$$uv = 1 = vu$$

Definition 1.5 (Group). A group G is a monoid all of whose elements are invertible.

We define the subgroup in the same way as the submonoid.

Definition 1.6 (Group of Units). If we take a monoid M , then we can denote all of the units as a set $U(M)$. Then we can prove this is a group and call it a group of units.

If we now just take a load of monoids or groups, we can create another monoid or group out of them. Take M_1, \dots, M_n and then consider $M = M_1 \times \dots \times M_n$, we introduce the following product,

$$(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)(b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n) = (a_1b_1, a_2b_2, \dots, a_nb_n)$$

We call this the direct product of monoids and groups.

1.3 Isomorphisms

We can call two groups, basically the same using isomorphisms,

Definition 1.7 (Isomorphism). Two monoids $(M, p, 1)$ and $(M', p', 1')$ are said to be isomorphic if there exists a bijective map η of M to M' such that,

$$\eta(1) = 1' \quad \eta(x \circ y) = \eta(x)\eta(y) \quad x, y \in M$$

This shall be denoted as $M \cong M'$

Example. We can find an isomorphism between $(\mathbb{R}, +, 0)$ and $(\mathbb{R}^+, \cdot, 1)$. We just need to find an η and that here is just, $\eta(x) = e^x$ as we can say,

$$e^{x+y} = e^x e^y$$

This then has an inverse $y \mapsto \log y$ and hence is bijective.

Theorem 1.8 (Cayley Theorem for Monoids and Groups). The following is true:

- (i) Any monoid is isomorphic to a monoid of transformations
- (ii) Any group is isomorphic to a transformation group.

Proof. We shall treat two parts of the theorem individually

- (i) Firstly, we are going to take a monoid M and consider the map $a_L : a \rightarrow ax$ for an $a \in M$, note that this map is always in M . Now we claim that $\{a_L : a \in M\}$ is a monoid of transformations. We can see this is closed under composition, then we can consider $a_L b_L$ and see that this is just $x \rightarrow a(bx)$ and by the associative law $x \rightarrow (ab)x$ and so, $a_L b_L = (ab)_L$. So $a \rightarrow a_L$ is an isomorphism of M onto the monoid of transformations. This map is obviously surjective and we can also say it is injective as if $a_L = b_L$ then $a = a_L 1 = b_L 1 = b$
- (ii) If we have G as a group, then everything follows from (1) if we can see that G_L is the group of transformations. We need to show that a_L is bijective and G_L is closed under inverses. We can see this from $1_L = (a^{-1}a)_L = (a^{-1})_L a_L$ and $1_L = a_L (a^{-1})_L$

□

Corollary 1.9. Any finite group of order n is isomorphic to some subgroup of S_n .