

# Foreword

## Usage

- Notes are presented in two columns: main notes on the left, and sidenotes on the right. Main notes will have a larger margin.
- The following is the color code for the notes:

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| Blue       | Definitions  |
| Red        | Important points                                     |
| Yellow     | Points to watch out for / comment for incompleteness |
| Green      | External definitions, theorems, etc.                 |
| Light Blue | Regular highlighting                                 |
| Brown      | Secondary highlighting                               |
- The following is the color code for boxes, that begin and end with a line of the same color:

|         |                                      |
|---------|--------------------------------------|
| Blue    | Definitions                          |
| Red     | Warning                              |
| Yellow  | Notes, remarks, etc.                 |
| Brown   | Proofs                               |
| Magenta | Theorems, Propositions, Lemmas, etc. |
- Hyperlinks are underlined in magenta. If your PDF reader supports it, you can follow the links to either be redirected to an external website, or a theorem, definition, etc., in the same document. Note that this is only reliable if you have the full set of notes as a single document, which you can find on:  
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## 4 Lecture 4 May 09 2018

### 4.1 Groups (Continued)

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##### Proposition 6 (Cancellation Laws)

Let  $G$  be a group and  $g, h, f \in G$ . Then

- 1.(a) (**Right Cancellation**)  $gh = gf \implies h = f$   
(b) (**Left Cancellation**)  $hg = fg \implies h = f$
2. The equation  $ax = b$  and  $ya = b$  have unique solution for  $x, y \in G$ .

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##### Proof

- 1.(a) By left multiplication and associativity,

$$gh = gf \iff g^{-1}gh = g^{-1}gf \iff h = f$$

- (b) By right multiplication and associativity,

$$hg = fg \iff hgg^{-1} = fgg^{-1} \iff h = f$$

2. Let  $x = a^{-1}b$ . Then

$$ax = a(a^{-1}b) = (aa^{-1})b = b.$$

If  $\exists u \in G$  that is another solution, then

$$au = b = ax \implies u = x$$

by Left Cancellation. The proof for  $ya = b$  is similar by letting  $y = ba^{-1}$ .

□

#### 4.1.2 Cayley Tables

For a finite group, defining its operation by means of a table is sometimes convenient.

##### Definition 9 (Cayley Table)

Let  $G$  be a group. Given  $x, y \in G$ , let the product  $xy$  be an entry of a table in the row corresponding to  $x$  and column corresponding to  $y$ . Such a table is called a **Cayley Table**.

##### Note

By Cycle Decomposition Theorem 6, the entries in each row (and respectively, column) of a Cayley Table are all distinct.

##### Example 4.1.1

Consider the group  $(\mathbb{Z}_2, +)$ . Its Cayley Table is

| $\mathbb{Z}_2$ | [0] | [1] |
|----------------|-----|-----|
| [0]            | [0] | [1] |
| [1]            | [1] | [0] |

where note that we must have  $[1] + [1] = [0]$ ; otherwise if  $[1] + [1] = [1]$  then  $[1]$  does not have its additive inverse, which contradicts the fact that it is in the group.

##### Example 4.1.2

Consider the group  $\mathbb{Z}^* = \{1, -1\}$ . Its Cayley Table (under multiplication) is

| $\mathbb{Z}^*$ | 1  | -1 |
|----------------|----|----|
| 1              | 1  | -1 |
| -1             | -1 | 1  |

If we replace 1 by [0] and -1 by [1], the Cayley Tables of  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  and  $\mathbb{Z}^*$  are the same. In this case, we say that  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  and  $\mathbb{Z}^*$  are **isomorphic**, which we denote by  $\mathbb{Z}_2 \cong \mathbb{Z}^*$ .

**Example 4.1.3**

Given  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , the **Cyclic Group** of order  $n$  is defined by

$$C_n = \{1, a, a^2, \dots, a^{n-1}\} \quad \text{with } a^n = 1.$$

We write  $C_n = \langle a : a^n = 1 \rangle$  and  $a$  is called a generator of  $C_n$ . The Cayley Table of  $C_n$  is

| $C_n$     | 1         | $a$       | $a^2$    | $\dots$ | $a^{n-2}$ | $a^{n-1}$ |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|---------|-----------|-----------|
| 1         | 1         | $a$       | $a^2$    | $\dots$ | $a^{n-2}$ | $a^{n-1}$ |
| $a$       | $a$       | $a^2$     | $a^3$    | $\dots$ | $a^{n-1}$ | 1         |
| $a^2$     | $a^2$     | $a^3$     | $a^4$    | $\dots$ | 1         | $a$       |
| $\vdots$  | $\vdots$  | $\vdots$  | $\vdots$ |         | $\vdots$  | $\vdots$  |
| $a^{n-2}$ | $a^{n-2}$ | $a^{n-1}$ | 1        | $\dots$ | $a^{n-4}$ | $a^{n-3}$ |
| $a^{n-1}$ | $a^{n-1}$ | 1         | $a$      | $\dots$ | $a^{n-3}$ | $a^{n-2}$ |

**Proposition 7**

Let  $G$  be a group. Up to isomorphism, we have

1. if  $|G| = 1$ , then  $G \cong \{1\}$ .
2. if  $|G| = 2$ , then  $G \cong C_2$ .
3. if  $|G| = 3$ , then  $G \cong C_3$ .
4. if  $|G| = 4$ , then either  $G \cong C_4$  or  $G \cong K_4 \cong C_2 \times C_2$ .

$K_n$  is known as the **Klein n-group**

**Proof**

1. If  $|G| = 1$ , then it can only be  $G = \{1\}$  where 1 is the identity element.
2.  $|G| = 2 \implies G = \{1, g\}$  with  $g \neq 1$ . The Cayley Table of  $G$  is thus

| $G$ | 1   | $g$ |
|-----|-----|-----|
| 1   | 1   | $g$ |
| $g$ | $g$ | 1   |

where we note that  $g^2 = 1$ ; otherwise if  $g^2 = g$ , then we would have  $g = 1$  by Cycle Decomposition Theorem 6, which contradicts the fact that  $g \neq 1$ . Comparing the above Cayley Table with that of  $C_2$ , we see that  $G = \langle g : g^2 = 1 \rangle \cong C_2$ .

3.  $|G| = 3 \implies G = \{1, g, h\}$  with  $g \neq 1 \neq h$  and  $g \neq h$ . We can then

start with the following Cayley Table:

| G | 1 | g | h |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 1 | g | h |
| g | g |   |   |
| h | h |   |   |

We know that by Cycle Decomposition Theorem 6,  $gh \neq g$  and  $gh \neq h$ . Thus  $gh = 1$ . Similarly, we get that  $hg = 1$ .

Claim: Entries in a row (or column) must be distinct. Suppose not. Then say  $g^2 = 1$ . But since  $gh = 1$ , by Cycle Decomposition Theorem 6, we have that  $h = g$ , which is a contradiction.

With that, we can proceed to fill in the rest of the entries: with  $g^2 = h$  and  $h^2 = g$ . Therefore,

| G | 1 | g | h |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 1 | g | h |
| g | g | h | 1 |
| h | h | 1 | g |

Recall that the Cayley Table for  $C_3$  is:

| $C_3$ | 1     | a     | $a^2$ |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1     | 1     | a     | $a^2$ |
| a     | a     | $a^2$ | 1     |
| $a^2$ | $a^2$ | 1     | a     |

$\therefore G \cong C_3$  (by identifying  $g = a$  and  $h = a^2$ ).

4. *Proof will be added once assignment 1 is over*

## 4.2 Subgroups

### 4.2.1 Subgroups

#### Definition 10 (Subgroup)

Let  $G$  be a group and  $H \subseteq G$ . If  $H$  itself is a group, then we say that  $H$  is a subgroup of  $G$