

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:
https://japorized.github.io/Tex_notes

13 Lecture 13 May 30 2018

13.1 Isomorphism Theorems (Continued)

13.1.1 Quotient Groups (Continued)

Proposition 35

Let $K \triangleleft G$ and write $G/K = \{Ka : a \in G\}$ for the set of cosets of K .

1. G/K is a group under the operation $KaKb = Kab$.
2. The mapping $\phi : G \rightarrow G/K$ given by $\phi(a) = Ka$ is a surjective homomorphism.¹
3. If $[G : K]$ is finite, then $|G/K| = [G : K]$. In particular, if $|G|$ is finite, then $|G/K| = \frac{|G|}{|K|}$.

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Exercise 13.1.1

Is ϕ injective?

Solution

We know that we cannot uniquely express a coset, since for $a, b \in Ka$ such that $a \neq b$, we have that $Ka = Kb$.

Proof

1. By Lemma 34, the operation is well-defined, and G/K is closed under the operation. The identity of G/K is $K = K(1)$ since $\forall Ka \in G/K$,

$$KaK(1) = Ka = K(1)Ka.$$

Also, since

$$KaKa^{-1} = K(1) = Ka^{-1}Ka,$$

the inverse of Ka is Ka^{-1} . Finally, by associativity of G , we have that

$$Ka(KbKc) = Kabc = (KaKb)Kc.$$

It follows that G/K is a group.

2. Clearly, ϕ is surjective. For $a, b \in G$,

$$\phi(ab) = Kab = KaKb = \phi(a)\phi(b).$$

Thus ϕ is a surjective homomorphism.

3. If $[G : K]$ is finite, then by definition of the index $[G : K]$, we have that $[G : K] = |\mathcal{G}/K|$. Also, if $|G|$ is finite, then by Theorem 23,

$$|\mathcal{G}/K| = [G : K] = \frac{|G|}{|K|}.$$

□

Definition 26 (Quotient Group)

Let $K \triangleleft G$. The group \mathcal{G}/K of all cosets of K in G is called the **quotient group** of G by K . Also, the mapping

$$\phi : G \rightarrow \mathcal{G}/K \text{ defined by } a \mapsto Ka$$

is called the **coset** (or **quotient**) **map**.

13.1.2 Isomorphism Theorems

Definition 27 (Kernel and Image)

Let $\alpha : G \rightarrow H$ be a group homomorphism. The **kernel** of α is defined by

$$\ker \alpha := \{g \in G : \alpha(g) = 1_H\} \subseteq G$$

and the **image** of α is defined by

$$\operatorname{im} \alpha := \alpha(G) = \{\alpha(g) : g \in G\} \subseteq H.$$

Proposition 36

Let $\alpha : G \rightarrow H$ be a group homomorphism.

1. $\text{im } \alpha$ is a subgroup of H
2. $\ker \alpha \triangleleft G$

Proof

1. Note that $1_H = \alpha(1_G) \in \alpha(G)$ (i.e. the identity is in $\text{im } \alpha$). Also, for $h_1 = \alpha(g_1)$ and $h_2 = \alpha(g_2)$ in $\alpha(G)$ and $h_1, h_2 \in H$, we have

$$h_1 h_2 = \alpha(g_1) \alpha(g_2) = \alpha(g_1 g_2) \in \alpha(G).$$

(i.e. $\text{im } \alpha$ is closed under its operation). By Proposition 20, $\alpha(g)^{-1} = \alpha(g^{-1}) \in \alpha(G)$ (i.e. the inverse of an element is also in $\text{im } \alpha$). Thus by the **Subgroup Test**, we have that $\text{im } \alpha$ is a subgroup of H .

2. For $\ker \alpha$, $\alpha(1_G) = 1_H$. For $k_1, k_2 \in \ker \alpha$, we have

$$\alpha(k_1 k_2) = \alpha(k_1) \alpha(k_2) = 1 \cdot 1 = 1.$$

Also,

$$\alpha(k_1^{-1}) = \alpha(k_1)^{-1} = 1^{-1} = 1.$$

By the **Subgroup Test**, $\ker \alpha$ is a subgroup of G .

If $g \in G$ and $k \in \ker \alpha$, then

$$\alpha(g k g^{-1}) = \alpha(g) \alpha(k) \alpha(g^{-1}) = \alpha(g) \alpha(g^{-1}) = 1.$$

Thus by Proposition 27, $\ker \alpha \triangleleft G$.

□

Example 13.1.1

Consider the determinant map

$$\det : GL_n(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^* \text{ defined by } A \mapsto \det A.$$

Then $\ker \det = SL_n(\mathbb{R})$. Then $SL_n(\mathbb{R}) \triangleleft GL_n(\mathbb{R})$, as proven before.

Example 13.1.2

Define the *sign of a permutation* $\sigma \in S_n$ by

$$\text{sgn}(\sigma) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \sigma \text{ is even;} \\ -1 & \text{if } \sigma \text{ is odd.} \end{cases}$$

Then the sign mapping, $\text{sgn} : S_n \rightarrow \{\pm 1\}$ defined by $\sigma \mapsto \text{sgn}(\sigma)$ is a homomorphism.² Also, $\ker \text{sgn} = A_n$. Thus, we have $A_n \triangleleft S_n$, as proven before.

² Think about why. It's quite straightforward using the definition.

Proposition 37 (Normal Subgroup as the Kernel)

If $K \triangleleft G$, then $K = \ker \phi$ where $\phi : G \rightarrow G/K$ is the coset map.

Proof

Recall that $\phi : G \rightarrow G/K$ is defined by $g \mapsto Kg, \forall g \in G$, and is a group homomorphism. By Proposition 22, we have

$$Kg = K = K1 \iff g \in K.$$

Thus $K = \ker \phi$. □

Theorem 38 (First Isomorphism Theorem)

Let $\alpha : G \rightarrow H$ be a group homomorphism. We have

$$G/\ker \alpha \cong \text{im } \alpha$$

Proof

Let $K = \ker \alpha$. Since $K \triangleleft G$ (by Proposition 36), G/K is a group. Let³

$$\bar{\alpha} : G/K \rightarrow \text{im } \alpha \text{ be defined by } Kg \mapsto \alpha(g)$$

Note that

$$Kg = Kg_1 \iff gg_1^{-1} \in K \iff \alpha(gg_1^{-1}) = 1 \iff \alpha(g) = \alpha(g_1).$$

Thus $\bar{\alpha}$ is well-defined and injective. Clearly, $\bar{\alpha}$ is surjective. It remains to

³ We must check that the function is well-defined, since cosets are not uniquely represented and so it is likely that a constructed mapping is not well-defined.

show that $\bar{\alpha}$ is a group homomorphism. $\forall g, h \in G$, we have

$$\bar{\alpha}(KgKh) = \bar{\alpha}(Kgh) = \alpha(gh) = \alpha(g)\alpha(h) = \bar{\alpha}(Kg)\bar{\alpha}(Kh).$$

Therefore, we have that $\bar{\alpha}$ is an isomorphism and hence $G/\ker \alpha \cong \text{im } \alpha$ as desired. \square
