

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

10 Lecture 10 May 23rd 2018

10.1 Normal Subgroup (Continued)

10.1.1 Cosets and Lagrange's Theorem (Continued)

Theorem 23 (Lagrange's Theorem)

Let H be a subgroup of a **finite** group G . Then

$$|H| \mid |G| \text{ and } [G : H] = \frac{|G|}{|H|}$$

Proof

Since G is finite, there can only be finitely many cosets of H . Let $k = [G : H]$ and Ha_1, Ha_2, \dots, Ha_k be the distinct right cosets of H in G . By Proposition 22, we have that these cosets partition G , i.e.

$$G = \bigcup_{i=1}^k Ha_i.$$

Note that by the definition of a right coset, the map

$$H \rightarrow Ha_i \text{ defined by } h \mapsto ha_i$$

is a surjection from H to Ha_i . By Cancellation Laws, the map is injective, since if $hb_1 = hb_2$, then $b_1 = b_2$. Therefore, for $i = 1, \dots, k$,

$$|H| = |Ha_i|.$$

Then we have

$$|G| = k |H| \implies |H| \mid |G| \wedge [G : H] = k = \frac{|G|}{|H|}$$

□

Corollary 24

1. If G is a finite group and $g \in G$, then $o(g) \mid |G|$.
2. If G is a finite group and $|G| = n$, then $g^n = 1$.

Proof

1. Let $H = \langle g \rangle$. Then by Lagrange's Theorem 23, $o(g) = |H| \mid |G|$.
2. For some $g \in G$, let $o(g) = m \in \mathbb{Z} \setminus \{0\}$. Then by 1, $m \mid n$ and so $g^n = (g^m)^{\frac{n}{m}} = 1$.

□

Note

Let $n \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{1\}$. **Euler's Totient Function**, or more generally written as **Euler's ϕ -function** is defined as

$$\phi(n) \equiv \left| \{k \in \{1, \dots, n-1\} : \gcd(k, n) = 1\} \right|. \quad (10.1)$$

Note that the set \mathbb{Z}_n^* under multiplication has a similar definition to the set on the RHS, since the only numbers from 1 to n that has an inverse are those that are coprime with n . Thus $\phi(n) = |\mathbb{Z}_n^*|$.

With Corollary 24, we have **Euler's Theorem** that states that

$$\forall a \in \mathbb{Z} \quad \gcd(a, n) = 1 \implies a^{\phi(n)} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}. \quad (10.2)$$

If $n = p$ where p is some prime number, then Euler's Theorem implies **Fermat's Little Theorem**, i.e. $a^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$.

Corollary 25

If p is prime, then every group G of order p is cyclic. In fact, $G = \langle g \rangle$ for $g \neq 1 \in G$. Hence, the only subgroups of G are $\{1\}$ and G itself.

Proof

Let $g \in G$ such that $g \neq 1$. By Corollary 24, $o(g) \mid p$. Since $g \neq 1$ and p is prime, by **uniqueness of prime factorization**, it must be that $o(g) = p$. Thus we can write $G = \langle g \rangle$. If H is a subgroup of G , then by Lagrange's Theorem, we have $|H| \mid p$. Since p is prime, we either have $|H| = 1$ or p . In other words, we either have that $H = \{1\}$ or $H = G$, respectively. \square

Corollary 26

Let H and K be finite subgroups of G . If $\gcd(|H|, |K|) = 1$, then $H \cap K = \{1\}$.

Proof

Since $H \cap K$ is a subgroup of H and of K , by Lagrange's Theorem 23, $|H \cap K| \mid |H|$ and $|H \cap K| \mid |K|$. By assumption that $\gcd(|H|, |K|) = 1$, we have¹ that $|H \cap K| = 1$, and hence $H \cap K = \{1\}$. \square

¹ $|H \cap K|$ is a common divisor for $|H|$ and $|K|$. But $\gcd(|H|, |K|) = 1$

10.1.2 Normal Subgroup

We have seen that given H is a subgroup of a group G and $g \in G$, gH and Hg are generally not the same.

Definition 23 (Normal Subgroup)

Let H be a subgroup of a group G . If $\forall g \in G$, we have $Hg = gH$, then we say that H is a **normal subgroup** of G , and write

$$H \triangleleft G$$

Example 10.1.1

$\{1\} \triangleleft G$ and $G \triangleleft G$.

Example 10.1.2

The center, $Z(G)$, of a group G is an abelian group. By Definition 23,

$$Z(G) \triangleleft G.$$

Example 10.1.3

If G is abelian, then every subgroup of G is normal in G .

Proposition (Normality Test)

Let H be a subgroup of G . The following are equivalent:

1. $H \triangleleft G$;
2. $\forall g \in G \quad gHg^{-1} \subseteq H$;
3. $\forall g \in G \quad gHg^{-1} = H$ ²

² This means that

$H \triangleleft G \iff H$ is the only conjugate of H
