

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

19 Lecture 19 Jun 15th 2018

19.1 Finite Abelian Groups (Continued)

19.1.1 p -Groups (Continued)

Note (Recall)

Recall the definition of a p -group:

G is a p -group if the order of all of its elements is a non-negative power of $p \iff |G| = p^k$ for some $k \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$.

We shall now proceed to prove the proposition mentioned by the end of last class.

Proposition 54 (Finite Abelian p -Groups of Order p are Cyclic)

If G is a finite abelian p -group that contains only 1 subgroup of order p , then G is cyclic. In other words, if a finite abelian p -group is not cyclic, then G has at least 2 subgroups of order p .

Proof

Since G is finite, let $y \in G$ have maximal order.

Claim: $G = \langle y \rangle$

Proof of Claim: Suppose not. Since $\langle y \rangle \triangleleft G$ ¹, consider the quotient group $G/\langle y \rangle$, which is, therefore, a nontrivial p -group, since $|\langle y \rangle| = p$.

By Cauchy's Theorem, we know that $\exists z \in G/\langle y \rangle$ such that $o(z) = p$ ². In particular, we have that $z \neq 1$ ³. Consider the coset map

¹ We have $\langle y \rangle \leq G$ and G is abelian.

² Note that we have $G/\langle y \rangle$ is a p -group $\iff |G/\langle y \rangle| = p^k$ for some $k \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$. The existence of our chosen z follows from there by Cauchy's Theorem.

³ If $z = 1$, then its order would not be p .

$$\pi : G \rightarrow G/\langle y \rangle.$$

Let $x \in G$ such that $\pi(x) = z$ ⁴. Since

$$\pi(x^p) = \pi(x)^p = z^p = 1,$$

we have that x^p gets mapped to 1 by π , i.e. $x^p \in \langle y \rangle$.

$\implies \exists m \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $x^p = y^m$. We shall consider two cases:

Case 1: $p \nmid m$.

$\because p \nmid m$, we have that $\gcd(m, |\langle y \rangle|) = 1$, and hence by Proposition 18⁵, we have that $o(y^m) = o(y)$. Because y has maximal order, we have

$$o(x^p) \stackrel{(1)}{<} o(x) \leq o(y) = o(y^m) = o(x^p)$$

where note that (1) is true because x would need to take more powers of p than x^p to get back to 1. We observe that we have arrived at a contradiction.

Case 2: $p \mid m$.

$$p \mid m \implies \exists k \in \mathbb{Z} \ m = pk \implies x^p = y^m = y^{pk}$$

$$\because G \text{ is abelian, we have that } (xy^{-k})^p = 1.$$

By assumption, there is only one subgroup of G of order p , call it H . Thus $xy^k \in H$. On the other hand, by the Fundamental Theorem of Finite Cyclic Groups⁶, $\langle y \rangle$ has only one subgroup of order p , which must be H . Therefore, in particular, we have $xy^{-k} \in \langle y \rangle$ which implies $x \in \langle y \rangle$. It follows that $z = \pi(x) = 1$ since $\langle y \rangle$ is the identity in the quotient group $G/\langle y \rangle$, which contradicts our choice of $z \neq 1$.

Therefore, by combining the two cases, we have that $G = \langle y \rangle$. □

⁴ Recall that π is surjective by Proposition 35.

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Proposition (Proposition 18)

Let $G = \langle g \rangle$ with $o(g) = n \in \mathbb{N}$. We have

$$G = \langle g^k \rangle \iff \gcd(k, n) = 1$$

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Theorem (Theorem 19)

Let $G = \langle g \rangle$ with $o(g) = n \in \mathbb{N}$.

1. H is a subgroup of $G \implies \exists d \in \mathbb{N} \ d \mid n \ H = \langle g^d \rangle \implies |H| \mid n$.
2. $k \mid n \implies \langle g^{\frac{k}{n}} \rangle$ is the unique subgroup of G of order k .

Proposition 55

Let $G \neq \{1\}$ be a finite abelian p -group that contains one subgroup of order p . Let C be the cyclic subgroup of G of maximal order. Then $\exists B \leq G$ such that $G = CB$ and $C \cap B = \{1\}$. By Corollary 33, we have $G \cong C \times B$.

Proof

We shall prove this result by induction. If $|G| = p$, then $C = G$ by definition and we can choose $B = \{1\}$. The result follows from there.

Suppose that the result holds for all groups of order p^{n-1} with $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and $n \geq 2$. Consider the case for $|G| = p^n$. There are two cases to consider from here.

Case 1: If $C = G$, then we can pick $B = \{1\}$ so that the result follows.

Case 2: If $C \neq G$, then G is not cyclic. By Proposition 54, there exists at least 2 subgroups of G that are of order p . Since C is cyclic, by the Fundamental Theorem for Finite Cyclic Groups, we have that C contains exactly one subgroup of order p . Then $\exists D \leq G$ such that $|D| = p$ and $D \not\subseteq C$, and consequently $C \cap D = \{1\}$. Now since G is abelian, $D \triangleleft G$ and hence we may consider its coset map:

$$\pi : G \rightarrow G/D.$$

If we consider $\pi|_C$, called the **restriction** of π on C ⁷, then $\ker \pi|_C = C \cap D = \{1\}$. Then by the First Isomorphism Theorem, we have

$$C \cong \pi|_C(C) \cong \pi(C).$$

Now let y be the generator of the cyclic group C . Then since $\pi(C) \cong C$, we have $\pi(C) = \langle \pi(y) \rangle$. By assumption on C , $\pi(C)$ is the cyclic subgroup of G/D of maximal order⁸. Since $|G/D| = p^{n-1}$ by Lagrange's Theorem, by the induction hypothesis, G/D has a subgroup E such that $\pi(C)E = G/D$ and $\pi(C) \cap E = \{1\}$.

Therefore, choose $B = \pi^{-1}(E)$, i.e. $\pi(B) = E$.

Claim 1: $G = CB$

Note that $D \subseteq B$ ⁹. If $x \in G$, $\therefore \pi(C)\pi(B) = \pi(C)E = G/D$, we have that $\exists u \in C, \exists v \in B$ such that

$$\pi(x) = \pi(u)\pi(v).$$

By homomorphism, we have $\pi(xu^{-1}v^{-1}) = 1$ which implies $xu^{-1}v^{-1} \in D \subseteq B$. Then because $v \in B$, we have that $xu^{-1} \in B$ since B is a group. Then since G is abelian, we have

$$x = uxu^{-1} \in CB.$$

Claim 2: $C \cap B = \{1\}$.

Let $x \in C \cap B$. Then $\pi(x) \in \pi(C) \cap \pi(B) = \pi(C) \cap E = \{1\}$. Then, $\therefore \pi(x) = 1 \in C/D$ ¹⁰, we have that $x \in D$. Therefore, $x \in C \cap D = \{1\}$ which then $x = 1$.

⁷ The restriction of π on C simply means that we restrict the domain of π to work solely for the subset C . In plain words, we are only considering the case where π is applied onto elements of C .

⁸ I need to get some clarification from the professor on this.

⁹ This needs clarification as well.

¹⁰ I need to double check this to make sure that it is indeed C and not G , because it does not make sense with C being the one that D is onto.

Since *Claims 1 & 2* hold, the result follows by induction.

□

