

Higher Algebra

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Contents

I	Group Theory	2
1	The Mathematical Language of Symmetry	2
2	Matrix Groups and Subgroups	3
3	Permutation Groups	4
4	Generators and Dihedral Groups	6
5	Alternating and Abelian Groups	7
6	Cosets and Lagrange's Theorem	8
7	Normal Subgroups and Quotient Groups	9
8	Group Homomorphisms	10
9	First Group Isomorphism Theorem	12
10	Second and Third Isomorphism Theorems	12
11	Products of Groups	13
12	Symmetries of Regular Polygons	14
13	Abstract Symmetry and Group Actions	15
14	Orbits and Stabilisers	15
15	Structure of G-orbits	16
16	Counting Orbits and Cayley's Theorem	17
II	Ring Theory	18
17	Rings	18
18	Ideals and Quotient Rings	19
19	Ring Homomorphisms	20

Part I

Group Theory

1 The Mathematical Language of Symmetry

Definition 1.1 (Isometry). A function $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ is an isometry if $\|f(x) - f(y)\| = \|x - y\|$ for all $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^n$. i.e. preserves distances.

Definition 1.2 (Symmetry). Let $F \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$, a symmetry of F is a (surjective) isometry $T : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ such that $T(F) = F$.

Properties 1.3. Let S, T be symmetries of $F \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$. Then $S \cdot T : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ is also a symmetry of F .

Proof. Given $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^n$.

$$\begin{aligned}\|STx - STy\| &= \|Tx - Ty\| && (S \text{ is an isometry}) \\ &= \|x - y\|. && (T \text{ is an isometry})\end{aligned}$$

Therefore ST is an isometry. Clearly ST is surjective as both S and T are surjective. Also,

$$\begin{aligned}ST(F) &= S(F) && (T(F) = F) \\ &= F. && (S(F) = F)\end{aligned}$$

So ST is a symmetry of F .

Properties 1.4. If $G =$ set of symmetries of $F \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$, then G satisfies:

- i) Composition is associative, $ST(R) = S(TR)$ for all $S, T, R \in G$.
- ii) $\text{id}_{\mathbb{R}^n} \in G$ ($\text{id}_{\mathbb{R}^n}(x) = x$ for all $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$). Also, $\text{id}_G T = T$ and $T \text{id}_G = T$ for all $T \in G$.
- iii) If $T \in G$, then T is bijective and $T^{-1} \in G$.

Proof. If $Tx = Ty$, then $\|Tx - Ty\| = 0$. So $\|x - y\| = 0, x = y$, therefore T is injective. By definition T is surjective, hence, T is bijective and therefore T^{-1} is surjective.

To prove T^{-1} is an isometry.

$$\begin{aligned}\|T^{-1}x - T^{-1}y\| &= \|TT^{-1}x - TT^{-1}y\| \\ &= \|\text{id } x - \text{id } y\| \\ &= \|x - y\|.\end{aligned}$$

To prove symmetry, $T^{-1}F = F$:

$$T^{-1}F = T^{-1}(T(F)) = F.$$

Thus $T^{-1} \in G$.

Definition 1.5 (Group). A group is a set G equipped with a “multiplication map” $\mu : G \times G \rightarrow G$ such that

- 1) Associativity: $(gh)k = g(hk)$ for all $g, h, k \in G$.
- 2) Existence of identity: There exists $1 \in G$ such that $1g = g$ and $g1 = g$ for all $g \in G$.
- 3) Existence of inverses: $\forall g \in G$, there exists $h \in G$ such that $gh = 1$ and $hg = 1$. Denoted by g^{-1} .

Properties 1.6. Basic facts about groups.

- “**Generalised Associativity**”. When multiplying three or more elements, the bracketing does not matter. E.g. $(a(b(cd)))e = (ab)(c(de))$.

Proof. Mathematical Induction as for matrix multiplication.

- **Cancellation Law.** If $gh = gk$ then $h = k$ for all $g, h, k \in G$.

Proof. $gh = gk \implies g^{-1}(gh) = g^{-1}(gk) \implies (g^{-1}g)h = (g^{-1}g)k \implies 1h = 1k \implies h = k$.

2 Matrix Groups and Subgroups

Recall $GL_n(\mathbb{R})$ and $GL_n(\mathbb{C})$ which represent the set of real/complex invertible $n \times n$ matrices.

Proposition 2.1. $GL_n(\mathbb{R})$ and $GL_n(\mathbb{C})$ are groups when endowed with matrix multiplication.

Proof. Product of real invertible matrices is in $GL_n(\mathbb{R})$.

- i) matrix multiplication is associative.
- ii) identity matrix $I_n : I_n m = m$ and $m I_n = m$ for all $m \in GL_n(\mathbb{R})$
- iii) if $m \in GL_n(\mathbb{R})$ then m^{-1} . $mm^{-1} = I$ and $m^{-1}m = I$.

Proposition 2.2. Let $G =$ group.

- 1) Identity is unique i.e. suppose $1, e$ are both identities then $1 = e$.

Proof. $1 = 1 \cdot e = e$.

- 2) Inverses are unique.

Proof. If $g \in G, gh = hg = 1$ and $gk = kg = 1$ then $h = k$.

- 3) For $g, h \in G$ we have $(gh)^{-1} = h^{-1}g^{-1}$.

Proof. $(gh)(h^{-1}g^{-1}) = gh h^{-1} g^{-1} = g 1 g^{-1} = g g^{-1} = 1$. Similarly, $(h^{-1}g^{-1})(gh) = 1$.

Definition 2.3 (Subgroup). Let G be a group with multiplication μ . A subset $H \subseteq G$ is called a subgroup of G (denoted $H \leq G$) if it satisfies:

- i) $1_G \in H$ (contains identity),
- ii) if $g, h \in H$ then $gh \in H$ (closed under multiplication),
- iii) if $g \in H$ then $g^{-1} \in H$ (closed under inverse).

Proposition 2.4. H is a group with the induced multiplication map $\mu_H : H \times H \rightarrow H$ by $\mu_H(g, h) = \mu(g, h)$.

Proof. (ii) tells us that μ_H makes sense. μ_H is associative because μ is. H has an identity from (i). H has inverses from (iii).

Proposition 2.5. Set of orthogonal matrices $O_n(\mathbb{R}) = \{M \in \text{GL}_n(\mathbb{R}) : M^T = M^{-1}\} \leq \text{GL}_n(\mathbb{R})$ forms a group. Namely the set of symmetries of an $n - 1$ sphere, i.e. an n dimensional circle.

Proof. Check axioms.

- i) $I_n \in O_n(\mathbb{R})$
- ii) If $M, N \in O_n(\mathbb{R})$ then $(MN)^T = N^T M^T = N^{-1} M^{-1} = (MN)^{-1}$, so $MN \in O_n(\mathbb{R})$.
- iii) If $M \in O_n(\mathbb{R})$ then $(M^{-1})^T = (M^T)^{-1} = (M^{-1})^{-1}$ so $M^{-1} \in O_n(\mathbb{R})$.

Proposition 2.6. Basic subgroup facts.

- i) Any group G has two trivial subgroups: itself and $1 = \{1_G\}$.
- ii) If $J \leq H$ and $H \leq G$ then $J \leq G$.

Here are some notations. For $g \in G$ where G is a group.

- i) If n positive integer, define $g^n = g \cdot g \cdots g$ (n times)
- ii) $g^0 = 1$
- iii) n positive: $g^{-n} = (g^{-1})^n$ or $(g^n)^{-1}$.
- iv) For $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$, $g^m \cdot g^n = g^{m+n}$ and $(g^m)^n = g^{mn}$.

Definition 2.7. The order of a group G , denoted $|G|$ is the cardinality of G . For $g \in G$, the order of g is the smallest positive integer n such that $g^n = 1$. If no such integer exists, order is ∞ .

3 Permutation Groups

Definition 3.1 (Permutations). Let S be a set. Let $\text{Perm}(S)$ be the set of permutations of S . This is the set of bijections of form $\sigma : S \rightarrow S$.

Proposition 3.2. $\text{Perm}(S)$ is a group when endowed with composition of functions.

Proof. Composition of bijections is a bijection. The identity is id_S and group inverse is the inverse function.

Definition 3.3 (Symmetric Group). Let $S = \{1, \dots, n\}$. The symmetric group S_n is $\text{Perm}(S)$.

Two notations are used. With the two line notation, represent $\sigma \in S_n$ by

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & \cdots & n \\ \sigma(1) & \sigma(2) & \sigma(3) & \cdots & \sigma(n) \end{pmatrix}$$

($\sigma(i)$'s are all distinct, hence σ is one to one and bijective). Note this shows $|S_n| = n!$.

With the cyclic notation, let $s_1, s_2, \dots, s_k \in S$ be distinct. We define a new permutation $\sigma \in \text{Perm}(S)$ by $\sigma(s_i) = s_{i+1}$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots, k-1$, $\sigma(s_k) = \sigma(s_1)$ and $\sigma(s) = s$ for $s \notin \{s_1, s_2, \dots, s_k\}$. Denoted $(s_1 s_2 \dots s_k)$ and called a k -cycle.

Example 3.4. For $n = 4$,

$$\sigma = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 2 & 3 & 1 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \in S_4 \quad \text{means} \quad \begin{array}{ll} \sigma(1) = 2, & \sigma(2) = 3 \\ \sigma(3) = 1, & \sigma(4) = 4. \end{array}$$

In cyclic notation this is $(123)(4)$ or (123) where the cycle is $1 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 3 \rightarrow 1$.

Note that a 1-cycle is the identity and the order of a k -cycle is k . So $\sigma^k = 1$ and $\sigma^{-1} = \sigma^{k-1}$.

Definition 3.5 (Disjoint Cycles). Cycles $s_1 \dots s_k$ and $t_1 \dots t_k$ are disjoint if $\{s_1, \dots, s_k\} \cup \{t_1, \dots, t_k\} = \emptyset$.

Definition 3.6 (Commutativity). In any group, two elements g, h commute if $gh = hg$.

Proposition 3.7. Disjoint cycles commute.

Proposition 3.8. Any permutation σ of a finite set S is a product of disjoint cycles.

Example 3.9. $\sigma = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 2 & 4 & 6 & 1 & 5 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \in S_6$ does $1 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 1$, $3 \rightarrow 6 \rightarrow 3$ and $5 \rightarrow 5$.

Thus $\sigma = (124)(36)$ since (5) is the identity.

Proposition 3.10. Let σ be a permutation of a finite set S . Then S is a disjoint union of subsets, say S_1, \dots, S_r , such that σ permutes the elements of each S_i cyclically.

Definition 3.11 (Transposition). A transposition is a 2-cycle i.e. (ab) .

Proposition 3.12. i) The k -cycle $(s_1 s_2 \dots s_k) = (s_1 s_k)(s_1 s_{k-1}) \dots (s_1 s_3)(s_1 s_2)$

Example 3.13. $(3625) = (35)(32)(36) = (36)(62)(25)$

Proof. The RHS produces the mapping below which is equivalent to the LHS.

$$\begin{array}{l} s_1 \rightarrow s_2 \\ s_2 \rightarrow s_1 \rightarrow s_3 \\ s_3 \rightarrow s_1 \rightarrow s_4 \\ \vdots \\ s_{k-1} \rightarrow s_1 \rightarrow s_k \\ s_k \rightarrow s_1. \end{array}$$

ii) Any permutations in S_n is a product of transpositions.

Proof. We can write any $\sigma \in S_n$ as product of (disjoint) cycles. By part i), each cycle is a product of transpositions. So we can write σ as product of transpositions.

4 Generators and Dihedral Groups

Lemma 4.1. Let $\{H_i\}_{i \in I}$ be a (non-empty) collection of subgroups of G . Then $\bigcap_{i \in I} H_i \leq G$.

Proof.

- 1) Why is $1 \in \bigcap_{i \in I} H_i$? Because $1 \in H_i$ for all i .
- 2) Closed under multiplication? If $g, h \in \bigcap_{i \in I} H_i$, then $g, h \in H_i$ for all $i \implies gh \in H_i$ for all $i \implies gh \in \bigcap_{i \in I} H_i$.
- 3) Closed under taking inverse? If $g \in \bigcap_{i \in I} H_i$ then $g \in H_i$ for all i as H_i are subgroups, every element has an inverse. So an inverse exists for all elements in H_i for all i .

Proposition - Definition 4.2. Let G be a group and $S \subseteq G$. Let \mathcal{J} be the set of subgroups $J \leq G$ containing S .

- i) [Definition] The subgroup generated by S , $\langle S \rangle$ is $\bigcap J \in \mathcal{J} \leq J \leq G$. i.e. it's the intersection of all subgroups of G containing S .

Proof. Lemma 4.1 implies $\langle S \rangle$ is a subgroup of G .

- ii) [Proposition] $\langle S \rangle$ is the set of elements of the form $g = s_1 s_2 \dots s_n$ where $n \geq 0$ and $s_i \in S \cup S^{-1}$. Define $g = 1$ when $n = 0$.

Proof. Let $H = \{s_1 \dots s_n : s_i \in S \cup S^{-1}\}$. First, $H \subseteq \langle S \rangle$. Need to prove that $s_i \dots s_n \in$ every J . Each $s_i \in J$ because $s_i = s$ or s^{-1} for some $s \in S \leq J$ and J closed under inversion. Therefore, $s_1 \dots s_n \in J$ by closure under multiplication. Hence $s_1 \dots s_n \in \bigcap_{J \in \mathcal{J}} J = \langle S \rangle$.

Second, $\langle S \rangle \subseteq H$. Need to prove H is a subgroup containing S . Closure under multiplication: $(s_1 \dots s_n)(t_1 \dots t_m) = s_1 \dots s_n t_1 \dots t_m$ also closure under inversion: $(s_1 \dots s_n)^{-1} = s_1^{-1} \dots s_n^{-1} \in H$ since $s_i^{-1} \in S$ for all i . Identity: $s, s^{-1} \in S \neq \emptyset \implies ss^{-1} = 1 \in H$.

Definition 4.3 (Finitely Generated). A group G is finitely generated *f.g.* if $G = \langle S \rangle$ for a finite subset $S \subseteq G$. G is cyclic if we can take $|S| = 1$.

Example 4.4. Take $G \in \text{GL}_2(\mathbb{R})$ with $\sigma = \begin{pmatrix} \cos\left(\frac{2\pi}{n}\right) & -\sin\left(\frac{2\pi}{n}\right) \\ \sin\left(\frac{2\pi}{n}\right) & \cos\left(\frac{2\pi}{n}\right) \end{pmatrix}$ and $\tau = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$. Find the subgroup generated by $\{\sigma, \tau\}$.

Notice both σ, τ are symmetries of any n -gon. Any element of $\langle \sigma, \tau \rangle$ has form

$$\sigma^{i_1} \tau^{j_1} \sigma^{i_2} \tau^{j_2} \dots \sigma^{i_r} \tau^{j_r} \quad \text{for } i_1, \dots, i_r, j_1, \dots, j_r \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

We have relations: $\sigma^n = 1, \tau^2 = 1$ and $\tau \sigma \tau^{-1} = \sigma^{-1}$. We use these relations to push all σ 's to the left and all τ 's to the right to achieve the form $\sigma^i \tau^j$ where $0 \leq i < n$ and $j = 0, 1$.

Proposition - Definition 4.5. $\langle \sigma, \tau \rangle =$ dihedral group of $2n$, denoted D_n (sometimes D_{2n}).

$$D_n = \{1, \sigma, \dots, \sigma^{n-1}, \tau, \sigma\tau, \sigma^2\tau, \dots, \sigma^{n-1}\tau\} \text{ and } |D_n| = 2n.$$

Proof. Need to show $2n$ elements are all distinct. $\det(\sigma^i) = 1$ (because $\det(\sigma) = 1$), $\det(\tau) = -1$ and $\det(\sigma^i\tau) = -1$. We conclude, $\{1, \sigma, \dots, \sigma^{n-1}\} \cap \{\tau, \sigma\tau, \dots, \sigma^{n-1}\tau\} = \emptyset$ because $\sigma^k = \begin{pmatrix} \cos\left(\frac{2k\pi}{n}\right) & -\sin\left(\frac{2k\pi}{n}\right) \\ \sin\left(\frac{2k\pi}{n}\right) & \cos\left(\frac{2k\pi}{n}\right) \end{pmatrix}$ are distinct. If $\sigma^i\tau = \sigma^j\tau$ then $\sigma^i = \sigma^j$ then $i = j$.

5 Alternating and Abelian Groups

Definition 5.1 (Symmetric Functions). Let $f(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ be a function of n variables. Let $\sigma \in S_n$. We define function $(\sigma f)(x_1, \dots, x_n) = f(x_{\sigma(1)}, \dots, x_{\sigma(n)})$. We say that f is symmetric if $\sigma f = f$ for all $\sigma \in S_n$.

Example 5.2. Suppose $f(x_1, x_2, x_3) = x_1^3 x_2^2 x_3$ and $\sigma = (12)$ then $\sigma f(x_1, x_2, x_3) = x_2^3 x_1^2 x_3$. Not symmetric because $x_1^3 x_2^2 x_3 \neq x_2^3 x_1^2 x_3$. But $f(x_1, x_2) = x_1^2 x_2^2$ is symmetric in two variables.

Definition 5.3 (Difference Product). The difference product in $(n \text{ variables})$ is

$$\Delta(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \prod_{i < j} (x_i - x_j).$$

Lemma 5.4. Let $f(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ be a function in n variables. Let $\sigma, \tau \in S_n$, then $(\sigma\tau) \cdot f = \sigma \cdot (\tau f)$.

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned} (\sigma \cdot (\tau f))(x_1, \dots, x_n) &= (\tau f)(x_{\sigma(1)}, \dots, x_{\sigma(n)}) && \text{(by definition)} \\ &= f(y_{\tau(1)}, \dots, y_{\tau(n)}) && \text{(where } y_i = x_{\sigma(i)}) \\ &= f(x_{\sigma(\tau(1))}, \dots, x_{\sigma(\tau(n))}) \\ &= f(x_{(\sigma\tau)(1)}, \dots, x_{(\sigma\tau)(n)}) \\ &= ((\sigma\tau) \cdot f)(x_1, \dots, x_n). \end{aligned}$$

Note, the second and third step follows because $x_{\sigma(1)}$ is not necessarily x_1 , so τ is applied to x_1 first, then σ can be applied.

Proposition - Definition 5.5. For $\sigma \in S_n$ write $\sigma = \tau_1 \tau_2 \dots \tau_m$ where τ_i are transpositions. Then

$$\sigma \cdot \Delta = \begin{cases} \Delta & \text{if } m \text{ even (call } \sigma \text{ an even permutation)} \\ -\Delta & \text{if } m \text{ odd (call } \sigma \text{ an odd permutation)} \end{cases}$$

Proof. Sufficient to prove for a single transposition (i.e. $m = 1$) because by the above Lemma,

$$\sigma \Delta = \tau_1(\tau_2 \dots (\tau_{m-1}(\tau_m \Delta)) \dots) = \tau_1((-1)^{m-1} \Delta) = (-1)^m \Delta.$$

Let's assume $\sigma = (ij), i < j$. There are 3 cases:

- i) $x_i - x_j \implies x_j - x_i$ (factor of -1).
- ii) $x_r - x_s$ where i, j, r, s all distinct $\implies x_r - x_s$ (factor of $+1$).

iii) $x_r - x_s$ where one of r, s is equal to i or j . There are several subcases:

(a) $r < i < j$: $x_r - x_i \implies x_r - x_j$ but also $x_r - x_j \implies x_r - x_i$, no change (factor of +1).

(b) $i < r < j$: $(x_i - x_r)(x_r - x_j) \implies (x_j - x_r)(x_r - x_i)$ (factor of +1).

(c) $i < j < r$: similar to (a) (factor of +1).

So only change in i). Multiplying the three cases together yields $\sigma \cdot \Delta = -\Delta$.

Corollary - Definition 5.6 (Alternating Group). The alternating group (on n symbols) is

$$A_n = \{\sigma \in S_n : \sigma \text{ is even}\}.$$

This is a subgroup of S_n . Also A_n is generated by $\{\tau_1 \tau_2 : \tau_1, \tau_2 \text{ are transposition}\}$.

Example 5.7. $A_3 = \{1, (123), (132)\}$, $S_3 \setminus A_3 = \{(12), (13), (23)\}$. $|A_n| = n!/2$ except for $n = 1$, $A_1 = S_1 = \{1\}$.

Definition 5.8 (Abelian Group). A group G is abelian if any two elements commute.

In abelian groups, often switch to additive notation:

i) product $gh \implies g + h$

ii) identity $1 \implies 0$

iii) power $g^n \implies ng$

iv) inverse $g^{-1} \implies -g$

This notation follows from \mathbb{Z} endowed with addition which forms an abelian group.

6 Cosets and Lagrange's Theorem

Let $H \leq G$ be a subgroup. This will apply to all statements in this section unless mentioned otherwise.

Definition 6.1 (Coset). A left coset of H in G is a set of the form $gH = \{gh : h \in H\} \subseteq G$ for some $g \in G$. The set of left cosets is denoted by G/H .

Example 6.2. Let $H = A_n \leq S_n = G$ for $n \geq 2$. Let τ be any transposition. We claim that $\tau A_n = \{\text{odd permutations}\}$.

\subseteq : $\tau A_n = \{\tau\sigma : \sigma \text{ even}\}$, they are all odd.

\supseteq : Suppose σ is odd, then $\sigma = \tau \cdot (\tau^{-1}\sigma) \in \tau A_n$.

Theorem 6.3. Define a relation on G : $g \equiv g'$ if and only if $g \in g'H$. Then \equiv is an equivalence relation, the equivalence classes are the left cosets. Therefore $G = \bigcup_{i \in I} g_i H$ (disjoint union).

Proof.

i) Reflexive. i.e. $g \in gH$ for all $g \in G$. True because $1 \in H$.

- ii) Symmetry. Suppose $g \in g'H$, need to prove $g' \in gH$. Since $g \in g'H$ we have $g = g'h$ for some $h \in H$. $g' = gh^{-1}$ so $g' \in gH$ (as $h^{-1} \in H$).
- iii) Transitivity. Suppose $g \in g'H$ and $g' \in g''H$. Then $g = g'h$ and $g' = g''h'$ for $h, h' \in H$. Therefore $g = (g''h')h = g''(h'h) \in g''H$ from associativity and $h'h \in H$.

Thus \equiv is an equivalence relation and G is a disjoint union of equivalence classes.

Note $1H = H$ is always a coset of G and the coset containing $g \in G$ is gH .

Example 6.4. $H = A_n \leq S_n = G$ cosets are exactly S_n and τS_n where $S_n = A_n \dot{\cup} \tau A_n$.

Definition 6.5 (Index). The index of H in G is the number of left cosets, i.e. $|G/H|$. Denoted by $[G : H]$.

Lemma 6.6. Let $g \in G$. Then H and gH have the same cardinality.

Proof. Bijection, $H \rightarrow gH, h \mapsto gh$. Surjective and injective (multiply on left by g^{-1}).

Theorem 6.7 (Lagrange's Theorem). Assume G finite. Then $|G| = |H|[G : H]$ i.e. $|G/H| = |G|/|H|$.

Proof. Using Lemma 6.6, we have:

$$G = \bigcup_{i=1}^{[G:H]} g_i H \quad (\text{disjoint union}) \implies |G| = \sum_{i=1}^{[G:H]} |g_i H| = \sum_{i=1}^{[G:H]} |H| = [G : H]|H|.$$

Example 6.8. $A_n \leq S_n$. $[S_n : A_n] = 2 \implies |S_n| = 2|A_n| \implies n! = 2 * n!/2$.

All above statements hold for right cosets which have form $Hg = \{hg : h \in H\}$ denoted $H \backslash G$. The number of left cosets are equal the number of right cosets.

7 Normal Subgroups and Quotient Groups

Let $G =$ group and $J, K \subseteq G$. Define the subset product $JK = \{jk : j \in J, k \in K\}$.

Proposition 7.1. Let $G =$ group.

- i) If $J' \subseteq J \subseteq G$ and $K \subseteq G$ then $KJ' \subseteq KJ$.
- ii) If $H \leq G$, then $HH = H (= H^2)$.
- iii) For $J, K, L \subseteq G$ then $(JK)L = J(KL) = \{jkl : j \in J, k \in K, \ell \in L\}$

Proposition - Definition 7.2 (Normal Subgroup). Let $N \leq G$. We say N is a normal subgroup of G and write $N \trianglelefteq G$ if any of the following equivalent conditions hold:

- i) $gN = Ng$ for all $g \in G$.
- ii) $g^{-1}Ng = N$ for all $g \in G$.
- iii) $g^{-1}Ng \subseteq N$ for all $g \in G$

Proof. (i) \iff (ii), multiply both sides on the left by g^{-1} . (ii) \implies (iii) by definition. (iii) \implies (ii), assume $g^{-1}Ng \subseteq N$ for all $g \in G$, apply this with $g^{-1} : (g^{-1})Ng^{-1} \subseteq N \implies N \subseteq g^{-1}Ng$. Therefore $g^{-1}Ng = N$.

Theorem - Definition 7.3 (Quotient Group). Let $N \trianglelefteq G$. Then subset product is a well-defined multiplication map on G/N which makes G/N into a group, called the quotient group. Also:

- i) $(gN)(g'N) = (gg')N$
- ii) $1_{G/N} = N$
- iii) $(gN)^{-1} = g^{-1}N$.

Proof. Why is this well-defined? Why is the product of 2 cosets another coset?

Take cosets $gN = \{g\}N$ and $g'N$. Calculate

$$\begin{aligned}
 (gN)(g'N) &= g(Ng')N && \text{(associative)} \\
 &= g(g'N)N && (N \trianglelefteq G) \\
 &= (gg')(NN) && \text{(associative)} \\
 &= gg'N && (N^2 = N)
 \end{aligned}$$

This is a coset. Also proves (i). For (ii), $(gN)N = g(NN) = gN \implies N(gN) = (Ng)N = (gN)N = gN$, N is an identity. For (iii), $(g^{-1}N)(gN) = g^{-1}(Ng)N = g^{-1}(gN)N = (g^{-1}g)(NN) = 1 \cdot N = N$.

8 Group Homomorphisms

Definition 8.1 (Homomorphism). Given groups G, H . A function $\phi : H \rightarrow G$ is a homomorphism of groups if $\phi(hh') = \phi(h)\phi(h')$ for all $h, h' \in H$.

Proposition - Definition 8.2 (Isomorphisms and Automorphisms). Let $\phi : H \rightarrow G$ be a group homomorphism. The following are equivalent:

- There exists a group homomorphism, $\psi : G \rightarrow H$ such that $\psi\phi = \text{id}_H$ and $\phi\psi = \text{id}_G$
- ϕ is bijective.

We call ϕ is a group isomorphism. If $H = G$, ϕ is an automorphism.

Proposition 8.3. If $\phi : H \rightarrow G, \psi : K \rightarrow H$ are group homomorphism then $\phi \cdot \psi : K \rightarrow G$ is a homomorphism.

Proof. $(\phi \cdot \psi)(kk') = \phi(\psi(kk')) = \phi(\psi(k)\psi(k')) = \phi(\psi(k))\phi(\psi(k'))$

Proposition 8.4. Let $\phi : H \rightarrow G$ be a group homomorphism.

- i) $\phi(1_H) = 1_G$.
- ii) $\phi(h^{-1}) = \phi(h)^{-1}$ for all $h \in H$.
- iii) if $H' \leq H$ then $\phi(H') \leq G$.

Proposition - Definition 8.5. Let G be a group with $g \in G$. Conjugation by g is the map $C_g : G \rightarrow G; h \mapsto ghg^{-1}$. Then C_g is an automorphism with inverse $C_{g^{-1}}$.

Proof. C_g is a homomorphism: $C_g(h_1h_2) = C_g(h_1)C_g(h_2)$. Check: $C_g(h_1h_2) = gh_1h_2g^{-1} = gh_1g^{-1}gh_2g^{-1} = C_g(h_1)C_g(h_2)$. Now check $C_{g^{-1}}$ is an inverse. $C_{g^{-1}}(C_g(h)) = C_{g^{-1}}(ghg^{-1}) = g^{-1}ghg^{-1}g = h$. Similarly $C_g(C_{g^{-1}}(h)) = h$, therefore $(C_g)^{-1} = C_{g^{-1}}$.

Corollary - Definition 8.6. For $H \leq G$, a conjugate of H (in G) is a subgroup of G of the form $gHg^{-1} := c_g(H)$.

Definition 8.7 (Epimorphism and Monomorphism). Let $\phi : H \rightarrow G$ be a group homomorphism. ϕ is an epimorphism if ϕ is surjective. ϕ is a monomorphism if ϕ is injective.

Example 8.8. Linear map $T : V \rightarrow W$ where V and W are vector spaces. Suppose T is a projection onto some subspace. What does $T^{-1}(w) = \{v \in V : T(v) = w\}$ looks like, for a given $w \in W$?

If $w \in L$, $T^{-1}(w) = \emptyset$

If $w \in L$, $T^{-1}(w) =$ plane containing w , orthogonal to $L = w + K$ where $K = \text{kernel of } T = T^{-1}(0)$.

Definition 8.9. Let $\phi : H \rightarrow G$ be a group homomorphism. The kernel of ϕ is

$$\ker \phi = \phi^{-1}(1_G) = \{h \in H : \phi(h) = 1_G\}$$

Proposition 8.10. Let $\phi : H \rightarrow G$ be a group homomorphism.

i) If $G' \leq G$ then $\phi^{-1}(G') \leq H$.

ii) If $G' \trianglelefteq G$ then $\phi^{-1}(G') \trianglelefteq H$.

Proof. (Normality) Given $h \in \phi^{-1}(G')$ and $g \in H$. We need to prove $ghg^{-1} \in \phi^{-1}(G') \implies \phi(ghg^{-1}) \in G' \implies \phi(g)\phi(h)\phi(g)^{-1} \in G'$ true because $\phi(h) \in G'$ and $G' \trianglelefteq G$.

iii) $K = \ker \phi \trianglelefteq H$.

Proof. Follows from (ii) because $K = \phi^{-1}(\{1\})$ and $\{1\} \trianglelefteq G$.

iv) The non-empty fibres of ϕ , i.e. $\phi^{-1}(g)$ for all $g \in G$, are exactly the cosets of H .

Proof. Suppose $g \in G$, consider $\phi^{-1}(g)$. Assume $\phi^{-1}(g) \neq \emptyset$. Let $h \in \phi^{-1}(g)$.

Claim. $\phi^{-1}(g) = hK$.

Proof. $hK \subseteq \phi^{-1}(g)$ because $\phi(hK) = \phi(h)\phi(K) = g \cdot 1 = g$.

Converse: $\phi^{-1}(g) \subseteq hK$. Let $h' \in \phi^{-1}(g)$. Then $\phi(h') = g$, also $\phi(h) = g$. Therefore $\phi(h'h^{-1}) = \phi(gg^{-1}) = \phi(1) = 1$. So $h'h^{-1} \in K$, $h' \in Kh = hK$, thus $\phi^{-1}(g) = hK$.

v) ϕ is one to one if and only if $K = \{1\}$.

Proof. (\implies) trivial. (\impliedby) Assume $K = \{1\}$. By part (iv) fibres $\phi^{-1}(g)$ are cosets of $\{1\}$ hence contain single element.

Proposition - Definition 8.11. Let $N \trianglelefteq G$. The quotient monomorphism (of G by N) is the map $\pi : G \rightarrow G/N; g \mapsto gN$. Its an epimorphism with kernel N .

9 First Group Isomorphism Theorem

Theorem 9.1. Let $N \trianglelefteq G$ and $\pi : G \rightarrow G/N$ be quotient map. Suppose $\phi : G \rightarrow H$ is a homomorphism such that $N \leq \ker \phi$.

- i) If $g, g' \in G$ lie in the same coset of N , i.e. $gN = g'N$, then $\phi(g) = \phi(g')$.
- ii) The map $\psi : G/N \rightarrow H; gN \mapsto \phi(g)$ is a homomorphism (the induced homomorphism).
- iii) ψ is the unique homomorphism $G/N \rightarrow H$ such that $\phi = \psi \circ \pi$.
- iv) $\ker \psi = (\ker \phi)/N = \{gN : g \in \ker \phi\}$.

Lemma 9.2 (Universal Property of Quotient Morphism). If $N \trianglelefteq \mathbb{Z}$ then $N = m\mathbb{Z}$ for some $m \in \mathbb{N}$.

Proof. If $N = 0 (= \{0\})$ then can take $m = 0$. Suppose $N \neq 0$. Must contain at least one nonzero element. Take $m =$ smallest positive element in N . $m\mathbb{Z} \subseteq N$ easy. $N \subseteq m\mathbb{Z}$. Let $n \in N$, we write $n = mq + r$ where $0 \leq r < m$. We know $n \in N, mq \in N$. Therefore $r = n - mq \in N$ but $r < m \implies r = 0$. Thus, $n = mq \in m\mathbb{Z}$.

Proposition 9.3. Let $H = \langle h \rangle$ be a cyclic group. Then there exists an isomorphism: $\phi : \mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow H$ where m is the order of h if this is finite and 0 if h has infinite order.

Proof. Define $\phi : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow H; i \mapsto h^i$. ϕ is an epimorphism (because $h^{i+j} = h^i \cdot h^j$ and $H = \langle h \rangle$ gives surjective.) Let $N = \ker \phi$. By lemma, $N = m\mathbb{Z}$ for some $m \geq 0$. Apply Universal Property Theorem, gives $\psi : \mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow H$. ψ surjective because ϕ is surjective. Injective if $i + m\mathbb{Z} \in \ker \psi$, then $\phi(i) = 1 \in H$ so $i \in \ker \phi = N = m\mathbb{Z}$. So $H \cong \mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}$. Check m gives correct order.

Theorem 9.4 (First isomorphism Theorem). Let $\phi : G \rightarrow H$ be a homomorphism. The isomorphism π given by $G \rightarrow H$ induces $G/\ker \phi \rightarrow H$ (by Universal Property) induces $G/\ker \phi \rightarrow \text{Im } \phi$.

10 Second and Third Isomorphism Theorems

Proposition 10.1 (Subgroups of Quotient Groups). Let $N \trianglelefteq G$ and $\pi : G \rightarrow G/N$ be the quotient map.

- i) If $N \leq H \leq G$ then $N \leq H$.
- ii) There is a bijection between subgroups $H \leq G$ that contain N and subgroups $\bar{H} \leq G/N$. $H \mapsto \pi(H) = \{nH : h \in H\} = H/N$ and $\bar{H} \mapsto \pi^{-1}(\bar{H})$.

Proof. Images and image images of subgroups are subgroups. If $\bar{H} \leq G/N$, then $\pi^{-1}(\bar{H})$ contains N (because $1_{G/N} \in \bar{H}$). Surjective: $\pi(\pi^{-1}(\bar{H})) = \bar{H}$ because π surjective. Injective: If $\pi(H_1) = \pi(H_2)$ then $H_1 = H_2$. This follows from $H_1 = \cup_{g \in H_1} gN$ (disjoint union of cosets).

- iii) Normal subgroups correspond i.e. $H \trianglelefteq G$ iff $\bar{H} \trianglelefteq G/N$.

Theorem 10.2 (Second Isomorphism Theorem). Suppose $N \trianglelefteq G$ and $N \leq H \leq G$. Then $\frac{G/N}{H/N} \cong G/H$.

Proof. Since $\pi_N, \pi_{H/N}$ are both onto, $\phi = \pi_{H/N} \circ \pi_N$ is also onto. $\ker(\phi) = \{g \in G : \pi_N(g) \in \ker(\pi_{H/N} : G/N \rightarrow \frac{G/N}{H/N})\} = \{g \in G : \pi_N(g) \in H/N\} = \pi^{-1}(H/N) = H$ by Proposition 10.1. First

Isomorphism Theorem says $G/\ker(\phi) \cong \text{Im}(\phi) \implies G/N \cong \frac{G/N}{H/N}$ which proves the theorem.

Theorem 10.3. Suppose $H \leq G, N \trianglelefteq G$. Then

i) $H \cap N \trianglelefteq H, HN \leq G$.

ii) $\frac{H}{H \cap N} \cong \frac{HN}{N}$.

11 Products of Groups

Recall given groups G_1, \dots, G_n , the set $G_1 \times G_2 \times \dots \times G_n = \{(g_1, \dots, g_n) : g_1 \in G_1, \dots, g_n \in G_n\}$. More generally if $G_i, i \in I$ are groups then $\prod_{i \in I} G_i = \{(g_i)_{i \in I} : g_i \in G_i\}$.

Proposition - Definition 11.1 (Product). The set $\prod_{i \in I} G_i$ is called the (direct) product of the G_i 's, it is a group when endowed with co-ordinatewise multiplication. $(g_i)(g'_i) = (g_i g'_i)$

i) $1_G = (1_{G_i}) = (1_{G_1}, 1_{G_2}, 1_{G_3}, \dots)$

ii) $(g_i)^{-1} = (g_i^{-1})$

Example 11.2. Consider $\mathbb{Z}^2 = \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}$. $(a, b) + (a', b') = (a + a', b + b')$, group law in each coordinate. $\mathbb{Z}^2 = \langle (1, 0), (0, 1) \rangle$ is finitely generated.

Proposition 11.3 (Canonical Injections and Projections). Let $G_i, i \in I$ be groups and $r \in I$.

i) The canonical injection $\iota_r : G_n \rightarrow \prod_{i \in I} G_i; g \mapsto (g_i)_{i \in I}$ where $g_i = 1$ if $i \neq r$ or $g_i = g$ if $i = r$.

ii) The canonical project $\pi_r : \prod_{i \in I} G_i \rightarrow G_r; (g_i)_{i \in I} \mapsto g_r$.

iii) $\frac{G_1 \times G_2}{G_1 \times \{1\}} \cong G_2$ (Note: $G_n \times \{1\} \trianglelefteq G_1 \times G_2$).

Proof. $\pi_2 : G_1 \times G_2 \rightarrow G_2$. Apply First Isomorphism Theorem

Proposition 11.4 (Internal Characterisation of Product). Let $G_1, \dots, G_n \leq G$. Assume $G = \langle G_1, \dots, G_n \rangle$. Assume:

i) If $i \neq j$ then elements of G_i and G_j commute

ii) For any $i, G_i \cap \langle U_{\ell \neq i} G_\ell \rangle = 1$.

Then there is an isomorphism $\phi : G_1 \times \dots \times G_n \rightarrow G; (g_1, \dots, g_n) \mapsto g_1 g_2 \dots g_n$.

Proof. Check homomorphism:

$$\begin{aligned} \phi((g_1, \dots, g_n)(h_1, \dots, h_n)) &= \phi((g_1 h_1, \dots, g_n h_n)) \\ &= g_1 h_1 g_2 h_2 \dots g_n h_n \\ &= g_1 \dots g_n h_1 \dots h_n && \text{(using (i))} \\ &= \phi(g_1 \dots g_n) \phi(h_1 \dots h_n) \end{aligned}$$

Surjective? Yes because G is generated by G_1, \dots, G_n . Injective? Suppose $\phi((g_1, \dots, g_n)) = 1$, then

$g_1 \cdots g_n = 1 \implies g_1^{-1} \in G_1 = \langle g_2 \cdots g_n \rangle$ by (ii) must be id. So $g_1 = 1$ and $g_2 \cdots g_n = 1$. Repeat the same argument to get all $g_i = 1$.

Corollary 11.5. Let G be finite group of exponent 2. i.e. LCM of all orders of group element is 2. Then $G \cong \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \times \cdots \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$.

Proof. G is finitely generated. Choose minimal generating set $\{g_1, \dots, g_n\}$, each $\langle g_i \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$. Want to prove that $G \cong \langle g_1 \rangle \times \cdots \langle g_n \rangle$. Condition (i): Need $g_i g_j = g_j g_i$ for $i \neq j$. $\text{ord}(g_i g_j) = 2$, so $g_i g_j g_i g_j = 1 \implies g_i g_j = g_j^{-1} g_i^{-1} = g_j g_i$. Condition (ii): e.g. $\langle g_1 \rangle \cap \langle g_2, \dots, g_n \rangle = \{1\}$. If false, then $g_1 \in \langle g_2, \dots, g_n \rangle$ but then our generating set is not minimal. By proposition $G \cong \langle g_1 \rangle \times \cdots \times \langle g_n \rangle$.

Theorem 11.6. Let G be a finitely generated abelian group. Then $G \cong$ product of cyclic groups. In fact $G \cong \mathbb{Z}/h_1\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/g_2\mathbb{Z} \times \cdots \times \mathbb{Z}/h_n\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}^s$ where $h_1 \mid h_2 \mid h_3 \mid \cdots \mid h_n$ for some $n, r \in \mathbb{N}$.

12 Symmetries of Regular Polygons

AO_n , the set of surjective symmetries $T : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ forms a subgroup of $\text{Perm}(\mathbb{R}^n)$.

Proposition 12.1. Let $T \in AO_n$, then $T = T_{\mathbf{v}} \circ T'$, where $\mathbf{v} = T(\mathbf{0})$ and T' is an isometry with $T'(\mathbf{0}) = \mathbf{0}$.

Proof. Set $T' = T_{\mathbf{v}}^{-1} \circ T = T_{-\mathbf{v}} \circ T$ where $\mathbf{v} = T(\mathbf{0})$. T' is an isometry because T and $T_{\mathbf{v}}$ are isometries. Also $T'(\mathbf{0}) = T_{-\mathbf{v}}(T(\mathbf{0})) = T_{-\mathbf{v}}(\mathbf{v}) = \mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{0}$.

Theorem 12.2. Let $T : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ be an isometry such that $T(\mathbf{0}) = \mathbf{0}$. Then T is linear.

The centre of mass $V = \{\mathbf{v}^1, \dots, \mathbf{v}^m\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ is $\mathbf{c}_V = \frac{1}{m}(\mathbf{v}^1 + \cdots + \mathbf{v}^m)$.

Corollary 12.3. Let $V = \{\mathbf{v}^1, \dots, \mathbf{v}^m\}$ and let $T : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ be an isometry such that $T(V) = V$. Then $T(\mathbf{c}_V) = \mathbf{c}_V$.

Proof. Decompose $T = T_{\mathbf{w}} \circ T'$ for some $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and isometry T' with $T'(\mathbf{0}) = \mathbf{0}$. So T' is linear. Then

$$\begin{aligned} T(\mathbf{c}_V) &= \mathbf{w} + T'(\mathbf{c}_V) = \mathbf{w} + T' \left(\frac{1}{m} \sum_i \mathbf{v}^i \right) \\ &= \mathbf{w} + \frac{1}{m} \sum_i T'(\mathbf{v}^i) && \text{(using linearity)} \\ &= \frac{1}{m} \sum_i (T'(\mathbf{v}^i) + \mathbf{w}) = \frac{1}{m} \sum_i T(\mathbf{v}^i) \\ &= \frac{1}{m} \sum_i \mathbf{v}^i && \text{(since } T(\mathbf{v}) = \mathbf{v}) \\ &= \mathbf{c}_V \end{aligned}$$

Corollary 12.4. Let $G \leq AO_n$ be finite. Then there exists $\mathbf{c} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ such that $T\mathbf{c} = \mathbf{c}$ for any $T \in G$. If we translate to change coordinates so $\mathbf{c} = \mathbf{0}$, then $G < O_n$.

Proof. Pick any $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and let $V = \{S\mathbf{w} : S \in G\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$. V is finite because G is finite. Also $T(V) = \{TS\mathbf{w} : S \in G\} = \{S\mathbf{w} : S \in G\} = V$. Take $\mathbf{c} = \mathbf{c}_V$ then by the previous corollary $T(\mathbf{c}) = \mathbf{c}$ for all $T \in G$.

Proposition 12.5 (Symmetries of Regular Polygons). The group of symmetries of a regular n -gon is in fact D_n .

13 Abstract Symmetry and Group Actions

Definition 13.1 (G -set, Group Action). A G -set is a set S equipped with a map $\alpha : G \times S \rightarrow S; (g, s) \mapsto \alpha(g, s) = g.s$ is called a group action and satisfies the following axioms:

- i) $g.(h.s) = (g.h).s$ for all $g, h \in G, s \in S$.
- ii) $1_G.s = s$ for all $s \in S$.

Definition 13.2 (Permutation Representation). A permutation representation of a group G on a set S is a homomorphism $\phi : G \rightarrow \text{Perm}(S)$. This gives a G -set structure on S . Action is $g.s = (\phi(g))(s)$.

Proposition 13.3. Every G -set S arises from some permutation representation. Given G -set S , need to define homomorphism $\phi : G \rightarrow \text{Perm}(S)$, take $\phi(g)(s) = g.s$.

Definition 13.4. Let S_1, S_2 be G -sets. A morphism of G -sets is a function $\psi : S_1 \rightarrow S_2$ such that $g.\psi(s) = \psi(g.s)$ for all $g \in G, s \in S_1$. Say that ψ is G -equivalent or that ψ is compatible with the G -action.

14 Orbits and Stabilisers

Let $G = \text{group}$, $S = G\text{-set}$. Define relation \sim on S by $s \sim t \iff$ there exists $g \in G$ such that $t = g.s$.

Proposition 14.1. This \sim is an equivalence relation.

Proof. Reflexive: $1 \in G$. Symmetric: if $t = g.s$ then $s = g^{-1}.t$. Transitive: if $t = g.s$ and $u = g'.t$ then $u = g'.(g.s) = (g'g).s$.

Corollary - Definition 14.2 (Orbits). The equivalence classes of \sim are called G -orbits. Also, S is a disjoint union of orbits. The G -orbit containing $s \in S$ is denoted $G.s = \{g.s : g \in G\}$. S/G denotes the set of G -orbits of S .

Proposition - Definition 14.3 (G -stable). Let S be a G -set. A subset $T \subseteq S$ is called G -stable if $g.t \in T$ for all $g \in G, t \in T$.

Proposition 14.4. Let $S = G\text{-set}$ and $s \in S$. The orbit $G.s$ is the smallest G -stable subset of S containing s .

Proof. $G.s$ is G -stable. If T is a G -stable subset containing s then $G.s \subseteq T$. Check these.

Definition 14.5. We say G acts transitively on G -set S , if S consists of a single orbit. i.e. for all $t, s \in S$, there exists $g : g.s = t$.

Example 14.6. Let $G = \text{GL}_n(\mathbb{R})_n(\mathbb{C})$. G acts on $S = M_n(\mathbb{C})$, the set of $n \times n$ matrices over \mathbb{C} , by conjugation, i.e. for all $A \in G = \text{GL}_n(\mathbb{C})$, $M \in S$, $A.M = AMA^{-1}$. Let us check indeed this gives a group action. Check axioms. (i) $I_n.M = I_nMI^{-1} = M$. (ii) $A.(B.M) = A.(BMB^{-1}) = ABMB^{-1}A_1 = (AB)M(AB)^{-1} = (AB).M$. What are the orbits? $GM = \{AMA^{-1} : A \in \text{GL}_n(\mathbb{C})\}$.

Definition 14.7 (Stabilisers). Let $s \in S$. Then the stabiliser of s is $\text{stab}_G(s) = \{g \in G : g.s = s\} \subseteq G$

Proposition 14.8. Let S be a G -set and let $s \in S$. Then $\text{stab}_G(s) \leq G$.

15 Structure of G -orbits

Proposition 15.1. Let $H \leq G$. Then G/H is a G -set with the action $g'.(gH) = (g'g)H$ for all $g, g' \in G$

Proof. Checking axioms to show G/H is a G -set.

(i) $1.(gH) = gH$

(ii) $g''.(g'.(gH)) = (g''g')(gH)$. LHS = $g''.(g'gH) = g''g'gH = (g''g')gH = \text{RHS}$.

Theorem 15.2 (Structure of G -orbits). Suppose G acts transitively on S . Let $s \in S$ and $H = \text{stab}_G(s) \leq G$. Then there is an isomorphism of G -sets: $\psi : G/H \rightarrow S; gH \mapsto g.s$.

Proof. Well-defined: if $gH = g'H$ then $g' = gh$ for $h \in H$. So we need to check $g.s = g'.s$. RHS = $g'.s = (gh).s = g.(h.s) = g.s = \text{LHS}$, for $h \in \text{stab}(s)$.

Next we need to check its a morphism of G -sets. i.e. $\psi(g'(gH)) = g'.\psi(gH) \implies (g'g).s = g'.(g.s)$. Next surjective because action is transitive. Injective: if $\psi(gH) = \psi(g'H) \implies g.s = g'.s \implies s = (g^{-1}g').s$. So $g^{-1}g' \in \text{stab}(s) = H$ so $g' \in gH, gH = g'H$.

Corollary 15.3. If G is finite then, $|G.s|$ divides $|G|$ by Lagrange's theorem.

Proposition 15.4. Let $S = G$ -set, $s \in S, g \in G$. Then $\text{stab}_G(g.s) = g.\text{stab}_G(s).g^{-1}$.

Corollary 15.5. Let $H_1, H_2 \leq G$ be conjugate. (i.e. $H_2 = gH_1g^{-1}$ for some $g \in G$). Then $G/H_1 \cong G/H_2$ as G -sets.

Definition 15.6. If S = a platonic solid (all faces same, and all regular polygons, and same number of faces at each vertex) and G = group of rotation symmetries = symmetries $\cap SO_3$.

Proposition 15.7. With notation as above, then $|G| = \text{number of faces} \times \text{number of edges on each face}$.

Proof. Let F = set of faces, G acts on F . Gives a G -set structure to F . Let $f \in F$ be a face, then $G.f = F$ (i.e. action is transitive). By the theorem, $F \cong G/\text{stab}_G(f)$. But $\text{stab}_G(f)$ = rotations around axis through face. $\text{stab}_G(f)$ = number of edges on each face which implies $|G| = |F| |\text{stab}_G(f)|$.

16 Counting Orbits and Cayley's Theorem

Let G be a group and S be a G -set.

Definition 16.1 (Fixed Point Set). The fixed point set of a subset $J \subseteq G$ is $S^J = \{s \in S : j.s = s \text{ for all } j \in J\}$.

Proposition 16.2. Let S be a G -set

- i) If $J_1 \subseteq J_2 \subseteq G$ then $S^{J_2} \subseteq S^{J_1}$
- ii) If $J \subseteq G$ then $S^J = S^{\langle J \rangle}$

Example 16.3. $G = \text{Perm}(\mathbb{R}^2)$ acts naturally on $S = \mathbb{R}^2$. Let $\tau_1, \tau_2 \in G$ be reflections about lines L_1, L_2 . Then $S^{\tau_i} = L_i$, $S^{\{\tau_1, \tau_2\}} = L_1 \cap L_2$ and $S^{\langle \tau_1, \tau_2 \rangle} = L_1 \cap L_2$.

Theorem 16.4. Let G be a finite group and S be a finite G -set. Let $|X|$ denote the cardinality of X . Then

$$\text{number of orbits of } S = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} |S^g| = \text{average size of the fixed point set}$$

Proof. Let $S = \dot{\bigcup}_i S_i$ where S_i are G -orbits. Then $S^g = \dot{\bigcup}_i S_i^g$. LHS = \sum_i number of orbits of S_i (since S_i 's are union of G -orbits and S_i 's are disjoint) while RHS = $\sum_i \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} |S_i^g|$. Thus it suffices to prove theorem for $S = S_i$ and then just sum over i . But S are disjoint union of G -orbits, so can assume $S = S_i = G$ -orbit which by (Theorem 15.2), means $S \cong G/H$ for some $H \leq G$. So in this case

$$\begin{aligned} \text{RHS} &= \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} |S^g| \\ &= \frac{1}{|G|} \times \text{number of } (g, s) \in G \times S : g.s = s \text{ by letting } g \text{ vary all over } G \\ &= \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{s \in S=G/H} |\text{stab}_G(s)| \end{aligned}$$

Note by proposition 15.4, these stabilisers are all conjugates, and hence all have the same size. Since $|\text{stab}_G(1.H)| = |H|$, $|\text{stab}_G(s)| = |H|$ for all $s \in S$. Hence RHS = $\frac{1}{G} |G/H| |H| = \frac{|H|}{|G|} \frac{|G|}{|H|} = 1$ and LHS = number of orbits of $S = 1$ as S is assumed to be a G -orbit.

Example 16.5. Birthday cake with 8 slices. Red/green candle on each slice. How many ways? Notice that: two arrangements are the same if you can rotate one to get the other.

$S = \{0, 1\}^8$, $|S| = 2^8 = 256$. $\sigma \in \text{Perm}(S)$ acts by $\sigma(x_1, \dots, x_8) = (x_2, x_3, \dots, x_8, x_1)$. $G = \langle \sigma \rangle$, $|G| = 8$. We want to find number of G -orbits. By the theorem above, this is equal to $\frac{1}{8} \sum_{g \in G} |S^g|$. Trying each g :

$$\begin{array}{llll}
g = 1 & \implies |S^1| = 2^8 & g = \sigma^4 & \implies |S^{\sigma^4}| = 2^4 \\
g = \sigma & \implies |S^\sigma| = 2 & g = \sigma^5 & \implies |S^{\sigma^5}| = 2 \\
g = \sigma^2 & \implies |S^{\sigma^2}| = 2^2 & g = \sigma^6 & \implies |S^{\sigma^6}| = 2^2 \\
g = \sigma^3 & \implies |S^{\sigma^3}| = 2 & g = \sigma^7 & \implies |S^{\sigma^7}| = 2
\end{array}$$

$$\text{Final Answer: } \frac{1}{8} (256 + 16 + 4 + 4 + 4 + 4 \cdot 2) = \frac{1}{8} (288) = 36.$$

Definition 16.6 (Faithful Permutation Representation). A permutation representation $\phi : G \rightarrow \text{Perm } S$ is faithful if $\ker \phi = 1$.

Theorem 16.7 (Cayley). Let G be a group. Then G is isomorphic to a subgroup of $\text{Perm}(G)$. In particular, if $|G| = n < \infty$, then G is isomorphic to a subgroup of S_n .

Proof. Let G act on itself: $g.h = gh$. This gives $\phi : G \rightarrow \text{Perm}(G)$. If $g \in G$ has property that $gh = h$ for all $h \in G$ then $g = 1$. Clear, take $h = 1$.

Part II

Ring Theory

17 Rings

Definition 17.1 (Ring). A ring is an abelian group R , with group addition together with ring multiplication map $(\mu : R \times R \rightarrow R)$ satisfying:

- i) associativity: $(rs)t = r(st)$ for all $r, s, t \in R$.
- ii) there exists $1_R \in R$ such that $1r = r$ and $r1 = r$ for all $r \in R$.
- iii) distributive law: $r(s + t) = rs + rt$ and $(r + s)t = rt + st$ for all $r, s, t \in R$.

Similar to a group, 1 is unique and $0r = 0$.

Example 17.2. $\mathbb{C}, \mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{R}, \mathbb{Q}$ are all rings.

Example 17.3. Let V be a vector space over \mathbb{C} . Define $\text{End}_{\mathbb{C}}(V)$ be the set of linear maps $T : V \rightarrow V$. Then $\text{End}_{\mathbb{C}}(V)$ is a ring when endowed with ring addition equal to sum of linear maps, ring multiplication equal to composition of linear maps. $0 = \text{constant map to } \mathbf{0}$ and $1 = \text{id}_V$.

Proposition - Definition 17.4 (Subrings). A subset of $S \subseteq R$ is a subring if:

- i) $s + s' \in S$ for all $s, s' \in S$
- ii) $ss' \in S$ for all $s, s' \in S$
- iii) $-s \in S$ for all $s \in S$

iv) $0_R \in S$

v) $1_R \in S$.

Then S becomes a ring with restricted $+, \cdot, 0, 1$. Note the identity 1_R is the identity from R .

Example 17.5. $\mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{R}$ are all substrings of \mathbb{C} . Also the set of Gaussian integers $\mathbb{Z}[i] = \{a + bi : a, b \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ is a subring.

Example 17.6. Matrices $M_n(\mathbb{R})$ and $N_n(\mathbb{C})$ both form rings. The set of upper triangular matrices form a subring.

Proposition 17.7. i) subrings of subrings are subrings

ii) intersection of subrings is a subring

Proposition - Definition 17.8 (Units). Let $R = \text{ring}$. An element $u \in R$ is called a unit or invertible if there exists $v \in R$ such that $uv = 1$ and $vu = 1$. Define $R^* = \{\text{set of units in } R\}$ as a group (with multiplicative structure).

Example 17.9. $\mathbb{Z}^* = \{1, -1\}, \mathbb{Q}^* = \mathbb{Q} \setminus \{0\}$

Definition 17.10 (Commutative Ring). A ring R is commutative if $rs = sr$ for all $r, s \in R$.

Definition 17.11 (Fields). A commutative ring R is a field if $R^* = R - 0$. i.e. Every non-zero element is invertible.

18 Ideals and Quotient Rings

Let $R = \text{ring}$.

Definition 18.1 (Ideals). A subgroup I of the underlying abelian group R is called an ideal of R if

$$\text{for all } r \in R, x \in I, \text{ we have } rx \in I \text{ and } xr \in I.$$

Then we write $I \trianglelefteq R$.

Example 18.2. $n\mathbb{Z} \trianglelefteq \mathbb{Z}$ is an ideal of \mathbb{Z} . It is a subgroup as if $m \in n\mathbb{Z}$ then $rm \in n\mathbb{Z}$ for any integer r .

Lemma 18.3. If $\{I_i\}_{i \in A}$ ideals in R then $\bigcap_{i \in A} I_i$ is an ideal of R .

Corollary 18.4. Let $R = \text{ring}$, $S \subseteq R$ any subset. Let $J = \text{set of all ideals } I \trianglelefteq R \text{ such that } S \subseteq I$. Define $\langle S \rangle = \bigcap_{I \in J} I$ as the ideal generated by S . (i.e. smallest ideal containing S).

Proposition 18.5. i) If $I, J \trianglelefteq R$ then ideal generated by $I \cup J$ is $I + J = \{i + j : i \in I, j \in J\}$.

ii) Assume R is commutative and $x \in R$. Then $\langle x \rangle = Rx = \{rx : r \in R\} \subseteq R$.

iii) R commutative, $x_1, \dots, x_n \in R$. Then $\langle x_1, \dots, x_n \rangle = Rx_1 + \dots + Rx_n = \{r_1x_1 + \dots + r_nx_n : r_1, \dots, r_n \in R\}$. Set of R -linear combinations of x_1, \dots, x_n .

Proposition - Definition 18.6 (Quotient Ring). Let $I \trianglelefteq R$. The abelian group R/I has a well-defined multiplication map $\mu : R/I \times R/I \rightarrow R/I; (r + I, s + I) \mapsto rs + I$ which makes R/I into a ring, called the quotient ring of R by I .

Proof. Check multiplication is well defined, given $x, y \in I$, we need $rs + I = (r + x)(s + y) + I$.
RHS = $rs + xs + ry + xy + I = rs + I$ as $xs, ry, xy \in I$. Note that the ring axioms for R/I follow from ring axioms for R .

Example 18.7. Again $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ is essentially modulo n arithmetic, i.e. $(i + n\mathbb{Z})(j + n\mathbb{Z}) = ij + n\mathbb{Z}$. Thus $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ represents not only the addition but also the multiplication in modulo n .

19 Ring Homomorphisms

Proposition - Definition 19.1 (Homomorphism). Let R, S be rings. A ring homomorphism is a group homomorphism $\phi : R \rightarrow S$ such that:

- i) $\phi(1_R) = 1_S$
- ii) $\phi(rr') = \phi(r)\phi(r')$ for all $r, r' \in R$.

Definition 19.2 (Isomorphism). A ring isomorphism is a bijective ring homomorphism $\phi : R \rightarrow S$. In this case ϕ^{-1} is also a ring homomorphism. We write $R \cong S$ as rings.

Proposition 19.3. Let $\phi : R \rightarrow S$ be a ring homomorphism.

- i) If R' is a subring of R then $\phi(R')$ is a subring of S .
- ii) If S' is a subring of S then $\phi^{-1}(S')$ is a subring of R .
- iii) If $I \trianglelefteq S$ then $\phi^{-1}(I) \trianglelefteq R$

Corollary 19.4. In particular, $\text{Im } \phi = \phi(R)$ is a subring of S and $\ker \phi = \phi^{-1}(0) \trianglelefteq R$.

Theorem 19.5. Let $R = \text{ring}$, $I = \text{ideal}$ with $\pi : R \rightarrow R/I$ be a quotient map. Suppose $\phi : R \rightarrow S$ is a ring homomorphism such that $I \subseteq \ker \phi$. Recall group situation gives a map $\psi : R/I \rightarrow S$ then ψ is also a ring homomorphism. Special case for $I = \ker \phi$: $R/\ker \phi \cong \text{Im } \phi$ (as rings).