

MATH500

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Definition 1.1. A *group* is a set G with a binary operation such that

1. $(xy)z = x(yz)$ for all $x, y, z \in G$.
2. There exists $e \in G$, the identity.
3. For all $x \in G$ there exists x^{-1} such that $xx^{-1} = e = x^{-1}x$.

Further, a group is *abelian* if

4. $xy = yx$ for all $x, y \in G$.

Definition 1.2. A *monoid* is a set M and a binary operation that only satisfy the first two axioms of 1.1.

Example 1.3. The following are examples of groups

- C_n : the cyclic group of order n . Written multiplicatively.
- \mathbb{Z}/n : the integers modulo n . Identical to C_n , but written additively.
- D_{2n} : the dihedral group¹ of order $2n$. Defined in 1.4.
- S_n : the symmetric group of degree n . All permutations of n numbers with the group operation being function composition.
- $GL_n(k)$: the general linear group of degree n . All invertible $n \times n$ matrices over a field k .
- Q_8 : the quaternion group. Defined in 1.6.

¹Some authors use D_n for the dihedral group of order $2n$.

Definition 1.4. The *dihedral group* of order $2n$ is the group of rotational symmetries of a regular n -gon in 3D space. More abstractly, it is a group with elements $\{r, s\}$ such that $r^n = s^2 = e$ and $rs = sr^{-1}$.

Remark 1.5. Bridging these two interpretations of the dihedral group, we can think of r as being a rotation of the n -gon and s as being a flipping of the n -gon.

Definition 1.6. The *quaternion group* is the set $\{\pm 1, \pm i, \pm j, \pm k\}$ and multiplication defined such that $(-1)^2 = 1$ and $i^2 = j^2 = k^2 = ijk = -1$.

Definition 1.7. Given a group G and subset H , we say H is a *subgroup* if

1. H is not empty.²
2. $x \in H$ implies $x^{-1} \in H$.
3. $x, y \in H$ implies $xy \in H$.

Definition 1.8. For a group G and $S \subseteq G$, the subgroup *generated* by S is

$$\langle S \rangle = \bigcap_{\substack{H \leq G \\ S \subseteq H}} H.$$

Fact 1.9. For a group G and $S \subseteq G$, $\langle S \rangle$ is a subgroup of G .

Definition 1.10. Given a group G and $S \subseteq G$, a *word* in S is $g \in G$ written $g = g_1 g_2 \dots g_n$ where $g_i \in S$ or $g_i^{-1} \in S$.

Fact 1.11. For a group G and $S \subseteq G$, the set of words in S is $\langle S \rangle$.

Definition 1.12. A group G is cyclic if there exists $a \in G$ such that $G = \langle a \rangle$.³

Fact 1.13. The order of $g \in G$ is equal to the cardinality of $\langle g \rangle$.

Definition 1.14. Given $H \leq G$, a *left coset* is $S \subseteq G$ where, for some $x \in G$, $S = xH = \{xh \mid h \in H\}$.

Definition 1.15. A *right coset* of G is $T \subseteq G$ such that $T = Hx$, for some $x \in G$.

Definition 1.16. G/H is the set of all left cosets of G , and $H \backslash G$ is the set of all right cosets of G .

Fact 1.17. All cosets have the same cardinality, meaning there is a bijection between any 2 cosets.

Fact 1.18. G/H and $H \backslash G$ have the same cardinality.

²This is equivalent to $e \in H$.

³This is abuse of notation, as we should write $\langle \{a\} \rangle$. However, this is rarely done.

Definition 1.19. The *index* of H in G is $|G/H|$ and written $|G : H|$.

Theorem 1.20 (Lagrange). $H \leq G$ implies $|G| = |H| \cdot |G : H|$

Corollary 1.21. Given $K \leq H \leq G$, it holds that $|G : K| = |G : H| \cdot |H : K|$.

Definition 1.22. A *group homomorphism* is a function $\varphi : G \rightarrow H$ such that $\varphi(xy) = \varphi(x)\varphi(y)$.

Definition 1.23. For a field F , the *unit group* of F is $F^\times = F \setminus \{0\}$.

Definition 1.24. An *isomorphism* is a bijective homomorphism.

Definition 1.25. $N \leq G$ is *normal* if $xNx^{-1} = N$ for all $x \in G$.

Fact 1.26. For $\varphi : H \rightarrow G$ a group homomorphism, $\ker(\varphi)$ is a normal subgroup of H .

Definition 1.27. For N a normal subgroup of G , the *quotient group* G/N is N -cosets of G with multiplication defined by $xN \cdot yN = (xy)N$.

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Definition 2.1. For a quotient group G/N , we have $\pi : G \rightarrow G/N$ called the *quotient homomorphism* defined as $\pi(x) = xN$.

Theorem 2.2 (Homomorphism Theorem). If $\varphi : G \rightarrow H$ is a homomorphism such that for $N \trianglelefteq G$ we have $\varphi(N) = \{e\}$, then there exists a unique homomorphism $\psi : G/N \rightarrow H$ such that $\psi \circ \pi = \varphi$. Essentially, this diagram commutes.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} G & & \\ \pi \downarrow & \searrow \varphi & \\ G/N & \xrightarrow{\psi} & H \end{array}$$

Theorem 2.3 (First Isomorphism Theorem). Let $\varphi : G \rightarrow H$ be a group homomorphism. Let $N = \ker(\varphi)$. There exists an isomorphism $\bar{\varphi} : G/N \simeq \varphi(G)$.

Remark 2.4. Further, following the same assumptions from 2.3, φ factors through this isomorphism $\bar{\varphi} : G/N \rightarrow \varphi(G)$ as seen in this diagram.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} G & \xrightarrow{\varphi} & H \\ \pi \downarrow & & \uparrow \\ G/N & \xrightarrow{\bar{\varphi}} & \varphi(G) \end{array}$$

Theorem 2.5. Given $A, B \leq G$, the product subset AB is a subgroup of G if and only if $BA \subseteq AB$, and if so, $AB = BA$.

Proof. First, the forward direction. Assume AB is a subgroup of G . Then $a \in A, b \in B$ implies $a \in AB$ and $b \in AB$. Thus, $ba \in AB$ by definition of a group, so $BA \subseteq AB$. Next, the other direction. Assume $BA \subseteq AB$. Then $e \in AB$ as $e \in A$ and $e \in B$. Also, $a \in A, b \in B$ implies $b^{-1}a^{-1} = (ab)^{-1} \in BA \subseteq AB$. Thus, AB is closed under inverses. It is also straightforward to demonstrate that AB is closed under product, satisfying all the subgroup axioms. \square

Definition 2.6. Given $H \leq G$, define $N_G(H) = \{g \in G \mid gHg^{-1} = H\}$ as the *normalizer* of H in G .

Fact 2.7. $N_G(H) \leq G$ and $H \trianglelefteq N_G(H)$.

Corollary 2.8. Given $A, B \leq G$ and $A \leq N_G(B)$, it holds that $AB = BA$ and $B \trianglelefteq AB$.

Proof. Because $A \leq N_G(B)$, it holds that for all $a \in AB$, $aBa^{-1} = B$ (notice that any $b \in B$ trivially normalizes B). Thus, $B \trianglelefteq AB$. Further, this normality implies $aB = Ba$ for all a , which is equivalent to $BA \subseteq AB$, and by 2.5 it must be that $AB = BA$. \square

Fact 2.9. $|AB| = |B| \cdot |A : A \cap B|$.

Theorem 2.10 (Second Isomorphism Theorem). Given a group G , subgroups $A, B \leq G$ and $A \leq N_G(B)$, then

1. $AB \leq G$.
2. $B \trianglelefteq AB$.
3. $A \cap B \trianglelefteq A$.
4. $A/(A \cap B) \simeq (AB)/B$.

Theorem 2.11 (Third Isomorphism Theorem). Given a group G and normal subgroups $H, K \trianglelefteq G$ such that $K \leq H \leq G$. Then, $(G/K)/(H/K) \simeq G/H$.

Theorem 2.12 (Fourth Isomorphism Theorem). Given $N \trianglelefteq G$, then the number of subgroups of G/N has an equal cardinality to the subgroups of G containing N .