

theorem there exists an outer automorphism of  $S_6$ .

lemma let  $\mathbf{F}$  be a field,  $\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{F} \cup \{\infty\}$  the projective line over  $\mathbf{F}$ . then  $\text{Möb}(\mathbf{F})$  acts sharply three transitively on  $\mathbf{P}$ .

proof let  $\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{F}_5 \cup \{\infty\} = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, \infty\}$  be our six element set. we have an inclusion  $\text{Möb}(\mathbf{F}_5) \leq S_{\mathbf{P}}$  of index  $\frac{6!}{(5^2 - 1)(5^2 - 5)/(5 - 1)} = 6$ . therefore the coset space  $C = S_{\mathbf{P}}/\text{Möb}(\mathbf{F}_5)$  is another six element set on which  $S_{\mathbf{P}}$  naturally acts. we have thus defined a homomorphism  $\rho : S_{\mathbf{P}} \rightarrow S_C$ . we'll show it is bijective by showing  $\ker \rho$  is trivial. indeed,  $\ker \rho$  is a normal subgroup of  $S_{\mathbf{P}}$ , so if it were not trivial it would be either the whole  $S_{\mathbf{P}}$  or the alternating group of index two. however, when  $G$  acts on  $G/H$ , the kernel of the action is a subgroup of  $H$  and so has index at least  $[G : H]$ . now we claim  $\text{id}, (12), (13), (23), (123), (132)$  is a set of representatives for the coset space  $C$ . indeed, if  $g, h \in S_{\mathbf{P}}$  fix each of  $0, 4, \infty$  then so does  $g^{-1}h$ , and so  $g\text{Möb}(\mathbf{F}_5) = h\text{Möb}(\mathbf{F}_5)$  implies  $g = h$ . now, consider the action of the three cycle  $g = (123)$  on  $C$  via these representatives. we have

$$g : \begin{array}{cccccc} \text{id} & (12) & (13) & (23) & (123) & (132) \\ (123) & (13) & (23) & (12) & (132) & \text{id} \end{array}$$

which as a permutation of  $C$  decomposes as two three cycles. thus

$$S_{\mathbf{P}} \xrightarrow{\rho} S_C \xrightarrow{C \cong P} S_{\mathbf{P}}$$

gives an automorphism of  $S_{\mathbf{P}}$  where  $(123)$  gets sent to  $(0, 4, \infty)(123)$  - but any inner automorphism of  $S_n$  preserves the cycle decomposition structure of permutations, and so such an automorphism must be outer.