

Math 297 Discussion 11 Notes

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April 3, 2019

Group homomorphism

Definition 0.1. G, H are groups, a **group homomorphism** $f : G \rightarrow H$ is a function satisfying $f(xy) = f(x)f(y) \forall x, y \in G$ and $f(1) = 1$.

Examples

1) General Linear Group

$GL_n(\mathbb{R}) = \{n \times n \text{ matrices with real entries that are invertible } (\det \neq 0)\}$

\cdot = matrix multiplication

2) Let x be a plane figure, i.e. $x \in \mathbb{R}^2$

A **rigid motion** of \mathbb{R}^2 is a bijective continuous distance-preserving map.

The set of all rigid motions Γ forms a group under composition.

Consider $\{r \in \Gamma | r(x) = x\} = G$

Claim: G is a group under composition:

i) composition is associative

ii) identity is in G

iii) inverse: $x = r^{-1}(x)$ so $r \in G \implies r^{-1} \in G$

Subgroup

Definition 0.2. If Γ is a group, a **subgroup** of Γ is a subset G containing 1, closed under composition ($x, y \in G \implies xy \in G$), has inverses ($x \in G \implies x^{-1} \in G$).

Example: regular hexagon

G contains rotation by 60° (or any multiple of 60°) and reflections through certain lines.

Let $a \in G$ be any reflection, $b \in G$ be rotation by 60° , every element of G has the form b^k or ab^k for a unique $0 \leq k \leq 5$.

$\#G = 12$

$a^2 = 1, b^6 = 1$

$aba = b^{-1} \implies ab = b^{-1}a^{-1} = b^{-1}a$, i.e. $ab^{-1} = ba$

$b^2ab = b(ba)b = b(ab^{-1})b = (ba)b^{-1}b = ab^{-1}b^{-1}b = ab^{-1} = ab^5$

Presentation: $D_2 = \langle a, b | a^2 = 1, b^6 = 1, ab = b^{-1}a \rangle$

Generators | relations

D_n = automorphisms of regular n -gon

$\#D_n = 2n$

$\langle a, b \mid a^2 = b^n = 1, ab = b^{-1}a \rangle$

Isomorphism

Definition 0.3. An **isomorphism** between groups G and H is a bijective homomorphism.

Definition 0.4. G is a group. Then **center** of G is $Z(G) = \{x \in G \mid \forall y \in G, xy = yx\}$

ex: $Z(G)$ is a subgroup of G

ex: $Z(Q) = \{1, -1\}$ $Z(D_4) = \{1, b^2\}$ (rotation by 180°)

Examples

1) Quaternion group: $Q = \{1, -1, i, -i, j, -j, k, -k\}$

$i^2 = -1$ $(-i)^2 = -1$ $j^2 = -1$ $(-j)^2 = -1$ $k^2 = -1$ $(-k)^2 = -1$

$ij = -ji$ $-1 \cdot i = -i = i(-1)$ $ij = k$

$ik = -ki$ $-1 \cdot j = -j$ $-j = ik$

$jk = -kj$ $-1 \cdot k = -k$

2) Cyclic group of order n

Definition 0.5. Suppose G is a group and H is a subgroup of G . A **left coset** of H in G is a set of the form $gH = \{gh \mid h \in H\}$ for some $g \in G$.

Note: right coset Hg is defined similarly.

ex: $G = \mathbb{Z}$, $H = 2\mathbb{Z}$, even integers

The coset of H is a set of the form $n + H$ for some $n \in \mathbb{Z}$

There are exactly 2 cosets:

$0 + H$ = all even numbers

$1 + H$ = all odd numbers

Fact: any two left cosets are either equal or disjoint

$g, g' \in G$, either $gH = g'H$ or $gH \cap g'H = \emptyset \implies$ left cosets partition G .

Definition 0.6. The **index** of H in G , denoted $[G : H]$, is the number of left cosets (= number of right).

Fact: Any left or right coset of H has cardinality $\#H$

We find $[G : H] = \frac{\#G}{\#H}$ (if G finite) (Lagrange Theorem)

Corollary If G is a finite group, H is a subgroup, $\#H \mid \#G$

Corollary If $g \in G$, $\text{ord}(g) \mid G$