

THE DEFINITION OF A GROUP.

Remark. We want to perform operations on sets which are not numbers. If there is symmetry, we might have a group.

Definition. *group, abelian group*

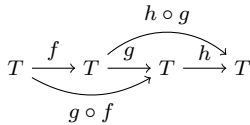
- A *group* is (set G , law of composition written $ab \forall a, b \in G$) s.t.
 - (1) closed under the law of composition $a, b \in G \Rightarrow ab, ba \in G$
 - (2) associative $(ab)c = a(bc) = abc$
 - (3) identity $e = 1_G \in G$
 $ae = ea = a$
note: unique since $e = ee' = e'$
 - (4) inverses $a^{-1} \in G$
 $a^{-1}a = aa^{-1} = e$
note: unique since $aa^{-1} = 1 = aa'^{-1}$
note: opposite order $(ab)^{-1} = b^{-1}a^{-1}$
- An *abelian group* also commutes, $ab = ba$

Example. $\text{Sym}(T)$ (“Symmetries (“permutations”) of set T ”, “Automorphism group”)

$\text{Sym}(T) = \{\text{all bijections } T \mapsto T\}$, \circ)

$\text{Sym}(T)$ is a group since, for $f, g, h \in \text{Sym}(T)$,

- (1) composed bijections is a bijection
 $g \circ f(t) = g(f(t)) \in \text{Sym}(T)$
- (2) bijections are associative
 $(h \circ g) \circ f(t) = h \circ (g \circ f)(t) = h(g(f(t)))$



- (3) identity map $e(t) = t \forall t \in T$
 $e \circ f(t) = f \circ e(t) = f(t)$
- (4) inverse
 $f \circ f^{-1}(t) = f^{-1} \circ f(t) = e(t)$

Remark. $\text{Sym}(T)$ is the most general group, all other groups arise by putting extra conditions which preserve structure of the set ie structure preserving bijections

Example.

abelian

- $\mathbb{Z}^+ = (\mathbb{Z}, +)$ with $e = 0, a^{-1} = -a$
note: preserves symmetry of geometric object using shift
picture: directed graph, each arrow pointing right
- $\mathbb{R}^+ = (\mathbb{R}, +)$ with $e = 0, a^{-1} = -a$
- $\mathbb{R}^\times = (\mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}, \times)$ with $e = 1, a^{-1} = \frac{1}{a}$
- $\mathbb{C}^+, \mathbb{C}^\times$ similarly
- (Vector space, elementwise $+$) with $e = 0, a^{-1} = -a$
- $M_{n \times n}(\mathbb{R}) = \{n \times n \text{ mxs}\}$, elementwise $+$ with $e = \text{zero mx}, A^{-1} = -A$

non-abelian

- *general linear group of dimension n*
 $\text{GL}_n(\mathbb{R}) = \{\text{all invertable } n \times n \text{ mxs}\}$, mx multiplication
Preserves linearity, $\text{GL}_n(\mathbb{R}) \subset \text{Sym}(\mathbb{R}^n)$
Group since
 - (1) closed under mx multiplication (since $\det(AB) = \det(A)\det(B) \neq 0$)
 - (2) mx multiplication is associative
 - (3) identity I
 - (4) inverse by definition
 Not abelian since mx multiplication not always commutative.
- $\text{GL}_n(\mathbb{C}), \text{GL}_n(\mathbb{Q})$ similarly
- (rotations and flips of a square, composition)

Remark. Is there a group of size $n \in \mathbb{N}$?

Definition. *order (“cardinality”), finite group*

- the *order* $|G|$ of group G is the number of elements
- a *finite group* has finite order

Example. *symmetric (“permutation”) group on n letters*

- $S_n = \text{Sym}\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ is the set of permutations on $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$
note: order $|S_n| = n!$ (i.e. n ways to choose first element, $n - 1$ ways to choose second, etc)
 - $S_1 = \{e\}$ is the smallest possible group
 - $S_2 = \{e, \tau\}$ where τ is the transposition (exchanges two elements, leaves others alone)
- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| multiplication table | $\begin{array}{c cc} & e & \tau \\ \hline e & e & \tau \\ \tau & \tau & e \end{array}$ |
|----------------------|--|
- abelian since mult table is symmetric about diagonal
- $S_3 = \{e, \tau = (2, 1, 3), \tau' = (1, 3, 2), \tau'' = (3, 2, 1), \sigma = (3, 1, 2), \sigma' = (2, 3, 1)\}$
 $= \{e, \tau, \sigma^2\tau, \sigma\tau, \sigma, \sigma^2\}$
note: smallest non-abelian group

Remark. Will see that finite abelian groups are well understood

preview: every finite abelian group decomposes into pieces that look like \mathbb{Z}^+ and quotient $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ for some n

SUBGROUPS; CYCLIC SUBGROUPS.

Definition. *subgroups, proper subgroup*

- A *subgroup* $H \subset G$ is a group induced with same law of composition
i.e. coarse subset which behaves a group
- a *proper subgroup* is a subgroup which is not the trivial $\{e\}$ or G

Example.

- every subgroup of \mathbb{Z}^+ is of the form $b\mathbb{Z}$ for some $b \in \mathbb{Z}$
ie all multiples of b
preview: quotient of $\mathbb{Z}^+, \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z} \subset \mathbb{Z}$, ie integers modulo n , is *not* a subgroup of \mathbb{Z}^+
- a subgroup of \mathbb{C}^\times is the points on the unit circle in \mathbb{C}
- a subgroup of $\text{GL}_2(\mathbb{R})$ is the group of invertable 2×2 upper triangle mxs
- for $k \leq n$, a subgroup of S_n is S_k by fixing $\{k + 1, k + 2, \dots, n\}$
note: $k \geq 3 \Rightarrow$ not abelian
- a subgroup of the symmetries of a regular n -gon is the rotations

Definition. *cyclic subgroup generated by element of group, order of cyclic group, subgroup generated by subset of group*

- the *cyclic subgroup generated by* $x \in G$ is $\langle x \rangle = \{x^n : n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ (using multiplicative notation)
note: $\langle x \rangle$ is the smallest subgroup which contains x
- the *order of cyclic group* is the smallest $n \in \mathbb{N}$ s.t. $x^n = 1$. Can be infinite order.
- *subgroup generated by* $U \subset G$ is $\{g \in G : g = \text{product of elements of } U \text{ and their inverses}\}$

Example.

cyclic

- $m \subset \mathbb{Z}^+$ generates cyclic subgroup $m\mathbb{Z}$ with infinite order
- $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \in \text{GL}_n(\mathbb{R})$ generates a cyclic subgroup of order 6

- $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \in \text{GL}_n(\mathbb{R})$ generates a cyclic subgroup with infinite order since $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^n = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & n \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$
- $\text{GL}_n(\mathbb{R})$ is generated by the three types of elementary mxs
- S_3 is generated by $U = \{\tau, \sigma\}$ (see above) not cyclic

- Klein four group $V = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} \pm 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \pm 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$
is generated by any two non-identity elements
note: its the simplest non-cyclic group
- quaterion group (8 matrices)
 $\left\{ \pm \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \pm \begin{bmatrix} i & 0 \\ 0 & -i \end{bmatrix}, \pm \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \pm \begin{bmatrix} 0 & i \\ i & 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$
is generated by $\begin{bmatrix} i & 0 \\ 0 & -i \end{bmatrix}$ and $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

ISOMORPHISM; AUTOMORPHISM; CONJUGATE.

Definition. *isomorphism, isomorphism class, automorphism*

- An *isomorphism* is a bijective map $\phi : G \rightarrow G'$ satisfying $\phi(ab) = \phi(a)\phi(b) \forall a, b \in G$
ie G and G' have same properties, group structure, multiplication table
note: correspondence with identities ($\phi(1_G) = 1_{G'}$) and inverses ($\phi(a^{-1}) = \phi(a)^{-1}$)
- groups in an *isomorphism class* are *isomorphic* to each other
notation: $G \approx G'$

Example.

- $\phi : \mathbb{Z}^+ \rightarrow \{\dots, a^{-2}, a^{-1}, 1, a, a^2, \dots\}$, $\phi(n) = a^n$ is isomorphism
note: additive in domain and multiplicative in range, $\phi(m + n) = a^{m+n} = a^m a^n$
- $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x \\ & 1 \end{bmatrix} : x \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$ and \mathbb{R}^+ isomorphic
since $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & x \\ & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & y \\ & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x + y \\ & 1 \end{bmatrix}$
- two cyclic subgroups of same order are isomorphic
- S_n and the group of $n \times n$ permutation mxs are isomorphic
- rotations $\{\rho, \rho^2, \rho^3, \rho^4 = e\}$ of square and $\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}$ isomorphic using $\phi(\rho^k) = k \pmod n$
N/A isomorphism $\phi(\rho^m \rho^n) = \phi(\rho^{m+n}) = (m + n) \pmod 4 = (m \pmod 4)(n \pmod 4)$

Definition. *automorphism*

- An *automorphism* is an isomorphism from a group to itself

Example.

- the identity map is an automorphism
- a cyclic group of order 3, $\{1, x, x^2\}$, and the transposition which exchanges x and x^2 are automorphic since x^2 also has order 3

Definition. *conjugate, conjugation of group by element*

- the *conjugate of* a by b is bab^{-1}
- $a, a' \in G$ are *conjugate* means $a' = bab^{-1}$ for some $b \in G$
- *conjugation of group* G by $b \in G$ is $\phi : G \rightarrow G, \phi(a) = bab^{-1}$
note: automorphism since $\phi(xy) = bxyb^{-1} = bxb^{-1}byb^{-1} = \phi(x)\phi(y)$ and inverse is conjugation by b^{-1} .
note: a and bab^{-1} have same order since automorphism

HOMOMORPHISM.

Definition. homomorphism

A homomorphism is a map $\phi : G \rightarrow G'$ satisfying $\phi(ab) = \phi(a)\phi(b) \forall a, b \in G$

ie like isomorphism but need not biject

ie preserves group structure at least in some coarse way

note: homomorphism carries identity to identity ($\phi(1_G) = 1_{G'}$) and inverses to inverses ($\phi(a^{-1}) = \phi(a)^{-1}$)

Example.

- $\det : GL_n(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^\times$
since $\det(AB) = \det(A)\det(B)$
- sign of a permutation, $\text{sign} : S_n \rightarrow \{\pm 1\}$
- $\phi : \mathbb{Z}^+ \rightarrow G, \phi(n) = a^n$ where $a \in G$
- inclusion map $i : H \rightarrow G, i(x) = x$ where H is a subgroup of G

Definition. image of homomorphism, normal subgroup, kernel of homomorphism, center of group

- the image of a homomorphism $\phi : G \rightarrow G'$ is $\phi(G) = \{x \in G' : x = \phi(a) \text{ for some } a \in G\}$
note: $\phi(G) \subseteq G'$ is a subgroup
- N is a normal subgroup of G means $\forall a \in N, \forall b \in G, \text{conjugate } bab^{-1} \in N$
ie closed under conjugation by all $b \in G$
- the kernel of homomorphism $\phi : G \rightarrow G'$ is $\ker \phi = \phi^{-1}(1_{G'}) = \{a \in G : \phi(a) = 1_{G'}\}$
note: kernel is subgroup of G since $a, b \in \ker \phi \Rightarrow \phi(ab) = \phi(a)\phi(b) = 1$
note: kernel is normal subgroup since $\phi(bab^{-1}) = \phi(b)\phi(a)\phi(b)^{-1} = 1$
- the center of group G is $Z(G) = \{z \in G : zx = xz \forall x \in G\}$
ie subgroup which commutes with G
note: center is a normal subgroup since $bab^{-1} = bb^{-1}a = a \forall b \in G$

Example.

- Special linear group of dimension n
 $SL_n(\mathbb{R}) = \{\text{real } n \times n \text{ mxs: } \det A = 1\}$
is the kernel of the determinant homomorphism $\det : GL_n(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^\times$
- the alternating group $A_n = \{\text{even permutations}\} \subset S_n$
is the kernel of the sign homomorphism $\text{sign} : S_n \rightarrow \{\pm 1\}$
- the kernel of $\phi : \mathbb{Z}^+ \rightarrow G, \phi(n) = a^n$ where $a \in G$, is $\{n : a^n = 1\} \subset \mathbb{Z}^+$
- any subgroup of an abelian group is normal since $bab^{-1} = a$
- the center of $GL_n(\mathbb{R})$ is the group of scalar matrices cI

EQUIVALENCE RELATIONS AND PARTITIONS.

Definition. partition, equivalence relation, equivalence classes, set of equivalence classes

- a partition P of set S is a subdivision of S into nonoverlapping subsets
- an equivalence relation \sim on S is a binary relation with properties: reflexive, symmetric, transitive
- equivalence class is a subset of S with equivalent elements, forms a partition on S
- set of equivalence classes, \bar{S} , is the set whose elements are equivalence classes, each denoted by \bar{a}
notation: $\bar{a} = \bar{b}$ means $a \sim b$
intuition: \bar{a} is a pile of elements equivalent to $a \in S$

Example.

- partition of \mathbb{Z} with equivalence classes even integers and odd integers, $\bar{\mathbb{Z}} = \{\bar{0}, \bar{1}\}$

- congruence of triangles is an equivalence relation on the set of triangles in the plane

Definition. equivalence relation determined by a map, fiber

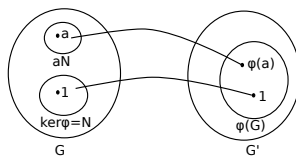
- An equivalence relation determined by map $\phi : S \rightarrow T$ is $a \sim b \Leftrightarrow \phi(a) = \phi(b)$
- a fiber of ϕ is $\phi^{-1}(t) = \{s \in S : \phi(s) = t\}$ for any $t \in \phi(S)$
note: a fiber is an equivalence class
note: $\ker \phi$ is the fiber of 1_T

Definition. congruence relation, congruent, congruence classes

- a congruence relation is the equivalence relation determined by homomorphism $\phi : G \rightarrow G'$
notation: \equiv instead of \sim
- a, b congruent wrt ϕ means $\phi(a) = \phi(b)$
- congruence classes

Definition. coset

- Let homomorphism $\phi : G \rightarrow G'$.
The coset of $a \in G$ wrt $\ker \phi = N$ is $aN = \{g \in G : g = an \text{ for some } n \in N\}$
ie the set of all $g \in G$ which are congruent to a
note: $\phi(aN) = \phi(a)$ since $\phi(an) = \phi(a)$
note: coset aN is a fiber of ϕ , makes up a congruence class



Example.

- absolute value map $\phi : \mathbb{C}^\times \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^\times, \phi(a) = |a|$
equivalence relation $|a| = |b| \Rightarrow a \equiv b$
fibers, which are also cosets, are concentric circles around 0
- to check whether a homomorphism $\phi : G \rightarrow G'$ is an isomorphism, check injection: $\ker \phi = \{1\}$ and surjection: $\phi(G) = G'$

COSETS.

Definition. left, right coset, cosets are equivalence classes

- A left coset of $a \in G$ wrt subgroup H of G is $aH = \{ah : h \in H\}$
- cosets are equivalence classes for the congruence relation $a \equiv b \Leftrightarrow b = ah$ for some $h \in H$
ie cosets partition the group
note: aH is the unique coset containing a
- the index of H in $G, [G : H]$, is the number of left cosets of H . Can be infinite
-

Example.

- subgroup H is itself a coset since $1H = H$
- $S_3 = \{1, x, x^2, y, xy, x^2y\}$
Let $H = \langle xy \rangle = \{1, xy\}$
the left cosets of H in G are the three sets (index 3) which partition G
 $\{1, xy\} = H = xyH, \{x, x^2y\} = xH = x^2yH, \{x^2\} = x^2H = yH$

Example.

$\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$
note: $\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}$ isomorphic to square in plane with rotation elements $\{\rho, \rho^2, \rho^3, \rho^4 = e\}$ with $\phi(\rho^k) = k \pmod n$ since $\phi(\rho^m \rho^n) = \phi(\rho^{m+n}) = (m+n) \pmod 4 = (m \pmod 4)(n \pmod 4)$