

Subgroups

Let G be a group. $H \subseteq G$ is a "subgroup" of G if H is a group (w.r.t. the same operation)

Notation: $H \leq G$

Test for subgroup: a.) $H \subseteq G$ b.) $x, y \in H \Rightarrow xy^{-1} \in H$

Coset decomposition Let $H \leq G$.

$x \sim y \Leftrightarrow x^{-1}y \in H \Leftrightarrow y \in xH$ is an equ. relation

proof: - $x \sim x$ since $x^{-1}x = e \in H$

- $x \sim y \Rightarrow x^{-1}y \in H \Rightarrow (x^{-1}y)^{-1} = yx^{-1} \in H \Rightarrow y \sim x$

- $x \sim y, y \sim z \Rightarrow x^{-1}y, y^{-1}z \in H \Rightarrow x^{-1}yy^{-1}z = x^{-1}z \in H \Rightarrow x \sim z$

Note: the proof needs e , inverse $\in H$ and closed under " \cdot "
hence only subgroups make \sim an equ. relation.

- $[x] = xH$ is called "left coset"

- notation: $G/\sim = G/H$

- $|xH| = |yH| = |H|$ for $x, y \in G$

- if $|G/H|$ finite: $G = x_1H \cup \dots \cup x_rH$ (one of these is $= H$)
"coset decomposition"

- analogously: define right cosets via $x \sim y \Leftrightarrow xy^{-1} \in H$

Lemma: $|G| = |G/H| \cdot |H|$

index of H in G

We have decomposed G into the subgroup H and G/H . Ideally, G/H is also a group w.r.t.:

$$[x] \cdot [y] = [xy]$$

$$xH \cdot yH = xy \cdot H$$

Need to assure well-defined. Other group properties are straightforward.

Check: $a \sim x, b \sim y \Rightarrow ab \sim xy$

$$a = xh, b = yh', \quad h, h' \in H$$

$$\Rightarrow ab = xhyh' = \underbrace{xyy^{-1}hyh'}_{\in xyH \Leftrightarrow y^{-1}hy \in H}$$

$$\in xyH \Leftrightarrow y^{-1}hy \in H$$

Result: " \cdot " well-defined \Leftrightarrow for all $h \in H, y \in G: y^{-1}hy \in H$

$$\Leftrightarrow \text{for all } y \in G: y^{-1}Hy \subseteq H$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \text{" " " " } y^{-1}Hy = H$$

$$\text{or } Hy = yH$$

Definition: $H \leq G$ is called a "normal subgroup" if for all $y \in G, y^{-1}Hy = H$. Notation: $H \trianglelefteq G$.

Lemma: If $N \trianglelefteq G$, then G/N is a group called a "factor group."

If G is abelian then every subgroup is normal.

$$\boxed{G/H \text{ a group} \Leftrightarrow H \trianglelefteq G}$$

Brief discussion on the classification of groups and especially simple groups (groups without normal subgroups) which was finished ~ 2000 .

Examples:

a.) $C_4 = \langle x \mid x^4 = 1 \rangle = \{1, x, x^2, x^3\}, H = \langle x^2 \rangle = \{1, x^2\} \trianglelefteq C_4$

$\Rightarrow H$ is a C_2 and C_4/C_2 is a group (of size 2)

b.) $G = \mathbb{R}$ (with $+$), $H = \mathbb{Z} \trianglelefteq \mathbb{R}, x \sim y \Leftrightarrow x - y \in \mathbb{Z}$

\mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z} is the group $\{\bar{x} \mid x \in [0, 1)\}$: $\begin{matrix} \longmapsto & \text{or better } \odot \\ 0 & 1 \end{matrix}$ since $0 \sim 1$

c.) $(n\mathbb{Z}, +) \trianglelefteq (\mathbb{Z}, +) \Rightarrow (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}, +)$ is a group,

In fact a cyclic group of size n .

group homomorphism

greek: homo - same
morphos - shape

Definition: A group homomorphism is a mapping $\varphi: G \rightarrow H$ (G, H groups) s.t. $\varphi(xy) = \varphi(x)\varphi(y), x, y \in G$.

Lemma: a.) e, e' neutral elements of G, H , resp.

$\Rightarrow \varphi(e) = e'$

b.) $\varphi(x)^{-1} = \varphi(x^{-1})$

$\varphi: G \rightarrow H$ hom. + bij.
 $\Rightarrow \varphi$ "isomorphism"
(greek: iso - equal)
Then: $G \cong H$
(G isomorphic to H)

Examples:

- $\varphi: (\mathbb{R}^+, \cdot) \rightarrow (\mathbb{R}, +)$

$x \mapsto \log_2(x)$

- $H \leq G, \varepsilon: H \rightarrow G$
 $x \mapsto x$

called "embedding" (injective)

- $N \trianglelefteq G, \kappa: G \rightarrow G/N$
 $x \mapsto xN$

called "canonical (surjective) projection"

Kernel

$\varphi: G \rightarrow H$ hom. $\text{Ker}(\varphi) = \{x \in G \mid \varphi(x) = e'\}$
is called "kernel of φ ".
 \uparrow
neutral element in H

- Lemma: a.) $\text{ker } \varphi \trianglelefteq G$
b.) Every $N \trianglelefteq G$ is kernel of a suitable hom.
c.) $G/\varphi = G/\text{ker } \varphi$

proof: a.) - $\text{ker } \varphi \leq G$ ✓

- $x, y \in \text{ker } \varphi \Rightarrow \varphi(xy^{-1}) = \varphi(x)\varphi(y)^{-1} = e'e'^{-1} = e' \Rightarrow xy^{-1} \in \text{ker } \varphi$

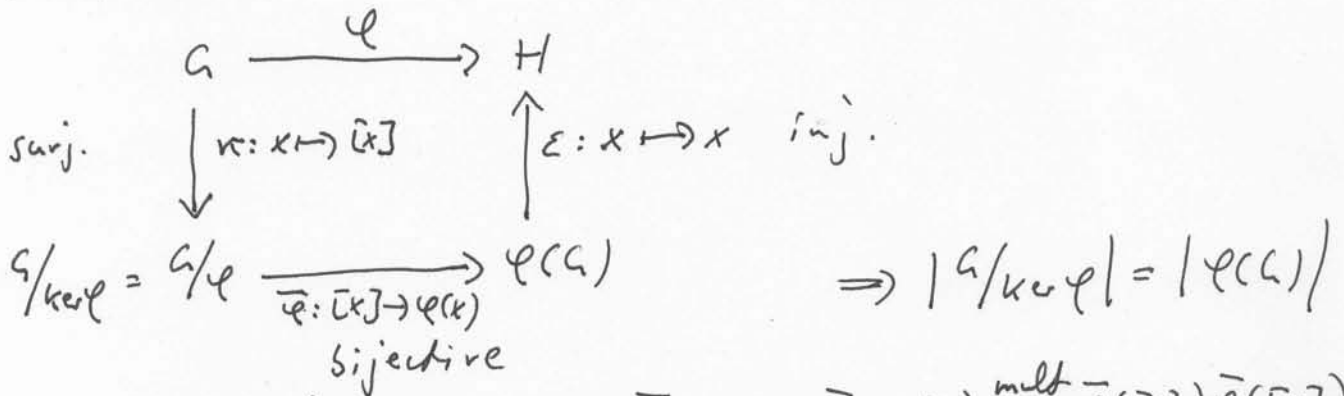
- $x \in \text{ker } \varphi, y \in G \Rightarrow \varphi(y^{-1}xy) = \varphi(y)^{-1}\varphi(x)\varphi(y) \Rightarrow \text{ker } \varphi \leq G$
 $= \varphi(y)^{-1}e'\varphi(y) = e' \Rightarrow \text{ker } \varphi \trianglelefteq G$.

b.) choose $\varphi: G \rightarrow G/N$

c.) Equ. rel induced by $\varphi: x \sim y \Leftrightarrow \varphi(x) = \varphi(y)$

by $\text{ker } \varphi: x \sim y \Leftrightarrow x^{-1}y \in \text{ker } \varphi$
 $\Leftrightarrow y = xk, k \in \text{ker } \varphi$
 $\Leftrightarrow \varphi(y) = \varphi(xk) = \varphi(x)\varphi(k) = \varphi(x)$

As a consequence of c.) we get the canonical factorization:



Just $\bar{\varphi}$ is also a hom: $[x], [y] \in G/\ker \varphi$

$\xrightarrow{\text{map}} \bar{\varphi}([x]), \bar{\varphi}([y]) \stackrel{\text{mult}}{\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \varphi(x)\varphi(y)} \bar{\varphi}([x])\bar{\varphi}([y])$
 $\xrightarrow{\text{mult}} [xy] \xrightarrow{\text{map}} \bar{\varphi}([xy]) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \varphi(xy)$

|| since φ is a hom

Theorem: $\varphi: G \rightarrow H$ a hom. Then

$$\boxed{G/\ker \varphi \cong \varphi(G)} \quad \text{hom. theorem}$$

Summary: What we did

general	groups
definition	group def.
generators	group generators $\langle \dots \rangle$
substructure	subgroup H
homomorphism	group hom. φ
kernels of homs	normal subgroups N
factor structures	factor groups G/N
hom. theorem	$G/\ker \varphi \cong \varphi(G)$

Little history of group theory

- one origin: study of symmetries by the Moors (13th century)
- groups to solve polynomial equations: Évariste Galois (1811-1832) in 1829. Termed "group" and "normal subgroup"
- Study of groups: Arthur Cayley (1821-1895) in the 1850s
- First complete def. of an abstract group (as taught today): Heinrich Weber (1842-1913) in 1882. Termed "abelian".

More info: Wikipedia