

Last time Cosets:

Given a subgroup H of a group G we defined two relations:

$$a \sim_l b \Leftrightarrow b = ah \text{ for some } h \in H$$

$$a \sim_r b \Leftrightarrow b = ha \text{ for some } h \in H.$$

} both are equivalence relations!

The equivalence classes of \sim_l are left cosets of H :

$$[a]_l := \{ ah \mid h \in H \} = aH$$

$$[a]_r := \{ ha \mid h \in H \} = Ha$$

$G/H = \{ aH \mid a \in G \}$ the set of left cosets of H

$H \backslash G = \{ Ha \mid a \in G \}$ the set of right cosets of H .

We proved Lagrange's Theorem: For a finite group G

$$|G| = |H| |G/H|$$

Same argument shows:

$$|G| = |H| \cdot |H \backslash G|.$$

In general the inverse map $\text{inv}: G \rightarrow G, g \mapsto g^{-1}$ gives rise to a bijection

$$\begin{array}{ccc} G/H & \longrightarrow & H \backslash G \\ aH & \longmapsto & Ha^{-1} \end{array}$$

Aside You proved on last homework:

for an equivalence relation \sim on a set X

$$[a] = [b] \Leftrightarrow a \sim b.$$

Solution Suppose $[a] = [b]$. Then, since $a \in [a]$, $a \in [b]$

$$\Rightarrow a \sim b, \text{ (since } [b] = \{ x \mid x \sim b \}.)$$

Conversely, if $a \sim b$, $a \in [b]$. Since $a \in [a]$, $a \in [a] \cap [b]$.

$$\Rightarrow [a] \cap [b] \neq \emptyset. \text{ But } [a] \cap [b] \neq \emptyset \Rightarrow [a] = [b].$$

$$\text{Thus } a \sim b \Rightarrow [a] = [b]$$

In general $G/H \neq H \setminus G$

For example: $G = S_3$, $H = \langle (12) \rangle = \{e, (12)\}$

$$G/H = \{H, (13)H = \{(13), (123)\}, (23)H = \{(23), (132)\}\}$$

$$H \setminus G = \{H, H(13) = \{(13), (132)\}, H(23) = \{(23), (123)\}\}$$

Why is the map $f: G/H \rightarrow H \setminus G$, $f(aH) = Ha^{-1}$ well-defined?

Suppose $aH = bH$. Then $a = bh$ for some $h \in H$
 $\Rightarrow a^{-1} = h^{-1}b^{-1} \Rightarrow Ha^{-1} = Hb^{-1}$

Thus $aH = bH \Rightarrow f(aH) = f(bH) \checkmark$

Proposition 14.1 A subgroup N of a group G is normal \Leftrightarrow

$$Ng = gN \text{ for all } g \in G.$$

Proof (\Rightarrow) Suppose N is normal: $\forall g \in G, n \in N$ $gng^{-1} \in N$.

Suppose $x \in Ng$. Then, for some $n \in N$, $x = ng = g g^{-1} ng$.

Since N is normal, $g^{-1}ng \in N \Rightarrow x \in gN$

$$\Rightarrow Ng \subseteq gN. \quad \text{Similarly } gN \subseteq Ng.$$

$$\therefore Ng = gN.$$

(\Leftarrow) Suppose $gN = Ng$ for all $g \in G$

Then, for any $n \in N$, $gn \in gN = Ng \Rightarrow \exists n' \in N$ st

$$gn = n'g.$$

$$\Rightarrow gng^{-1} = n' \in N.$$

$\Rightarrow N$ is normal in G .

Notation $N \triangleleft G$ iff N is a normal subgroup of G .

Corollary 14.2 Suppose N is a subgroup of a group G

and $|G/N|$ has exactly 2 elements: $|G/N| = 2$

Then $N \triangleleft G$.

Proof Since $|G/N| = 2$ and $G/N \rightarrow N \setminus G$
 $gN \mapsto g^{-1}$
 is a bijection, $|N \setminus G| = 2$.

Now since cosets partition G ,

$$G/N = \{N, G \setminus N\} = \{g \in G \mid g \notin N\}$$

$G \setminus N$ is the coset of $g_0 \notin N$, $G \setminus N = g_0 N$.

Since $g_0 \notin N$, $N g_0 \neq N$

Since $|N \setminus G| = 2$, $N \setminus G = \{N, N g_0\}$.

$$\therefore \Rightarrow N g_0 = G \setminus N = g_0 N$$

By Thm 14.1 $N \triangleleft G$. □

Ex $K = \langle (123) \rangle \triangleleft S_3$ is normal since

$$|S_3/K| = \frac{|S_3|}{|K|} = \frac{6}{3} = 2.$$

Theorem (2.7.1 in Goodman) Suppose N is a normal subgroup of a group G . Then the set G/N of cosets of G has a unique multiplication that makes G/N into a group and

$$\pi: G \rightarrow G/N, \pi(g) = gN$$

into a (surjective) homomorphism.

Proof For π to be a homomorphism we must have

$$\pi(ab) = \pi(a)\pi(b) \quad \forall a, b \in G,$$

$$\text{i.e. } abN = (aN) \cdot (bN)$$

So if π is a homomorphism, the multiplication \cdot on G/N must be given by

$$(*) \quad (aN) \cdot (bN) = abN$$

Is \cdot well-defined? If $aN = a'N$, $bN = b'N$, is

it true that $(ab)N = (a'b')N$?

$$aN = a'N \Leftrightarrow a' = an_1 \text{ for some } n_1 \in N$$

$$bN = b'N \Leftrightarrow b' = bn_2 \text{ for some } n_2 \in N.$$

$$\rightarrow a'b' = an_1 b n_2 = ab b^{-1} n_1 b n_2 = ab (b^{-1} n_1 (b^{-1})^{-1} n_2)$$

$$\Rightarrow a'b' = ab \cdot n \text{ for } n = (b^{-1}n_1b) \cdot n_2 \in N$$

$$\Rightarrow a'b'N = abN. \quad (\text{Recall: } x \sim y \Leftrightarrow [x] = [y])$$

$\therefore \cdot : G/N \times G/N \rightarrow G/N, (aN, bN) \mapsto (ab)N$
is well-defined.

We set $e_{G/N} = eN (= N)$. Remains to check: $(G/N, \cdot, e_{G/N})$
is a group.

$$1) eN \cdot eN = (e \cdot e)N = eN \quad \checkmark$$

$$2) (aN) \cdot eN = (ae)N = aN, (eN) \cdot (aN) = (ea)N = aN \quad \forall aN \in G/N$$

$$2) (aN) \cdot (a^{-1}N) = (aa^{-1})N = eN \text{ and } (a^{-1}N) \cdot (aN) = eN \quad \forall aN \in G/N$$

$$3) \forall aN, bN, cN \in G/N$$

$$(a) aN \cdot (bN \cdot cN) = aN \cdot (bc)N = a(bc)N = (ab)cN \\ = ((ab)N) \cdot cN = (aN \cdot bN) \cdot cN. \quad \square$$

Def Let N be a normal subgroup of G . The group G/N is called the quotient group (of G by N) and $\pi: G \rightarrow G/N$ is the quotient map.

$$\text{Ex } G = (\mathbb{Z}, +, 0) \quad H := n\mathbb{Z} \quad (n > 1)$$

$$G/H = \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z} = \mathbb{Z}_n.$$

Ex " G any group $H = \{e\}$.

H is normal: $\forall g \in G \quad g e g^{-1} = e$

What are the cosets of H ?

$$aH = \{ah \mid h \in H\} = \{a\}, \text{ singletons!}$$

$$\pi: G \rightarrow G/H \quad \pi(a) = \{a\}.$$

Note π is an isomorphism since it's a homomorphism, it's onto and it's 1-1.

$\Rightarrow G/\{e\}$ is isomorphic to G . We write $G \cong G/\{e\}$.

Special case: $G = \mathbb{Z} \quad H = \{0\}, \quad \mathbb{Z}/\{0\} \cong \mathbb{Z}.$