

Last time: X finite set. $\sigma \in \text{Sym}(X)$ can be written uniquely (up to order) as a product of disjoint cycles.

• Lagrange's Theorem: G finite group, $H < G$ subgroup.

Then

$$|G| = |H| |G/H| = |H| |H \backslash G|$$

where $G/H = \{gH \mid g \in G\}$, $H \backslash G = \{Hg \mid g \in G\}$.

Remark In general $\{gH \mid g \in G\}$ and $\{Hg \mid g \in G\}$ are different partitions of the set G .

Ex $G = S_3 = \{\text{id}, (12), (13), (23), (123), (132)\}$

Let $H = \langle (12) \rangle = \{\text{id}, (12)\}$

Then $H \backslash G$, G/H consist of $\frac{|S_3|}{|H|} = \frac{3!}{2} = 3$ sets each.

What are they? Note

$$(12)(13) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \mapsto 3 \mapsto 3 \\ 3 \mapsto 1 \mapsto 2 \\ 2 \mapsto 2 \mapsto 1 \end{pmatrix} = (132) \quad (13)(12) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \mapsto 2 \mapsto 2 \\ 2 \mapsto 1 \mapsto 3 \\ 3 \mapsto 3 \mapsto 1 \end{pmatrix} = (123)$$

Hence $H \cdot (13) = \{(13), (12)(13)\} = \{(13), (132)\}$ $S_3/H = (H, H \cdot H(13))$

$\Rightarrow H \backslash S_3 = H = \{\text{id}, (12)\}$, $\{ (12), (12)(13) \} = \{ (12), (132) \}$, $\{ (23), (123) \}$ $H(23)$

$S_3/H = \{H, (13)H = \{(12), (123)\}, \{(23), (132)\}\}$

Corollary (of Lagrange's theorem) Let G be a finite group, $g \in G$

Then $|\langle g \rangle| \mid |G|$.

Proof For any subgroup H of G , $|H| \mid |G|$ since $|G| = |H| |G/H|$.

In particular $|\langle g \rangle| \mid |G|$.

Remark 13.1 Recall that $\langle g \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}_n$ where $n = |\langle g \rangle|$

and that $\langle g \rangle = \{e, g, g^2, \dots, g^{n-1}\}$ with $g^n = e$.

So, in particular $g^{|\langle g \rangle|} = e$.

Note: Since $|\langle g \rangle| \mid |G|$,

$g^{|G|} = e$ as well.

Fermat's little theorem. For any prime p , $k^p \equiv k \pmod{p}$.

Proof If $k \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$, not much to prove: $k^p \equiv 0^p \equiv 0 \equiv k \pmod{p}$.

Suppose $k \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ i.e. $p \nmid k$. Then $\gcd(k, p) = 1$

$\Rightarrow \exists x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$ s.t. $kx + py = 1$. $\Rightarrow \exists x \in \mathbb{Z}$ s.t. $kx \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$,

\Rightarrow If $[k] \in \mathbb{Z}_p$ and $[k] \neq [0]$, $\exists [x] \in \mathbb{Z}_p$ s.t. $[k][x] = [1]$

$\Rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_p^\times := \{[k] \in \mathbb{Z}_p \mid [k] \neq [0]\}$ is a group under multiplication.

By remark 13.1, $\forall [k] \in \mathbb{Z}_p^\times$

$$[k] | \mathbb{Z}_p^\times | = [1]$$

Since $|\mathbb{Z}_p^\times| = p-1$,

$$[k^{p-1}] = [1] \quad (\text{in } \mathbb{Z}_p)$$

i.e. $k^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$

$$\Rightarrow k^p \equiv k \pmod{p}$$

□

Corollary 13.2 Suppose G is a finite group and $p = |G|$ is prime. Then

1) The only subgroups of G are G and $\{e\}$.

2) $\forall g \in G, g \neq e$, $\langle g \rangle = G$, hence $G \simeq \mathbb{Z}_p$

3) For any group H and any homomorphism $f: G \rightarrow H$ either f is 1-1 or $f(g) = e_H \forall g \in G$.

Proof (1) If $H < G$ is a subgroup, then $|H| \mid |G| = p$. $\Rightarrow |H| = p$ or 1

$\Rightarrow H = G$ or $\{e\}$

(2) If $g \neq e$, then $\langle g \rangle \neq \{e\}$. But $\langle g \rangle$ is a subgroup. By (1), $\langle g \rangle = G$.

(3) $\ker f$ is a subgroup of G . Hence by (1) either $\ker f = \{e\}$ and then f is 1-1 or $\ker f = G$ and then $f(g) = e_H \forall g \in G$.

□

Definition A subgroup N of a group G is normal iff

$$\forall n \in N \quad \forall g \in G, \quad \boxed{gng^{-1} \in N}$$

Notation $N \triangleleft G$ if N is normal in G .

"Ex" If G is abelian (ie, commutative) then any subgroup N is normal. Reason: $\forall g \in G, \forall n \in N, gng^{-1} = gg^{-1}n = n$.

"Ex" G_i are always normal in G .

"Ex" Let $f: G \rightarrow H$ be a homomorphism. Then $N = \ker f$ is normal in G .

Check $\forall n \in \ker f, \forall g \in G$ $f(gng^{-1}) = f(g)f(n)(f(g))^{-1} = f(g)e_H(f(g))^{-1} = e_H$.

$\Rightarrow gng^{-1} \in \ker f$.

Hence $SO(2) \triangleleft O(2)$ since $SO(2) = \ker(\det: O(2) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^\times)$

$SL(n, \mathbb{R}) \triangleleft GL(n, \mathbb{R})$ since $SL(n, \mathbb{R}) = \ker(\det: GL(n, \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^\times)$.

Proposition 13.3 Let N be a subgroup of G .

N is normal in $G \Leftrightarrow gN = Ng \quad \forall g \in G$.

Proof (\Rightarrow) Suppose $N \triangleleft G$. Then $\forall n \in N, g \in G$

$$gn = (gng^{-1})g \in Ng \Rightarrow gN \subseteq Ng$$

$$\text{Similarly } ng = g \underbrace{g^{-1}ng}_{\in N} = gN \Rightarrow Ng \subseteq gN.$$

\therefore

Thus $N \triangleleft G \Rightarrow gN = Ng$.

(\Leftarrow) Suppose $gN = Ng \quad \forall g \in G$. Then $\forall g \in G \quad \forall n \in N$

$$gn \in gN = Ng \Rightarrow \exists n' \in N \text{ s.t. } gn = n'g \Rightarrow gng^{-1} = n' \in N.$$

$\therefore N \triangleleft G$. □

Note If $N \triangleleft G$ $N \backslash G = G/N$.

Corollary 13.4 Suppose N is a subgroup of G and $|G/N|=2$.
(G and N need not be finite). Then N is normal in G .

Proof By homework the map $G/N \rightarrow N \setminus G$, $gN \mapsto Ng^{-1}$
is a bijection. Hence since $|G/N|=2$, $|N \setminus G|=2$ as well.

Since cosets partition G , since N is a coset and since there only two
cosets all together, $G/N = \{N, G \setminus N\}$

Similarly $N \setminus G = \{N, G \setminus N\}$

Therefore, if $g \notin N$, $gN = G \setminus N = Ng$.

(and if $g \in N$, $gN = N = Ng$).

$\therefore \forall g \in G \quad gN = Ng$.

By 13.3, $N \triangleleft G$. □

Ex $G = S_3$ $N = \langle (123) \rangle$. Since (123) is a 3-cycle

$$|N|=3 \Rightarrow |S_3/N| = |S_3|/|N| = 3!/3 = 2$$

$$\Rightarrow N \triangleleft S_3.$$

Nonexample $\langle (12) \rangle$ is not normal in S_3

$$\text{since } S_3 / \langle (12) \rangle \neq \langle (12) \rangle \setminus S_3.$$

Next time (cf Thm 1 p 132 of Nicholson) let N be a normal subgroup
of a group G . Then the set $G/N = \{gN \mid g \in G\}$ has a unique
multiplication $*$ that makes G/N into a group and

$\pi: G \rightarrow G/N$, $\pi(g) = gN$ into a (group) homomorphism.