

Lecture 7: Normal Subgroup

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1 Cycle and Transposition

1.1 Definition

- A permutation which can be represented in a cyclic form is called a **cycle**.
- A permutation which replaces n objects cyclically is called a **cyclic** or **circular permutation of degree n**
- In a permutation, the cycle of length 2 is called **transposition**.

1.1.1 Example

Examples of Cycles and Degree of cycles

- Consider the permutation: $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 2 & 4 & 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$. This permutation can also be written in the cyclic form $(1\ 2\ 4\ 3)$ with a degree 4.
- Consider the permutation: $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$. This permutation can also be written in the cyclic form $(1) \circ (2) \circ (3) \circ (4)$. Each of the 4 cycle has degree 1 and the permutation has no transpositions or cycles of length 2.
- Consider the permutation: $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 2 & 1 & 4 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$. This permutation can also be written in the cyclic form $(1\ 2) \circ (3\ 4)$. Both the cycle has degree 2 and the permutation has 2 transpositions.
- Consider the group SG_3 and $\tau \in SG_3$. τ can also be written in the cyclic form as $(1) \circ (2\ 3)$. Here the 1st cycle has degree 1 and the 2nd cycle has degree 2. The permutation has only one transposition.

1.2 Even permutation

- If a permutation is a product of even number of transposition, then the permutation is called **even permutation**.
- An even permutation $\sigma \in SG_n$ is such that $A_\sigma \in GL_n(\mathbb{R})$ is obtained from $I_n \in M_n(\mathbb{R})$ by even number of column exchanges

Examples of even permutation

- $(1\ 2\ 3) = (1\ 3) \circ (1\ 2)$
- $(1\ 5\ 3\ 4\ 2) = (1\ 2) \circ (1\ 4) \circ (1\ 3) \circ (1\ 5)$
- Consider the following permutation: $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 & 10 \\ 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 1 & 9 & 10 & 8 \end{pmatrix}$. The cyclic form is $(1\ 2\ 3\ 4\ 5\ 6\ 7) \circ (8\ 9\ 10) = (1\ 7) \circ (1\ 6) \circ (1\ 5) \circ (1\ 4) \circ (1\ 3) \circ (1\ 2) \circ (8\ 10) \circ (8\ 9)$. The given permutation has 8 transpositions. Hence, the permutation is even permutation.

1.3 Odd permutation

- If a permutation is a product of odd number of transposition, then the permutation is called **odd permutation**.
- An even permutation $\sigma \in SG_n$ is such that $A_\sigma \in GL_n(\mathbb{R})$ is obtained from $I_n \in M_n(\mathbb{R})$ by odd number of column exchanges

Examples of odd permutation

- $(1\ 2\ 3\ 4) = (1\ 4) \circ (1\ 3) \circ (1\ 2)$
- $(1\ 6\ 5\ 3\ 4\ 2) = (1\ 2) \circ (1\ 4) \circ (1\ 3) \circ (1\ 5) \circ (1\ 6)$
- Consider the following permutation: $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 & 10 \\ 2 & 3 & 4 & 1 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 5 & 10 & 9 \end{pmatrix}$. The cyclic form is $(1\ 2\ 3\ 4) \circ (5\ 6\ 7\ 8) \circ (9\ 10) = (1\ 4) \circ (1\ 3) \circ (1\ 2) \circ (5\ 8) \circ (5\ 7) \circ (5\ 6) \circ (9\ 10)$. The given permutation has 7 transpositions. Hence, the permutation is odd permutation.

2 Relation between SG_n and GL_n

2.1 Permutation Matrix A_σ w.r.t a permutation $\sigma \in SG_n$

Consider the symmetric group of order 3 denoted by SG_3 and the identity matrix of order

3 which is $I_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

- Now $\tau'' = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$. Then $A_{\tau''} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ which is obtained by interchanging the

1st and 2nd column of I_3

- Now $\sigma = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 3 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$. In the same way, $A_\sigma = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ which is obtained by shifting

2nd column to the 1st column and 3rd column to the 2nd column and 1st column to the 3rd column of I_3 , i.e the j^{th} column of I_3 is replaced by the $\sigma(j)^{th}$ column.

3 Kernel of a Homomorphism

Consider a homomorphism $f : G \mapsto G'$. Let $g \in G$ and $h \in \ker f$. Now as $g, h \in G \implies ghg^{-1} \in G$.

Hence $f(ghg^{-1}) = f(g)f(h)f(g^{-1}) = f(g)e_{G'}f(g^{-1}) = f(g)f(g)^{-1} = e_{G'}$.

Hence, we can say that $ghg^{-1} \in \ker f$. This is true for all $h \in G$.

Therefore, $g\ker f g^{-1} \subseteq G$

Exercise

Prove that $\ker f \subseteq g \ker f g^{-1}, \forall g \in G$.

4 Monomorphism and $\ker f$

Theorem 4.1 Let $\phi : (G, \circ) \mapsto (G', *)$ be a homomorphism. Then ϕ is Monomorphism $\iff \ker \phi = \{e_G\}$. That is $\ker \phi$ has only one element e_G .

Proof.

(\implies) We have ϕ is one to one function. Then $\phi(e_G) = e_{G'} \implies e_G$ is a pre-image of $e_{G'}$.

Now as ϕ is one to one function, $e_{G'}$ will have only one pre-image $e_G \implies \ker f = \{e_G\}$

(\impliedby) We have $\ker f = \{e_G\}$ and let us assume that $a, b \in G$ and $\phi(a) = \phi(b)$. Then

$$\phi(a^{-1} \circ b) = \phi(a^{-1}) * \phi(b)$$

$$\phi(a^{-1} \circ b) = \phi(a)^{-1} * \phi(b) \text{ [As } \phi : G \mapsto G' \text{ is homomorphism } \implies \forall a \in G, \phi(a^{-1}) = \phi(a)^{-1} \text{]}$$

$$\phi(a^{-1} \circ b) = \phi(b)^{-1} * \phi(b) \text{ [As } \phi(a) = \phi(b) \text{]}$$

$$\phi(a^{-1} \circ b) = e_{G'}$$

$$\text{As } \ker \phi = \{e_G\} \implies \ker \phi \text{ has only one element } \implies a = b$$

Hence, we have shown that $\phi(a) = \phi(b) \implies a = b \implies \phi$ is one-to-one function. □

Examples related to theorem 1

- Consider $f : (\mathbb{Z}, +) \mapsto (SG_2, \circ)$. The function f defined as :

$$f(z) = \begin{cases} e & \text{if } z \text{ is even} \\ \tau & \text{if } z \text{ is odd} \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

We can see that $\ker f = 2\mathbb{Z} \neq \{0\} \implies f$ is not one-to-one i.e f is not monomorphism.

- Consider $f : (GL_n(\mathbb{R}), *) \mapsto (GL_1(\mathbb{R}), *)$. the function f defined as:

$$f(A) = \det(A) \quad (2)$$

We know the identity element of $(GL_1(\mathbb{R}), *)$ is $e'_G = 1$. Hence $\ker f = \{A \in GL_1(\mathbb{R}) \text{ where } \det(A) = 1\}$. We can say that $I_n \in \ker f$ and $RrI_n \in \ker f$ where RrI_n is all row reversed identity matrix of order n . Hence $\ker f \neq \{I_n\} \implies f$ is not monomorphism

5 Normal Subgroup

5.1 Definition

Let, G be a group and H is a sub group of G . H is called normal subgroup of G iff $\forall g \in G$ $gHg^{-1} = H$.

Here, $\forall g \in G$ the set $gHg^{-1} = \{ghg^{-1} | \forall h \in H\}$.

Notation: H , a subgroup of G is denoted as $H \triangleleft G$.

Exercise

Prove that gHg^{-1} is a subgroup of G , where H is a subgroup of G and $g \in G$.

5.2 Examples of Normal subgroups

- For any homomorphism $f : G \mapsto G'$, $\ker f \triangleleft G$.
- If G is commutative group, then any subgroup of G is a normal sub group of G

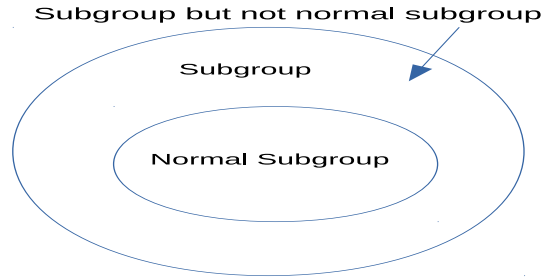


Figure 1: Subgroup and Normal subgroup.

5.3 Subgroup vs Normal subgroup

Example of subgroup which is not normal subgroup

Consider the SG_3 group and subgroup $H = \{e, \tau\}$. Here $\forall a \in SG_3, a \circ H \neq H \circ a$. Hence, $H = \{e, \tau\}$ is subgroup of SG_3 but not normal subgroup of SG_3 .

Exercise

- Is there any non-trivial Normal subgroup of the group SG_3 ?
- Show that $\{e, \sigma, \sigma'\}$ is a normal subgroup of the group SG_3 .

5.4 Special Linear Group

We are given with $f : (GL_n(\mathbb{R}), *) \mapsto (GL_1(\mathbb{R}), *)$. the function f defined as:

$$f(A) = \det(A) \tag{3}$$

then $\ker f = \{A \in GL_n(\mathbb{R}) \text{ where } \det(A) = 1\}$. Now $\ker f$ is a special linear group of order n , denoted by $SL_n(\mathbb{R})$.

- $SL_n(\mathbb{R})$ is also normal subgroup of $GL_n(\mathbb{R})$ under matrix multiplication.

5.5 Alternating group

Consider the groups $SG_n, GL_n(\mathbb{R}), GL_1(\mathbb{R})$. From the section 2.1, we have

$$f : (SG_n, \circ) \mapsto (GL_n(\mathbb{R}), *) \tag{4}$$

From 5.4, we have

$$g : (GL_n(\mathbb{R}), *) \mapsto (GL_1(\mathbb{R}), *) \quad (5)$$

From 4 and 5, we have

$$h = g \circ f : (SG_n, \circ) \mapsto (GL_1(\mathbb{R}), *) \quad (6)$$

Now $\ker h = \ker g \circ f = \{\sigma : \text{where } \det(A_\sigma) = 1\}$ also called the **Alternating group** denoted by AG_n .

- Alternating group AG_n is also Normal subgroup.

5.6 Center of a Group

Let us assume that (G, \circ) is a group. H be a subset of G defined as $H = \{x \in G : x \circ g = g \circ x \forall g \in G\}$. The set H , called **center of the group G** is subgroup of G .

- Center of a group G is denoted by $Z(G)$.
- Elements of the group $Z(G)$ are called **central element of G** .
- $Z(G)$ is commutative subgroup of group.
- G is commutative group $\implies Z(G) = G$.

Example: Elements of $Z(\mathbb{Z})$ that is center of the group $(\mathbb{Z}, +)$

$$Z(\mathbb{Z}) = \{\dots, -3, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots\} = \mathbb{Z}$$

Example: Elements of $Z(\mathbb{R}^*)$ that is center of the group $(\mathbb{R}^*, *)$

$$Z(\mathbb{R}^*) = \mathbb{R}^*$$

Exercise

- Prove that $Z(G) \triangleleft G$

5.7 Aut G

Given a homomorphism f where $f : G \mapsto G$. $\text{Aut } G$ defined as set of homomorphism from G to G .

$$\text{Aut } G = \{f \mid f : G \mapsto G\}$$

Exercise

- Prove that $(\text{Aut}(G), \circ)$ is a group.

- $\text{Aut } G$ is non-abelian group.