

3 Conjugacy

Definition: 1) An element $g \in G$, a group, is conjugate to $g' \in G$ if and only if there exists $h \in G$ such that:

$$hgh^{-1} = g'$$

2) The orbit under conjugation of $g \in G$ is called the conjugacy class of g . We denote this class by $\text{cc}_G(g)$.

$$\text{So } \text{cc}_G(g) = \{hgh^{-1} \mid h \in G\}$$

Examples: 0) The identity element e in a group G is a conjugacy class of its own.

$$\begin{aligned} G(e) &= \{g(e) \mid g \in G\} \\ &= \{\underbrace{geg^{-1}}_e \mid g \in G\} \\ &= \{e \mid g \in G\} \\ &= \{e\}. \end{aligned}$$

i) In an abelian group G , any conjugacy class has size (cardinality) equal to 1.

$$\begin{aligned} G(g) &= \{g'(g) \mid g' \in G\} \\ &= \{g'gg'^{-1} \mid g' \in G\} \\ &= \{g \mid g' \in G\}; \quad G \text{ abelian, } g'g = gg' \\ &= \{g\}. \end{aligned}$$

Consequence: in an abelian group all the conjugacy classes consist of a single element.

Conversely, suppose G acts on itself by conjugation, and each conjugacy class is of size 1, then G must be abelian.

Take $g, h \in G$, to prove: $gh = hg$, i.e. $ghg^{-1} = h$.

But ghg^{-1} is in the orbit of h ;

$$G(h) = \{\underbrace{g(h)}_{ghg^{-1}} \mid g \in G\}$$

and by assumption, this orbit has a single element.

Also h is in this orbit, so ghg^{-1} and h have to agree.

Conclusion: G is abelian, giving:

Proposition: Conjugacy classes in G are all size 1 $\Leftrightarrow G$ is abelian.

Examples: 1) C_n = cyclic group of order n , $n \geq 1$
 $= \{e^{2\pi i k/n} \mid k \in \mathbb{Z}\}$
 $= \{e^{2\pi i k/n} \mid 0 \leq k < n\}$

C_n is abelian so has conjugacy classes:

$$\{e^0\}, \{e^{2\pi i/n}\}, \dots, \{e^{2\pi i(n-1)/n}\}.$$

2) The symmetric group S_3 .

$$\text{cl}_{S_3}(e) = \{e\}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{cl}_{S_3}((123)) &= \left\{ \begin{array}{l} e(123)e^{-1} \\ (123)(123)(123)^{-1} \\ (321)(123)(321)^{-1} \\ (12)(123)(12)^{-1} \\ (13)(123)(13)^{-1} \\ (23)(123)(23)^{-1} \end{array} \right\} = (123) \\ &\quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} (12)(123)(12)^{-1} \\ (13)(123)(13)^{-1} \\ (23)(123)(23)^{-1} \end{array} \right\} = (132) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \{(123), (132)\} \\ &= \text{cl}_{S_3}((132)). \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{cl}_{S_3}((12)) &= \{(12), (13), (23)\} \quad (\text{Exercise}) \\ &= \text{cl}_{S_3}((13)) \\ &= \text{cl}_{S_3}((23)) \end{aligned}$$

Conclusion: The conjugacy classes in S_3 are

$$\{e\}, \{(123), (132)\}, \{(12), (13), (23)\}.$$

i.e. all 1-cycles together, all 2-cycles together, and all 3-cycles together, in one conjugacy class each.

3) $A_3 \leq S_3$ is abelian, so conjugacy classes are:

$$\{(1)\}, \{(123)\}, \{(132)\}.$$

4) The Dihedral group

$$D_5 = \langle r, h \mid r^5 = h^2 = e, hr = r^{-1}h \rangle$$

has its elements listed as: $\{r^j h^i \mid 0 \leq j \leq 4, 0 \leq i \leq 1\}$

Conjugacy class of r^k , in D_5 , k fixed ($0 \leq k \leq 4$):

$$\begin{aligned} \text{col}_{D_5}(r^k) &= \{r^j h^i r^k (r^j h^i)^{-1} \mid 0 \leq j \leq 4, 0 \leq i \leq 1\} \\ &= \{r^j h^i r^k h^{-i} r^{-j} \mid 0 \leq j \leq 4, 0 \leq i \leq 1\} \\ &= \{r^j r^k r^{-j} \mid 0 \leq j \leq 4, i=0\} \\ &\quad \cup \{r^j h r^k h r^{-j} \mid 0 \leq j \leq 4, i=1\} \\ &= \{r^k\} \cup \underbrace{\{r^j h h r^{-j} r^{-k} r^j\}}_{r^{-k}} \mid 0 \leq j \leq 4 \\ &= \{r^k, r^{-k}\}. \end{aligned}$$

This has two elements for $1 \leq k \leq 4$, and one element for $k=0$.

Similarly for $r^k h$, k fixed:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{col}_{D_5}(r^k h) &= \{r^j r^k h r^{-j} \mid 0 \leq j \leq 4, i=0\} \\ &\quad \cup \{r^j h r^k h h r^{-j} \mid 0 \leq j \leq 4, i=1\} \\ &= \{r^j r^k r^j h \mid 0 \leq j \leq 4\} \\ &\quad \cup \{r^j r^{j-k} h \mid 0 \leq j \leq 4\} \\ &= \{r^{2j+k} h \mid 0 \leq j \leq 4\} \\ &\quad \cup \{r^{2j-k} h \mid 0 \leq j \leq 4\}. \end{aligned}$$

These are the same set since $r^{2j} = r^0, r^2, r^4, r^6 = r, r^8 = r^3$

$$= \{r^i h \mid 0 \leq i \leq 4\}$$

independent of k .

Summary: the conjugacy classes in D_5 are:

$$\{e\}, \{r, r^{-1}\} = \{r^4, r^{-4}\}, \{r^2, r^{-2}\} = \{r^3, r^{-3}\}, \{h, rh, r^2h, r^3h, r^4h\}.$$

These are the orbits. Stabilizers:

$$\begin{aligned} G_e &= \{g \in G \mid geg^{-1} = e\} = D_5 \\ G_r &= \langle r \rangle = G_{r^2} = G_{r^3} = G_{r^4} \quad (5 \text{ elements in each}) \\ G_{r^k h} &= \{e, r^k h\} \quad (2 \text{ elements in each}) \end{aligned}$$

Exercise: Work out Cayley's Theorem for $G = S_3$ acting on itself by conjugation.

Prepare for statement relating orbits and stabilizers.

Recall: A (left) coset of a subgroup $H \leq G$ is an equivalence class under the equivalence relation $\sim$, where

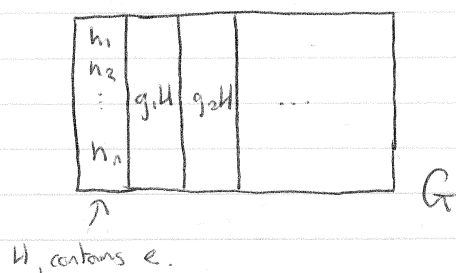
$$g_1 \sim g_2 \iff g_1^{-1}g_2 \in H$$

The equivalence classes, denoted

$$gH = \{gh \mid h \in H\}$$

are then called (left) cosets of H in G .

Note: G is split into slices of the same size, i.e. $|H|$



Theorem: (Orbit-Stabilizer Theorem)

Suppose G acts on a set X , then for any $x \in X$, there is a bijection:

$$\begin{aligned} \beta: G(x) &\xrightarrow{1:1} \{\text{left cosets of } G_x \text{ in } G\} \\ \text{given by } g(x) &\longmapsto gG_x \end{aligned}$$

Proof: Preconsideration:

$$\begin{aligned} g(x) = h(x) &\iff \inf_{e \in G_x} g^{-1}g(x) = g^{-1}h(x) \\ &\iff x = g^{-1}h(x) \\ &\iff g^{-1}h \in G_x \\ &\iff g^{-1}hG_x = G_x \\ &\iff hG_x = gG_x. \end{aligned}$$

From this we get

i) Well-definedness of β (using $\Rightarrow$)

ii) Injectivity of β (using $\Leftarrow$)

For iii) Surjectivity:

Given any coset C on RHS, we take any element in it, say $\tilde{g}$.

$$\text{So then } C = \tilde{g} G_x$$

[$\tilde{g} = \tilde{g}e$ is in both, and equivalence classes are disjoint or agree]

Then take $\tilde{g}(x)$, for which

$$\beta(\tilde{g}(x)) = \tilde{g} G_x = C$$

Corollary: If G is finite, acting on a finite set X , then

$$|G(x)| \cdot |G_x| = |G|, \text{ for any } x \in X.$$

i.e. The size of its orbit $G(x)$ is 'complementary' to the size of its stabilizer G_x .

Proof: By the Orbit-Stabilizer Theorem, get

$$\Rightarrow \begin{array}{c} G(x) \xleftrightarrow{1:1} \{ \text{left cosets of } G_x \text{ in } G \} \\ |G(x)| = |\{ \text{left cosets of } G_x \text{ in } G \}| \end{array}$$

But all the cosets under G_x have the same size, i.e.

$$|G_x| = |eG_x| = |gG_x| \text{ for any } g \in G.$$

Hence $\frac{|G|}{|G_x|}$ is the number of cosets of G_x in G , so

$$|G(x)| = \frac{|G|}{|G_x|}$$

Claim follows.

Note: This still makes sense for infinite groups if we write it as $|G(x)| |G_x| = |G|$.

[Calculus for cardinal numbers]

Corollary: If the finite group G acts on (itself (by conjugation)) or the finite set X , then the orbit lengths all divide the group order.

$$\forall x \in X \quad |G(x)| \text{ divides } |G|.$$

In particular, the size of the conjugacy classes in G divide $|G|$.

Examples: 1) D_n , for n odd has orbits and stabilizers under conjugation as:

Elements	e	$r \quad r^{-1}$	$r^2 \quad r^{-2}$	$\dots$	$r^{\frac{n-1}{2}} \quad r^{-\frac{(n-1)}{2}}$	$h \quad rh \quad \dots \quad r^{n-1}h$
Orbits	$\{e\}$	$\{r, r^{-1}\}$	$\{r^2, r^{-2}\}$	$\dots$	$\{r^{\frac{n-1}{2}}, r^{-\frac{(n-1)}{2}}\}$	$\{h, rh, \dots, r^{n-1}h\}$
Sizes	1	2	2	$\dots$	2	n
Stabilizers	D_n	$\langle r \rangle$	$\langle r \rangle$	$\dots$	$\langle r \rangle$	$\langle h \rangle \quad \langle rh \rangle \quad \dots \quad \langle r^{n-1}h \rangle$
Sizes	$2n$	n	n	$\dots$	n	2 2 $\dots$ 2

2) For infinite groups:

$G = \mathbb{Z}$ acting on $X = \mathbb{R}$ by

$$n \mapsto \varphi(n) : \mathbb{R} \longrightarrow \mathbb{R} \\ r \mapsto (-1)^n r.$$

Elements	0	$r \neq 0$
Orbits	$\{0\}$	$\{r, -r\}$
Sizes	1	2
Stabilizers	$\mathbb{Z}$	$2\mathbb{Z}$
Sizes of set of cosets in $\mathbb{Z}$	1	2
(order of quotient group)	$ \mathbb{Z}/\mathbb{Z} = 1$	$ \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} = 2$

Question: Let G act on X . Suppose x and y are in the same G -orbit. Then G_x and G_y are conjugate to each other, and, so $|G_x| = |G_y|$, i.e.

$$G_x = h G_y h^{-1}, \text{ for some } h \in G$$

Proof: x, y in the same orbit means $x = h(y)$ for some $h \in G$.

Now $G_x = \{g \in G \mid g(x) = x\}$, rewrite

$$\begin{aligned} G_x &= G_{h(y)} \\ &= \{g \in G \mid g(h(y)) = h(y)\} \\ &= \{g \in G \mid \underbrace{h^{-1}(g(h(y)))}_{=: g'(y)} = \underbrace{h^{-1}h(y)}_y\} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{So } h^{-1}gh = g' \Rightarrow g = hg'h^{-1} \\ &= \{hg'h^{-1} \mid g'(y) = y\} \\ &= h \underbrace{\{g' \mid g'(y) = y\}}_{G_y} h^{-1} \\ &= h G_y h^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

Use action of a group on a set for the first 'structural' result on groups, a partial converse to Lagrange's Theorem.

Theorem: (Cauchy)

Let G be a finite group and p a prime such that $p \mid |G|$. Then there is a subgroup of G of order p .

Proof: Want to find an $x \in G$ st $x^p = e$, $x \neq e$.

Idea: Look at $\underbrace{G \times G \times \dots \times G}_p \text{ factors}$ $[:= (((G \times G) \times G) \times \dots) \times G]$, again a group, and at the subset

$$\Omega := \{(x_1, \dots, x_p) \in G \times \dots \times G \mid x_1 x_2 \dots x_p = e\}.$$

There is a natural group action of $\mathbb{Z}_p$ on $G \times G \times \dots \times G$, by 'cyclically shifting'.

$$\bar{1} \in \mathbb{Z}_p : (x_1, \dots, x_p) \mapsto (x_2, x_3, \dots, x_p, x_1)$$

$$\bar{m} \in \mathbb{Z}_p : (x_1, \dots, x_p) \mapsto (x_{m+1}, \dots, x_p, x_1, \dots, x_m)$$

This action induces an action of $\mathbb{Z}_p$ also on Ω .

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 \dots x_p = e &\Rightarrow x_2 \dots x_p = x_1^{-1} \quad ; \quad x_1^{-1} \text{ on left} \\ &\Rightarrow x_2 \dots x_p x_1 = e \quad ; \quad x_1 \text{ on right} \end{aligned}$$

hence:

$$\begin{aligned} (x_1, \dots, x_p) \in \Omega &\Rightarrow (x_2, \dots, x_p, x_1) \in \Omega \\ &\Rightarrow (x_{m+1}, \dots, x_p, x_1, \dots, x_m) \in \Omega \end{aligned}$$

Now the size of any $\mathbb{Z}_p$ -orbit in Ω divides $|\mathbb{Z}_p| = p$, so size is 1 or p .

Clearly we know at least one orbit of size 1,

$$(e, \dots, e) \in \Omega \subset G \times \dots \times G$$

But $|\Omega| = |G|^{p-1}$, since we can independently choose $x_1, \dots, x_{p-1}$, then $x_p := (x_1 \dots x_{p-1})^{-1}$ complements this to an element in Ω .

In particular $p \mid |\Omega| = |G|^{p-1} = (p \cdot d)^{p-1}$, hence there must be another orbit (in fact at least $p-1$) of size 1, since

$$\Omega = \bigcup \{\text{orbits of size 1}\} \cup \bigcup \{\text{orbits of size } p\}$$

$$\Rightarrow |\Omega| = \underbrace{\sum_{\text{orbits of size 1}} 1}_{\text{need another to make this divisible by } p} + \sum_{\text{orbits of size } p} p \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$$

need another to make this divisible by p .

Such an orbit necessarily has the form $\{(g, g, \dots, g)\} \subset \Omega$ with $g \neq e$.

This g does it, since $(g, g, \dots, g) \in \Omega$, so get $g \dots g = g^p = e$

Theorem: Any group G of order $2p$, p prime, is either cyclic or dihedral.

Proof: $p=2$: We know that only $\mathbb{Z}_4$ and $V_4 \cong \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2 \cong D_2$ exist as groups of order 4.

$p \geq 3$: Use Cauchy's Theorem to find elements a and b of order 2 and p respectively.

With $B = \langle b \rangle$, then

$$G = \underbrace{\langle b \rangle}_{\text{subgroup } B} \cup \underbrace{a \langle b \rangle}_{\text{coset w.r.t. subgroup } B}$$

[Proof: a cannot be in $\langle b \rangle$, a has even order, any element in $\langle b \rangle$ has odd order.]

ANT: G

In order to relate to dihedral relation, try to find ba in one of these cosets.

It cannot lie in $\langle b \rangle$ [Otherwise $ba = b^k$, for some k , hence $a = b^{k-1}$, contradiction]

Hence must be of the form ab^k , for some $1 \leq k \leq p-1$.

$$\begin{aligned} ba &= ab^k \\ \Rightarrow aba &= b^k \quad ; \text{ multiply by } a \text{ on left} \\ \Rightarrow b &= ab^ka \quad ; \text{ same on right} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} b &= ab^ka \\ &= \underbrace{(aba)(aba) \dots (aba)}_{k \text{ factors}} \\ &= (aba)^k \\ &= (b^k)^k \\ &= b^{k^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{So } k^2 - 1 &= 0 \pmod{p} \\ \Rightarrow k &= 1 \quad \text{or} \quad k = p-1 \equiv -1 \pmod{p} \end{aligned}$$

First case $\Rightarrow$ cyclic group
Second case $\Rightarrow$ dihedral relations, dihedral group.

Congruency Classes of S_n

Definition: let $x \in S_n$ be a permutation given in disjoint cycle form:

$$x = (a_1^{(1)} a_2^{(1)} \dots a_{k_1}^{(1)}) (a_1^{(2)} \dots a_{k_2}^{(2)}) \dots (a_1^{(r)} \dots a_{k_r}^{(r)})$$

with $1 < k_1 \leq k_2 \leq \dots \leq k_r$, and $n \geq k_1 + k_2 + \dots + k_r$.

Then we say that x has cycle shape (or cycle type) $[k_1, k_2, \dots, k_r]$.

For $x = (1)$, we put $[1]$

Example: $(157)(23)(4610) = (23)(157)(4610) \in S_{10}$,
has cycle shape $[2, 3, 3]$.

Example: $(157)(23)(4510)$ is not in disjoint cycle form.

It is $(23)(151047)$ so has cycle shape $[2, 5]$.

lemma: let $\alpha = (i_1 i_2 \dots i_k)$ be a k -cycle in S_n ,
 then for any $g \in S_n$ we can "read off" the
 conjugate element of α by g as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} g(\alpha) &:= g\alpha g^{-1} \\ &= (\underbrace{g(i_1)}_{\in \{1, \dots, n\}} \ g(i_2) \ \dots \ g(i_k)) \end{aligned}$$

Here g is viewed as a permutation of $\{1, \dots, n\}$, in
 2-row notation

$$g = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & \dots & n \\ g(1) & g(2) & \dots & g(n) \end{pmatrix}$$

Proof: Put $T = \{i_1, \dots, i_k\}$ the indices in α .

Take any $r \in \{1, \dots, k\}$, then

$$\begin{aligned} g\alpha g^{-1}(g(i_r)) &= g\alpha(g^{-1}(g(i_r))) ; g^{-1}g = e \\ &= \underbrace{g\alpha(i_r)}_{i_{r+1}} \\ &= g(i_{r+1}) \end{aligned}$$

For any other $i \in \{1, \dots, n\} - T$, get

$$\begin{aligned} g\alpha g^{-1}(g(i)) &= g\alpha(i) ; \alpha(i) = i \\ &= g(i) \end{aligned}$$

Hence as a permutation, $g\alpha g^{-1}$ can be written as

$$(g(i_1) \ g(i_2) \ \dots \ g(i_k))$$

Example: $\alpha = (1345)$, $g = (12)(345)$

$$\begin{aligned} g\alpha g^{-1} &= \underbrace{(12)(345)}_g (1345) \underbrace{(543)(21)}_{g^{-1}} \\ &= (2453) \end{aligned}$$

or

$$g = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 \\ 2 & 1 & 4 & 5 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$(g(1) \ g(3) \ g(4) \ g(5)) = (2 \ 4 \ 5 \ 3) \quad \checkmark$$

ANT: G

Theorem: For $x \in S_n$, the conjugacy class $\text{conj}_{S_n}(x)$ consists of all the elements in S_n of the same cycle shape as x .

Proof: Lemma shows this for x a k -cycle, $k \leq n$.

More generally write

$$x = (a_1^{(1)} \dots a_{k_1}^{(1)}) \dots (a_1^{(r)} \dots a_{k_r}^{(r)})$$

as a product of disjoint cycles. Then

$$\begin{aligned} g x g^{-1} &= g (a_1^{(1)} \dots a_{k_1}^{(1)}) \dots (a_1^{(r)} \dots a_{k_r}^{(r)}) g^{-1} \\ &= g (a_1^{(1)} \dots a_{k_1}^{(1)}) g^{-1} g \dots g^{-1} g (a_1^{(r)} \dots a_{k_r}^{(r)}) g^{-1} \\ &= (g(a_1^{(1)}) \dots g(a_{k_1}^{(1)})) \dots (g(a_1^{(r)}) \dots g(a_{k_r}^{(r)})) \end{aligned}$$

is of the same cycle shape, all $g(a_i^{(j)})$ are mutually different!

Conversely let x be as above, and

$$y = (b_1^{(1)} \dots b_{k_1}^{(1)}) \dots (b_1^{(r)} \dots b_{k_r}^{(r)})$$

be of the same cycle shape. Then form a bijection $\{1, \dots, n\} \rightarrow \{1, \dots, n\}$ by putting

$$g(a_i^{(j)}) = b_i^{(j)}$$

and extending to a bijection in any way, so $g x g^{-1} = y$.

Example: In S_4 , cycle shapes, and representative of the conjugacy class:

Cycle Shape:	[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]	[2, 2]
Representative:	(1)	(12)	(123)	(1234)	(12)(34)

How many elements are there of a given cycle shape in S_n ?

1) Suppose $x = (i_1 \dots i_k)$ is a single k -cycle. Then

For i_1 have n choices, then
 for i_2 have $n-1$ choices, then
 for i_3 have $n-2$ choices, then
 :

for $i \neq k$ have $n - (k - 1)$ choices.

We have overcounted as each k cycle has k ways in which we can write it.

So

$$\gamma(n; k) := \frac{n(n-1) \cdots (n-k+1)}{k}$$

is the number of elements in the conjugacy class $\text{cl}_{S_n}(x)$.

- 2) Suppose x is of cycle shape $[k_1, \dots, k_r]$ with strict inequalities $1 < k_1 < k_2 < \dots < k_r$, a product of r disjoint cycles of different lengths.

Then

$$\gamma(n; k_1, \dots, k_r) := \gamma(n; k_1) \gamma(n - k_1, k_2) \cdots \gamma(n - k_1 - k_2 - \dots - k_{r-1}, k_r)$$

is the number of elements in $\text{cl}_{S_n}(x)$.

- 3) Suppose x is of arbitrary cycle shape $[k_1, \dots, k_r]$, $1 < k_1 < k_2 < \dots < k_r$, then

$\underbrace{\quad}_{s_1 \text{ times}} \quad \underbrace{\quad}_{s_r \text{ times}}$

$$\gamma(n; \underbrace{k_1, \dots, k_1}_{s_1}, \underbrace{k_2, \dots, k_2}_{s_2}, \dots, \underbrace{k_r, \dots, k_r}_{s_r})$$

overcounts by $s_1! \cdot s_2! \cdot \dots \cdot s_r!$ (we can permute the cycles of length k_1 , and can permute the cycles of length k_2 ...).

So

$$\frac{\gamma(n; k_1, \dots, k_1, \dots, k_r, \dots, k_r)}{s_1! \cdots s_r!}$$

is the number of elements in $\text{cl}_{S_n}(x)$.

Examples: 1) S_4 cycle shapes:

Cycle Shapes	$[1]$	$[2]$	$[3]$	$[4]$	$[2, 2]$
Expression for number of elements	1	$\frac{4 \cdot 3}{2}$	$\frac{4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2}{3}$	$\frac{4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1}{4}$	$\frac{\frac{4 \cdot 3}{2} \cdot \frac{2 \cdot 1}{2}}{2}$
Number of elements	1	6	8	6	3

2) S_7 : number of elements of cycle shape $[2,2,2]$

$$\frac{7 \cdot 6}{2} \cdot \frac{5 \cdot 4}{2} \cdot \frac{3 \cdot 2}{2} = 105$$

Conjugacy Classes in A_n .

Observe, since $A_n \subseteq S_n$, that

$$\begin{aligned} \text{cl}_{A_n}(x) &= \{g x g^{-1} \mid g \in A_n\} \\ &= \{g x g^{-1} \mid g \in S_n, g \text{ even}\} \\ &\subseteq \{g x g^{-1} \mid g \in S_n\} \\ &= \text{cl}_{S_n}(x). \end{aligned}$$

So $\text{cl}_{A_n}(x) \subseteq \text{cl}_{S_n}(x)$.

Sometimes these agree, sometimes they don't.

Proposition: let $n \geq 2$, and $x \in A_n$, then.

i) If x commutes with some odd permutation in S_n , then $\text{cl}_{A_n}(x) = \text{cl}_{S_n}(x)$.

ii) Otherwise $\text{cl}_{S_n}(x)$ splits into two conjugacy classes,

$$\text{cl}_{A_n}(x) \quad \text{and} \quad \text{cl}_{A_n}((12)x(12)^{-1})$$

of the same size.

Proof: i) let $x \in A_n$, suppose $g \in S_n$, g odd, commutes with x .

Now let $y \in \text{cl}_{S_n}(x)$, want to show $y \in \text{cl}_{A_n}(x)$.
have that $y = h x h^{-1}$ for some $h \in S_n$.

Case 1: h even, then we are done.

Case 2: h odd, then

$$\begin{aligned} (hg)x(hg)^{-1} &= hg x g^{-1} h^{-1} \\ &= h x \underbrace{g g^{-1}}_e h^{-1} \\ &= h x h^{-1} \\ &= y \end{aligned}$$

But hg is even (both h and g are odd),
and so $y \in \text{ccol}_{A_n}(x)$.

ii) Now suppose x does not commute with any odd permutation in S_n .

Then the stabilizers of $x \in S_n$ and A_n agree:

$$\begin{aligned}(S_n)_x &= \{g \in S_n \mid \underbrace{g(x)}_{\text{action by conjugation}} = x\} \\&= \{g \in S_n \mid gxg^{-1} = x\} \\&= \{g \in S_n \mid gxg^{-1} = x, g \text{ odd}\} \\&\quad \cup \{g \in S_n \mid gxg^{-1} = x, g \text{ even}\}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{But } \{g \in S_n \mid gxg^{-1} = x, g \text{ odd}\} &= \{g \in S_n \mid gx = xg, g \text{ odd}\} \\&= \emptyset \text{ by assumption, so}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}&= \{g \in S_n \mid gxg^{-1} = x, g \text{ even}\} \\&= \{g \in A_n \mid gxg^{-1} = x\} \\&= (A_n)_x.\end{aligned}$$

Corollary to Orbit-Stabilizer Theorem gives

$$\begin{aligned}|S_n| &= |\text{ccol}_{S_n}(x)| \cdot |(S_n)_x|, \text{ and} \\|A_n| &= |\text{ccol}_{A_n}(x)| \cdot |(A_n)_x|\end{aligned}$$

Since $|S_n| = 2|A_n|$, we get:

$$|\text{ccol}_{S_n}(x)| = 2|\text{ccol}_{A_n}(x)|$$

Finally note that: $\text{ccol}_{A_n}((12)x(12)^{-1}) = \{h x h^{-1} \mid h \in S_n, h \text{ odd}\}$
So:

$$\text{ccol}_{S_n}(x) = \text{ccol}_{A_n}(x) \cup \text{ccol}_{A_n}((12)x(12)^{-1})$$

Example: In S_5 , the conjugacy class of the cycle (123) stays the same in A_5 , e.g. take (45)

For (12345) the conjugacy class in S_5 splits into two classes in A_5 , it only commutes with its powers — even.

Example: For $n = 3$, in S_3

S_3 -Cycle Shapes	$[1]$	$[2]$	$[3]$
Representative	(1)	(12)	(123)

ANT: G

 A_3 conjugacy classes.

$[1]$, the identity obviously stays.
 $[2]$, odd so doesn't appear

Question: Does (123) commute with some odd permutation,
 i.e. with (12) , (23) or (13) ?

No! So $\text{ccl}_{S_3}((123))$ splits into two conjugacy classes
 of the same size, i.e. size 1.

So A_3 conjugacy classes: $\{(1)\}$, $\{(123)\}$, $\{(132)\}$.

Example: For $n=4$, in S_4

S_4 -Cycle Shapes Representatives	$[1]$ (1)	$[2]$ (12)	$[3]$ (123)	$[4]$ (1234)	$[2,2]$ (12)(34)
Number of Elements	1	$\frac{4 \times 3}{2}$ = 6	$\frac{4 \times 3 \times 2}{3}$ = 8	$\frac{4 \times 3 \times 2 \times 1}{4}$ = 6	$\frac{4 \times 3}{2} \times \frac{2 \times 1}{2}$ = 3^2
Pass to A_4 conjugacy class	$\{(1)\}$	X	Possibly splits	X	Stays, i.e. size is odd so can't split, is $(12)(34)$

Claim: $[3]$ splits into two classes of size 4.

$g(123)g^{-1} = (123)$ implies $(g(1)g(2)g(3)) = (123)$
 hence either:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{i)} \quad & g(1) = 1 \\ & g(2) = 2 \\ & g(3) = 3 \end{aligned}$$

$$g = (1)(2)(3), \text{ even permutation}$$

$$\text{or ii)} \quad \begin{aligned} & g(1) = 2 \\ & g(2) = 3 \\ & g(3) = 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$g = (123), \text{ even.}$$

$$\text{or iii)} \quad \begin{aligned} g(1) &= 3 \\ g(2) &= 1 \\ g(3) &= 2 \end{aligned}$$

$$g = (132), \text{ even.}$$

Hence the Proposition ii) implies the class splits.

A nice combinatorial application of group actions and conjugacy.

Question: How many orbits under a group action do we have?

Theorem: (Burnside's Counting Theorem)

Let G (finite) act on X (finite), then the number of orbits under G in X is given by

$$\frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} |X^g|$$

where $X^g := \{x \in X \mid g(x) = x\}$, i.e. the elements in X fixed by g .

Proof: Use two ways to count a certain subset of $G \times X$.

$$\begin{aligned} Y &:= \{(g, x) \in G \times X \mid g(x) = x\} \\ &= \bigcup_{g \in G} \{(g, x) \in \{g\} \times X \mid g(x) = x\} \\ &\xrightarrow{\text{bijection}} \bigcup_{g \in G} X^g, \text{ where } X^g = \{x \in X \mid g(x) = x\} \end{aligned}$$

But:

$$\begin{aligned} Y &= \{(g, x) \in G \times X \mid g(x) = x\} \\ &= \bigcup_{x \in X} \{(g, x) \in G \times \{x\} \mid g(x) = x\} \\ &\xrightarrow{\text{bijection}} \bigcup_{x \in X} G_x, \text{ where } G_x = \{g \in G \mid g(x) = x\}. \end{aligned}$$

So:

$$\bigcup_{g \in G} X^g = \bigcup_{x \in X} G_x$$

Now take sizes on both sides, and get

$$\sum_{g \in G} |X^g| = \sum_{x \in X} \underbrace{|G_x|}_{|G|/|G(x)|} = |G| \sum_{x \in X} \frac{1}{|G(x)|}$$

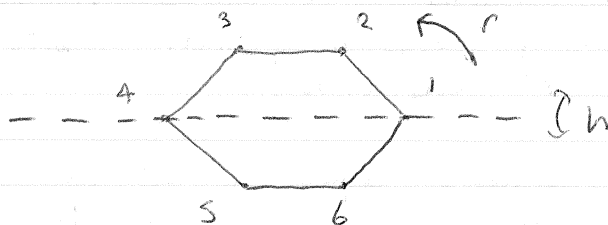
ANT: G

Only need to show

$$\sum_{x \in X} \frac{1}{|G(x)|} \text{ coincides with the number of orbits.}$$
But X decomposes into a disjoint union of the orbits.

$$X = G(x_1) \cup G(x_2) \cup \dots \cup G(x_r)$$

Simple observation that two elements in the same orbit have the same orbit length, to conclude

Examples: 1) let $G = D_6$ be the symmetry group acting on the set X of vertices of a regular hexagon.

$$D_6 = \langle r, h \mid r^6 = h^2 = e, rh = hr^{-1} \rangle$$

Number of orbits?

Burnside Counting:

g	X^g	$ X^g $
e	X	$ X = 6$
r	$\emptyset$	0
r^2	$\emptyset$	0
$r^j, 1 \leq j \leq 5$	$\emptyset$	0
h	$\{1, 4\}$	2
hr	$\emptyset$	0
hr^2	$\{3, 6\}$	2
hr^3	$\emptyset$	0
hr^4	$\{2, 5\}$	2
hr^5	$\emptyset$	0

So:

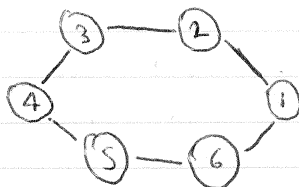
$$\frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} |X^g| = \frac{1}{12} (6 + 2 + 2 + 2 + \underbrace{0 + \dots + 0}_{8 \text{ times}})$$

$$= 1$$

And indeed there is even a rotation that maps any given vertex to any other.

2) How many different bracelets with 6 beads can we get using red, green and blue beads?

Form a bracelet by putting one bead at each of the 6 vertices of a hexagon. The chain being the union of its sides.



Possible layouts: $L = \{(c_1, \dots, c_6) \mid c_i \in \{\text{red, green, blue}\}\}$
 How many different such layouts? 3^6 to start with.
 But we overcounted!

Two bracelets agree if we can map them into each other by a symmetry of D_6 .

Hence:

$$\begin{aligned} & |\{\text{different bracelets of the above kind}\}| \\ &= |\{\text{orbits of } L \text{ under the action of } D_6\}| \\ &= \frac{1}{|D_6|} \sum_{g \in G} |L^g| \end{aligned}$$

by Burnside Counting.

Remark: i) x, y in same orbit $\Rightarrow |G_x| = |G_y|$ (previously)
 ii) g, g' in the same conjugacy class $\Rightarrow |X^g| = |X^{g'}|$

Example: (2 continued)

Conjugacy classes of G	Representative	As Permutation	$(c_1, \dots, c_6) \in L^g$	$ L^g $	$ cl(g) $
$\{e\}$	e	$(1)(2)(3)(4)(5)(6)$	$a_1 a_2 a_3 a_4 a_5 a_6$	3^6	1
$\{r, r^{-1}\}$	r	(123456)	$c_1 = c_2 = \dots = c_6$	3	2
$\{r^2, r^{-2}\}$	r^2	$(135)(246)$	$c_1 = c_3 = c_5, c_2 = c_4 = c_6$	3^2	2
$\{r^3\}$	r^3	$(14)(25)(36)$	$c_1 = c_4, c_2 = c_5, c_3 = c_6$	3^3	1
$\{h, hr^2, hr^4\}$	h	$(1)(26)(35)(4)$	$c_2 = c_6, c_3 = c_5$	3^4	3
$\{hr, hr^3, hr^5\}$	hr	$(16)(25)(34)$	$c_1 = c_6, c_2 = c_5, c_3 = c_4$	3^3	3

ANT: G

So by Burnside:

$$= \frac{\text{Number of Different Bracelets}}{\text{Number of Orbits}}$$

$$= \frac{1}{12} (3^6 \cdot 1 + 3 \cdot 2 + 3^2 \cdot 2 + 3^3 \cdot 1 + 3^4 \cdot 3 + 3^3 \cdot 3)$$

$$= \frac{1}{12} ((3^6 + 3^5 + 3^4 + 3^3 + 3^2 + 3) + (3^2 + 3))$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} ((3^5 + 3^4 + 3^3 + 3^2 + 3^1 + 3^0) + (3 + 1))$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} \left(\frac{3^6 - 1}{3 - 1} + 4 \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} (364 + 4)$$

$$= 92$$

Exercise: How many ways are there to paint the faces of a dodecahedron with 3 colours, upto rotation?

(Result should be divisible by 1011)

Classification of Groups of Order p^2 , p prime.

Definition: (Recall)

The centre of a group G , $Z(G)$, is defined as

$$\begin{aligned} Z(G) &= \{g \in G \mid g \text{ commutes with any } h \in G\} \\ &= \{g \in G \mid hg = gh, \forall h \in G\} \end{aligned}$$

Remark: 1) Precisely the elements in $Z(G)$ have conjugacy class of size 1.

2) $Z(G) \subseteq G$, for any $h \in G$, action by conjugation

3) $Z(G) = G \iff G$ is abelian

4) $Z(G)$ is a group.

Proposition: Let p be a prime, and G a group, with $|G| = p^r$, for some $r \geq 1$, then $Z(G)$ is non-trivial.

Proof: (Argument similar to in Cauchy's Theorem)

$G = \bigcup \text{cc}_G(x)$, a disjoint union of its conjugacy classes.

$$\Rightarrow |G| = \sum |\text{cc}_G(x)| \quad (*)$$

The only possible orbit sizes are p^i , $0 \leq i \leq r$, they have to divide $|G|$, the group order.

Assume $Z(G) = \{e\}$, then by remark 1), all other conjugacy classes have size divisible by p .

But then $p \mid$ LHS of $(*)$, but RHS of $(*)$ is $1 (p)$.

Corollary: If $|G| = p^2$, for p prime, then G is abelian.

Proof: By the proposition above, we get $Z(G) \neq \{e\}$.

Since $Z(G)$ is a subgroup, its order has to divide p^2 , hence $|Z(G)| = p$ or p^2 .

Case 1: $|Z(G)| = p^2$, then $G = Z(G)$ hence G is abelian.

Case 2: $|Z(G)| = p$, assume $h \in G - Z(G)$.

Then in particular, $|\text{cc}_G(h)| > 1$, moreover it has to divide $|G| = p^2$.

Furthermore, $p = |Z(G)| \leq |G_n|$, by remark 2)

Now Orbit-Stabilizer Theorem, for h :

$$\underbrace{|\text{cc}_G(h)|}_{\geq p} \cdot \underbrace{|G_n|}_{\geq p} = \underbrace{|G|}_{= p^2}$$

Hence $|\text{cc}_G(h)| = |G_n| = p$.

But then $Z(G) \subset G_n$ implies $Z(G) = G_n$, both of the same order.

Then $h \in G_n = Z(G)$.

Conclusion: $|Z(G)| = p$ cannot hold.

Corollary: let G be of order p^2 , p prime, then

$$G \cong \mathbb{Z}_{p^2}, \text{ or } G \cong \mathbb{Z}_p \times \mathbb{Z}_p$$

Proof: Case 1: $\exists g \in G$ of order p^2 , then $G = \langle g \rangle$, is necessarily cyclic of order p^2 .

Case 2: No element $g \in G$ of order p^2 exists. Then each element $g \in G$, $g \neq e$, has order p .

Hence take $g \in G - \{e\}$, and form $U = \langle g \rangle$, this is cyclic of order p .

In order to apply our criterion for a group being written as a product of two of its subgroups, try to establish a second subgroup K , with $UK = G$ and $U \cap K = \{e\}$.

ii) Take any $K \in G - U$, and put $K = \langle K \rangle$, then K is cyclic of order p , and $U \cap K = \{e\}$.

[Suppose $K^r = g^s$, for some $r, s \in \mathbb{Z}$, with $\gcd(s, p) = 1$.

Then $(K^r)^t = (g^s)^t = g^1 = g$, for appropriate $t \in \mathbb{Z}$, using the Euclidean algorithm so $st + pr = 1$.

$$\Rightarrow g \in \langle K \rangle$$

$$\Rightarrow g^r \in \langle K \rangle, \forall r \in \mathbb{Z}$$

$$\Rightarrow U = K$$

But $K \in G - U$, so $K \notin U$.]

$$i) UK = \{g^i k^j \mid 0 \leq i, j \leq p-1\}.$$

All these are different, so cardinality is p^2 , hence $UK = G$.

iii) $hk = kh \quad \forall h \in U, k \in K$, clear due to previous corollary, that G is abelian.

Upshot: by our criterion, we conclude

$$G \cong U \times K \cong \mathbb{Z}_p \times \mathbb{Z}_p$$

Mention Sylow Theorem (cf Q51).

Theorem: (Sylow)

Let G be a group of order $p^r m$, p prime, where $\gcd(p, m) = 1$. Then there is a subgroup of G of order p^r .

In fact we can find a subgroup of order p^s , $0 \leq s \leq r$.

[Compare with Cauchy's Theorem where $r = 1$].

Normal Subgroups, Quotient Groups, and the First Isomorphism Theorem.

A subgroup $H < G$ partitions G into left cosets, but also into right cosets. These do not have to agree.

Example: $D_3 = \langle r, h \mid r^3 = h^2 = e, rh = hr^{-1} \rangle$

Take $H = \langle h \rangle = \{e, h\}$

Then the left cosets of H in D_3 are:

$$\begin{aligned} eH &= \{e, h\} \\ rH &= \{r, rh\} \\ r^2H &= \{r^2, r^2h\} \end{aligned}$$

But the right cosets of H in D_3 are:

$$\begin{aligned} He &= \{e, h\} \\ Hr &= \{r, hr\} \\ Hr^2 &= \{r^2, hr^2\} \end{aligned}$$

These two partitions are different, eg.

$$rH \cap Hr = \{e\}, \text{ as } rh \neq hr.$$

Definition: A subgroup N is called a normal subgroup in G if

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

equivalently if $gNg^{-1} = N \quad \forall g \in G$, or
equivalently if $\forall g \in G, \forall h \in N, ghg^{-1} = h'$, for some $h' \in N$

We write $N \trianglelefteq G$.

ANT: G

Examples: 0) Trivial normal subgroups of G are:

$$\{e\}, \text{ since } g\{e\} = \{g\} = \{e\}g, \forall g \in G$$

$$G, \text{ since } gG = G = Gg, \forall g \in G.$$

1) Suppose $H < G$ is a subgroup such that $|G|/|H| = 2$, H is of index 2 in G , then H is a normal subgroup of G .

Proof: Left cosets are H, gH ; for any $g \notin H$.
Right cosets are H, Hg .

One of the cosets agrees, hence the second cosets must agree as well, G is partitioned, i.e.

$$gH = G \setminus H = Hg$$

2) $A_n \triangleleft S_n$

$$C_n = \langle r \rangle \triangleleft D_n = \langle r, h \mid r^n = h^2 = e, h r h^{-1} = r^{-1} \rangle$$

Proposition: If $N < G$, is a subgroup, then

$$N \triangleleft G \iff N \text{ is the union of conjugacy classes in } G$$

Proof: " $\Leftarrow$ ": Suppose N is the union of conjugacy classes in G . Then with $h \in N$, we also need $ghg^{-1} \in N$ for any $g \in G$.

But ghg^{-1} is in the same conjugacy class as h , hence is indeed in N .

So N is normal using the third equivalence above.

" $\Rightarrow$ ": Suppose $N \triangleleft G$; with $h \in N$, we have $ghg^{-1} \in N$ by the above criterion, $\forall g \in G$.

Hence $\text{cl}_G(h) = \{ghg^{-1} \mid g \in G\}$, the conjugacy class of h in G , lies in N .

Hence N must be a union of conjugacy classes in G .

Corollary: $Z(G)$ is a normal subgroup of G

Proof: $Z(G)$ is the union of all 1 element conjugacy classes in G , and $Z(G)$ is a subgroup.

Examples: 1) Find all the normal subgroups of S_4 :

— $\{e\}$, and S_4 itself are normal in S_4 , the 'trivial normal subgroups' in S_4 .

Use criterion above, the conjugacy classes in S_4 are:

Cycle Shape	$[1]$	$[2]$	$[3]$	$[4]$	$[2,2]$
Number of elements	1	6	8	6	3

Now try to find sums of these orders which add up to a divisor of $|S_4| = 24$, by Lagrange.

— $1 + 3$ is a possibility

— $6 + 6 \nmid 24$, but the union of the corresponding conjugacy classes would not form a group, it doesn't contain the identity.

— $1 + 3 + 8$ is the only other possibility

First case: $\text{ccl}_{S_4}((1)) \cup \text{ccl}_{S_4}((12)(34))$, this is a group isomorphic to the Klein-4-group.

Second case: $\text{ccl}_{S_4}((1)) \cup \text{ccl}_{S_4}((12)(34)) \cup \text{ccl}_{S_4}((123))$, these are precisely the even permutations in S_4 which indeed form a subgroup, A_4 .

2) Non-trivial normal subgroups of A_4 :

Conjugacy classes in A_4 are the conjugacy classes of

Representative	(1)	(123)	(132)	$(12)(34)$
Size	1	4	4	3

Find sums of these which divide $|A_4| = 12$, where 1 is a summand.

Only possibility is: $1 + 3$, and indeed $\text{ccl}_{A_4}((1)) \cup \text{ccl}_{A_4}((12)(34))$ gives the Klein-4-group.

Reminiscent of characterising ideals as distinguished subrings.

Normal subgroups are kernels of homomorphisms of groups. They guarantee a structure of a group on the set of cosets with respect to that subgroup.

Proposition: let $N \triangleleft G$, then

$$i) (gN) \cdot (hN) = (gh)N$$

ii) With the product induced by i), the set

$$G/N = \{gN \mid g \in G\}$$

of cosets, forms a group.

iii) The map:

$$\pi : G \rightarrow G/N \\ g \mapsto gN$$

gives a homomorphism of groups. Its kernel is given by N .

$$\text{Proof: } i) \quad (gN)(hN) = g(Nh)N \\ = g(hN)N \\ = (gh)N$$

ii) Identity element in $G/N = \{gN \mid g \in G\}$ is $eN = N$.

Inverse element of gN in G/N is given by $g^{-1}N$.

Associativity follows from in G

$$iii) \quad \pi(g_1 g_2) = (g_1 g_2)N \\ = (g_1 N)(g_2 N) \quad ; \text{ by i) } \\ = \pi(g_1) \pi(g_2)$$

Hence π is indeed a homomorphism, and

$$\ker \pi = \{g \in G \mid gN = N\} \\ = \{g \in G \mid g \in N\} \\ = N$$

Since $gN = N \Rightarrow ge = g \in N$, and $g \in N \Rightarrow gN = N$.

Definition: let $N \triangleleft G$, then $G/N = \{gN \mid g \in G\}$, with multiplication as in the proposition, is called the quotient group of G wrt N .

As for rings, a central statement for groups is:

Theorem: (First Isomorphism Theorem (for Groups)):

let $\phi: G \rightarrow G'$ be a homomorphism of groups, then

- i) $\ker \phi \triangleleft G$
- ii) There exists an isomorphism

$$\bar{\phi}: G/\ker \phi \xrightarrow{\cong} \phi(G) \leq G'$$

In particular, if ϕ is surjective, then

$$G/\ker \phi \cong G'$$

Proof: i) Put $N := \ker \phi$

Show that $gNg^{-1} = N$, $\forall g \in G$, whence $N \triangleleft G$

$$\begin{aligned} x \in gNg^{-1} &\Leftrightarrow x = ghg^{-1} \text{ for some } h \in N \\ &\Leftrightarrow g^{-1}xg \in N \\ &\Leftrightarrow \phi(g^{-1}xg) = e_{G'} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\stackrel{\text{homomorphism}}{\Leftrightarrow} \phi(g)^{-1} \phi(x) \phi(g) = e_{G'} \\ &\Leftrightarrow \phi(x) = \phi(g) \phi(g)^{-1} \\ &\Leftrightarrow \phi(x) = e_{G'} \\ &\Leftrightarrow x \in \ker \phi = N, \forall g \in G \end{aligned}$$

ii) We first check that ϕ respects cosets:

$$\begin{aligned} \phi(gN) &= \{ \phi(gh) \mid h \in N \} \\ &= \{ \underbrace{\phi(g)}_{e_{G'}} \underbrace{\phi(h)}_{e_{G'}} \mid h \in N \} \\ &= \{ \phi(g) \} \end{aligned}$$

So define:

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{\phi}: G/\ker \phi &\longrightarrow \phi(G) \\ gN &\longmapsto \phi(g) \end{aligned}$$

[Take $\phi(gN) = \{ \phi(g) \}$, then take the unique

element in that set $\mathbb{I}$

— $\bar{\phi}$ is a homomorphism of groups:

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{\phi}((gN)(hN)) &= \bar{\phi}(ghN) \\ &= \phi(gh) \\ &= \phi(g)\phi(h) \quad ; \phi \text{ homomorphism} \\ &= \bar{\phi}(gN)\bar{\phi}(hN)\end{aligned}$$

— $\bar{\phi}$ is surjective onto $\phi(G)$

[clear!]

— $\bar{\phi}$ is injective:

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{\phi}(gN) = \bar{\phi}(hN) &\Rightarrow \phi(g) = \phi(h) \quad ; \text{by definition of } \phi \\ &\Rightarrow \phi(gh^{-1}) = e_G \\ &\Rightarrow gh^{-1} \in N \\ &\Rightarrow gN = hN.\end{aligned}$$

Examples: 1) let

$$\begin{aligned}\phi : S_n &\longrightarrow \{\pm 1\} \cong \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \\ \sigma &\longmapsto \text{sign}(\sigma) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \sigma \text{ even} \\ -1 & \text{if } \sigma \text{ odd} \end{cases}\end{aligned}$$

Then $\ker \phi = \{\text{even permutations in } S_n\} = A_n$
and by the First Isomorphism Theorem, since $\phi(S_n) = \{\pm 1\}$, we get

$$S_n/A_n \xrightarrow{\cong} \{\pm 1\}$$

2a) let

$$\begin{aligned}\psi : \mathbb{C}^* &\longrightarrow \mathbb{R}_{>0} \\ z &\longmapsto |z|\end{aligned}$$

both with multiplication as the binary operation

— ψ is a homomorphism of groups

$$\begin{aligned}\psi(z_1 z_2) &= |z_1 z_2| \\ &= |z_1| |z_2| \quad ; \text{Complex Analysis} \\ &= \psi(z_1) \psi(z_2)\end{aligned}$$

— φ is surjective.

Suppose $r \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}$, then also have
 $r \in \mathbb{C}^* \Rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{>0}$, and

$$\varphi(r) = |r| = r.$$

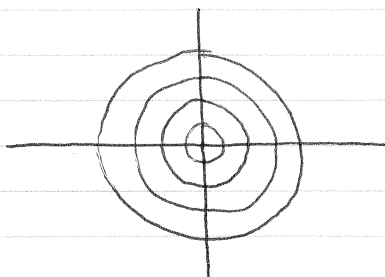
— $\ker \varphi = \{ z \in \mathbb{C}^* \mid |z| = 1 \}$
 identity in $\mathbb{R}_{>0}$ under multiplication

The unit sphere, S^1

F.I.T. then implies

$$\mathbb{C}^* / S^1 \xrightarrow{\cong} \mathbb{R}_{>0}$$

where the cosets on the left are the circles with centre 0 ($\in \mathbb{C}$).



b) Here

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi : \mathbb{C}^* &\longrightarrow S^1 \\ z &\longmapsto \frac{z}{|z|} \end{aligned}$$

- φ a homomorphism (clear)
- φ surjective (clear)
- $\ker \varphi = \mathbb{R}_{>0}$

So F.I.T. implies

$$\mathbb{C}^* / \mathbb{R}_{>0} \xrightarrow{\cong} S^1$$

3) Want a surjective homomorphism $S_4 \rightarrow S_3$

let S_4 act on the set

$$X = \{ \underbrace{(14)(23)}_{x_1}, \underbrace{(13)(24)}_{x_2}, \underbrace{(12)(34)}_{x_3} \}$$

by conjugation. (X is a conjugacy class in S_4 !)

Then we get a homomorphism

$$\varphi: S_4 \longrightarrow S_X \cong S_{|X|} = S_3$$

where S_X is the bijections of X .

Eg.

$$(12) \longmapsto \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \mapsto (24)(13) = x_2 \\ x_2 \mapsto (23)(14) = x_1 \\ x_3 \mapsto (21)(34) = x_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

or as a bijection is, $(x_1, x_2) \in S_X$

$$(13) \longmapsto (x_1, x_3) \in S_X$$

$$(14)(23) \longmapsto e \in S_X, \text{ the identity in } S_X$$

Now φ is surjective, (x_1, x_2) and (x_1, x_3) generate S_X , so we get a surjective homomorphism $S_4 \rightarrow S_3$.

$\ker \varphi$ contains $(14)(23)$, hence, as it is normal, it also contains the whole $\text{cl}_{S_4}((14)(23))$, together with e_{S_4} , the identity.

Hence $|\ker \varphi| \geq 4$.

In fact, this is an equality

$$|S_4| / |\ker \varphi| = |S_4 / \ker \varphi|$$

$$= |S_X| \quad ; \text{ FIT implies } S_4 / \ker \varphi \cong S_X$$

$$= |S_3|$$

$$= 6$$

Hence $|\ker \varphi| = 4$.

Conclusion :

$$\begin{aligned} \ker \psi &= \{e, (12)(34), (13)(24), (14)(23)\} \\ &\cong V_4 \end{aligned}$$

And

$$S_4/V_4 \xrightarrow{\cong} S_3$$

4 Finitely Generated Abelian Groups.

Definition: $G = \langle g_1, \dots, g_r \rangle$ is finitely generated if there exists $r \geq 0$, and there exists $g_1, \dots, g_r \in G$ such that any $g \in G$ can be represented in terms of the g_i .

Examples: 1) $\mathbb{Z} = \langle 1 \rangle$
 $= \langle 2, 3 \rangle$
 $= \langle 257, 36, \dots \rangle$

2) $\mathbb{Z}_n = \langle \bar{1} \rangle$

3) $\mathbb{Z}_n^*$ is

E.g. $\mathbb{Z}_{15}^* \cong \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_4 = \langle (\bar{1}, \bar{0}), (\bar{0}, \bar{1}) \rangle$

4) $\mathbb{Z}_5 \times \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} = \langle (\bar{1}, 0, 0), (\bar{0}, 1, 0), (\bar{0}, 0, 1) \rangle$

Non-example: $\mathbb{Q}$ is not finitely generated.

[Suppose $\mathbb{Q} = \langle \frac{p_1}{q_1}, \dots, \frac{p_r}{q_r} \rangle$, $p_i, q_i \in \mathbb{Z}$

Then any element by the $\frac{p_i}{q_i}$ is a $\mathbb{Z}$ -linear combination of these, hence has a denominator dividing $\text{lcm}(q_1, \dots, q_r)$, so can never generate all of $\mathbb{Q}$]

From now on write groups additively, so

$$G = \langle g_1, \dots, g_r \rangle = \{ a_1 g_1 + \dots + a_r g_r \mid a_i \in \mathbb{Z}, 1 \leq i \leq r \}$$

First 'insight': Can write any such G as a homomorphic image of some $\mathbb{Z}^m$, where we can choose m as the number of some set of generators, via

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi : \mathbb{Z}^r &\longrightarrow G = \langle g_1, \dots, g_r \rangle \\ (a_1, \dots, a_r) &\longmapsto a_1 g_1 + \dots + a_r g_r \end{aligned}$$

Theorem: Any finitely generated abelian group G can be written as

$$G \cong \mathbb{Z}^n / K$$

for some $n \geq 0$, $K \leq \mathbb{Z}^n$.

Proof: Use F.I.T.

Definition: In the situation of the theorem, we call $\underline{a} \in K$ a relation and K the relation subgroup of G .

Moreover if there are no non-trivial relations in K , i.e. if $a_1 g_1 + \dots + a_n g_n = 0$ implies $a_1 = \dots = a_n = 0$, then G is called a free abelian group of rank n .

II And $G \cong \mathbb{Z}^n / \{0\}$, which is clearly isomorphic to $\mathbb{Z}^n$ II

Proposition: Every subgroup H of $\mathbb{Z}^n$ is itself a free abelian group generated by $r \leq n$ elements (i.e. of rank $\leq n$)

Proof: (Idea)

For $\mathbb{Z}$ it is well known from previous, this is $n=1$.

For $n \geq 2$ use induction on n ; crucial idea is to look at subgroups $H_0 \leq H$ with

$$H_0 = \{(a_1, \dots, a_n) \in H \mid a_n = 0\}$$

Either $H_0 = H$ or $H \cong H_0 \times \langle \underline{b} \rangle$, with $\underline{b} = (b_1, \dots, b_n)$, $b_n \neq 0$.

Remark: By the proposition, an $H \leq \mathbb{Z}^n$ is finitely generated, i.e. is of the form

$$H = \langle \underline{a}_1, \dots, \underline{a}_m \rangle$$

for some $a_i \in \mathbb{Z}^n$, $m \leq n$.

Form a matrix:

$$A = A(H) = \begin{pmatrix} \underline{a}_1 \\ \underline{a}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \underline{a}_m \end{pmatrix}$$

Definition: If $G \cong \mathbb{Z}^n / H$, then $A = A(H)$ is called a relation matrix for G .

Proposition: i) Any matrix $A \in M(m, n, \mathbb{Z})$ can be transformed into a matrix $\tilde{A} \in M(m, n, \mathbb{Z})$ in "diagonal form" using only elementary row and column operations.

Here elementary column operations are of the following kind

- 1) Multiply a column by -1
- 2) Swap two columns
- 3) Add an integer multiple of some column to another one.

And similarly with elementary row operations.

Here $\tilde{A}$ is in diagonal form if its entries $\tilde{a}_{jk} = 0$ whenever $j \neq k$.

- ii) Moreover, we can achieve that the entries $\tilde{a}_{ii}$ in $\tilde{A}$ successively divide each other:

$$\tilde{a}_{11} \mid \tilde{a}_{22} \mid \dots \mid \tilde{a}_{nn}$$

Example:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 8 & -4 & 22 \\ 4 & -8 & 8 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow[r_1 \leftrightarrow r_2]{\sim} \begin{pmatrix} 4 & -8 & 8 \\ 8 & -4 & 22 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\xrightarrow[r_2 \rightarrow r_2 - 2r_1]{\sim} \begin{pmatrix} 4 & -8 & 8 \\ 0 & 12 & 6 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\xrightarrow[c_2 \rightarrow c_2 + c_1]{\sim} \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 0 & 8 \\ 0 & 12 & 6 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\xrightarrow[c_3 \rightarrow c_3 - 2c_1]{\sim} \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 12 & 6 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\xrightarrow[c_2 \leftrightarrow c_3]{\sim} \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 6 & 12 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\xrightarrow[c_3 \rightarrow c_3 - 2c_2]{\sim} \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 6 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \tilde{A}$$

This is now in diagonal form. Note this does not satisfy the requirements in ii) since $4 \nmid 6$. Manipulate further.

$$\begin{pmatrix} 4 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 6 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow[c_2 \rightarrow c_2 + c_1]{\sim} \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 6 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} r_1 \mapsto r_1 - r_2 \\ \sim \end{array} \begin{pmatrix} 4 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 6 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} c_1 \leftrightarrow c_2 \\ \sim \end{array} \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 4 & 0 \\ 6 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} r_2 \mapsto r_2 + 3r_1 \\ \sim \end{array} \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 12 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} c_2 \mapsto c_2 + 2c_1 \\ \sim \end{array} \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 12 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} c_1 \mapsto -1 \times c_1 \\ \sim \end{array} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 12 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

which does satisfy the requirements in ii) since $2 \mid 12$.

This is used in the following typical setting.

Example: let G be the group generated by $n=3$ generators x, y, z , subject to the following relations

$$\begin{aligned} 8x - 4y + 22z &= 0 \\ 4x - 8y + 8z &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Then we can write $G = \mathbb{Z}^3 / U$, where

$$U = \langle (8, -4, 22), (4, -8, 8) \rangle$$

With the relation matrix as above:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 8 & -4 & 22 \\ 4 & -8 & 8 \end{pmatrix}$$

Found we can 'diagonalize' A to $\tilde{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 6 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$, from this we can read off, after completing $\tilde{A}$ to a square matrix (by possibly adding zeros):

$$\rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 6 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

That

$$G \cong \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z} \times \underbrace{\mathbb{Z}/0\mathbb{Z}}_{\cong \mathbb{Z}}$$

ANT: G.

This is an example of the following:

Theorem: (Fundamental Theorem of Finitely Generated Abelian Groups)

Let G be a finitely generated abelian group. Then G is isomorphic to a group of the following form:

$$\mathbb{Z}_{d_1} \times \mathbb{Z}_{d_2} \times \dots \times \mathbb{Z}_{d_k} \times \mathbb{Z}^r$$

with $r \geq 0$, $k \geq 0$, $d_j \geq 1$ for $1 \leq j \leq k$.

Moreover if we require

$$d_1 \mid d_2 \mid d_3 \mid \dots \mid d_k, \text{ and } d_1 > 1 \quad (*)$$

then this form is in fact unique.

Definition: The number r as in the theorem is called the rank of G , and the $d_1, \dots, d_k$ are called the torsion invariants of G if they satisfy $(*)$

Remark: i) G (as in the theorem) is finite $\Leftrightarrow r = 0$

ii) $r = k = 0$ means G is the trivial group.

iii) Whenever we have an entry in the relation matrix A (diagonalised), which is ± 1 , then we can ignore the corresponding factor in the direct product:

$$\mathbb{Z}/1\mathbb{Z} \cong \{e\}.$$

iv) The torsion invariants have to be given with repetitions, i.e.

$$\mathbb{Z}_7 \times \mathbb{Z}_7 \times \mathbb{Z}_{105}$$

has torsion invariants '7, 7, 105', not '7, 105'.

Applications:

— Classify all ~~finite~~ abelian groups of a given order, up to isomorphism.

Examples: i) Classify all abelian groups of order 8.

By the theorem any such is isomorphic to a

product of the form

$$\mathbb{Z}_{d_1} \times \cdots \times \mathbb{Z}_{d_k}$$

with $d_1 | \cdots | d_k$, and $d_1 \cdots d_k = 8 = 2^3$, hence $k \leq 3$.

Rephrase condition $d_1 | d_2$ as:

"exponent of 2 in $d_1 \leq$ exponent of 2 in d_2 "

And similarly for $d_i | d_{i+1}$.

Hence looking for $d_1 | \cdots | d_k$ such that $d_1 \cdots d_k = 8$ is equivalent to looking for non-decreasing partitions of 3 (the exponent of 2)

i.e. $1, 1, 1$
or $1, 2$
or 3

So

	$n_1 = n_2 = n_3 = 1$	$n_1 = 1, n_2 = 2$	$n_1 = 3$
As a partition	1, 1, 1	1, 2	3
Corresponding d_j	$2^1, 2^1, 2^1$	$2^1, 2^2$	2^3
Corresponding group	$\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$	$\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_4$	$\mathbb{Z}_8$

This is a complete list, up to isomorphism!

2) Classify all abelian groups of order $200 = 2^3 \times 5^2$.

The only primes involved are 2 and 5. By the theorem we need to find all possibilities

$d_1, \dots, d_k$ such that $d_1 \cdots d_k = 200$, and $d_1 | \cdots | d_k$, and $d_i > 1$.

Condition $d_1 | d_2$ translates as:

"exponent of 2 in $d_1 \leq$ exponent of 2 in d_2 ", and
"exponent of 5 in $d_1 \leq$ exponent of 5 in d_2 ".

Similarly for any $d_i | d_{i+1}$.

We need to find all

— non-decreasing partitions of 3 (exponent of 2)
 $\llbracket$ seen: $1, 1, 1$; $1, 2$; 3 $\rrbracket$

— non-decreasing partitions of 2 (exponent of 5)
 $\llbracket$ seen: $1, 1$ and 2 $\rrbracket$

These partitions are independent, hence overall we get $3 \times 2 = 6$ possibilities for a pair (non-decreasing partition of 3, non-decreasing partition of 2).
 So:

	Partitions					
Exponent of 2	$1, 1, 1$	$1, 1, 1$	$1, 2$	$1, 2$	3	3
Exponent of 5	$1, 1$	2	$1, 1$	2	$1, 1$	2
Corresponding d.i.	$2, 10, 10$ $\uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow$ $2^1 5^0 \quad 2^1 5^1 \quad 2^1 5^1$	$2, 2, 50$	$10, 20$	$2, 100$	$5, 40$	200
Corresponding group	$\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_{10} \times \mathbb{Z}_{10}$	$\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_{50}$	$\mathbb{Z}_{10} \times \mathbb{Z}_{20}$	$\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_{100}$	$\mathbb{Z}_5 \times \mathbb{Z}_{40}$	$\mathbb{Z}_{200}$

This is a complete list of all abelian groups of order 200.

— Determine the number of elements of a given order in some abelian group

Definition: let G be a finite group, (using multiplicative notation):

$$A_m(G) := |\{g \in G \mid g^m = e\}|$$

$$= |\{g \in G \mid \text{order of } g \text{ divides } m\}|$$

$$O_m(G) := |\{g \in G \mid g \text{ has order precisely } m\}|$$

$$= |\{g \in G \mid g^m = e, g^k \neq e \text{ for } 1 \leq k < m\}|$$

Exercise: " A_m is multiplicative", i.e.

$$A_m(G \times H) = A_m(G) A_m(H)$$

for G, H abelian.

Warning: The corresponding statement for O_m is not true (in general)

Proposition: $A_m(\mathbb{Z}_n) = \gcd(m, n)$.

Relating A_m and O_m :

For a prime p , and $r \geq 0$, we have, for G abelian

$$\begin{aligned} \{g \in G \mid g^{p^r} = e\} &= \{g \in G \mid \text{order of } g \text{ is } p^r\} \\ &\cup \{g \in G \mid \text{order of } g \text{ is } p^{r-1}\} \\ &\vdots \\ &\cup \{g \in G \mid \text{order of } g \text{ is } p^0 = 1\}. \end{aligned}$$

a disjoint union, so:

$$A_{p^r}(G) = O_{p^r}(G) + O_{p^{r-1}}(G) + \dots + O_{p^0}(G)$$

$$\text{And so } O_{p^r}(G) = A_{p^r}(G) - A_{p^{r-1}}(G).$$

Example: Find the number of elements of order 8 in

$$\mathbb{Z}_{12} \times \mathbb{Z}_{40} \times \mathbb{Z}_{102}$$

Proposition, and multiplicativity give for

$$\begin{aligned} A_8(\mathbb{Z}_{12} \times \mathbb{Z}_{40} \times \mathbb{Z}_{102}) &= A_8(\mathbb{Z}_{12}) A_8(\mathbb{Z}_{40}) A_8(\mathbb{Z}_{102}) \\ &= \gcd(8, 12) \gcd(8, 40) \gcd(8, 102) \\ &= 4 \times 8 \times 2 \\ &= 64 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then } O_{2^3}(\mathbb{Z}_{12} \times \mathbb{Z}_{40} \times \mathbb{Z}_{102}) &= A_{2^3}(\mathbb{Z}_{12} \times \mathbb{Z}_{40} \times \mathbb{Z}_{102}) - A_{2^2}(\mathbb{Z}_{12} \times \mathbb{Z}_{40} \times \mathbb{Z}_{102}) \\ \text{and:} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} A_{2^2}(\mathbb{Z}_{12} \times \mathbb{Z}_{40} \times \mathbb{Z}_{102}) &= 4 \times 4 \times 2 \\ &= 32 \end{aligned}$$

So:

$$\begin{aligned} O_8(\mathbb{Z}_{12} \times \mathbb{Z}_{40} \times \mathbb{Z}_{102}) &= O_{2^3}(\mathbb{Z}_{12} \times \mathbb{Z}_{40} \times \mathbb{Z}_{102}) \\ &= 64 - 32 \\ &= 32 \end{aligned}$$

So there are 32 elements of order exactly 8.

Remark: For non-prime powers m , one can use a kind of inclusion-exclusion principle, eg.

$$O_6(G) = A_6(G) - A_3(G) - A_2(G) + A_1(G).$$