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Theorem Let  $G$  be a group,  $H \leq G$ . The following are equivalent.

- 1)  $H \triangleleft G$ ; 2)  $gHg^{-1} = H, \forall g \in G$ ; 3)  $ghg^{-1} \in H, \forall h \in H, g \in G$ .  
4)  $gHg^{-1} \subseteq H, \forall g \in G$ .

Theorem If  $H \leq G, [G:H] = 2$ , then  $H \triangleleft G$ .

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### Warm-up:

1) True or False:

If  $H, K \leq G$ , then  $H \cup K \leq G$ . False.

Counterexample:  $\langle a \rangle \leq V, \langle b \rangle \leq V$ , but  $\sim[(\langle a \rangle \cup \langle b \rangle) \leq V]$ .

However, this proof cannot be extended to more than 2 subgroups without proof by induction.

For example,  $V = \{e, a, b, c\} = \langle a \rangle \cup \langle b \rangle \cup \langle c \rangle$ .

2)  $G = GL_2(\mathbb{R}), H = SL_2(\mathbb{R}), A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 4 & 2 \end{pmatrix}, B = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 7 \\ 2 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$ . Does  $AH = BH$ ?

Is  $A^{-1}B \in H$ ? Or, equivalently, is  $A^{-1}B \in SL_2(\mathbb{R})$ ? And this is asking, is  $\det(A^{-1}B) = 1$ ?

Recall that  $\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}^{-1} = \frac{1}{ad-bc} \begin{pmatrix} d & -b \\ -c & a \end{pmatrix}$ . Well,  $\det(A^{-1}B) = \frac{\det B}{\det A} = \frac{12-14}{2-4} = \frac{-2}{-2} = 1$ .

So, yes  $A^{-1}B \in SL_2(\mathbb{R})$ . But, we still need to prove  $AH, BH$  are equivalence classes.

(Does she mean we need to show  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 4 & 2 \end{pmatrix} SL_2(\mathbb{R}) = \{A \in GL_2(\mathbb{R}) \mid A^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 4 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \in SL_2(\mathbb{R})\}$

and  $\begin{pmatrix} 3 & 7 \\ 2 & 4 \end{pmatrix} SL_2(\mathbb{R}) = \{B \in GL_2(\mathbb{R}) \mid B^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 7 \\ 2 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \in SL_2(\mathbb{R})\}$ ? Something else?)

### 2.5/2.6

**Definition** Let  $G$  be a group,  $H \leq G$ .

$G/H = \{aH \mid a \in G\}$  is the set of left cosets of  $H$  in  $G$ , read " $G \bmod H$ ".

**Example** Let  $G = \mathbb{Z}, H = \langle 6 \rangle$ .

Then  $G/H = \mathbb{Z} / \langle 6 \rangle = \{n + \langle 6 \rangle \mid n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$   
 $= \{0 + \langle 6 \rangle, 1 + \langle 6 \rangle, \dots, 5 + \langle 6 \rangle\}$   
 $= \mathbb{Z}_6$ . (and thus we eliminate redundancy)

**Example** Let  $G = Q = \{\pm 1, \pm i, \pm j, \pm k\}$ , and  $H = \{\pm 1, \pm i\}$ .

Recall that  $|G| = [G:H]|H| \Leftrightarrow [G:H] = |G|/|H|$ . So,  $[Q:H] = |Q|/|H| = 8/4 = 2$ .

$G/H = \{H, jH\}$ . This is saying that  $kH = jH$ . We can verify this by noting that  $i = -kj = k^{-1}j \in H$ , hence  $kH = jH$ .

**Example**

Let  $G = \mathbb{Q}$  and  $H = \mathbb{Z}$ .

Then  $\mathbb{Q} / \mathbb{Z} = \{q + \mathbb{Z} \mid q \in \mathbb{Q}\}$  (but this is overkill).

$$= \{q + \mathbb{Z} \mid q \in \mathbb{Q} \text{ and } 0 \leq q < 1\}.$$

To show  $\mathbb{Q} / \mathbb{Z} = \{q + \mathbb{Z} \mid q \in \mathbb{Q} \text{ and } 0 \leq q < 1\}$ , we need to show  $\subseteq$  and  $\supseteq$ .

Is  $13/8 + \mathbb{Z} = 5/8 + \mathbb{Z}$ ? Yes, because  $-5/8 + 13/8 + \mathbb{Z} = 8/8 + \mathbb{Z} = \mathbb{Z}$ .

**Proof:**

Let  $a \in \mathbb{Q} / \mathbb{Z}$ . Then  $a = q + \mathbb{Z}$  for some  $q \in \mathbb{Q}$ .

But  $\exists q'$  such that  $q + \mathbb{Z} = q' + \text{int}[q] + \mathbb{Z} =$

$$q' + \mathbb{Z} \in \{q + \mathbb{Z} \mid q \in \mathbb{Q} \text{ and } 0 \leq q < 1\}.$$

If  $b \in \{q + \mathbb{Z} \mid q \in \mathbb{Q} \text{ and } 0 \leq q < 1\}$ , then clearly  $b \in \{q + \mathbb{Z} \mid q \in \mathbb{Q}\}$ .

$\therefore \mathbb{Q} / \mathbb{Z} = \{q + \mathbb{Z} \mid q \in \mathbb{Q} \text{ and } 0 \leq q < 1\}$ . (Is this what she means?)

**Direct Products****Definition**

Let  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  be groups, with binary operations  $*_1$  and  $*_2$ , respectively.

Then, the *direct product*  $G_1 \times G_2 = \{(g_1, g_2) \mid g_1 \in G_1, g_2 \in G_2\}$ .

$$(a_1, b_1) \times (a_2, b_2) = (a_1 *_1 a_2, b_1 *_2 b_2).$$

Check that this is a group on your own.

**Proof:**

We first show associativity holds.

$$[(a_1, b_1) \times (a_2, b_2)] \times (a_3, b_3) = (a_1 *_1 a_2, b_1 *_2 b_2) \times (a_3, b_3)$$

$$= ([a_1 *_1 a_2] *_1 a_3, [b_1 *_2 b_2] *_2 b_3) = (a_1 *_1 [a_2 *_1 a_3], b_1 *_2 [b_2 *_2 b_3])$$

$$= (a_1, b_1) \times [(a_2 *_1 a_3), (b_2 *_2 b_3)] = (a_1, b_1) \times [(a_2, b_2) \times (a_3, b_3)].$$

Let  $(a, b) \in G_1 \times G_2$ .

$$\text{Then } (e_1, e_2) \times (a, b) = (e_1 *_1 a, e_2 *_2 b) = (a *_1 e_1, b *_2 e_2) = (a, b) \times (e_1, e_2).$$

$\therefore$  The identity of  $G_1 \times G_2$  is  $(e_1, e_2)$ .

$$\forall (a, b) \in G_1 \times G_2, (a, b) \times (a^{-1}, b^{-1}) = (a *_1 a^{-1}, b *_2 b^{-1}) = (e_1, e_2).$$

$$\text{And } (a^{-1}, b^{-1}) \times (a, b) = (a^{-1} *_1 a, b^{-1} *_2 b) = (e_1, e_2).$$

$\therefore G_1 \times G_2$  is a group.

Let  $G = G_1 \times G_2$ . Let  $H = \{e\} \times G_2$ .

Then  $G/H = \{(a, b)H \mid (a, b) \in G_1 \times G_2\}$ .

We want to know if  $(a, b)H = (c, d)H$ ,

or equivalently, if  $(c, d)^{-1}(a, b) \in H$ ,

or if  $(c^{-1}a, d^{-1}b) \in H$ .

Since  $H = \{e\} \times G_2$ , then  $(c^{-1}a, d^{-1}b) \in H \Leftrightarrow a = c$ .

Is  $G/H$  always a group?

Define the operation on  $G/H$  as  $(aH)(bH) = (ab)H$ . Is this well-defined? In order to answer this question, we needed to understand the meaning of  $aH = bH$ .

Suppose  $aH = cH$  and  $bH = dH$ . We want to show  $abH = cdH$ .

We know  $c^{-1}a \in H$  and  $d^{-1}b \in H$ . We want to show  $(cd)^{-1}(ab) \in H$ .

Since  $c^{-1}a = h$  for some  $h \in H$ ,  $(cd)^{-1}(ab) = d^{-1}c^{-1}ab = d^{-1}hb$ .

We would like  $d^{-1}hb = d^{-1}bh'$  for some  $h' \in H$ .

For then we'd have the product of two elements of  $H$ ,  $d^{-1}b$  and  $h'$ , hence  $(cd)^{-1}(ab) \in H$ .

This is our motivation for the definition of normal subgroups.

**Definition** Let  $H \leq G$ , then  $H$  is a *normal subgroup* if  $aH = Ha, \forall a \in G$ . This is denoted  $H \triangleleft G$ .

**Theorem** If  $H \triangleleft G$ , then  $G/H$  is a group.

**Proof:**

- 1) We have proven we have a well-defined binary operation above.
- 2) Associativity follows from the associativity in  $G$ .
- 3) To show we have an identity, let  $aH \in G/H$ . Then  $eHaH = eaH = aH = aeH = aHeH$ .

$\therefore eH = H$  is the identity for  $G/H$ .

- 4) To show each element has an inverse, let  $aH \in G/H$ .

Note that  $a^{-1}HaH = a^{-1}aH = eH = aa^{-1}H = aHa^{-1}H$ .  $\therefore (aH)^{-1} = a^{-1}H$ .

**Theorem** Let  $G$  be a group,  $H \leq G$ . The following are equivalent.

- 1)  $H \triangleleft G$ .
- 2)  $gHg^{-1} = H, \forall g \in G$ .
- 3)  $ghg^{-1} \in H, \forall h \in H, g \in G$ .
- 4)  $gHg^{-1} \subseteq H, \forall g \in G$ .

**Proof:**

**(3)  $\Rightarrow$  (2):** Assume  $ghg^{-1} \in H, \forall h \in H, g \in G$ .

We will first show  $gHg^{-1} \subseteq H$ . Let  $a \in gHg^{-1}$ .

Then  $a = ghg^{-1}$  for some  $h \in H, g \in G$ , and by assumption,  $a \in H$ .

$\therefore gHg^{-1} \subseteq H$ .

To show containment in the other direction we let  $h \in H$  and note that  $g^{-1} \in G$  and our assumption give us that  $g^{-1}hg \in H$ . So  $g^{-1}hg = h'$  for some  $h' \in H$ .

Thus  $h = gh'g^{-1} \in gHg^{-1}$ . So  $H \subseteq gHg^{-1}$ .

You should do (1)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (2) on your own.

**Proof:**

(1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2): Assume  $H \triangleleft G$ . Then  $gH = Hg, \forall g \in G$ .

$\therefore \{gh \mid h \in H\} = \{hg \mid h \in H\}$ .

We'll use this to show  $gHg^{-1} \subseteq H$ .

Let  $a \in gHg^{-1}$ . Then  $a = ghg^{-1}$  for some  $h \in H, g \in G$ .

But our assumption gives us that  $gh = h'g$  for some  $h' \in H$ , hence  $a = hgg^{-1} = h \in H$  as desired.

To show  $H \subseteq gHg^{-1}$ , let  $h \in H$  and  $g \in G$ .

Since  $gh = h'g$ , for some  $h' \in H$ , then  $g^{-1}h = h'g^{-1}$ , hence  $h = gh'g^{-1}$ .

$\therefore h \in gHg^{-1}$ . And we are done.

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (1): Assume  $gHg^{-1} = H, \forall g \in G$ . Let  $a \in gH$ .

Then  $a = gh$  for some  $h \in H$ .

By our assumption we have  $h = g^{-1}h'g$  for some  $h' \in H$ .

$\therefore gh = g g^{-1}h'g = h'g$ .

$\therefore a \in Hg$  and we have  $gH \subseteq Hg$ .

Suppose  $b \in Hg$ . Then  $b = hg$  for some  $h \in H$ .

Our assumption gives us that  $h = gh'g^{-1}$  for some  $h' \in H$ ,

hence  $hg = gh'g^{-1}g = gh' \in gH$ . Thus  $gH \subseteq Hg$ .

And we have shown  $H \triangleleft G$ .

**Example**  $H \leq G, [G:H] = 2$  (this means there are only 2 cosets).  
Then  $G/H = \{H, aH\}$ . To prove  $H$  is normal, we need to show  $aH = Ha$ .  
The set of right cosets is  $\{H, Ha\}$  because  $a \notin H$ , so  $Ha$  must be the other coset.

**Theorem** If  $H \leq G, [G:H] = 2$ , then  $H \triangleleft G$ .  
Proof is above.  
(Or, by Mark's comment, "If  $c \in aH$ , then  $c \notin H$ , and if  $c \notin H$ , then  $c \in Ha$ .")

**Example** Recall  $[S_n : A_n] = 2$ . So  $A_n \triangleleft S_n$ .

**Example** Show  $A_4$  has no subgroup of order 6. (This shows Lagrange's Theorem only goes one way.)

**Proof:**

Suppose  $H \leq A_4$  and  $|H| = 6$ .  $[A_4:H] = |A_4|/|H| = 12/6 = 2$ , so  $H \triangleleft A_4$ .

(Aside:  $\alpha\beta\alpha^{-1} \in S_n$ . If  $H$  is normal in  $G$  then all conjugates of elements in  $H$  must live in  $H$ . But in  $S_n$  we know all conjugates have the same cycle structure and if permutations have the same cycle structure, then they're conjugates. If  $\alpha$  is 3-cycle in  $H$ , then all 3-cycles in  $A_n$  must be in  $H$ .

There are 8 of them  $(4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2) / 3 = 8$ . (123), (132), (124), (142), (134), (143), (234), (243). So, if there is a 3-cycle in  $H$ , this would be a problem since  $|H| = 6$  and there are 8 3-cycles in  $A_4$ .)

Cycle Structure ( $S_4$ )	Number	Even ( $A_4$ )	Odd $S_4 - A_4$
(1)	1	1	
(12)	6		6
(123)	8	8	
(1234)	6		6
(12)(34)	3	3	
Total	24	12	12

Let  $\alpha \in A_4$  and  $\alpha \notin H$ , then  $\alpha^2 H = H$  or  $\alpha^2 H = \alpha H$  (since we only have 2 cosets). If  $\alpha^2 H = \alpha H$ , then  $(\alpha H)^2 = \alpha H$ , which implies  $\alpha H = H$ , hence  $\alpha \in H$ , contradicting our assumption. (Alternatively, we could have multiplied both sides of  $\alpha^2 H = \alpha H$  by  $\alpha^{-1}$  to get  $\alpha H = H$ .)

So, it must be that  $\alpha^2 H = H$ , hence  $\alpha^2 \in H$ .

Suppose  $\alpha$  is a 3-cycle. If  $\alpha$  is a 3-cycle, then  $\alpha^2$  is a 3-cycle.

So there is a 3-cycle in  $H$ .

And we have shown  $H$  cannot be a subgroup of  $A_4$ .

**Example** Let  $Q_8 = \text{Quaternions}$ ,  $H = \{\pm 1, \pm i\}$ .  
 $Q_8 / H$  is a group.  $|Q_8 / H| = 2$ . So  $Q_8 / H \cong \mathbb{Z}_2$ .

**Example**  $\mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}$  is a group. Pick  $(5/8 + \mathbb{Z}) \in \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}$ .  
 Then  $8(5/8 + \mathbb{Z}) \in \mathbb{Z}$  since  $8(5/8 + \mathbb{Z}) = 5 + \mathbb{Z} = \mathbb{Z}$ .  
 $\therefore$  Every element of  $\mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}$  has finite order, however the group is infinite.