

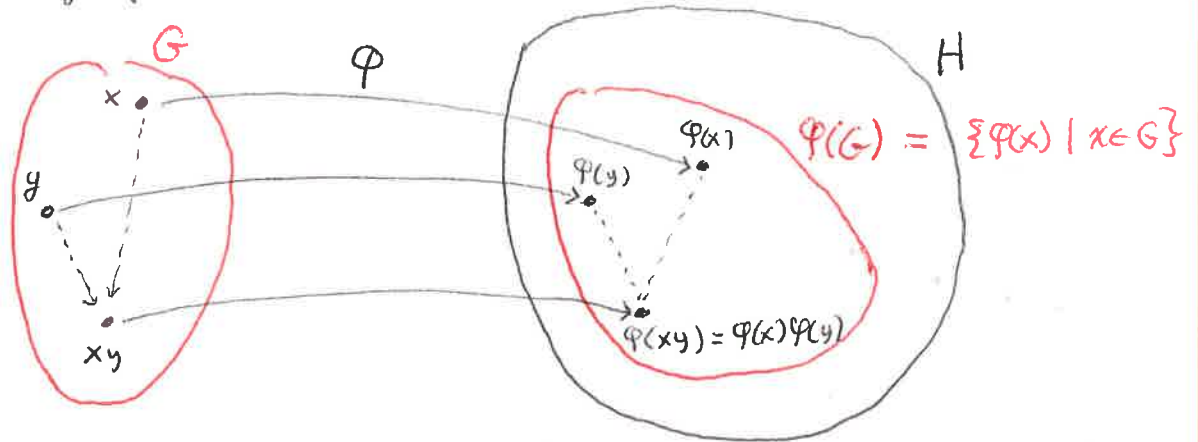
# Section 1.6 Homomorphisms and Isomorphisms

Given groups  $G$  and  $H$ , there are lots of maps  $\varphi: G \rightarrow H$ . From an algebraic point of view, we are mainly interested in those maps that respect the group structure of  $G$  and  $H$  in the sense that  $\varphi(xy) = \varphi(x)\varphi(y)$ .

Homework

1.6 4, 5, 6, 9, 13, 18

1.7 6, 8



Definition A homomorphism  $\varphi: G \rightarrow H$  is a map for which  $\varphi(xy) = \varphi(x)\varphi(y) \quad \forall x, y \in G$ .

Ex  $\varphi: GL_n(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^\times = \mathbb{R} - \{0\}$

$\varphi(A) = \det(A)$

$\varphi(AB) = \det(AB) = \det(A)\det(B) = \varphi(A)\varphi(B)$ .

Ex  $\varphi: \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^\times \quad \varphi(k) = 2^k$

$\varphi(x+y) = 2^{x+y} = 2^x 2^y = \varphi(x)\varphi(y)$

Ex  $\varphi: \mathbb{R}^\times \rightarrow \{1, -1\} \quad \varphi(x) = \frac{x}{|x|}$

$\varphi(xy) = \frac{xy}{|xy|} = \frac{xy}{|x||y|} = \frac{x}{|x|} \frac{y}{|y|} = \varphi(x)\varphi(y)$

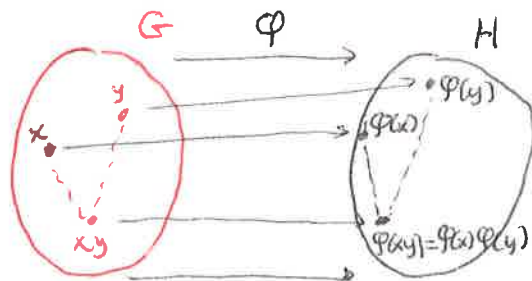
Ex  $\varphi: \mathbb{R}^\times \rightarrow \{1, -1\} \quad \varphi(x) = 1$

Note  $\varphi(a^n) = \varphi(a \cdot a \cdots a) = \varphi(a)\varphi(a) \cdots \varphi(a) = \varphi(a)^n$  for any homo.

Definition An isomorphism  $\varphi: G \rightarrow H$  is a bijective homomorphism.

$\varphi(1_G)\varphi(a) = \varphi(1_G a)$   
 $= \varphi(a)$

Thus  $\varphi(1_G) = 1_H$



If there is an iso  $\varphi: G \rightarrow H$ , we say  $G \cong H$ .

" $\varphi$ " lays  $G$  on top of  $H$  so that they match.  $H$  is the same group as  $G$ , with elements  $x$  relabeled as  $\varphi(x)$ .

If  $G \cong H$ , any algebraic structure that one group has is shared by the other.

Examples  $\mathbb{R}^+ \cong \mathbb{R}$  because  $\ln: \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is iso.  
 $\ln(xy) = \ln(x) + \ln(y)$

$\mathbb{R}^x \not\cong \mathbb{R}$  because  $\mathbb{R}^x$  has element  $-1$  of order 2, but  $\mathbb{R}$  has no such.

Note, however, if  $\varphi: G \rightarrow H$  is just a homomorphism, then  $G$  and  $H$  can have different structures.

Example  $\det: GL_2(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^x$   
 $\uparrow$  non-abelian  $\uparrow$  abelian

Defining Homomorphisms between groups with presentations.

Example

$$G = \langle a, b \mid a^6=1, b^4=1 \rangle = \{ a^{k_1} b^{l_1} a^{k_2} b^{l_2} \dots \mid 0 \leq k_i < 6, 0 \leq l_i < 4 \}$$

$$H = \langle x, y \mid x^3=1, y^2=1, xy=yx \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$$

Here any relation that holds for  $a, b \in G$  also hold in  $H$  when  $x, y$  are replaced by  $a, b$ , respectively.

There is a unique homomorphism  $\varphi: G \rightarrow H$  for which  $\varphi(a) = x, \varphi(b) = y$ .

~~$\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z}$  is  $\varphi(a^{k_1} b^{l_1} a^{k_2} b^{l_2} \dots) = x^{k_1} y^{l_1} x^{k_2} y^{l_2} \dots = \varphi(a)^{k_1} \varphi(b)^{l_1} \varphi(a)^{k_2} \dots$~~

Define  $\varphi(a^k) = x^k = \varphi(a)^k$   
 $\varphi(b^l) = y^l = \varphi(b)^l$

$1 = \varphi(a^6) = x^6 = (x^3)^2 = 1^2 = 1$   
 For this to work, we need relation  $a^6=1$  to hold in  $H$  as  $x^6=1$

In general, define  $\varphi(a^{k_1} b^{l_1} a^{k_2} b^{l_2} \dots) = \varphi(a)^{k_1} \varphi(b)^{l_1} \varphi(a)^{k_2} \varphi(b)^{l_2} \dots$

Note that this is a homomorphism.

## Section 1.7 Group Actions

Recall A permutation of a set  $A$  is a bijection  $\pi: A \rightarrow A$ .

Example  $A = \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array}$  = set of points on plane.

$\pi: A \rightarrow A$  is rotation by  $90^\circ$   
 $\mu: A \rightarrow A$  is reflection over x-axis } permutations of  $A$ .

$\pi, \mu \in S_A$

Notation Let  $G$  be a group,  $A$  a set. Given  $\varphi: G \times A \rightarrow A$  we write  $\varphi(g, a) = g \cdot a$

**Definition** An action of a group  $G$  on a set  $A$  is a map  $G \times A \rightarrow A$  satisfying:

- ①  $g'_i(g \cdot a) = (g'_i g) \cdot a \quad \forall g, g'_i \in G \text{ and } a \in A$
- ②  $e \cdot a = a \quad \forall a \in A$

Example  $G = \mathbb{Z} \quad A = \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array} \quad \varphi(i, a) = i \cdot a = \text{rotation by } i \cdot 90^\circ$

e.g.  $0 \cdot a = \text{rotation by } 0 \cdot 90^\circ = 0^\circ$

$1 \cdot a = \text{rotation by } 1 \cdot 90^\circ = 90^\circ$

$2 \cdot a = \text{" " " } 2 \cdot 90^\circ = 180^\circ \text{ etc.}$

This is a group action

①  $i \cdot (j \cdot a) = \begin{pmatrix} \text{rotation of } a \\ \text{by } j \cdot 90^\circ \text{ followed} \\ \text{by } i \cdot 90^\circ \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \text{rotation} \\ \text{by } i \cdot 90^\circ + j \cdot 90^\circ \\ = (i+j) \cdot 90^\circ \end{pmatrix} = (i+j) \cdot a$

②  $0 \cdot a = \begin{pmatrix} \text{rotation of } a \\ \text{by } 0 \cdot 90^\circ = 0^\circ \end{pmatrix} = a$

**Definition** IF  $G$  acts on  $A$ , the kernel of this action is the set  $\{g \in G \mid g \cdot a = a \quad \forall a \in A\}$

In the example above, kernel =  $\{0, \pm 4, \pm 8, \pm 12 \dots\} \subseteq \mathbb{Z}$ .

**FACTS** (Proved in text) Given action of  $G$  on  $A$ :

IF  $g \in G$ , ~~define~~  $\sigma_g: A \rightarrow A$  ~~defined~~ as  $\sigma_g(a) = g \cdot a$

~~is a per~~

(i) For each  $g \in G$ ,  $\sigma_g$  is a permutation of  $A$ .

$\{ \text{i.e. } \sigma_g: A \rightarrow A \text{ is bijective} \}$   
 $\{ \text{i.e. } \sigma_g \in S_A \}$

(ii) The map  $G \rightarrow S_A$  defined as  $g \mapsto \sigma_g$  is a homomorphism

$\mu: G \rightarrow S_A$

$\mu(g) = \sigma_g$

The action of  $G$  on  $A$  is faithful if

$G \rightarrow S_A \quad g \mapsto \sigma_g$  is injective

(i.e. if distinct elements of  $G$  give distinct permutations of  $A$ )

In such a case, a copy of  $G$  "lives" in  $S_A$  ← "faithful" copy of  $G$  in  $S_A$

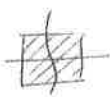
The example above ( $\mathbb{Z}$  acting on square) is not faithful.  $0, 4 \in \mathbb{Z}$  induce following permutations of  $A$ :

$$0 \mapsto \sigma_0 = \text{rotation by } 0 \cdot 90^\circ = 0^\circ$$

$$4 \mapsto \sigma_4 = \text{rotation by } 4 \cdot 90^\circ = 360^\circ = \text{rotation by } 0^\circ$$

Can you think of a faithful action on the square?

One answer:

$\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}$  acts on  $A =$  

$$g \cdot a = \text{rotation by } g \cdot 90^\circ$$