

# COURSE 1- GROUP 1

## Lecture 1

Definition: A binary operation is  $G \times G \rightarrow G$ ,  $a, b$  in  $G$

Definition:  $*$  is called associative if  $a*(b*c)=(a*b)*c$ ,  $a, b, c$  in  $G$ .

Definition:  $*$  is called closed if  $a*b$  in  $G$ .

Example:  $(\mathbb{N}, +)$  is closed for all  $a, b$  in  $\mathbb{N}$ .

$$a+b \in \mathbb{N} \quad \forall a, b \in \mathbb{N}$$

Remark:

$(\mathbb{N}, -)$  is not closed because

$$1, 2 \in \mathbb{N}$$

but

$$1-2 = -1 \notin \mathbb{N}.$$

Definition:

A non empty set  $G$  with  $(*)$  is called a group if:

$$1 - a*b \in G \quad a, b \in G .$$

$$2 - a*b *c = a*(b*c) \quad a, b, c \in G .$$

$$3 - e \in G \quad a*e = e*a = a \quad a \in G .$$

$$4 - a \in G \quad a^{-1} \in G \quad a*a^{-1} = a^{-1}*a = e .$$

EXAMPLES:

$$1 - a+b \in \mathbb{Z} \quad \text{لكل } a, b \in \mathbb{Z} .$$

$$2 - a+b +c = a+(b+c) , \quad a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z} .$$

$$3 - 0 \in \mathbb{Z} \quad a+0 = 0+a = a , \quad a \in \mathbb{Z} .$$

$$4 - a \in \mathbb{Z} \quad -a \in \mathbb{Z} \quad \text{such that } a + -a = -a + a$$

Also:

$$P(X) = \{A : A \subseteq X\}$$

$$1 - A, B \in P(X)$$

$$A \subseteq X, B \subseteq X \Rightarrow A \cup B \subseteq X \Rightarrow A \cup B \in P(X)$$

$$2 - A, B, C \in P(X)$$

$$A \cup (B \cap C) = (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C)$$

$$3 - \emptyset \subseteq X$$

$$\emptyset \in P(X)$$

$$A \cup \emptyset = \emptyset \cup A = A$$

$$4 - A \in P(X)$$

$$A \cup A^{-1} = A^{-1} \cup A = \emptyset$$

$$a * b = b * a \quad \forall a, b \in G$$

مثال :  $(\mathbb{Z}, +)$  commutative group

Theorem

1-The identity is a unique

2-The inverse

3 -  $a^{-1}^{-1} = a \quad a \in$

## Lecture 2

$$\begin{aligned} a * e_1 &= a \quad a * e_2 = a \quad \forall a \in G \quad a * e_1 = a * e_2 \quad a^{-1} * a * e_1 \\ &= a^{-1} * a * e_2 \quad a^{-1} * a * e_1 = a^{-1} * a * e_2 \quad e_1 * e_1 = e_2 * e_2 \\ e_1 &= e_2 \end{aligned}$$

The identity unique

$$\begin{aligned} a * a^{-1} &= e \quad a * a^{-1} = e \quad \forall a \in G \\ a * a^{-1} &= a * a^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

$$a^{-1} a^{-1} * a^{-1} = e \quad a * a^{-1} = a^{-1} a^{-1} * a^{-1} \quad a * a^{-1} * a =$$

$$a^{-1} a^{-1} * a^{-1} * a \quad a * a^{-1} * a = a^{-1} a^{-1} * a^{-1} * a \quad e * a =$$

$$a^{-1} a^{-1} * e \quad a = a^{-1} a^{-1}$$

$a, b \in G$

$$a * b * b^{-1} * a^{-1} = a * b * b^{-1} * a^{-1}$$

$$= a * e * a^{-1} = a * a^{-1} = e$$

$$b^{-1} * a^{-1} * a * b = b^{-1} * a^{-1} * a * b$$

$$= b^{-1} * e * b = b^{-1} * b = e$$

$$\therefore b^{-1} * a^{-1} a * b$$

ولكن  $a * b^{-1}, a * b$

$$\therefore a * b^{-1} = b^{-1} * a^{-1}$$

:  $(G, *)$  group ,  $a * b = a * c$  و  $b = c$  ,  $a, b, c \in G$

: Let  $a, b, c \in G$

$$a * b = a * c \quad a^{-1} * a * b = a^{-1} * a * c \quad a^{-1} * a * b = a^{-1} * a$$

$$* c \quad e * b = e * c \quad b = c$$

Definition

: Let  $(G, *)$  be a group

: let  $(G, *)$  group ,  $a \in G$  , then

$$1 - a^k = a * a * a * \dots * a , k \in \mathbb{Z} .$$

$$2 - a^0 = e .$$

$$3 - a^{-k} = a^{-1} * a^{-1} * a^{-1} * \dots * a^{-1} , k \in \mathbb{Z} .$$

$(\mathbb{Z}, +)$  , so

$$2^3 = 2 + 2 + 2 = 6 \quad 8^0 = 0 \quad 3^{-2} = (3^{-1})^2 = (-3)^2 = -3 + -3$$

$$= -6$$

: let  $(G, *)$  group ,  $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$  ,  $a \in G$  , then

$$1 - a^n * a^m = a^{n+m} .$$

$$2 - a^n m = a^n m .$$

$$3 - e^n = e .$$

$$4 - a^{-n} = a^n^{-1}$$

Proof

1 -

$$a^n * a^m = a * a * \dots * a * a * a * \dots * a$$

$n$  ,  $n$ -times

$$= a * a * a * \dots * a = a^{n+m}$$

$n+m$  ,  $n$ -times

### LECTURE 3

#### Subgroups and Lagrange Theorem

A subgroup of a group  $G$  is a subset which is a group under the same operation as in  $G$ . The following definition will help to make this last phrase precise.

Definition (1): Let  $*$  be an operation on a set  $G$ , and let  $S \subseteq G$  be a

subset. We say that  $S$  is closed under  $*$  if  $x * y \in S$  for all  $x, y \in S$ .

The operation on a group  $G$  is a function  $*$ :  $G \times G \rightarrow G$ .

(for example, 2 and  $-2$  lie in  $\mathbb{Z}^+$ , but their sum  $-2 + 2 = 0 \notin \mathbb{Z}^+$ ).

Definition (2): A subset  $H$  of a group  $G$  is a subgroup if:

(i)  $1 \in H$  ; 2



(ii) If  $x, y \in H$ , then  $xy \in H$ ; that is,  $H$  is closed under  $*$ .

(iii) If  $x \in H$ , then  $x^{-1} \in H$ .

Proposition (3): Every subgroup  $H \leq G$  of a group  $G$  is itself a group.

Proof: Axiom (ii) (in the definition of subgroup) shows that  $H$  is closed under the operation of  $G$ ; that is,  $H$  has an operation (namely, the restriction of the operation  $*$ :  $G \times G \rightarrow G$  to  $H \times H \subseteq G \times G$ ).

This operation is associative:

since the equation  $(xy)z = x(yz)$  holds for all  $x, y, z \in G$ , it holds, in particular, for all  $x, y, z \in H$ .

Finally, axiom (i) gives the identity, and axiom (iii) gives

inverses. 3

It is quicker to check that a subset  $H$  of a group  $G$  is a subgroup (and hence that it is a group in its own right) than to verify the group axioms for  $H$ , for associativity is inherited from the operation on  $G$  and hence it need not be verified again.

# CYCLIC GROUPS

## LECTURE 4

Definition (9): If  $G$  is a group and  $a \in G$ , write  
 $\langle a \rangle = \{a^n : n \in \mathbb{Z}\} = \{\text{all powers of } a\}$   
 $\langle a \rangle$  is called cyclic subgroup of  $G$  generated by  $a$ .

Proposition (10): The intersection of any family of subgroups is again subgroup.

Definition (1): If  $H$  is a subgroup of a group  $G$  and  $a \in G$ , then the coset  $aH$  is the subset  $aH$  of  $G$ , where  $aH = \{ah : h \in H\}$  of course,  $a = ae \in aH$ . Cosets are usually not subgroups.

The cosets just defined are often called left cosets; there are also right cosets of  $H$ , namely, subsets of the form  $H a = \{ha \mid h \text{ in } H\}$ ; these arise in further study of groups, but we shall work almost exclusively with (left) cosets. In particular, if the operation is addition, then the coset is denoted by  $a + H = \{a + h : h \text{ in } H\}$ .

## Homomorphism

### LECTURE 5

An important problem is determining whether two given groups  $G$  and  $H$  are somehow the same.

Definition :

If  $(G, *)$  and  $(H, \circ)$  are groups, then a function  $f: G \rightarrow H$  is a homomorphism if:

$$f(x * y) = f(x) \circ f(y)$$

for all  $x, y$  in  $G$ . If  $f$  is also a bijective, then  $f$  is called an isomorphism. We say that  $G$  and  $H$  are isomorphic, denoted by  $G \cong H$ , if there exists an isomorphism  $f: G \rightarrow H$ .



Example (2):

Let  $\mathbb{R}$  be the group of all real numbers with operation addition, and let  $\mathbb{R}^+$  be the group of all positive real numbers with operation multiplication. The function  $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$ , defined by  $f(x) = tx$ , where  $t$  is constant number, is a homomorphism; for if  $x, y$  in  $\mathbb{R}$ , then  $f(x + y) = t(x+y) = tx + ty = f(x) f(y)$ .

We now turn from isomorphisms to more general homomorphisms.

Lemma (3): Let  $f: G \rightarrow H$  be a homomorphism.

- (i)  $f(e) = e$ ;
- (ii)  $f(x^{-1}) = f(x)^{-1}$ ;

Definition (6): If  $f: G \rightarrow H$  is a homomorphism, define

kernel  $f = \{x \text{ in } G : f(x) = e\}$

and image  $f = \{h \text{ in } H : h = f(x) \text{ for some } x \text{ in } G\}$ .

We usually abbreviate kernel  $f$  to  $\ker f$  and image  $f$  to  $\text{im } f$ . So that if  $f: G \rightarrow H$  is a homomorphism and  $B$  is a subgroup of  $H$  then  $f^{-1}(B)$  is a subgroup of  $G$  containing  $\ker f$ .

Note: Kernel comes from the German word meaning "grain" or "seed" (corn comes from the same word).

Its usage here indicates an important ingredient of a homomorphism, we give it without proof.

Proposition: Let  $f: G \rightarrow H$  be a homomorphism.

- (i)  $\ker f$  is a subgroup of  $G$  and  $\operatorname{im} f$  is a subgroup of  $H$ .

# LECTURE 6

- (ii) If  $x \in \ker f$  and if  $a \in G$ , then  $axa^{-1} \in \ker f$ .  
(ii)  $f$  is an injection if and only if  $\ker f = \{e\}$ .

## Normal Subgroups

Definition (1): A subgroup  $K$  of a group  $G$  is called normal, if for each  $k \in K$  and  $g \in G$  imply  $gkg^{-1} \in K$ . that is  $gKg^{-1} \subseteq K$  for every  $g \in G$ .

Definition (2):

Define the center of a group  $G$ , denoted by  $Z(G)$ , to be  $Z(G) = \{z \in G: zg = gz \text{ for all } g \in G\}$ ; that is,  $Z(G)$  consists of all elements commuting with every element in  $G$ . (Note that the equation  $zg$

$gz$  can be rewritten as  $z = gzg^{-1}$ , so that no other elements in  $G$  are conjugate to  $z$ .

Remark (3):

Let us show that  $Z(G)$  is a subgroup of  $G$ . We can easily show that  $Z(G)$  is subgroup of  $G$ . It is clear that  $Z(G) \neq \emptyset$  since  $1 \in Z(G)$ , for  $1$  commutes with everything. Now, If  $y, z$  in  $Z(G)$ , then  $yg = gy$  and  $zg = gz$  for all  $g$  in  $G$ . Therefore,  $(yz)g = y(zg) = y(gz) = (yg)z = g(yz)$ , so that  $yz$  commutes with everything, hence  $yz$  in  $Z(G)$ . Finally, if  $z$  in  $Z(G)$ , then  $zg = gz$  for all  $g$  in  $G$ ; in particular,  $zg^{-1} = g^{-1}z$ . Therefore,

$$gz^{-1} = (zg^{-1})^{-1} = (g^{-1}z)^{-1} = z^{-1}g$$

(we are using  $(ab)^{-1} = b^{-1}a^{-1}$  and  $(a^{-1})^{-1} = a$ ). So that  $Z(G)$  is subgroup of  $G$ .

Clearly the center  $Z(G)$  is a normal subgroup; since if  $z$  in  $Z(G)$  and  $g$  in  $G$ , then  $gzg^{-1} = zgg^{-1} = z$  in  $Z(G)$ .

A group  $G$  is abelian if and only if  $Z(G) = G$ . At the other extreme are groups  $G$  for which  $Z(G) = \{1\}$ ; such groups are called centerless. For example, it is easy to see that  $Z(S_3) = \{1\}$ ; indeed, all large symmetric groups are centerless.

Remark (4):

We can show that any two finite cyclic groups  $G$  and  $H$  of the same order  $m$  are isomorphic. It will then follow from that any two groups of prime order  $p$  are isomorphic.

Definition (5):

A property of a group  $G$  that is shared by every other group isomorphic to it is called an invariant of  $G$ . For example, the order,  $G$ , is an invariant of  $G$ , for isomorphic groups have the same order.

Being abelian is an invariant [if  $a$  and  $b$  commute, then  $ab = ba$  and

$$f(a)f(b) = f(ab) = f(ba) = f(b)f(a);$$

hence,  $f(a)$  and  $f(b)$  commute]. Thus,  $M_{2 \times 2}$  and  $GL(2, \mathbb{R})$  are not isomorphic, for  $M_{2 \times 2}$  is abelian and  $GL(2, \mathbb{R})$  is not.

Proposition (2): Let  $G$  be a group, and  $H$  be a subgroup of  $G$ , for any  $a, b \in G$  we have the following:

- (iii)  $aH = bH$  if and only if  $b^{-1}a \in H$ . In particular,  $aH = H$  if and only if  $a \in H$ .
- (ii) If  $aH \cap bH \neq \emptyset$ , then  $aH = bH$ .
- (iv) For each  $a \in G$ : Order of  $H$  is equal to the order of  $Ah$ .

Proof:

- (v) It is clear.
- (ii) It is clear.
- (vi) The function  $f: H \rightarrow aH$  which is given by  $f(h) = ah$ , is easily seen to be a bijective [its inverse  $aH \rightarrow H$  is given by  $ahr \rightarrow a^{-1}(ah) = h$ ]. Therefore,  $H$  and  $aH$  have the same number of elements.

## THE INDEX OF GROUP

### LECTURE 7

Proposition (4):

- (i) If  $H$  is a subgroup of index 2 in a group  $G$ , then  $g_2 \in H$  for every  $g$  in  $G$ .
- (ii) If  $H$  is a subgroup of index 2 in a group  $G$ , then  $H$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$ .

Proof:



(i) Since  $H$  has index 2, there are exactly two cosets, namely,  $H$  and  $aH$ , where  $a \in G/H$ . Thus,  $G$  is the disjoint union  $G = H \sqcup aH$ . Take  $g$  in  $G$  with  $g \notin H$ . So that  $g = ah$  for some  $h$  in  $H$ . If  $g^2 \in H$ , then  $g^2 = ah_1$ , where  $h_1 \in H$ . Hence,  $g = g^{-1}g^2 = (ah)^{-1}ah_1 = h^{-1}a^{-1}ah_1 = h^{-1}h_1 \in H$ , and this is a contradiction.

(ii) It suffices to prove that if  $h$  in  $H$ , then the conjugate  $ghg^{-1}$  in  $H$  for every  $g \in G$ . Since  $H$  has index 2, there are exactly two cosets, namely,  $H$  and  $aH$ , where  $a \notin H$ . Now, either  $g$  in  $H$  or  $g$  in  $aH$ . If  $g$  in  $H$ , then  $ghg^{-1}$  in  $H$ , because  $H$  is a subgroup. In the second case, write  $g = ax$ , where  $x$  in  $H$ . Then  $ghg^{-1} = a(xhx^{-1})a^{-1} = ahIa^{-1}$ , where  $hI = xhx^{-1}$  in  $H$  (for  $hI$  is a product of three elements in  $H$ ). If  $ghg^{-1}$  in  $H$ , then  $ghg^{-1} = ahIa^{-1} \in aH$ ; that is,

$aha^{-1} = ay$  for some  $y$  in  $H$ . Canceling  $a$ , we have  $ha^{-1} = y$ , which gives the contradiction  $a = y^{-1}h$  in  $H$ . Therefore, if  $h$  in  $H$ , every conjugate of  $h$  also lies in  $H$ ; that is,  $H$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$ .

Proposition(5) : If  $K$  is a normal subgroup of a group  $G$ , then

$$bK = Kb$$

for every  $b$  in  $G$ .

Proof: We must show that  $bK = Kb$  and  $Kb = bK$ .

So if  $bk = bK$ , then clearly  $bK = bKb^{-1}b$ .

Since  $bKb^{-1} \in K$ , then  $bKb^{-1} = k_1$  for some  $k_1 \in K$ .

This implies that  $bK \subseteq Kb$ . Similarity for the other case. Thus  $bK = Kb$ .

## LECTURE 8

Theorem (3): (Lagrange's Theorem)

If  $H$  is a subgroup of a finite group  $G$ , then  $|H|$  is a divisor of  $|G|$ . That is:

$$|G| = [G : H]|H|$$

This formula shows that the index  $[G : H]$  is also a divisor of  $|G|$ .

Coset of sets

Corollary (4): If  $H$  is a subgroup of a finite group  $G$ , then

$$[G : H] = |G|/|H|$$

Corollary (5): If  $G$  is a finite group and  $a$  in  $G$ , then the order of  $a$  is a divisor of  $|G|$ .

Corollary (6): If a finite group  $G$  has order  $m$ , then  $a^m = e$  for all  $a$  in  $G$ .

Corollary (7): If  $p$  is a prime, then every group  $G$  of order  $p$  is cyclic.

Proof: Choose  $a$  in  $G$  with  $a \neq e$ , and let  $H = \langle a \rangle$  be the cyclic subgroup generated by  $a$ . By Lagrange's theorem,  $|H|$  is a divisor of  $|G| = p$ . Since  $p$  is a prime and  $|H| > 1$ , it follows that  $|H| = p = |G|$ , and so  $H = G$ .

Lagrange's theorem says that the order of a subgroup of a finite group  $G$  is a divisor of  $|G|$ . Is the "converse" of Lagrange's theorem true? That is, if  $d$  is a divisor of  $|G|$ , must there exist a subgroup of  $G$  having order  $d$ ? The answer is "no;" We can show that the alternating group  $A_4$  is a group of order 12.