

GTLA Lecture 11. 09. 2020

Quotients - Cosets

Let G be a group and H a subgroup of G .

The set of cosets is

$$G/H = \{ghH \mid g \in G\} \quad \begin{matrix} \text{(set} \\ \text{of} \\ \text{sets}) \end{matrix}$$

where

$$ghH = \{ghh^{-1}h \mid h \in H\}$$

Example $S_3 = D_3 = G$

$$= \{1, r, r^2, s, sr, sr^2\}$$

where $r^3 = 1$, $s^2 = 1$ and $rs = sr^{-1}$.

Let $H = \{1, r, r^2\}$ (a subgroup of G)

Then

$$1 \cdot H = \{1, r, r^2\} \quad s \cdot H = \{s, sr, sr^2\}$$

$$rH = \{r, r^2, 1\} \quad sr \cdot H = \{sr, sr^2, s\}$$

$$r^2H = \{r^2, 1, r\} \quad sr^2H = \{sr^2, s, sr\}.$$

$$H = rH = r^2H$$

$$sH = srH = sr^2H.$$

so $G/H = \{H, sH\}$ and

$$\text{Card}(G/H) = 2 \text{ and } \text{Card}(H) = 3$$

$$6 = 2 \cdot 3.$$

Theorem (Lagrange's theorem).

Let G be a group and

H a subgroup of G

(a) The cosets partition G .

(b) If $g \in G$ then

$$\text{Card}(gH) = \text{Card}(H).$$

(c) $\text{Card}(G) = \text{Card}(G/H) \text{Card}(H)$.

Proof (b) Assume $g \in G$

To show: $\text{Card}(gH) = \text{Card}(H)$.

To show: There exists a
bijection

$$g: H \rightarrow gH$$

Let

$$\varphi: H \rightarrow gH$$

$$h \mapsto gh$$

and

$$\psi: gH \rightarrow H$$

$$x \mapsto g^{-1}x.$$

To show: φ and ψ are inverse functions.

Since

$$(\psi \circ \varphi)(h) = \psi(\varphi(h)) = \psi(gh)$$

$$= g^{-1}gh = h.$$

$$(\varphi \circ \psi)(x) = \varphi(\psi(x)) = \varphi(g^{-1}x)$$

$$= gg^{-1}x = x.$$

then φ and ψ are inverse functions

so φ is bijective

so $\text{Card}(H) = \text{Card}(gH)$.

Proof of (a)

To show: The cosets partition
 G .

To show: (d) $\bigcup_{g \in G} gH = G$

(ab) If $g_1, g_2 \in G$ and
 $g_1H \cap g_2H \neq \emptyset$ then $g_1H = g_2H$.

(aa) To show: (aaa) $\bigcup_{g \in G} gH \subseteq G$

(aab) $G \subseteq \bigcup_{g \in G} gH$.

(aaa) Since ($H \subseteq G$ and G is closed)

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

then $\bigcup_{g \in G} gH \subseteq G$.

(aab) If $a \in G$ then there exists $g \in G$ such that $a \in gh$.

Assume $a \in G$

To show: There exists $g \in G$ such that $a \in gh$.

Let $g = a$

then $a = g = g \cdot 1 \in gH$.

So

$$G = \bigcup_{g \in G} gH = \bigcup_{gH \in G/H} gH.$$

(ab) To show: If $g_1, g_2 \in G$ and $g_1H \cap g_2H \neq \emptyset$ then $g_1H = g_2H$.

Assume $g_1, g_2 \in G$ and

$$g_1H \cap g_2H \neq \emptyset.$$

Let $z \in g_1H \cap g_2H$.

Then there exists $h_1 \in H$ such that $z = g_1h_1$, and

there exists $h_2 \in H$ such that

$$z = g_2h_2.$$

$$\text{So } g_1 = z h_1^{-1} = g_2 h_2 h_1^{-1}$$

$$\text{and } g_2 = z h_2^{-1} = g_1 h_1 h_2^{-1}.$$

To show: $g_1H = g_2H$.

To show: (aba) $g_1 H \subseteq g_2 H$
(abb) $g_2 H \subseteq g_1 H$.

(aba) Let $x \in g_1 H$

To show: $x \in g_2 H$

Since $x \in g_1 H$ there exists $q \in H$
such that $x = g_1 q$

Then

$$\begin{aligned}x &= g_1 q = g_2 h_2 h_1^{-1} q \\&= g_2 (h_2 h_1^{-1} q) \in g_2 H.\end{aligned}$$

So $g_1 H \subseteq g_2 H$.

(abb) To show: $g_2 H \subseteq g_1 H$

To show: If $y \in g_2 H$ then $y \in g_1 H$.

Assume $y \in g_2 H$.

Then there exists $p \in H$
such that $y = g_2 p$.

To show: $y \in g_1 H$.

$$y = g_2 p = g_1 h_1 h_2^{-1} p = g_1 (h_1 h_2^{-1} p)$$

$\in g_1 H$.

$$\text{So } g_2 H \subseteq g_1 H$$

$$\text{So } g_1 H = g_2 H.$$

(c) To show:

$$\text{Card}(G) = \text{Card}(G/H) \text{Card}(H)$$

Since

$$G = \bigcup_{gH \in G/H} gH \quad \text{then}$$

$$\text{Card}(G) = \sum_{gH \in G/H} \text{Card}(gH)$$

$$= \sum_{gH \in G/H} \text{Card}(H)$$

$$= \text{Card}(H) \left(\sum_{gH \in G/H} 1 \right)$$

$$= \text{Card}(H) \text{Card}(G/H)$$

Corollary Let G be a group
Let H be a subgroup of G .

Then

$\text{Card}(H)$ divides $\text{Card}(G)$.

$$A_4 = \{g \in S_4 \mid \text{det}(g) = 1\}$$

Grace's Theorem

If $g \in G$ and $h \in H$

then $gh, H = gH$.

Proof Assume $g \in G$ and
 $h \in H$.

To show: (a) $gh, H \subseteq gH$

(b) $gH \subseteq gh, H$.

Since $h \in H$ then $gh \in gH$.

Also $gh = gh \cdot 1 \in gh, H$.

So $gH \cap gh, H \neq \emptyset$. So $gH = gh, H$.