

TOPIC: NORMAL SUBGROUPS

Defn: A subgroup H of a group is said to normal subgroup of G iff $ghg^{-1} \in H$, $\forall g \in G$ and $h \in H$.

Note: If H is a normal subgroup of a group G , then it is denoted by $H \triangleleft G$

EX-1: we have $H = \{-1, 1\}$ is a subgroup of a group $G = \{-1, 1, i, -i\}$ under regular multiplication,

Then, $-1(-1)1 = 1 \in H$, $1(-1)(-1) = 1 \in H$, $-1(1)1 = -1 \in H$, $1(1)(-1) = -1 \in H$

$-i(-1)i = -1 \in H$, $i(-1)(-i) = -1 \in H$, $-i(1)(i) = 1 \in H$, $i(1)(-i) = 1 \in H$

Which proves $H \triangleleft G$

Alternate definitions of normal subgroup:

I. A subgroup H of a group is a normal subgroup of G iff $gHg^{-1} = H$

Proof:

Let H be a subgroup of G

$\Rightarrow ghg^{-1} \in H$,

let $x \in gHg^{-1}$

such that $x = ghg^{-1}$ for some $h \in H$

$\Rightarrow x \in H$

thus, $gHg^{-1} \subset H$ -----(1)

further, replace g by g^{-1}

$g^{-1}H(g^{-1})^{-1} \subset H$

i.e $g^{-1}Hg \subset H$

pre-operate g and post-operate g^{-1} both the sides

$(g)g^{-1}Hg(g^{-1}) \subset gHg^{-1}$

$H \subset gHg^{-1}$ -----(2)

from (1) and (2)

$gHg^{-1} = H$

II. A subgroup H of a group is a normal subgroup of G iff every right coset is a left coset.

Proof:

Let H be a subgroup of G

$\Rightarrow gHg^{-1} = H$,

post operate g

$$gHg^{-1}g = Hg$$

$$gH = Hg$$

i.e every left coset is right coset

conversely,

suppose, every left coset is right coset of H in G

$$Hg = xH$$

$$\text{clearly, } g \in Hg \implies g \in xH \quad (Hg = xH)$$

now, $g \in xH$ and $g \in gH$

$gH = xH$ (since any two left cosets are either identical or disjoint)

$$\implies gH = Hg$$

$$gHg^{-1} = H$$

H Δ G

III. A subgroup H of a group is a normal subgroup of G iff product of any two right(left) coset is a right(left) coset.

Proof:

Let H be a subgroup of G

\implies Let Ha and Hb be two right cosets of H in G

consider, $Ha \cdot Hb = H(aH)b$

$$= H(Ha)b$$

$$= HH(ab) \text{ is a right coset}$$

conversely,

product of any two right coset is a right coset

let Hx and Hx⁻¹ be two right cosets of H in G

Hx · Hx⁻¹ is again a right coset

Hx · Hx⁻¹ = H, since H is both right coset and left coset

let $h_1 x h_2 x^{-1} \in H$

$$x h_2 x^{-1} \in (h_1)^{-1} H$$

$$x h_2 x^{-1} \in H$$

H Δ G

Theorems on Normal Subgroups:

Thm1: The product of any two normal subgroups is a normal subgroup

Proof: Let H and K be two normal subgroups of G

Define, $HK = \{hk / h \in H, k \in K\}$

Let $g \in G$, then $ghg^{-1} \in H$ where $h \in H$, since H is normal in G

$gkg^{-1} \in K$, where $k \in K$, since K is normal in G

now, $ghg^{-1}gkg^{-1} = gh(g^{-1}g)kg^{-1} = ghkg^{-1} \in HK$

by defn. of normal subgroup

HK is normal subgroup in G .

Thm2: The intersection of two normal subgroups is a normal subgroup

Ans: Let H and K be two normal subgroups of a group G

Clearly, $H \cap K \neq \emptyset$ as they are subgroups of G

clearly, $H \cap K$ is a subgroup of G (proved in 2nd semester)

Let $g \in G$ and $h \in H \cap K$

$ghg^{-1} \in H$, where $h \in H$

and $ghg^{-1} \in K$, where $h \in K$

→ $ghg^{-1} \in H \cap K$

which proves that $H \cap K$ is normal in G .

Thm3: Let H be a subgroup of G and K is normal subgroup of G , then $H \cap K$ is a normal subgroup of H

Proof: Clearly, $H \cap K \neq \emptyset$ as they are subgroups of G

clearly, $H \cap K$ is a subgroup of G (proved in 2nd semester)

Let $g \in H$ and $h \in H \cap K$

$ghg^{-1} \in K$ as K is normal in G

$gh \in H$, by closure axiom

$ghg^{-1} \in H$, as $g^{-1} \in H$

$ghg^{-1} \in H \cap K$

which proves that $H \cap K$ is normal in H .

Thm4: Let H be a normal subgroup of G and K be any subgroup of G , then HK is a subgroup of G

Proof:

Define, $HK = \{hk/h \in H, k \in K\}$

Clearly, $HK \neq \emptyset$

Let $x, y \in HK$, where $x = h_1k_1$ and $y = h_2k_2$

Now, $xy^{-1} = h_1k_1(h_2k_2)^{-1}$

$$= h_1k_1k_2^{-1}h_2^{-1}$$

$$= h_1(k_1k_2^{-1})h_2^{-1}$$

$$= h_1k_3 h_2^{-1}, \text{ where } k_1k_2^{-1} = k_3 \in K$$

$$= h_1k_3 h_2^{-1}(k_3^{-1}k_3)$$

$$= h_1(k_3 h_2^{-1}k_3^{-1})k_3$$

$$= h_1h_3k_3, \text{ where } k_3 h_2^{-1}k_3^{-1} = h_3 \in H \text{ as } H \text{ is normal in } G$$

$$= h_4k_3 \in HK, \text{ where } h_1h_3 = h_4 \in H$$

Thus, HK is a subgroup of G .

CENTRE OF A GROUP

Defn: Let G be a group. the set of Z of elements of G commutes with every elements of G is called centre of G .

i.e $Z = \{z \in G / xz = zx \forall x \in G\}$

Thm: Centre of a group G is a normal sub-group of G

Proof: Let $Z = \{z \in G / xz = zx \forall x \in G\}$ is the centre of G

let $z_1, z_2 \in Z$, so that $xz_1 = z_1x$ and $xz_2 = z_2x$

consider, $xz_2 = z_2x$

$$(xz_2)z_2^{-1} = z_2xz_2^{-1}$$

$$x(z_2z_2^{-1}) = z_2xz_2^{-1}$$

$$xe = z_2xz_2^{-1}$$

$$x = z_2xz_2^{-1}$$

$$z_2^{-1}x = xz_2^{-1} \text{-----(1) by pre operating } z_2^{-1}$$

$$z_1z_2^{-1}x = z_1xz_2^{-1} \text{ using (1)}$$

$$z_1z_2^{-1}x = xz_1z_2^{-1}, \text{ since } xz_1 = z_1x$$

$$\implies z_1z_2^{-1} \in Z$$

therefore Z is a sub-group of G

also, $xzx^{-1} = zxx^{-1}$ as $xz = zx$

$$= ze = z \in Z$$

thus Z is normal subgroup of G

NORMALIZER OF A GROUP

Defn: Let G be a group and 'a' be an element of G. The set of elements of G commutes 'a' is called normalizer or centralizer of an element 'a' and it is denoted by N_a .

$$\text{i.e } N_a = \{x \in G / xa = ax \forall a \in G\}$$

QUOTIENT GROUP

Let G be a group and H be the normal subgroup of G. The set of all cosets (both left cosets and right cosets) of H in G is called quotient set. This set is denoted by $G|H$

$$\text{i.e } G|H = \{Ha / a \in G\}$$

Thm: The set $G|H$ of all cosets of H in G is a group under the composition $HaHb = Hab \forall a, b \in G$

Proof:

(i) Closure axiom:

let $Ha, Hb \in G|H$, then $HaHb = Hab \in G|H$

(ii) Associative axiom:

let $Ha, Hb, Hc \in G|H$, then $Ha(HbHc) = HaHbc = Habc$

$$\text{also, } (HaHb)Hc = HabHc = Habc$$

(iii) Identity axiom:

$He=H$ is the identity element in $G|H$

(iv) Inverse axiom:

let $Ha \in G|H$ be any element, then $Ha^{-1} \in G|H$ such that

$HaHa^{-1} = Haa^{-1} = He = H$, then Ha^{-1} is inverse of Ha .

therefore, $G|H$ is a group

Defn: Let G be a group and H be the normal subgroup of G , the quotient set $G|H$ of all cosets is a group under the composition $HaHb = Hab$ is called quotient group.

Problems:

1. Let h and K be two normal subgroups of G such that $H \cap K = \{e\}$ then show that every element of H commutes with every element of K .

Soln: let $h \in H$ and $k \in K$ be arbitrary

then we shall prove that $hk = kh$

H is normal in $G \implies kh^{-1}k^{-1} \in H$

$hkh^{-1}k^{-1} \in H$, by closure axiom in H

K is normal in $G \implies hkh^{-1} \in K$

$hkh^{-1}k^{-1} \in K$, by closure axiom in K

thus, $hkh^{-1}k^{-1} \in H \cap K$

but $H \cap K = \{e\}$

therefore, $hkh^{-1}k^{-1} = e$

$hkh^{-1} = k$, by post operating k

$hk = kh$, by post operating h

2. Prove that every quotient group of an abelian group is abelian

soln:

Let $G|H$ be a quotient group of an abelian group G

Ha, Hb are any two elements of $G|H$

$HaHb = Hab = Hba$, as G is abelian

$= HbHa$

therefore, G/H is an abelian group.

HOMOMORPHISM OF GROUPS

Defn: Let $(G, *)$ and (G', o) be two groups, the mapping $f: (G, *) \rightarrow (G', o)$ is said to be homomorphism of the group G into G' if $f(a*b) = f(a)o(f(b))$, $\forall a, b \in G$.

Ex:

1. Let $(\mathbb{Z}, +)$ and (\mathbb{Q}_0, \cdot) be the groups where \mathbb{Z} is set of integers and \mathbb{Q}_0 is the set of rationals excluding 0. The mapping $f: (\mathbb{Z}, +) \rightarrow (\mathbb{Q}_0, \cdot)$ defined by $f(a) = 2^a$, $\forall a \in \mathbb{Z}$, verify f is a homomorphism.

soln:

let $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$,

$$f(a+b) = 2^{a+b} = 2^a \cdot 2^b = f(a) \cdot f(b)$$

therefore f is a homomorphism.

2. Show that the mapping $f: (\mathbb{R}, +) \rightarrow (\mathbb{R}^+, \cdot)$ defined by $f(x) = e^x$, $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}$, where \mathbb{R}^+ is the set of positive numbers. Show that f is a homomorphism.

soln:

let $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$,

$$f(x+y) = e^{x+y} = e^x \cdot e^y = f(x) \cdot f(y)$$

therefore f is a homomorphism.

3. Let $(\mathbb{G}, +)$ be a group w r t addition. The mapping $f: (\mathbb{G}, +) \rightarrow (\mathbb{G}, +)$ defined by $f(x) = x+3$, $\forall x \in \mathbb{G}$.

Soln:

let $x, y \in \mathbb{G}$,

$$f(x+y) = x+y+3$$

$$= x+3+y$$

$$\neq f(x)+f(y)$$

therefore f is not a homomorphism.

Thm:1. Let $f: G \rightarrow G'$ be homomorphism from the group G into G' , then

(i) $f(e) = e'$, where e and e' are the identities in G and G'

(ii) $f(a^{-1}) = [f(a)]^{-1}$, $\forall a \in G$

Proof:

(i) $f(a) e' = f(a)$, by identity axiom in G'

$$f(a) e' = f(ae) = f(a)f(e), \text{ f is a homomorphism}$$

$$e' = f(e)$$

(ii) consider, $f(a)f(a^{-1}) = f(aa^{-1}) = f(e) = e' \text{-----(1)}$

also, $f(a^{-1})f(a) = f(a^{-1}a) = f(e) = e' \text{-----(2)}$

from (1) and (2) $f(a)$ and $f(a)^{-1}$ are inverses to each other

therefore, $[f(a)]^{-1}=f(a^{-1})$.

Thm:2. Let $f:G \rightarrow G'$ be homomorphism from the group G in to G' , then the set $f(G)=\{f(g)/\forall g \in G\}$ is a subgroup of G' .

Proof:

let $x,y \in f(G)$ such that $x=f(g_1)$, $y=f(g_2)$, where g_1 and g_2 are in G

consider, $xy^{-1}=f(g_1)[f(g_2)]^{-1}$

$$=f(g_1) f(g_2^{-1}), \text{ using Thm:1}$$

$$=f(g_1g_2^{-1}), \text{ since } f \text{ is a homomorphism}$$

$$=f(g_1g_2^{-1}) \in f(G) \text{ as } g_1g_2^{-1} \in G$$

therefore, $f(G)$ is a subgroup of G'

Note: $f(G)$ is called the homomorphic image of G

Thm:3. Let $f: G \rightarrow G'$ be homomorphism from the group G in to G' and H is a subgroup of G then $f(H)$ is a subgroup of G' .

Proof:

Define $f(H)=\{f(h)/\forall h \in H\}$ is clearly nonempty set

let $x,y \in f(H)$ such that $x=f(h_1)$, $y=f(h_2)$, where h_1 and h_2 are in H

consider, $xy^{-1}=f(h_1)[f(h_2)]^{-1}$

$$=f(h_1) f(h_2^{-1}), \text{ using Thm:1}$$

$$=f(h_1h_2^{-1}), \text{ since } f \text{ is a homomorphism}$$

$$=f(h_1h_2^{-1}) \in f(H) \text{ as } h_1h_2^{-1} \in H$$

therefore, $f(H)$ is a subgroup of G'

Thm:4. The homomorphic image of an abelian group is abelian.

Proof:

Let $f: G \rightarrow G'$ be homomorphism from the group G in to G' and G is abelian.

we have, $f(G)$ is homomorphic image of G

let $x,y \in f(G)$ such that $x=f(g_1)$, $y=f(g_2)$, where g_1 and g_2 are in G

consider, $xy=f(g_1)f(g_2)$

$$=f(g_1g_2), \text{ as } f \text{ is a homomorphism}$$

$$=f(g_2g_1), \text{ } G \text{ is abelian}$$

$$=f(g_2)f(g_1)$$

$$=yx$$

therefore $f(G)$ is abelian.

Thm:5. Let $f: G \rightarrow G$ be homomorphism from the group G in to itself and H is a cyclic subgroup of G , the $f(H)$ is also cyclic subgroup of G .

Proof:

let $H = \langle a \rangle$

we shall prove that $f(H)$ is also cyclic generated by $f(a)$

let $x = a^m \in H$, $y = f(x) \in f(H)$

case(i): m is any +ve integer

$y = f(a^m)$

$= f(a.a.a.a \dots m \text{ times})$

$= f(a)f(a)f(a) \dots m \text{ times, because } f \text{ is a homomorphism}$

$= [f(a)]^m,$

case(ii): m is any -ve integer

let $m = -k$

$y = f(a^{-k})$

$= f(a^{-1})^k$

$= [f(a^{-1})]^k$

$= f(a^{-1}). f(a^{-1}). f(a^{-1}). f(a^{-1}) \dots k \text{ times}$

$= f(a^{-1} a^{-1} a^{-1} a^{-1} \dots k \text{ times})$

$= f(a^{-1})^k$

$= [f(a)]^{-k}$

thus, $f(H) = \langle f(a) \rangle$

i.e $f(H)$ is cyclic generated by $f(a)$

Dr. D. Radhakrishna

Dr. D. D. Radhakrishna