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GROUP THEORY

Binary Operation :

Let S be a non-empty set. If $f: S \times S \rightarrow S$ is a mapping, then f is called binary operation or binary composition in S or on S .

Thus if a relation in S such that every pair (distinct or equal) of elements of S taken in definite order is associated with a unique element of S then it is called a binary operation in S . Otherwise the relation is not binary operation in S and the relation is simply an operation in S .

Symbolism :

1. For $a, b \in S \Rightarrow a + b \in S$ then “+” is a binary operation in S .
2. For $a, b \in S \Rightarrow a \cdot b \in S$ then “ $\cdot$ ” is a binary operation in S .
3. For $a, b \in S \Rightarrow a \circ b \in S$ then “ $\circ$ ” is a binary operation in S .

This also called **closure law**.

Algebraic Structure :

A non-empty set G equipped with one or more binary operations is called an algebraic structure or an algebraic system .

If ‘ $\circ$ ’ is a binary operation on G , then the algebraic structure is written as $(G, \circ)$.

Associative Law :

‘ $\circ$ ’ is a binary operation in a set S . If for $a, b, c \in S$, $(a \circ b) \circ c = a \circ (b \circ c)$ then ‘ $\circ$ ’ is said to be associative in S . This is called Associative law . Otherwise ‘ $\circ$ ’ is said to be not associative in S .

Identity Element :

Let S be a non-empty set and ‘ $\circ$ ’ be a binary operation on S .

- i) If there exists an element $e_1 \in S$ such that $e_1 \circ a = a$ for $a \in S$ then e_1 is called a left identity of S w.r.t. the operation ‘ $\circ$ ’ .
- ii) If there exists an element $e_2 \in S$ such that $a \circ e_2 = a$ for $a \in S$ then e_2 is called a right identity of S w.r.t. the operation ‘ $\circ$ ’ .

- iii) If there exists an element $e \in S$ such that e is both left and a right identity of S w.r.t. ' $\circ$ ', then e is called an identity of S .

Invertible Element :

Let $(S, \circ)$ be an algebraic structure with the identity element e in S w.r.t. ' $\circ$ '.

- i) An element $a \in S$ is said to be left invertible or left regular if there exists an element $x \in S$ such that $x \circ a = e$. x is called a left inverse of a , w.r.t. ' $\circ$ '.
- ii) An element $a \in S$ is said to be right invertible or right regular if there exists an element $y \in S$ such that $a \circ y = e$. y is called a right inverse of a , w.r.t. ' $\circ$ '.
- iii) An element x which is both a left inverse and a right inverse of ' a ' is called an inverse of ' a ' and ' a ' is said to be invertible or regular.

Semi Group :

An Algebraic structure $(S, \circ)$ is called a semi Group if the binary operation ' $\circ$ ' is associative in S .

Monoid:

A semi Group $(S, \circ)$ with the identity element w.r.t. ' $\circ$ ' is known as a monoid. i.e. $(S, \circ)$ is a monoid if S is a non-empty set and ' $\circ$ ' a binary operation in S such that ' $\circ$ ' is associative and there exists an identity element w.r.t. ' $\circ$ '.

Group:

If G is a non-empty set and ' $\circ$ ' is a binary operation defined on G such that the following three laws are satisfied then $(G, \circ)$ is a group.

- i). Associative law
ii). Identity law
iii). Inverse law.

Note :

1. A group is an algebraic structure. It can also be written by $\langle G, \circ \rangle$.
2. A semi group $(G, \circ)$ is a group if identity law and inverse law are satisfied.
3. A monoid $(G, \circ)$ is a group if inverse law is satisfied.

Abelian Group or Commutative Group :

For the Group $a, b \in G$, $a \circ b = b \circ a$ is satisfied, then $(G, \circ)$ is called an abelian group or a commutative group.

Finite and Infinite Group :

If the set G contains a finite number of elements then the group $(G, \circ)$ is called a finite group. Otherwise the group $(G, \circ)$ is called an infinite group.

Order of a Group :

The number of elements in a finite group $(G, \circ)$ is called the order of the group and is denoted by $O(G)$. If G is infinite, then we say that the order of G is infinite.

Thus : i) If the number of elements in a group G is n , then $O(G) = n$.

ii) If the group G is finite we sometimes write $O(G) < \infty$.

iii) If $O(G) = 2n$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$, we say that the group is of even order.

iv) If $O(G) = 2n-1$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$ we say that the group is of odd order.

Cancellation Laws :

Let S be non-empty set and $\circ$ be binary operation on S .

For $a, b, c \in S$,

- i) $a \circ b = a \circ c \Rightarrow b = c$ (is called left cancelation law)

- ii) $b \circ a = c \circ a \Rightarrow b = c$ (is called Right cancelation law)
 (i) and (ii) are called cancelation laws.

Note:

- Identity element in a group is unique.
- Inverse of each element of a group is unique.
- If $a, b \in G$, then $(ab)^{-1} = b^{-1} a^{-1}$. This law is called reversal rule.
- Cancelation law holds in a group.
- If $a, b \in G$, then linear equations $a \circ x = b, y \circ a = b$ have unique solutions for $x, y \in G$.
- The order of every element of a group is finite.
- The order of every element of a finite group is less than or equal to the order of the group.
- The order of an element of a group is same as that of its inverse.
- The order of any integral power of an element $a \in G$ cannot exceed the order of a .
- If $a \in G$ a group, $o(a) = n$ and $a^m = e$ then $\frac{n}{m}$.
- If $a \in G$ is an element of order n and p is prime to n , then a^p is also of order n .
- If every element of a group except the identity element is of order two, then G is abelian.
- If every element of a group g is its own inverse, then G is abelian.

Sub Groups

A non – empty subset H of a group G is said to be subgroup of G , if under the operation defined on G , H itself forms a group.

Since every set is a subset of itself, group G is a subgroup of itself, called trivial subgroup. If e is the identity of G , then subset of G containing only one element e is also a subgroup of G . i.e $\{e\}$ is subgroup of G call it trivial subgroup of G . Thus, there are two trivial subgroups of each group.

Note:

- The identity of a subgroup is the same as that of the group.
- The inverse of any element of a subgroup is the same as inverse of the same regarded as an element of the group.
- A subset H of a group G is subgroup of G if and only if (i) $a, b \in H \Rightarrow ab \in H$ (ii) $a \in H \Rightarrow a^{-1} \in H$ where a^{-1} is the inverse of a in G .
- A necessary and sufficient condition for a non-empty subset H of group G to be a subgroup is that $a, b \in H \Rightarrow ab^{-1} \in H$ where b^{-1} is the inverse of b in G .
- The intersection of two subgroups of a group G is a subgroup of G .
- The union of two subgroups is not a necessarily a subgroup.
- The union of two subgroups is a subgroup if and only if one is contained in the other.
- A subgroup of an abelian group is abelian.
- A finite non-empty subset H of G is subgroup of G if and only if $HH = H$.
- If H and K are two subgroups of G , then HK is a subgroup of G if and only if $HK = KH$.
- Every abelian group has abelian subgroup.
- A non-abelian group can have an abelian subgroup.

Coset

Let H be subgroup of G , then for all $a \in G$, the set $Ha = \{ ha / h \in H \}$ is called right coset of H in G generated by a and $aH = \{ ah / h \in H \}$ is called left coset of H in G generated by a . Also Ha, aH are called cosets of H generated by a in G .

Note:

- If $a \in G$ is also in H then $Ha = aH = H$.
- H is any subgroup of a group G and $h \in G$ then $h \in H$ if and only if $hH = H = Hh$.
- If a, b are any two elements of a group G and H any subgroup of G , then $Ha = Hb$ iff $ab^{-1} \in H$ and $aH = bH$ iff $a^{-1}b \in H$.
- If a, b are any two elements of a group G and H any subgroup of G then $a \in bH$ iff $ah = bH$ and $a \in Hb$ iff $Ha = Hb$.
- Any two left(right) cosets of a subgroup are either disjoint or identical.
- Let H be a subgroup of a group G , then there is one-one correspondence between any two right cosets of H in G .
- If H is a subgroup of a group G , then there is one to one correspondence between the set of all distinct left cosets of H in G and the set of all distinct right cosets of H in G .

Index of a subgroup of a finite group:

If H is a subgroup of a finite group G , then the number of distinct left(right) cosets of H in G is called the index of H in G . It is denoted by $(G : H)$ or $i_G(H)$.

Lagrange's Theorem:

The order of a group of a finite group divides the order of the group. i.e $O(H)/O(G)$.

- The converse of Lagrange's theorem is not true.
- The order of every element of a finite group is a divisor of the order of the group. i.e $O(a)/O(G)$
- Let H and K be finite subgroups of a group G , then $O(HK) = \frac{O(H)O(K)}{O(H \cap K)}$.

Euler Theorem:

If n is a positive integer and a is any integer relative prime to n , then $a^{\phi(n)} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$, where ϕ is the Euler ϕ - function.

Fermat theorem:

If p is prime number and a is any integer, then $a^p \equiv a \pmod{p}$.

Normalizer of an element of a group:

If a is an element of a group G , then the normalizer on a in G is the set of all those elements of G which commute with a . The normalizer of a in G is denoted by $N(a)$ where $N(a) = \{ x \in G / ax = xa \}$.

Self-Conjugate element of a group:

If G is a group and $a \in G$ such that $a = x^{-1}ax \forall x \in G$. then a is called self-conjugate of G . A self-conjugate element is sometimes called an invariant element.

Here $a = x^{-1}ax \Rightarrow xa = ax \forall x \in G$.

The Centre of a group:

The Z of all self-conjugate elements of a group G is called the centre of the group G .

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

Normal Subgroups

A subgroup H of a group G is said to be a normal subgroup of G if $\forall x \in G$ and $\forall h \in H$, $xhx^{-1} \in H$.

From the definition we conclude that

- H is a normal subgroup of G iff $xHx^{-1} \subseteq H$, $\forall x \in G$ where $xHx^{-1} = \{xhx^{-1} / x \in G, h \in H\}$.
- H is a normal subgroup of G iff $x^{-1}Hx \subseteq H$, $\forall x \in G$.
- The improper subgroup $H = \{e\}$ is a normal subgroup.
- The improper subgroup $H = G$ is a normal subgroup.

$H = \{e\}$ and $H = G$ are called improper or trivial normal subgroups of a group G and all other subgroups of G , if exists are called proper normal subgroups of G .

Notation: If N is a normal subgroup of G we write $N \triangleleft G$. We read $N \triangleleft G$ as 'N normal subgroup G'.

Note: Any non-abelian group whose every subgroup is normal, is called a Hamilton group.

- A subgroup H of a group G is normal $xHx^{-1} = H \forall x \in G$.
- A subgroup H of a group G is a normal subgroup of G iff each left cosets of H in G is a right coset of H in G .
- A subgroup H of a group G is a normal subgroup of G iff the product of two right(left) cosets of H in G is again a right(left) coset of H in G .
- Every subgroup of an abelian group is normal.
- If G is a group and H is a subgroup of index 2 in G , then H is a normal subgroup of G .
- The intersection of any two normal subgroups of a group is a normal subgroup.
- A normal subgroup of a group G is commutative with every complex of G .
- If N is a normal subgroup of G and H is any subgroup of G then HN is a subgroup of G .
- If H is a subgroup of G and N is a normal subgroup of G , then (i) $H \cap N$ is a normal subgroup of H and (ii) N is a normal subgroup of HN .
- If N, M are normal subgroups of G , then NM is also a normal subgroup of G .
- If M, N are two normal subgroups of G such that $M \cap N = \{e\}$. Then every element of M commutes with every element of N .

Homomorphisms, Isomorphisms of Groups

Homomorphism Into:

Let G, G' be two groups and f a mapping from G into G' . If for $a, b \in G$, $f(a.b) = f(a) \cdot f(b)$ then f is said to be homomorphism from G into G' .

Image of Homomorphism:

Let $f: G \rightarrow G'$ is a homomorphism. Then $\{f(a) / a \in G\}$ is called homomorphic image of f or range of f . It is denoted by $f(G)$ or $I_m(f)$.

Homomorphism onto:

Let G, G' be two groups and f a mapping from G onto G' . If for $a, b \in G$, $f(a.b) = f(a) \cdot f(b)$ then f is said to be homomorphism from G onto G' .

Monomorphism:

If the homomorphism into is one-one, then it is called monomorphism.

Endomorphism:

A homomorphism of a group G into itself is called an endomorphism.

Isomorphism:

Let G, G' be any two groups and f be a one-one mapping of G onto G' . If for $a, b \in G$, $f(a.b) = f(a) \cdot f(b)$ then f is said to be an isomorphism from G to G' . In this case we say that G is isomorphic to G' and we write $G \cong G'$.

Automorphism:

An isomorphism from a group G onto itself is called an automorphism of G .

Properties of Homomorphism:

- Let G, G' be two groups. Let f be a homomorphism from G into G' . Then (i) $f(e) = e'$ where e is the identity in G and e' is the identity in G' . (ii) $f(a^{-1}) = \{f(a)\}^{-1}$.
- The homomorphic image of a group is a group.
- Every homomorphic image of an abelian group is abelian.

Kernel of a Homomorphism:

If f is a homomorphism of a group G into a group G' , then the set K of all those elements of G which are mapped by f onto the identity e' of G' is called the Kernel of the homomorphism f .

i.e Kernel $f = \{x \in G / f(x) = e'\} = K$. Sometimes kernel f is written as $\ker f$.

- If f is a homomorphism of a group G into a group G' , then the kernel of f is a normal subgroup of G .
- The necessary and sufficient condition for a homomorphism f of a group G onto a group G' with kernel K to be an isomorphism of G into G' is that $K = \{e\}$.
- Let f be a homomorphism from a group G into a group G' then f is monomorphism iff $\ker f = \{e\}$ where $e \in G$ is identity.
- Let G be a group and N be a normal subgroup of G . Let f be a mapping from G to G/N defined by $f(x) = Nx$ for $x \in G$. Then f is a homomorphism of G onto G/N and $\ker f = N$.

Natural or Canonical Homomorphism:

The mapping $f: G \rightarrow G/N$ such that $f(x) = Nx$ for $x \in G$ is called Natural or Canonical Homomorphism.

Fundamental theorem of Homomorphism of Groups:

Every homomorphic image of a group G is isomorphic to some quotient group of G .

If ϕ is a homomorphism from a group G onto a group G' , then $G / \ker \phi$ is isomorphic with G' .

Automorphism of a Group:

If $f: G \rightarrow G$ is an isomorphism from a group G to itself, then f is called an automorphism of G .

The set of all automorphisms of a group G forms a group w.r.t. composition of mappings.

Inner Automorphism, Outer Automorphism:

Let G be a group. If the mapping $f_a: G \rightarrow G$, defined by $f_a(x) = a^{-1}xa$ for every $x \in G$ and a , a fixed element of G , is an automorphism of G , then f_a is known as inner automorphism.

An automorphism which is not inner called an outer automorphism.

Permutation Groups

Permutation:

A permutation is a one-one mapping of a non-empty set onto itself. Thus, a permutation is a bijective mapping of a non-empty set into itself. If $S = \{ a_1, a_2, \dots a_n \}$ then a one-one mapping from s onto itself is called a permutation of degree n . The number n of elements in S is called the degree of permutation.

Symbol for a permutation when $S = \{ a_1, a_2, \dots a_n \}$:

Let $f : S \rightarrow S$ be a permutation such that $f(a_1) = b_1, f(a_2) = b_2, \dots f(a_n) = b_n$ where $b_1, b_2, \dots b_n$ are nothing but the elements $a_1, a_2, \dots a_n$ of S in some order. So we write $\begin{pmatrix} a_1 & a_2 & \dots & a_n \\ b_1 & b_2 & \dots & b_n \end{pmatrix}$, where each element in the second row is the f image of the corresponding element in the first row. Then we have $n!$ elements of the type in S_n where S_n is the set of all permutations defined on S .

Equal permutation:

Two permutations f and g defined over a non-empty set S are said to be equal if $f(a) = g(a)$ for $a \in S$.

Permutation multiplication or product of permutations:

If f, g are two permutations defined over S , then the product of permutations f, g is defined as $g \circ f$ or gf where $(gf)(a) = g\{f(a)\}$ for $a \in S$.

Permutation Group:

The set $A(S)$ of all permutations defined over a non-empty set S form a group under the operation permutation multiplication.

The permutation group is also known as the symmetric group of order n on n symbols.

The permutation group on n symbols is generally denoted by S_n or P_n . The elements of S can be denoted also by $1, 2, 3, \dots n$ or by any other symbols.

Identity permutation:

If f is a permutation of S such that $f(a) = a \forall a \in S$, then f is identity of S and we denoted f as I .

Order of a permutation:

If $f \in S_n$ such that $f^m = I$, the identity permutation in S_n , where m is the least positive integer, then the order of the permutation f in S_n is m . Order of S_n is $n!$

Orbits and Cycles of permutation:

Consider a set $S = \{ a_1, a_2, \dots a_n \}$ and a permutation f on S . If for $s \in S$ there exists a smallest positive integer l depending on s such that $f^l(s) = s$, then the set $\{s, f^1(s), f^2(s), \dots f^{l-1}(s)\}$ is called the orbit of s under the permutation f . The ordered set $\{s, f^1(s), f^2(s), \dots f^{l-1}(s)\}$ is called a cycle of f .

Cyclic Permutation:

Consider a set $S = \{ a_1, a_2, \dots a_n \}$ and a permutation $f = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & a_2 & \dots & a_k & a_{k+1} & \dots & a_n \\ a_2 & a_3 & \dots & a_1 & a_{k+1} & \dots & a_n \end{pmatrix}$ on S .

i.e $f(a_1) = a_2, f(a_2) = a_3, \dots f(a_k) = a_1, f(a_{k+1}) = a_{k+1}, \dots f(a_n) = a_n$

This type of permutation f is called a cyclic permutation of length k and degree n . it is represented by $(a_1 a_2 \dots a_k)$ which is a cycle of length k or k – cycle.

Thus, the number of elements permuted by a cycle is called its length.

Transposition:

A cycle of length 2 is called a transposition.

Disjoint Cycles:

Let $S = \{ a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \}$. If f, g be two cycles on S such that they have no common elements, then they are called disjoint cycles.

Note:

- The multiplication of disjoint cycles is commutative.
- Every permutation can be expressed as a product of disjoint cycles, which is unique.
- Every cycle can be expressed as a product of transpositions.
- Every permutation can be expressed as a product of transpositions in many ways.

Even and Odd permutations:

A permutation is said to be even (odd) permutation if it can be expressed as a product of an even (odd) number of transpositions.

Note:

- If f is expressed as a product of n transpositions, then either n is even or n is odd but cannot be both and n is not unique.
- Every transposition is an odd permutation.
- Identity permutation I is always an even permutation.
- A cycle of length n can be expressed as a product of $(n - 1)$ transpositions. If n is odd, then the cycle can be expressed as a product of even number of transpositions. If n is even, then the cycle can be expressed as a product of odd number of transpositions.
- The product of two odd permutations is an even permutation.
- The product of two even permutations is an even permutation.
- The product of an odd permutation and an even permutation is an odd permutation.
- The inverse of an odd permutation is an odd permutation.
- The inverse of an even permutation is an even permutation.
- Let S_n be the permutation group on n symbols. Then of the $n!$ permutations in $(n! / 2)$ are even permutations and $(n! / 2)$ are odd permutations.
- The set A_n of all even permutations of degree n forms a group of order $(n! / 2)$ w.r.t. permutation multiplication.
- The set A_n of all even permutations on n symbols is a normal subgroup of the permutation group S_n on the n symbols.
- **Cayley's theorem:** Every finite group G is isomorphic to a permutation group.

Cyclic Groups

If G is a group and there is an element $a \in G$ such that $G = \{ a^n / n \in \mathbb{Z} \}$. Then G is called a cyclic group and ' a ' is called a generator of G . we denote G by $\langle a \rangle$ or (a) or $\{a\}$.

Note:

- Every cyclic group is an abelian group.
- If ' a ' is a generator of a cyclic group G , then a^{-1} is also a generator of G .
- Every subgroup of cyclic group is cyclic.
- If G is a group of order pq where p, q are prime numbers, then every proper subgroup of G is cyclic.

- If a cyclic group G is generated by an element 'a' of order n , then a^m is a generator of G iff the greatest common divisor of m and n is 1. i.e m, n are relatively prime.
- The order of a cyclic group is equal to the order of its generator.
- Every isomorphic image of a group is again cyclic
- A cyclic group of order n has $\phi(n)$ generators.
- If G is an infinite cyclic group, then G has exactly two generators which are inverse of each other.
- Every group of prime order is cyclic
- The order of cyclic group is same as the order of its generator.
- Every group of order 3 is cyclic.
- An abelian group of order six is cyclic.
