

# GROUP ISOMORPHISMS

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# Group Isomorphisms

Review:

## DEFINITION (GROUPS)

A group is a nonempty set  $G$  with a binary operation

$* : G \times G \rightarrow G, (x, y) \mapsto x * y$  satisfying the following conditions:

1.  $G$  is associative:  $(a * b) * c = a * (b * c), \quad \forall a, b, c \in G.$

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$* : G \times G \rightarrow G, (x, y) \mapsto x * y$  satisfying the following conditions:

2. There is an element  $e$  in  $G$  such that  $a * e = a$  and  
 $e * a = a, \quad \forall a \in G.$

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3.  $\forall a \in G, \exists a^{-1} \in G$  such that  $a * a^{-1} = e$  and  $a^{-1} * a = e$ .

If  $G$  be a group but it is also commutative i.e.,

$\forall a, b \in G, a * b = b * a$ , that is called Abelian group.

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## DEFINITION (SUBGROUPS)

Let  $G$  be a group and  $H$  a nonempty subset of  $G$  i.e.,

$$\emptyset \neq H \leq G \iff \begin{cases} h_1 h_2 \in H \\ h_1^{-1} \in H \end{cases}, \forall h_1, h_2 \in H$$
$$\iff \forall h_1, h_2 \in H, \quad h_1 h_2^{-1} \in H$$

## DEFINITION (ORDER OF GROUPS AND ELEMENTS)

Let  $G$  be a group. A number of elements in  $G$  is called the **order** of  $G$  and denoted by  $|G|$ . When  $G$  is infinite, we write  $|G| = \infty$ . Let  $x \in G$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . We denote

$$x^n = x \cdot x \cdot x \cdots x \quad (n \text{ times of } x)$$

$$x^{-n} = (x^{-1})^n = x^{-1} \cdot x^{-1} \cdot x^{-1} \cdots x^{-1} \quad (n \text{ time of } x^{-1})$$

$$x^0 = e$$

The smallest positive integer  $n$  such that  $x^n = e$  is called the **order of the element**  $x$  in  $G$  and denoted by  $|x| = n$ . If no such integer exists, we say that  $x$  has **infinite order** and denoted by  $|x| = \infty$ .

## DEFINITION (CYCLIC GROUP)

Let  $G$  be a group.  $G$  is a **cyclic group** if there exists  $x \in G$  such that  $G = \langle x \rangle$ . The group  $\langle x \rangle$  is called the **group generated by**  $x$  and  $x$  is called the **generator** of  $\langle x \rangle$ .

## EXAMPLE

We give some examples of groups.

### I. Infinite Groups

1. Matrix groups:  $GL_n(\mathbb{C})$ ,  $GL_n(\mathbb{R})$ ,  $SO(n)$ ,  $U(n)$  and  $SU(n)$ , ... with multiplication operation.
2.  $(\mathbb{Z}, +)$ ,  $(\mathbb{Q}, +)$ ,  $(\mathbb{R}, +)$ ,  $(\mathbb{C}, +)$  are abelian group.
3.  $(S_X, \circ)$ ,  $S_X = \{f : X \rightarrow X, X \neq \emptyset | f \text{ is bijective}\}$  is called permutation groups.

### II. Finite Groups

1.  $\mathbb{Z}_n = \{0, 1, 2, 3, \dots, n-1\}$  with addition operation modulo  $n$ .
2.  $\mathbb{Z}_n^\times = \{m \in \mathbb{Z}_n | (m, n) = 1\}$  with multiplication operation modulo  $n$ .  
Example:  $\mathbb{Z}_8^\times = \{1, 3, 5, 7\}$
3.  $G = \{1, -1, i, -i\}$  is a group under usual multiplication of complex number and it is an abelian group.
4. If the set  $X = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  we denote  $S_n$  is symmetric groups.

# OPERATION TABLE OF GROUPS

• Table of  $\mathbb{Z}_8^\times$

$\times$	1	3	5	7
1	1	3	5	7
3	3	1	7	5
5	5	7	1	3
7	7	5	3	1

• Table of  $(G, \times)$

$\times$	1	-1	$i$	$-i$
1	1	-1	$i$	$-i$
-1	-1	1	$-i$	$i$
$i$	$i$	$-i$	-1	1
$-i$	$-i$	$i$	1	-1

Table of  $\mathbb{Z}_4$

+	0	1	2	3
0	0	1	2	3
1	1	2	3	0
2	2	3	0	1
3	3	0	1	2

Table of  $\mathbb{Z}_4$

+	0	1	2	3
0	0	1	2	3
1	1	2	3	0
2	2	3	0	1
3	3	0	1	2

Table of  $G$  after changing  
 order of element

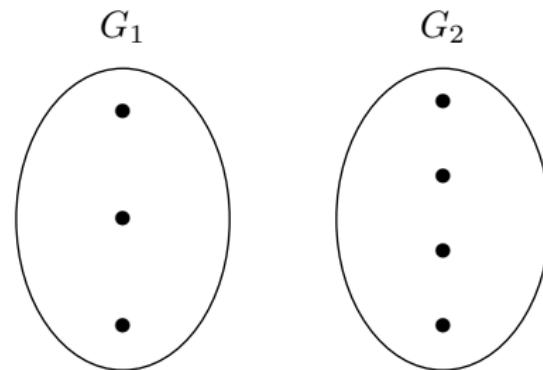
$\times$	1	$i$	-1	$-i$
1	1	$i$	-1	$-i$
$i$	$i$	-1	$-i$	1
-1	-1	$-i$	1	$i$
$-i$	$-i$	1	$i$	-1

By transformation

$0 \longleftrightarrow 1, 1 \longleftrightarrow i, 2 \longleftrightarrow -1$  and  $3 \longleftrightarrow -i$ .

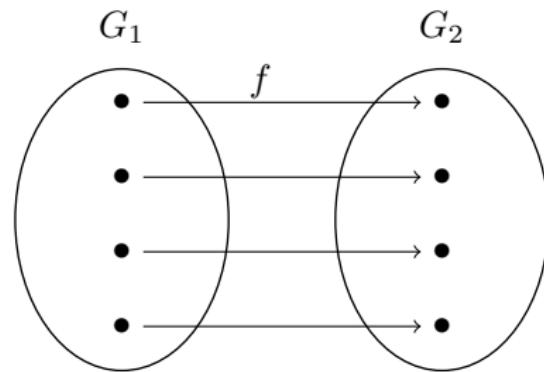
Remark: We cannot use table of operations to check whether two groups are the same or not.

Now consider:

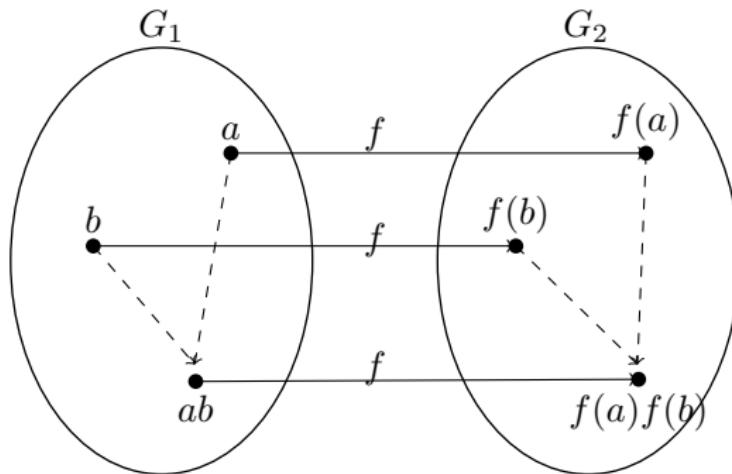


$G_1$  can not be the same as  $G_2$  since  $\text{card}(G_1) \neq \text{card}(G_2)$ .

Consider if  $\text{card}(G_1) = \text{card}(G_2)$ , then



1. There exists  $f : G_1 \rightarrow G_2$  such that  $f$  is bijective.



$$2. \forall a, b \in G, \quad f(ab) = f(a)f(b).$$

## DEFINITION (ISOMORPHISM GROUPS)

Let  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  be two groups. We say that  $G_1$  is **isomorphic** to  $G_2$  there exists a function  $f : G_1 \longrightarrow G_2$  which satisfies:

1.  $f$  is bijection.
2.  $f$  preserves operator, that is  $f(ab) = f(a)f(b)$  for any  $a, b \in G$ .

We symbolize this fact by writing,

$$G_1 \cong G_2 \quad \text{or} \quad G_1 \approx G_2.$$

1. Any infinite cyclic group is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

### PROOF.

Let  $G = \langle x \rangle$  where  $|x| = \infty$ .

Consider the map  $f : G \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  given by  $x^n \mapsto n$  where  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

This map is well-defined and injective since for any  $x^m, x^n \in G$

$$x^m = x^n \iff m = n$$

where  $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

Now  $f$  is surjective since for any  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $\exists x^n \in G$  such that  $f(x^n) = n$ .

And  $f$  is operation preserving since for any  $x^m, x^n \in G$ , we have

$$f(x^m x^n) = f(x^{m+n}) = m + n = f(x^m) + f(x^n).$$

□

2. Any finite cyclic group  $\langle x \rangle$  such that  $\text{card}(\langle x \rangle) = n$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}_n$ .

Proof: Let  $G = \langle x \rangle$  where  $|x| = n$ .

Consider the map  $f : G \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}_n$  given by

$$f(x^p) = p \pmod{n}$$

where  $p \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

Now  $f$  is injective since  $\forall p, q \in \mathbb{Z}$

$$p \pmod{n} = q \pmod{n} \iff x^p = x^q.$$

And  $f$  is surjective since  $\forall p \pmod{n} \in \mathbb{Z}_n, \exists x^p \in G$  such that  $f(x^p) = p \pmod{n}$ .

Furthermore  $f$  preserve group operation: Let  $x^p, x^q \in G$  then

$$\begin{aligned} f(x^p x^q) &= f(x^{p+q}) \\ &= (p+q) \pmod{n} \\ &= (p \pmod{n}) + (q \pmod{n}) \\ &= f(x^p) + f(x^q) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $G \cong \mathbb{Z}_n$ .

# HOW DOES ONE RECOGNIZE IF TWO GROUPS ARE ISOMORPHIC TO EACH OTHER?

- ① Make a smart guess on a function  $f : G_1 \longrightarrow G_2$  which might be an isomorphism.
- ② Check that  $f$  is injective and surjective, that is bijective.
- ③ Check that  $f$  satisfies the preserve operation  $f(ab) = f(a)f(b)$ .

# HOW DOES ONE RECOGNIZE WHEN TWO GROUPS ARE NOT ISOMORPHIC TO EACH OTHER?

Show that two groups  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  are not isomorphic by observing:

- $\text{card}(G_1) \neq \text{card}(G_2)$
- $|G_1| \neq |G_2|$
- $G_1$  is cyclic but  $G_2$  is not.
- $G_1$  is abelian but  $G_2$  is not.

# Cayley's Theorem

## THEOREM

Every group is isomorphic to a group of permutations.

Proof: Let  $G$  be an arbitrary group. Consider the permutation group  $S_G$  and for each  $g \in G$ , we define a map

$$\begin{aligned} f_g : G &\rightarrow G \\ x &\mapsto gx \end{aligned}$$

First, observe that  $f_g \in S_G$  for all  $g \in G$ . Indeed,

$$f_g(x) = f_g(y) \iff gx = gy \iff x = y, \quad \forall x, y \in G.$$

$$\forall y \in G, \exists x = g^{-1}y \in G, f_g(x) = f_g(g^{-1}y) = gg^{-1}y = y.$$

In addition, the set  $\overline{G} := \{f_g | g \in G\}$  is a subgroup of  $S_G$  since for any  $g_1, g_2 \in G$  and  $x \in G$ , we have

$$(f_{g_1} \circ f_{g_2})(x) = f_{g_1}(g_2x) = g_1g_2x = f_{g_1g_2}(x) \iff f_{g_1} \circ f_{g_2} = f_{g_1g_2} \in \overline{G}.$$

$$f_{g_1} \circ f_{g_1^{-1}}(x) = f_{g_1}(g_1^{-1}x) = g_1g_1^{-1}x = x.$$

$$\iff f_{g_1} \circ f_{g_1}^{-1} = Id \iff f_{g_1}^{-1} = f_{g_1^{-1}} \in \overline{G}.$$

We will prove that  $G \cong \overline{G}$ . Consider a map:

$$f : G \rightarrow \overline{G}$$

$$g \mapsto f_g$$

This map is well-defined and injective.

Let  $g_1, g_2 \in G$ ,

$$g_1 = g_1 \iff g_1 x = g_2 x, \forall x \in G \iff f_{g_1} = f_{g_2}$$

Now  $f$  is clearly surjective because  $\forall y \in \overline{G}, \exists x = g^{-1}y \in G$  such that

$$f_g(x) = f_g(g^{-1}y) = gg^{-1}y = y.$$

And  $f$  preserves the operation: for any  $g_1, g_2 \in G$ , we have

$$f(g_1 g_2) = f_{g_1 g_2} = f_{g_1} \circ f_{g_2} = f(g_1) \circ f(g_2).$$

Therefore,

$$G \cong \overline{G} \leq S_G.$$

# Properties of Isomorphism

## Properties of Isomorphism Acting on Elements

### THEOREM

Suppose that  $f$  is an isomorphism from a group  $G$  onto a group  $\overline{G}$ .

- ①  $f$  carries the identity of  $G$  to the identity of  $\overline{G}$ .
- ② For every integer  $n$  and for every group element  $a$  in  $G$ ,  
 $f(a^n) = [f(a)]^n$ .
- ③ For any element  $a$  and  $b$  in  $G$ ,  $a$  and  $b$  commute if and only if  $f(a)$  and  $f(b)$  commute.
- ④  $G = \langle a \rangle$  if and only if  $\overline{G} = \langle f(a) \rangle$ .
- ⑤  $|a| = |f(a)|$  for all  $a$  in  $G$  (isomorphism preserves orders).
- ⑥ For a fixed integer  $k$  and a fixed group element  $b$  in  $G$ , the equation  $x^k = b$  has the same numbers of solutions in  $G$  as does the equation  $x^k = f(b)$  in  $\overline{G}$ .
- ⑦ If  $G$  is finite, then  $G$  and  $\overline{G}$  have exactly the same number of elements of every order.

## Properties of Isomorphism Acting on Groups

### THEOREM

Suppose that  $f$  is an isomorphism from a group  $G$  onto a group  $\overline{G}$ .

- ①  $f^{-1}$  is an isomorphism from  $\overline{G}$  onto  $G$ .
- ②  $G$  is abelian if and only if  $\overline{G}$  is abelian.
- ③  $G$  is cyclic if and only if  $\overline{G}$  is cyclic.
- ④ If  $K$  is a subgroup of  $G$ , then  $f(K) = \{f(k) | k \in K\}$  is a subgroup of  $\overline{G}$ .
- ⑤  $f(Z(G)) = Z(\overline{G})$  where  $Z(G)$  denotes the center of the group  $G$ .

Note:  $Z(G) = \{x \in G | xg = gx, \forall g \in G\}$ .

# Application of Isomorphism

- In mathematics

- Studying abstract groups via isomorphisms with simple/familiar/readable groups.

Example: Suppose  $V$  is vector space on  $\mathbb{R}$  and finite-dimensional.

Let  $G = \{T : V \rightarrow V \mid T \text{ is bijective, } T, T^{-1} \text{ is linear}\}$ .

Let  $T : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  be the linear transformation defined by

$$T \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 + 3x_2 - x_3 \\ 3x_1 - x_2 + 4x_3 \\ 2x_1 - 4x_2 + x_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

We get

$$\begin{aligned}
 T \circ T \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix} &= T \begin{pmatrix} x_1 + 3x_2 - x_3 \\ 3x_1 - x_2 + 4x_3 \\ 2x_1 - 4x_2 + x_3 \end{pmatrix} \\
 &= \begin{pmatrix} x_1 + 3x_2 - x_3 + 3(3x_1 - x_2 + 4x_3) - (2x_1 - 4x_2 + x_3) \\ 3(x_1 + 3x_2 - x_3) - (3x_1 - x_2 + 4x_3) + 4(2x_1 - 4x_2 + x_3) \\ 2(x_1 + 3x_2 - x_3) - 4(3x_1 - x_2 + 4x_3) + (2x_1 - 4x_2 + x_3) \end{pmatrix}.
 \end{aligned}$$

We must instead again, it is too hard. But we can find  $T \circ T \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix}$  by

using multiplication of matrix.

$$T(x) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 & -1 \\ 3 & -1 & 4 \\ 2 & -4 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{Then } T(T(x)) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 & -1 \\ 3 & -1 & 4 \\ 2 & -4 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 & -1 \\ 3 & -1 & 4 \\ 2 & -4 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = T \circ T.$$

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## THANK YOU FOR YOUR PAYING ATTENTION !

Mathematics is the art of giving the same name to different things.

Henri Poincaré (1854-1912)

The basis for poetry and scientific discovery is the ability to comprehend  
the unlike in the like and the like in the unlike.

Jacob Bronowski

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# Q & A !