

1.5 Normality, Quotient Groups and Homomorphisms

Theorem:

suppose $N < G$

TFAE

(1) $gN = Ng$ for all $g \in G$

(2) $g^{-1}Ng = N$ for all $g \in G$

(3) $g^{-1}Ng \subseteq N$ for all $g \in G$

If (1) \Rightarrow (3) holds, we say N is normal in G and denoted by $N \triangleleft G$

pf:

(2) \Rightarrow (3) clear

(3) \Rightarrow (1) $gN = gNg^{-1} \subseteq Ng$ similarly $Ng \subseteq gN$

(1) \Rightarrow (2) $g^{-1}Ng = g^{-1}gN = N$ Theorem:

$H < G, N \triangleleft G \Rightarrow HN = NH < G$

PF:

(1) $hn = hnh^{-1} \in NH$ for $h \in H$ and $n \in H$. This proves $HN \subseteq NH$, similarly $NH \subseteq HN$

(2) pick $hn, h'n' \in HN$. Then $(hn)(h'n')^{-1} = hnn'^{-1}h'^{-1} = hn'^{-1}n'nh'^{-1}h'n'^{-1}h'^{-1} \in HN$. Hence $HN < G$

Theorem:

$N \triangleleft G$. Define a product \circ on G/N by $Na \circ Nb = Nab$ for $a, b \in G$. Then G/N is a group under this product and $e = N$. G/N is called the quotient of N by G .

pf:

We need to show the product is well-defined. Suppose $Na = Na'$ and $Nb = Nb'$ for $a, b, a', b' \in G$.

(claim: $Nab = Na'b'$)

Then $a'a^{-1} \in N$ and $b'b^{-1} \in N$. So, $a'a^{-1}ab'b^{-1}a^{-1} \in N$. Thus $a'b'b^{-1}a^{-1} = a'b'(ab)^{-1} \in N$. Hence $Nab = Na'b'$. The remaining is clear.

Theorem: (First Fundamental Theorem of Homomorphism)

Let $f : G \rightarrow H$ be a homomorphism of groups then $\ker f \triangleleft G$ and $f(G)$ is isomorphic to $G/\ker f$.

pf:

(1) $f(g^{-1}(\ker f)g) = f(g)^{-1}\{e\}f(g) = \{e\}$. i.e. $g^{-1}(\ker f)g \subseteq \ker f$ for $g \in G$. This proves $\ker f \triangleleft G$.

(2) Define a map $\tilde{f} : G/\ker f \rightarrow f(G)$ by $\tilde{f}((\ker f)g) = f(g)$ for $g \in G$. It is routine to check \tilde{f} is well-defined, homomorphism, 1-1, and onto.