

## Chapter 10 Group Homomorphisms

**Definition** Let  $(G_1, *_1), (G_2, *_2)$  be groups. Then a function  $\phi : G_1 \rightarrow G_2$  is a group homomorphism if

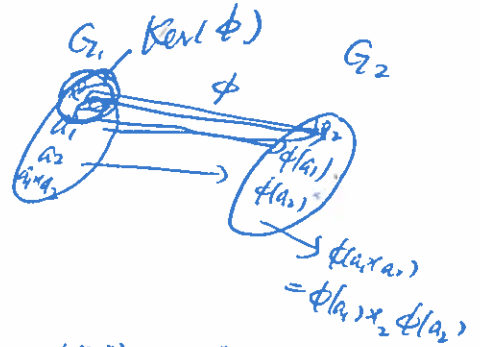
$$\phi(a *_1 b) = \phi(a) *_2 \phi(b) \quad \text{for all } a, b \in G_1.$$

The **kernel** of  $\phi$  is the set  $\text{Ker}(\phi) = \{a \in G_1 : \phi(a) = e_2\}$ .

**Example**  $\phi : \mathbb{Z}_{12} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_{12}, \phi(x) = kx$ .

**Example**  $\phi : \mathbb{Z}_{12} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_{30}, \phi(x) = kx$ .  $k=1, 2, 3, 4$

**Example**  $\phi : S_n \rightarrow \{1, -1\}, \phi(\sigma) = 1$  if  $\sigma$  is even; else  $\phi(\sigma) = -1$ .



$\phi([x]) = [x]$  the identity map.  $\phi([x+y]) = \phi([x]) + \phi([y]) = [x] + [y]$   
 $\parallel$   
 $[x+y]$

$\phi([x]) = \underline{2[x]} = [2x]$

$\phi([0]) = [0]$

$[x]$	$[0]$	$[1]$	$[2]$	$[3]$	$\dots$	$[11]$
$\phi([x])$	$[0]$	$[2]$	$[4]$	$[6]$	$\dots$	$[10]$

$\therefore$  well-defined:

If  $[x] = [y]$ , i.e.,  $x-y = 12k$

then  $\phi([x]) = [2x]$

&  $\phi([y]) = [2y]$  s.t.  $2x-2y = 2(x-y) = 2(12k) = 24k$

$\therefore \phi([x]) = [2x] = [2y] = \phi([y])$

Not onto: From the list,  ~~$[1]$~~   $\phi([x]) \neq [1]$  for any  $[x] \in \mathbb{Z}_{12}$ .

~~Because  $[1/2] \notin \mathbb{Z}_{12}$ ,  $\therefore$  no  $[x] \in \mathbb{Z}_{12}$  satisfies  $\phi([x]) = [1]$ .~~

Suppose  $[x] \in \mathbb{Z}_{12}$  such that  $\phi([x]) = [2x] = [1]$ .

Then  $2x-1 = 12k$  for some  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ , i.e.,  $2x = 12k+1$ , a contradiction.

Not one-one:  $\phi([0]) = [0]$

$\phi([6]) = [12] = [0]$

$\text{Ker}(\phi) = \{ [x] \in \mathbb{Z}_{12} : \phi([x]) = [2x] = [0] \}$

$= \{ [x] \in \mathbb{Z}_{12} : 2x-0 = 12k \} = \{ [0], [6] \}$

Example

$$\phi([x]) = 3[x] = [3x]$$

Example

$$\phi([x]) = k[x] = [kx]$$

well-defined

$$[x] = [y] \quad \text{i.e., } x - y = 12g, \quad g \in \mathbb{Z}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Rightarrow \quad & k\phi([x]) - \phi([y]) \\
 &= [kx] - [ky] \\
 &= [k(x-y)] \\
 &= [k \cdot 12g] = [0]
 \end{aligned}$$

① Each choice of  $k=0, 1, \dots, 11$ , gives rise to a different homo.  
Proof:

② These 12 homomorphisms are all homo. from  $\mathbb{Z}_{12} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_{12}$

Reason: Suppose  $\phi: \mathbb{Z}_{12} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_{12}$  is a homo.

$$\& \quad \phi([1]) = [k], \quad k=0, \dots, 11.$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Then } \phi([m]) &= \phi([1] + \dots + [1]) \\
 &= \underbrace{\phi([1]) + \dots + \phi([1])}_m \\
 &= [mk]
 \end{aligned}$$

③  $\phi([x]) = [kx]$  is an isom.

$$\Leftrightarrow \gcd(k, n) = 1.$$

Because  $\nexists \gcd(k, n) = 1$   
 $[km] = [0]$  can only happen  
 when  $\frac{km}{12} = \frac{12g}{12}$ .

Define

$$\phi: \mathbb{Z}_{12} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_{30} \text{ by } \phi([1]) = [k]$$

$$\text{So that } \phi([m]) = [km]$$

is well-defined provided:

$$[x] = [y] \text{ in } \mathbb{Z}_{12}, \text{ i.e., } x - y = 12z$$

Then

$$\phi([x]) = [kx]$$

$$\Delta \quad \phi([y]) = [ky] \text{ satisfy}$$

$$kx - ky = k(x - y) = 12kz$$

is multiple of 30

In particular,  $12k$  is a multiple of 30

$$12k = 30m$$

$$2k = 5m$$

①

$$\phi([1]) = [0]_{30}$$

$$\phi([1]) = [5]_{30}$$

$$\phi([1]) = [10]_{30}$$

$$\phi([1]) = [15]_{30}$$

$$\phi([1]) = [20]_{30}$$

$$\phi([1]) = [25]_{30}$$

↑

$$5 | 12k \quad \phi([x]) = [kx]$$

$$\text{Ker}(\phi) = \{ [r]_{12} : \phi([r]_{12}) = [0]_{30} \}$$

$$= \{ [r]_{12} : [kr]_{30} = [0] \}$$

Example:

$$\phi: \mathbb{Z}_m \oplus \mathbb{Z}_n \rightarrow G$$

$$\phi([1], [0]) = g_1, \quad \phi([0], [1]) = g_2 \rightarrow G$$

$$\text{Then } \phi([r], [s]) = \phi([r], [0]) * \phi([0], [s])$$

$$= \underbrace{g_1 * g_1 * \dots * g_1}_r * \underbrace{g_2 * g_2 * \dots * g_2}_s$$

Example  $\phi: S_n \rightarrow \{1, -1\}$ ,  $\phi(\sigma) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \sigma \text{ is even,} \\ -1 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$

Then  $\phi$  is well-defined

$\phi$  is homo. because of the following:

Let  $\sigma_1, \sigma_2 \in S_n$ .

1.  $\sigma_1, \sigma_2 \in A_n$  Then  $\phi(\sigma_1) = \phi(\sigma_2) = 1$   
 $\phi(\sigma_1 \sigma_2) = 1 = \phi(\sigma_1) \phi(\sigma_2)$
2.  $\sigma_1 \in A_n, \sigma_2 \notin A_n$   $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \phi(\sigma_1 \sigma_2) = -1 = \phi(\sigma_1) \phi(\sigma_2) \\ \phi(\sigma_1 \sigma_2) = -1 = \phi(\sigma_1) \phi(\sigma_2) \end{array} \right.$
3.  $\sigma_1 \notin A_n, \sigma_2 \in A_n$
4.  $\sigma_1, \sigma_2 \notin A_n$ . Then  $\phi(\sigma_1) = -1 = \phi(\sigma_2)$   
 $\phi(\sigma_1 \sigma_2) = 1 = \phi(\sigma_1) \phi(\sigma_2)$

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$$\ker(\phi) = A_n$$

**Theorem 10.1-2** Suppose  $\phi : G_1 \rightarrow G_2$  is a group homomorphism.

1.  $\phi(e_1) = e_2$ .

2.  $\phi(g^n) = \phi(g)^n$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

3. If  $m = |\phi(g)|$  and  $n = |g|$ , then  $m$  divides  $n$ .

4.  $\text{Ker}(\phi)$  is a subgroup of  $G_1$ ;  $\phi(a) = \phi(b)$  if and only if  $a\text{Ker}(\phi) = b\text{Ker}(\phi)$ .

*Cor* 5. If  $|\text{Ker}(\phi)| = n$ , then  $f$  is an  $n$  to 1 function, and  $n|\phi(H)| = |H|$ . In particular,  $\phi$  is 1-1 if and only if  $|\text{Ker}(\phi)| = 1$ .

6. If  $H$  is a (cyclic, Abelian) subgroup of  $G_1$ , then  $\phi(H) = \{\phi(a) : a \in H\}$  is a (cyclic, Abelian) subgroup of  $G_2$ ; if  $H$  is a normal subgroup in  $G_1$  then  $\phi(H)$  is a normal subgroup in  $\phi(G_1)$ .

7. If  $K$  is a (normal) subgroup of  $G_2$ , then  $\phi^{-1}(K) = \{a \in G_1 : \phi(a) \in K\}$  is a (normal) subgroup of  $G_1$ . In particular,  $\text{Ker}(\phi)$  is normal in  $G$ .

**Remark** Consider  $\phi : \mathbb{Z}_2 \rightarrow S_3$  such that  $\phi(1) = (1, 2)$ . Then  $H = \mathbb{Z}_2$  is a normal subgroup in  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ , but  $\phi(\mathbb{Z}_2) = \{e, (1, 2)\}$  is not a normal subgroup in  $S_3$ .

*Proof* (1) ~~Let  $\phi(e_1) = y \in G_2$~~  Note:  
 $e_2 \phi(e_1) = \phi(e_1) = \phi(e_1 * e_1) = \phi(e_1) * \phi(e_1)$   
 $\therefore e_2 = \phi(e_1)$  by Cancellation in  $G_2$

(2)  $\phi(g^n) = \phi(\underbrace{g * \dots * g}_n) = \phi(g)^n \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$

~~$\phi(g^0) = \phi(e_1) = e_2$~~   $\phi(g^0) = \phi(e_1) = e_2 = \phi(g)^0$

To study with  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .  
 $\phi(g^{-n})$

Consider  $\phi(g^n g^{-n}) = \phi(e_1) = e_2$   
 $\phi(g^n) \phi(g^{-n})$   
 $\phi(g)^n \phi(g^{-n})$

$\phi(g^{-n}) = \phi(g)^{-n}$

$y^n \cdot \phi(g^n) = e_2$   
 $\phi(g^{-n}) = y^{-n}$

Proof: (3) Let  $m = |\phi(g)|$ ,  $n = |g|$ .

$$g^n = e_1 \quad \underline{\phi(g)^m} = e_2.$$

$$\phi(g)^n = \phi(g^n) = \phi(e_1) = e_2.$$

$\therefore |\phi(g)|$  divides  $n$ .

(4)  $\text{Ker}(\phi) = \{ a \in G_1 : \phi(a) = e_2 \}$

(1)  $e_1 \in \text{Ker}(\phi) \quad \because \phi(e_1) = e_2 \quad \therefore \text{Ker}(\phi) \neq \emptyset$

(2)  $a, b \in \text{Ker}(\phi)$ , i.e.,  $\phi(a) = e_2 = \phi(b)$   
 $\therefore \phi(ab) = \phi(a)\phi(b) = e_2 e_2 = e_2 \quad \therefore ab \in \text{Ker}(\phi)$

(3) If  $\phi(a) = e_2$ , then  $\phi(a^{-1}) = \phi(a)^{-1} = e_2^{-1} = e_2$ .  
 $\therefore a^{-1} \in \text{Ker}(\phi)$

Combining,  $\text{Ker}(\phi)$  is a subgroup in  $G_1$ .

Actually  $\text{Ker}(\phi)$  is a normal subgroup.

Proof: Let  $a \in G$ ,  $x \in \text{Ker}(\phi)$

Then  $\phi(axa^{-1}) = \phi(a)\phi(x)\phi(a^{-1})$   
 $= \phi(a)e_2\phi(a^{-1}) = e_2$

$\therefore axa^{-1} \in \text{Ker}(\phi)$

(4)  $\phi(a) = \phi(b) \Leftrightarrow \phi(a)^{-1}\phi(b) = e_2$

$\Leftrightarrow \phi(a^{-1}b) = e_2 \Leftrightarrow a^{-1}b \in \text{Ker}(\phi)$

$\Leftrightarrow a \text{Ker}(\phi) = b \text{Ker}(\phi)$

$H \triangleleft G$

$\Leftrightarrow aHa^{-1} \leq H$

$\Leftrightarrow \forall a \in G, x \in H, axa^{-1} \in H$

(5)  $\{ \phi(x) : x \in H \}$

(6) Let  $H \leq G_1$ . Consider  $\phi(H) \leq G_2$ .

(1)  ~~$\phi(e_1) = e_2$~~   $e_1 \in H, \phi(e_1) = e_2 \in \phi(H) \neq \phi$ .

(2)  ~~$a, b \in H, \Rightarrow \phi(ab^{-1}) \in H$~~

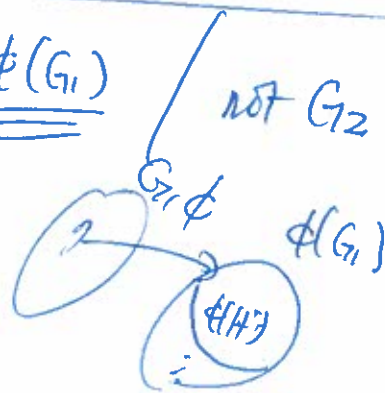
~~$\Rightarrow \phi(ab^{-1})^{-1}$~~

Let  $y_1, y_2 \in \phi(H)$ . Then  $\exists x_1, x_2 \in H$ .

Let  $\phi(x_1) = y_1, \phi(x_2) = y_2$ . So  $x_1 x_2^{-1} \in H$ . So  $\phi(x_1 x_2^{-1}) = \phi(x_1) \phi(x_2)^{-1} = y_1 y_2^{-1} \in \phi(H)$ .

(b) If  $H \triangleleft G_1$ , then  $\phi(H) \triangleleft \phi(G_1)$  not  $G_2$

Proof:  $\phi(H) \subseteq \phi(G_1)$   
and  $\phi(H)$  is a subgroup  
 $\therefore \phi(H) \leq \phi(G_1)$



To prove normality: pick  $a \in \phi(G_1) \checkmark \checkmark$   
 $x \in \phi(H)$ .

Have to show:  $a x a^{-1} \in \phi(H)$

$a \in \phi(G_1) \Rightarrow \exists g \in G_1$  s.t.  $\phi(g) = a$

$x \in \phi(H) \Rightarrow \exists h \in H$  s.t.  $\phi(h) = x$

$\therefore \phi(g h g^{-1}) \in \phi(H) \triangleleft G_1$

So  $\phi(g h g^{-1}) \in \phi(H)$

$\phi(g) \phi(h) \phi(g)^{-1} = a x a^{-1}$