

Let G, H be groups (assumed to be multiplicative with identity elements $e_G \in G, e_H \in H$).

A homomorphism $G \rightarrow H$ is a map satisfying $\phi(gg') = \phi(g)\phi(g')$ for all $g, g' \in G$.

Note: An isomorphism is the same thing as a bijective homomorphism.

Eg. $\phi: \underbrace{GL_n(F)}_{\substack{\text{invertible} \\ n \times n \text{ matrices} \\ \text{over a field } F}} \rightarrow \underbrace{F^\times}_{\substack{\text{multiplicative} \\ \text{group of nonzero} \\ \text{elements of } F}}, \quad \phi = \det.$

Properties: $\phi(e_G) = e_H$. ($\phi(e_G) = \phi(e_G e_G) = \phi(e_G)\phi(e_G) \Rightarrow \phi(e_G) = e_H$).

If $g \in G$ has order n then $|\phi(g)|$ divides $n = |g|$. eg. if $|g| = 6$ then $|\phi(g)|$ has order 1, 2, 3 or 6.

$g^n = e_G \Rightarrow \phi(g^n) = \phi(e_G) = e_H$
 $\phi(g)^n$

$\phi(g^{-1}) = \phi(g)^{-1}$ since $gg^{-1} = e_G \Rightarrow \phi(gg^{-1}) = \phi(e_G) = e_H$
 $\phi(g)\phi(g^{-1})$

The kernel of a homomorphism $\phi: G \rightarrow H$ is $\ker \phi = \{g \in G : \phi(g) = e_H\}$. (Compare: the null space of a linear transformation)

Theorem: $\ker \phi$ is a subgroup of G .

Proof If $g, g' \in \ker \phi$ then $\phi(g) = \phi(g') = e_G$ then $\phi(gg') = \phi(g)\phi(g') = e_G e_G = e_G$ so $gg' \in \ker \phi$.

Since $\phi(e_G) = e_H, e_G \in \ker \phi$.

If $g \in \ker \phi$ then $\phi(g) = e_H$ so $\phi(g^{-1}) = \phi(g)^{-1} = e_H^{-1} = e_H$ so $g^{-1} \in \ker \phi$. So $\ker \phi \leq G$.

Note: If ϕ is one-to-one then $\ker \phi = \{e_G\}$. Conversely, if $\ker \phi = \{e_G\}$ then we show ϕ is one-to-one:

If $\phi(g) = \phi(g')$ then $\phi(g^{-1}g') = \phi(g^{-1})\phi(g') = \phi(g)^{-1}\phi(g) = e_H$ i.e. $g^{-1}g' \in \ker \phi = \{e_G\}$ so $g^{-1}g' = e_G$ so $g' = g$. □

The image of a homomorphism $\phi: G \rightarrow H$ then the image $\phi(G) = \{\phi(g) : g \in G\}$ is a subgroup of H .

Proof Given two elements in $\phi(G)$, say $\phi(g), \phi(g')$ for some $g, g' \in G$, then
 $\phi(g)\phi(g') = \phi(gg') \in \phi(G)$. Also $e_H = \phi(e_G) \in \phi(G)$. If we take any element in $\phi(G)$, say $\phi(g)$ where $g \in G$, then $\phi(g)^{-1} = \phi(g^{-1}) \in \phi(G)$. So $\phi(G) \leq H$. \square

Note: $\phi: G \rightarrow H$ is onto iff $\phi(G) = H$.

Ex. Define $\phi: S_4 \rightarrow S_3$ as follows: Take $\pi_1 = (12)(34)$, $\pi_2 = (13)(24)$, $\pi_3 = (14)(23)$ in S_4 . These form a conjugacy class in S_4 $\{\pi_1, \pi_2, \pi_3\} = X$. (Really $\phi(G) \in \text{Sym } X = \text{Sym}\{\pi_1, \pi_2, \pi_3\}$).

Given $\sigma \in S_4$, we have a map $X \rightarrow X$, $\pi_i \mapsto \sigma \pi_i \sigma^{-1}$.

Ex. $\phi((13))$: $\pi_1 \mapsto (13)\pi_1(13)^{-1} = (13)(12)(34)(13)^{-1} = (32)(14) = (14)(23) = \pi_3$
 $\pi_2 \mapsto (13)\pi_2(13)^{-1} = (13)(13)(24)(13)^{-1} = (31)(24) = (13)(24) = \pi_2$
 $\pi_3 \mapsto (13)\pi_3(13)^{-1} = (13)(14)(23)(13)^{-1} = (34)(21) = (12)(34) = \pi_1$ $\phi((13)) = (13)$

$\phi((142))$: $\pi_1 \mapsto (142)\pi_1(142)^{-1} = (142)(12)(34)(142)^{-1} = (41)(32) = (14)(23) = \pi_3$
 $\pi_2 \mapsto (142)\pi_2(142)^{-1} = (142)(13)(24)(142)^{-1} = (43)(12) = (12)(34) = \pi_1$
 $\pi_3 \mapsto (142)\pi_3(142)^{-1} = (142)(14)(23)(142)^{-1} = (42)(13) = (13)(24) = \pi_2$ $\phi((142)) = (132)$

ϕ is onto S_3 . (why? $\phi(S_4)$ is a subgroup of S_3 . By Lagrange's Theorem, $|\phi(S_4)|$ is divisible by

$|\phi((13))| = |(13)| = 2$ and $|\phi((142))| = |(132)| = 3$ so $\phi(S_4) = S_3$.)

$\ker \phi = C_{S_4}(X) = \langle \pi_1, \pi_2 \rangle = \{1, \pi_1, \pi_2, \pi_3\}$ is a ^{Klein four} subgroup of order 4 in S_4 .
 ($\pi_3 = \pi_1 \pi_2$)

ϕ is a homomorphism; it is 4-to-1.

The image of a homomorphism $\phi: G \rightarrow H$ i.e. the subgroup $\phi(G) = \{\phi(g) : g \in G\} \leq H$ is a homomorphic image of G .

Fractional Linear Transformations (or Linear Fractional Transformations)

A map $\mathbb{R} \cup \{\infty\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \cup \{\infty\}$ (actually a permutation) of the form $\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} : x \mapsto \frac{ax+b}{cx+d}$ where $ad-bc \neq 0$.

$GL_2(\mathbb{R}) = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} : ad-bc \neq 0 \right\}$ for actual invertible 2×2 real matrices.

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \alpha & \beta \\ \gamma & \delta \end{bmatrix} (x) &= \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \left(\frac{\alpha x + \beta}{\gamma x + \delta} \right) = \frac{a \left(\frac{\alpha x + \beta}{\gamma x + \delta} \right) + b}{c \left(\frac{\alpha x + \beta}{\gamma x + \delta} \right) + d} = \frac{a(\alpha x + \beta) + b(\gamma x + \delta)}{c(\alpha x + \beta) + d(\gamma x + \delta)} = \frac{(a\alpha + b\gamma)x + (a\beta + b\delta)}{(c\alpha + d\gamma)x + (c\beta + d\delta)} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} a\alpha + b\gamma & a\beta + b\delta \\ c\alpha + d\gamma & c\beta + d\delta \end{bmatrix} (x) \end{aligned}$$

Compare with multiplication of actual 2×2 invertible matrices:

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \alpha & \beta \\ \gamma & \delta \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a\alpha + b\gamma & a\beta + b\delta \\ c\alpha + d\gamma & c\beta + d\delta \end{bmatrix}$$

We denote by $PGL_2(\mathbb{R})$ the group of all fractional linear transformations $\mathbb{R} \cup \{\infty\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \cup \{\infty\}$ i.e.

$$PGL_2(\mathbb{R}) = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} : a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{R}, ad-bc \neq 0 \right\}$$

This is a homomorphic image of $GL_2(\mathbb{R})$ under the homomorphism $\phi: GL_2(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow PGL_2(\mathbb{R})$,

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \mapsto \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}. \quad \text{This map is a homomorphism: } \phi \left(\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \alpha & \beta \\ \gamma & \delta \end{bmatrix} \right) = \phi \left(\begin{bmatrix} a\alpha + b\gamma & a\beta + b\delta \\ c\alpha + d\gamma & c\beta + d\delta \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} a\alpha + b\gamma & a\beta + b\delta \\ c\alpha + d\gamma & c\beta + d\delta \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \alpha & \beta \\ \gamma & \delta \end{bmatrix} = \phi \left(\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \right) \phi \left(\begin{bmatrix} \alpha & \beta \\ \gamma & \delta \end{bmatrix} \right).$$

This homomorphism is onto $PGL_2(\mathbb{R})$ by definition but it's not onto because $\phi \left(\begin{bmatrix} \lambda a & \lambda b \\ \lambda c & \lambda d \end{bmatrix} \right) = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda a & \lambda b \\ \lambda c & \lambda d \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$

$$\text{Since } \begin{bmatrix} \lambda a & \lambda b \\ \lambda c & \lambda d \end{bmatrix} (x) = \frac{\lambda a x + \lambda b}{\lambda c x + \lambda d} = \frac{ax+b}{cx+d} = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} (x)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 4 \\ 1 & 7 \end{bmatrix} (5) = \frac{3 \times 5 + 4}{1 \times 5 + 7} = \frac{19}{12}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 4 \\ 1 & 7 \end{bmatrix} (\infty) = \frac{3 \times \infty + 4}{1 \times \infty + 7} = 3$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 4 \\ 1 & 7 \end{bmatrix} (-7) = \frac{3 \times (-7) + 4}{1 \times (-7) + 7} = \frac{-17}{0} = \infty$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 4 \\ 0 & 7 \end{bmatrix} (\infty) = \frac{3 \times \infty + 4}{0 \times \infty + 7} = \infty$$

$$\text{In } GL_2(\mathbb{R}), \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}^{-1} = \frac{1}{ad-bc} \begin{pmatrix} d & -b \\ -c & a \end{pmatrix} \quad (ad-bc \neq 0)$$

\mathbb{F}_q = field of order q

$$|GL_2(\mathbb{F}_q)| = (q^2-1)(q^2-q)$$

$$|SL_2(\mathbb{F}_q)| = (q^2-1)q \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \text{divide} \\ \text{by } q-1 \end{array} \right\}$$

Every fractional linear transformation is a permutation of $\mathbb{R} \cup \{\infty\}$

$PGL_2(\mathbb{R})$ is a group. $\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}^{-1} = \frac{1}{ad-bc} \begin{bmatrix} d & -b \\ -c & a \end{bmatrix}$

The identity $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} (x) = \frac{1 \times x + 0}{0 \times x + 1} = x$.

You can think of $PGL_2(\mathbb{R})$ as the same as 2×2 invertible matrices but where we identify nonzero scalar multiples i.e. $\lambda \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda a & \lambda b \\ \lambda c & \lambda d \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$.

$$\overline{GL_2(\mathbb{F}_2)} = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\} = SL_2(\mathbb{F}_2)$$

$$|GL_2(\mathbb{F}_2)| = (2^2-1)(2^2-2) = 3 \times 2 = 6$$

$\mathbb{F}_2 = \{0, 1\}$ is the field of order 2:

$$PGL_2(\mathbb{F}_2) = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\} \cong GL_2(\mathbb{F}_2) \cong SL_2(\mathbb{F}_2) \cong S_3$$

Why? $PGL_2(\mathbb{F}_2)$ is a group of permutations of $\{0, 1, \infty\}$

so $PGL_2(\mathbb{F}_2)$ is isomorphic to a subgroup of S_3 .

$$\text{Sym } \{0, 1, \infty\} = \{ \text{all permutations of } 0, 1, \infty \}$$

$$\mathbb{F}_3 = \{0, 1, 2\}$$

$$\frac{1}{2} = 2 = -1$$

$$|GL_2(\mathbb{F}_3)| = (3^2-1)(3^2-3) = 8 \times 6 = 48$$

$$|PGL_2(\mathbb{F}_3)| = \frac{48}{2} = 24 \quad PGL_2(\mathbb{F}_3) \cong S_4$$

The map $GL_2(\mathbb{F}_3) \rightarrow PGL_2(\mathbb{F}_3)$ is 2-to-1.

$PGL_2(\mathbb{F}_3)$ is a group of permutations of $\mathbb{F}_3 \cup \{\infty\} = \{0, 1, 2, \infty\}$.

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \mapsto \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$$

$\mathbb{F}_4 = \{0, 1, \alpha, \beta\}$ field of order 4

+	0	1	α	β
0	0	1	α	β
1	1	0	β	α
α	α	β	0	1
β	β	α	1	0

x	0	1	α	β
0	0	0	0	0
1	0	1	α	β
α	0	α	β	1
β	0	β	1	α

$$|GL_2(\mathbb{F}_4)| = (4^2 - 1)(4^2 - 4) = 15 \times 12 = 180$$

$$|SL_2(\mathbb{F}_4)| = \frac{180}{3} = 60$$

$$|A_5| = \frac{5!}{2} = 60$$

$$SL_2(\mathbb{F}_4) \cong A_5$$

$$PSL_2(\mathbb{F}_4) = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} : ad - bc = 1, a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{F}_4 \right\} \cong SL_2(\mathbb{F}_4)$$

The map $SL_2(\mathbb{F}_4) \rightarrow PSL_2(\mathbb{F}_4)$ acting as all even permutations of $\mathbb{F}_4 \cup \{\infty\} = \{0, 1, \alpha, \beta, \infty\}$

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \mapsto \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} (x) = \frac{1 \cdot x + 1}{0 \cdot x + 1} = x + 1 \quad : (0, 1)(\alpha, \beta)(\infty)$$

$\mathbb{R} \cup \{\infty\} = \{ \text{all possible slopes of lines through the origin in } \mathbb{R}^2 \}$

