

Lecture 22

There are two more isomorphism theorems. I am stating them here (and proving one of them). However, we won't study them in much detail. (They won't be in your syllabus for the exam. Yay!)

Theorem [Second Isomorphism Theorem]

If $K \leq G$ and $N \triangleleft G$, then $\frac{K}{K \cap N} \cong \frac{KN}{N}$.

Proof First note that if $K \leq G$ and $N \triangleleft G$

$\Rightarrow KN \leq G$. $KN \neq \emptyset$ as $e \in KN$.

Let $a = r_1 n_1 \in KN$ for $r_1 \in K, n_1 \in N$.

$b = r_2 n_2 \in KN$ for $r_2 \in K, n_2 \in N$

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{Then } ab^{-1} &= k_1 n_1 (k_2 n_2)^{-1} = k_1 \underbrace{n_1 n_2^{-1}}_{n_3} k_2^{-1} \\
&= k_1 n_3 k_2^{-1} \\
&= k_1 \underbrace{k_2^{-1} k_2}_{k_3} n_3 k_2^{-1} \\
&= k_3 k_2 n_3 k_2^{-1}
\end{aligned}$$

But since $N \triangleleft G \Rightarrow k_2 n_3 k_2^{-1} \in N$ by the normal subgroup test. So

$$ab^{-1} = k_3 n_4 \in KN \Rightarrow KN \leq G.$$

Also, $N \triangleleft KN$. Let $k, n_i \in KN$. Then

$$k, n_i N = k_i N \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

also, since $N \triangleleft G$ and $k_i \in G$ too $\Rightarrow k_i N = N k_i$

$$\Rightarrow k_i n_i = n_2 k_i \text{ for some } n_2, n_3 \in N$$

$$\Rightarrow N k_i n_i = N n_2 k_i = N k_i \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

Since $N \triangleleft G \Rightarrow N k_i = k_i N \Rightarrow$ from (1) and

$$\text{(2) we get that } k_i n_i N = N k_i n_i$$

$$\Rightarrow N \triangleleft KN.$$

Thus $\frac{KN}{N}$ is a group.

To prove $\frac{K}{K \cap N} \cong \frac{KN}{N}$, we'll use

Principle 3 :- Whenever you want to show that $\frac{G}{H} \cong \bar{G}$, try to find a surjective

homomorphism $\varphi: G \rightarrow \bar{G}$ and show that $\ker \varphi = H$ and then apply the First Isomorphism Theorem.

So, define $\varphi: K \rightarrow \frac{KN}{N}$ by

$$\varphi(k) = kN$$

φ is onto

for any $k, n, N \in \frac{KN}{N}$, $k, n, N = k, N$ and

so for $k_1 \in K$, $\varphi(k_1) = k_1 N$.

φ is a homomorphism

Let $k_1, k_2 \in K$. Then

$$\varphi(k_1 \cdot k_2) = k_1 k_2 N = k_1 N k_2 N = \varphi(k_1) \varphi(k_2)$$

So, φ is a homomorphism.

What is $\ker \varphi$?

$\ker \varphi = \left\{ k \in \frac{KN}{N} \mid \varphi(k) = N \right\}$ as N is the identity in $\frac{KN}{N}$.

so, $\varphi(k) = kN = N \Rightarrow k \in N$. But $k \in K$

so, $k \in K \cap N \Rightarrow \ker(\varphi) = K \cap N$

and by the First Isomorphism Theorem (FIT)

$$\frac{K}{K \cap N} \cong \frac{KN}{N} .$$

□

Theorem [Third Isomorphism Theorem]

If $M \triangleleft G$, $N \triangleleft G$ and $M \leq N$, then

$$\frac{\frac{G}{M}}{\frac{N}{M}} \cong \frac{G}{N}$$

i.e., G/M is a group as $M \triangleleft G$, $\frac{G}{N}$ is a group as $N \triangleleft G$. Since $M \leq N \Rightarrow M \triangleleft N \Rightarrow N/M$ is also a group. Finally, $\frac{N}{M} \triangleleft \frac{G}{M} \Rightarrow$

$\frac{G/M}{N/M}$ is also a group. The theorem says

the groups $\frac{G/M}{N/M} \cong \frac{G}{N} .$

□

Finally, let's see one more application of FIT.

Theorem [Correspondence Theorem]

Let $\varphi: G \rightarrow \bar{G}$ be a surjective homomorphism. Consider the set $S = \{ H \leq G \mid \ker \varphi \leq H \}$ which is the set of all those subgroups in G which contain $\ker \varphi$. Consider the set

$T = \{ \bar{H} \leq \bar{G} \}$ which is the set of subgroups of \bar{G} . Then

- 1) There is a bijection ψ b/w S and T .
- 2) If $H \in S$, i.e., $H \leq G$ and $\ker \varphi \leq H$, then
 $[G:H] = [\bar{G}:\psi(H)]$

So, the theorem is saying that every subgroup of G which contains $\ker \varphi$ corresponds to a

unique subgroup of \bar{G} and vice-versa, every subgroup of \bar{G} corresponds to a subgroup of G which contains $\text{ker } \varphi$.

So, the subgroup structure of \bar{G} is same as the structure of subgroups of G containing $\text{ker } \varphi$.

Proof We'll construct a bijection b/w S and T .

Recall that if $\varphi : G \rightarrow \bar{G}$ is a homomorphism, then $\varphi(H) \leq \bar{G}$ for any $H \leq G$.

Define $\Psi : S \rightarrow T$ by

$$\Psi(H) = \varphi(H)$$

i.e., take any subgroup in G and map it to its homomorphic image in \bar{G} .

Define $\bar{\Psi} : T \rightarrow S$ by

$$\bar{\Psi}(\bar{H}) = \varphi^{-1}(\bar{H})$$

i.e., take any subgroup of \bar{G} and map it to the inverse image of H under φ .

Recall that $\varphi^{-1}(\bar{H}) \leq G$.

We want to show that ψ and $\bar{\psi}$ are inverses of each other and $\psi \circ \bar{\psi} = \text{Id}_T$ and $\bar{\psi} \circ \psi = \text{Id}_S$.

But even before that, why should $\bar{\psi}(\bar{H})$ lie in S , i.e., why should $\varphi^{-1}(\bar{H})$ contain $\ker \varphi$?

Well, $\varphi^{-1}(\bar{H}) = \{g \in G \mid \varphi(g) \in \bar{H}\}$
since, $\bar{e} \in \bar{H} \Rightarrow \ker \varphi = \{g \in G \mid \varphi(g) = \bar{e} \in \bar{H}\}$
is contained in $\varphi^{-1}(\bar{H})$ and hence $\bar{\psi}(\bar{H}) \in S$.

Proof of 1)

Claim 1 $\psi \circ \bar{\psi} = \text{Id}_T$

Let $\bar{H} \in \bar{G} \Rightarrow \bar{\psi}(\bar{H}) = \varphi^{-1}(\bar{H})$

$$\psi \circ \bar{\psi}(\bar{H}) = \varphi(\varphi^{-1}(\bar{H})).$$

Note that, we cannot write $\varphi(\varphi^{-1}(\bar{H})) = \bar{H}$ as for example if $\varphi: G \rightarrow \bar{G}$ is the trivial homomorphism then $\varphi^{-1}(\bar{H}) = G$ and $\varphi(\varphi^{-1}(\bar{H})) = \varphi(G) = \bar{e} \neq \bar{H}$. In fact, this is the reason we are taking $S = \{ H \leq G, \ker \varphi \leq H \}$ as you'll see that a complication like just described won't occur if we choose subgroups from S .

Want $\Rightarrow \varphi(\varphi^{-1}(\bar{H})) = \bar{H}$.

Let $\bar{h} \in \bar{H}$. Since φ is surjective $\Rightarrow \exists g \in G$ s.t. $\varphi(g) = \bar{h} \Rightarrow g \in \varphi^{-1}(\bar{H})$ and $\varphi(g) = \bar{h} \in \varphi(\varphi^{-1}(\bar{H})) \Rightarrow \bar{H} \subseteq \varphi(\varphi^{-1}(\bar{H}))$.

Conversely, if $h \in \varphi(\varphi^{-1}(\bar{H}))$

$\Rightarrow \exists g \in \varphi^{-1}(\bar{H})$ s.t. $h = \varphi(g)$

if $g \in \varphi^{-1}(\bar{H}) \Rightarrow \varphi(g) \in \bar{H} \Rightarrow h \in \bar{H}$

Thus Claim 1 is true.

Similarly, one can prove that $\bar{\psi} \circ \psi = \text{Ids}$ and hence $\bar{\psi}$ is a bijection b/w S and T .

This proves 1) of the Theorem.

Now we'll prove part 2) i.e., if $H \in S$, then $[G : H] = [\bar{G} : \psi(H)]$.

It's enough to construct a bijection b/w the set of left cosets of H in G and the set of left cosets of $\psi(H)$ in \bar{G} .

Define $\bar{\zeta} : \{gH : g \in G, H \in S\} \rightarrow \{\bar{g}\bar{H} \mid \bar{H} \in T\}$

by $\bar{\zeta}(gH) = \varphi(g)\varphi(H)$

Recall Principle 2 :- we must check that the map $\bar{\zeta}$ is well-defined as the domain is the set of cosets.

So, let $g_1 H = g_2 H \Rightarrow g_2^{-1} g_1 \in H$.

$$\text{Now } \bar{\alpha}(g_1 H) = \varphi(g_1) \varphi(H)$$

$$\bar{\alpha}(g_2 H) = \varphi(g_2) \varphi(H)$$

$$\text{now } \varphi(g_2^{-1} g_1) = \varphi(g_2)^{-1} \varphi(g_1) \quad [\text{as } \varphi \text{ is a homomorphism}]$$

$$\text{But } \forall g_2^{-1} g_1 \in H \Rightarrow$$

$$\varphi(g_2^{-1} g_1) \in \varphi(H)$$

$$\Rightarrow \varphi(g_2^{-1} g_1) \varphi(H) = \varphi(H)$$

$$\Rightarrow \varphi(g_1) \varphi(H) = \varphi(g_2) \varphi(H)$$

Hence $\bar{\alpha}(g_1 H) = \bar{\alpha}(g_2 H) \Rightarrow \bar{\alpha}$ is well-defined.

$\bar{\alpha}$ is one-one

$$\text{let } \bar{\alpha}(g_1 H) = \bar{\alpha}(g_2 H)$$

$$\Rightarrow \varphi(g_1) \varphi(H) = \varphi(g_2) \varphi(H)$$

$$\Rightarrow \varphi(g_2^{-1} g_1) \varphi(H) = \varphi(H)$$

$$\Rightarrow \varphi(g_2^{-1}g_1) \in \varphi(H)$$

$$\Rightarrow g_2^{-1}g_1 \in H \Rightarrow g_2H = g_1H \text{ and } \overline{\alpha} \text{ is one-one.}$$

$\overline{\alpha}$ is onto.

Let $\overline{g}\varphi(H)$ be a coset of $\varphi(H)$. Since

φ is surjective $\Rightarrow \exists g \in G$ s.t. $\varphi(g) = \overline{g}$.

$$\Rightarrow \overline{\alpha}(gH) = \varphi(g)\varphi(H) = \overline{g}\varphi(H).$$

$\Rightarrow \overline{\alpha}$ is onto.

Thus $\overline{\alpha}$ is a bijection and hence we prove part 2).

□

I know that this is neither the easiest nor the best proofs to see, so I do not expect you to learn this. However, it's important to understand the content of the theorem.

Recalls that if $\varphi: G \rightarrow \bar{G}$ is an isomorphism then $\text{Ker } \varphi = \{e\}$ and hence any $H \leq G$ contains $\text{Ker } \varphi$. So as a corollary of the correspondence theorem, we see that

Corollary 1 Let $G \cong \bar{G}$. Then

- 1) The subgroup lattices of G and \bar{G} are the same. [as $S = \{H \leq G\}$ and $T = \{\bar{H} \leq \bar{G}\}$].
- 2) $\forall k \in \mathbb{N}$, the number of subgroups in G and \bar{G} of index k are the same.

Also, recall that if $N \triangleleft G$, then $N = \text{Ker } \varphi$ where $\varphi: G \rightarrow \frac{G}{N}$ is the natural homomorphism from $G \rightarrow G/N$. Thus, the correspondence theorem gives

Corollary 2 Let $N \triangleleft G$ and $\varphi: G \rightarrow \frac{G}{N}$ be the natural homomorphism. Then

① \exists bijection b/w $\{H \leq G \mid N \leq H\}$ and $\{\bar{H} \leq \bar{G}\}$.

② The bijection preserves the index of subgroups.

So corollary 2 is basically saying that the subgroup structure of the group $\frac{G}{N}$ is same as the

structure of subgroups of G containing N .

□

