

# Abstract Algebra.

## Unit III

Normal Subgroups. and Quotient Groups -  
Isomorphism - Homomorphism.

### 3.9 Normal Subgroups and Quotient Groups.

#### Definition

A subgroup  $H$  of  $G$  is called a normal subgroup of  $G$  if  $aH = Ha$  all  $a \in G$ .

#### Example

For any group  $G$ ,  $\{e\}$  and  $G$  are normal subgroups.

#### Theorem 3.39

Every subgroup of an abelian group is a normal subgroup.

#### Proof

Let  $G$  be an abelian group and let  $H$  be a subgroup of  $G$ . Let  $a \in G$

we claim that  $aH = Ha$ .

Let  $x \in aH$ . Then  $x = ah$  for some  $h \in H$ .

$$= ha \quad (\because G \text{ is abelian})$$

$\therefore x \in Ha$ . Hence  $aH \subseteq Ha$ . Similarly  $Ha \subseteq aH$ .

$\therefore aH = Ha$  and hence  $H$  is a normal

subgroup of  $G$ .

#### Example

- (i)  $n\mathbb{Z}$  is a normal subgroup of  $(\mathbb{Z}, +)$
- (ii) Every subgroup of  $(\mathbb{Z}_n, \oplus)$  is normal
- (iii) Since any cyclic group is abelian any subgroup of a cyclic group is normal.

### Theorem 3.40

Let  $H$  be a subgroup of index 2 in a group  $G$ .  
Then  $H$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$ .

Proof

If  $a \in H$  then  $H = aH = Ha$ .

If  $a \notin H$ , then  $aH$  is a left coset different from  $H$ .  
Hence  $H \cap aH = \emptyset$ . Further, since index of  $H$  in  $G$  is 2,  
 $H \cup aH = G$ . Hence  $aH = G - H$ . Similarly  $Ha = G - H$ .

$$\therefore aH = Ha.$$

Hence  $H$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$ .

### Theorem 3.41

Let  $N$  be a subgroup of  $G$ . Then the following are equivalent

(i)  $N$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$ .

(ii)  $aNa^{-1} = N \ \forall a \in G$ .

(iii)  $aNa^{-1} \subseteq N \ \forall a \in G$ .

(iv)  $an\bar{a}^{-1} \in N \ \forall n \in N$  and  $a \in G$ .

Proof:

(i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii)

Suppose  $N$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$ .

$$\therefore aN = Na \ \forall a \in G.$$

$$\therefore aNa^{-1} = Na\bar{a}^{-1} = Ne = N.$$

(ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (iii) and (iii)  $\Rightarrow$  (iv) are obvious.

(iv)  $\Rightarrow$  (i)

Suppose that  $an\bar{a}^{-1} \in N \ \forall n \in N$  and  $a \in G$ .  
We claim that  $aN = Na$ .

Let  $x \in aN$

$$\therefore x = an \text{ for some } n \in N$$

$$x = (an\bar{a}')a \in Na \quad (\because an\bar{a}' \in N)$$

$$aN \subseteq Na \rightarrow (1)$$

Now, let  $x \in Na$

$$\therefore x = ha \text{ for some } h \in N$$

$$\therefore x = a(\bar{a}'ha) = a(\bar{a}'n(\bar{a}'\bar{a}')) \in aN$$

$$Na \subseteq aN \rightarrow (2)$$

From (1) & (2) we get  $Na = aN$ .

Hence  $N$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$ .

### Solved problems

#### Problem 1

Prove that the intersection of two normal subgroups of a group  $G$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$ .

Solution

Let  $H$  and  $K$  be two normal subgroups of  $G$ . Then  $H \cap K$  is a subgroup of  $G$ .

Now, let  $a \in G$  and  $x \in H \cap K$ . Then  $x \in H$  and  $x \in K$ .  $\because H$  and  $K$  are normal  $ax\bar{a}' \in H$  and  $ax\bar{a}' \in K$ .

Hence  $ax\bar{a}' \in H \cap K$ . Thus  $H \cap K$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$ .

#### Problem 2

The centre  $H$  of a group  $G$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$ .

Solution.

The centre  $H$  of  $G$  is given by

$$H = \{a \mid a \in G, ax = xa \forall x \in G\}$$

Now let  $x \in H$  and  $a \in G$ . Hence  $ax = xa$ .

$$\therefore x = a x a^{-1} \in H.$$

Hence  $H$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$ .

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### Problem 3

Let  $H$  be a subgroup of  $G$ . Let  $a \in G$ . Then  $aHa^{-1}$  is a subgroup of  $G$ .

Solution.

$$e = a e a^{-1} \in aHa^{-1} \text{ and hence } aHa^{-1} \neq \emptyset$$

Now, let  $x, y \in aHa^{-1}$

$$\text{Then } x = ah_1a^{-1} \text{ and } y = ah_2a^{-1}$$

where  $h_1, h_2 \in H$ .

Now,

$$xy^{-1} = (ah_1a^{-1})(ah_2a^{-1})^{-1}$$

$$= (ah_1a^{-1})(ah_2^{-1}a^{-1})$$

$$= a(h_1h_2^{-1})a^{-1} \in aHa^{-1}$$

$\therefore aHa^{-1}$  is a subgroup of  $G$ .

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### Problem 4

Show that if a group  $G$  has exactly one subgroup  $H$  of given order, then  $H$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$ .

Solution

Let the order of  $H$  be  $m$ .

Let  $a \in G$ . Then by solved problem 3,  $aHa^{-1}$  is also a subgroup of  $G$ .

We claim that  $|H| = |aHa^{-1}| = m$ .

Now, consider  $f: H \rightarrow aH\bar{a}^{-1}$  defined by  $f(h) = ah\bar{a}^{-1}$

$f$  is 1-1, for  $f(h_1) = f(h_2)$

$$\Rightarrow ah_1\bar{a}^{-1} = ah_2\bar{a}^{-1}$$

$$\Rightarrow h_1 = h_2$$

$f$  is onto, for, let  $x = ah\bar{a}^{-1} \in aH\bar{a}^{-1}$

Then  $f(h) = x$ , Thus  $f$  is a bijection.

$$\therefore |H| = |aH\bar{a}^{-1}| = m.$$

But  $H$  is the only subgroup of  $G$  of order  $m$ .

$$\therefore aH\bar{a}^{-1} = H. \text{ Hence } aH = Ha.$$

$\therefore H$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$ .

### Problem 5

If  $H$  is a subgroup of  $G$  and  $N$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$  then  $HN$  is a subgroup of  $G$ .

### Solution

To prove that  $HN$  is a subgroup of  $G$ , it is enough if we prove that  $HN = NH$ .

Let  $x \in HN$ . Then  $x = hn$  where  $h \in H$  &  $n \in N$ .

$$\therefore x \in hN.$$

But  $hN \subseteq Nh$  ( $\because N$  is normal)

$$\therefore x \in Nh. \text{ Hence } x = n_1h \text{ where } n_1 \in N.$$

$$\therefore x \in NH. \text{ Hence } HN \subseteq NH.$$

Similarly  $NH \subseteq HN$

$$\therefore HN = NH.$$

Hence  $HN$  is a subgroup of  $G$ .

### Problem 6

$M$  and  $N$  are normal subgroups of a group  $G$  such that  $M \cap N = \{e\}$ . Show that every element of  $M$  commutes with every element of  $N$ .

### Solution

Let  $a \in M$  and  $b \in N$ .

We claim that  $ab = ba$ .

Consider the element  $aba^{-1}b^{-1}$ .

$\because a^{-1} \in M$  and  $M$  is normal,  $ba^{-1}b^{-1} \in M$ .

Also  $a \in M$ , so that  $ab a^{-1} b^{-1} \in M$ .

Again,  $\because b \in N$  and  $N$  is normal,  $ab a^{-1} \in N$ .

Also  $b^{-1} \in N$ , so that  $ab a^{-1} b^{-1} \in N$ .

Thus  $ab a^{-1} b^{-1} \in M \cap N = \{e\}$ .

$\therefore ab a^{-1} b^{-1} = e$ , so that  $ab = ba$ .

### Problem 7

Show that if  $H$  and  $N$  are subgroups of a group  $G$  and  $N$  is normal in  $G$ , then  $H \cap N$  is normal in  $H$ . Show by an example that  $H \cap N$  need not be normal in  $G$ .

### Solution

Let  $x \in H \cap N$  and  $a \in H$

We claim that  $axa^{-1} \in H \cap N$

Now,  $x \in N$  and  $a \in H \Rightarrow axa^{-1} \in N$  ( $\because N$  is a normal subgroup)

Also  $x \in H$  and  $a \in H \Rightarrow axa^{-1} \in H$  ( $\because H$  is a group)

Hence  $axa^{-1} \in H \cap N$ .

$\therefore H \cap N$  is a normal subgroup of  $H$ .

The following example shows that  $H \cap N$  need not be normal in  $G$ .

Let  $G = S_3$ . Take  $N = G$  and  $H = \{e, p_3\}$ .

Now  $H \cap N = H$  which is not normal in  $G$ .

### Theorem 3.42

A subgroup  $N$  of  $G$  is normal iff the product of two cosets of  $N$  is again a right coset of  $N$ .

#### Proof

Suppose  $N$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$ .

Then

$$\begin{aligned} NaNb &= N(aN)b \\ &= N(Nab) \quad (\because aN = Na) \\ &= NNab \\ &= Nab \quad (\because NN = N) \end{aligned}$$

Conversely suppose that the product of any two right cosets of  $N$  is again a right coset of  $N$ . Then  $NaNb$  is a right coset of  $N$ .

Further  $ab = (ea)(eb) \in NaNb$ .

Hence  $NaNb$  is the right coset containing  $ab$ .

$$\therefore NaNb = Nab$$

Now, we prove that  $N$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$ .

Let  $a \in G$  and  $n \in N$ . Then

$$an\bar{a}' = ean\bar{a}' \in NaN\bar{a}' = Na\bar{a}' = N$$

$$\therefore an\bar{a}' \in N$$

Hence  $N$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$ .

### Theorem 3.43

Let  $N$  be a normal subgroup of a group  $G$ .  
Then  $G/N$  is a group under the operations defined by  
 $NaNb = Nab$ .

Proof

By theorem 3.42 the operation given by  
 $NaNb = Nab$  is a well defined binary operation  
in  $G/N$ .

Now, let  $Na, Nb, Nc \in G/N$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then } Na(NbNc) &= Na(Nbc) \\ &= Na(bc) \\ &= N(ab)c \\ &= (NaNb)Nc \end{aligned}$$

$\therefore$  The binary operation is associative.

$$Ne = N \in G/N \text{ and } NaNe = Nae = Na = Nena$$

$\therefore Ne$  is the identity element.

$$\text{Also } NaNa^{-1} = Na^{-1} = Ne = Na^{-1}Na$$

$\therefore Na^{-1}$  is the inverse of  $Na$ .

$\therefore G/N$  is a group.

Definition

Let  $N$  be a normal subgroup of  $G$ . Then the group  
 $G/N$  is called the quotient group (factor group)  
of  $G$  modulo  $N$ .

Example

$3\mathbb{Z}$  is a normal subgroup of  $(\mathbb{Z}, +)$ .

Then the quotient group  $\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z} = \{3\mathbb{Z}+0, 3\mathbb{Z}+1, 3\mathbb{Z}+2\}$

Hence  $\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z}$  is a group of order 3.



## Exercises

### problem

prove that if  $G$  is abelian and  $H$  is a subgroup of  $G$ , then  $G/H$  is abelian.

### solution:

Let  $G$  be abelian and

$$\text{let } G/H = \{gH : g \in G\}.$$

$$\text{Let } g_1H, g_2H \in G/H.$$

$$\text{Then } (g_1H)(g_2H) = g_1g_2H = g_2g_1H \quad (G \text{ is abelian})$$

$$= (g_2H)(g_1H)$$

$\therefore G/H$  is abelian.

## 3.10 Isomorphism.

### Definition

Let  $G$  and  $G'$  be two groups. A map  $f: G \rightarrow G'$  is called an isomorphism if

(i)  $f$  is a bijection

$$(ii) f(xy) = f(x)f(y) \quad \forall x, y \in G.$$

### Theorem 3.44

Isomorphism is an equivalence relation among groups.

### proof

For any group  $G$ ,  $id_G: G \rightarrow G$  is clearly an isomorphism.

Hence  $G \cong G$ .  $\therefore$  the relation is reflexive.

Now, let  $G \cong G'$  and let  $f: G \rightarrow G'$  be an isomorphism.

Then  $f$  is a bijection.  $\therefore f^{-1}: G' \rightarrow G$  is also a bijection.

Now, let  $x', y' \in G'$ .

Let  $f^{-1}(x') = x$  &  $f^{-1}(y') = y$

Then  $f(x) = x'$  and  $f(y) = y'$

$$\therefore f(xy) = f(x)f(y) = x'y'$$

$$\therefore f^{-1}(x'y') = xy = f^{-1}(x')f^{-1}(y')$$

Hence  $f^{-1}$  is an isomorphism.

Thus,  $G \cong G'$  and hence the relation is symmetric.

Now, let  $G \cong G'$  and  $G' \cong G''$

Then  $f$  isomorphism  $f: G \rightarrow G'$  and  $g: G' \rightarrow G''$

$\therefore f$  and  $g$  are bijections.  $g \circ f: G \rightarrow G''$  is also a bijection.

Now, let  $x, y \in G$ . Then

$$(g \circ f)(xy) = g[f(xy)]$$

$$= g[f(x)f(y)] \quad [\because f \text{ is an isomorphism}]$$

$$= g[f(x)]g[f(y)] \quad [\because g \text{ is an isomorphism}]$$

$$= (g \circ f)(x)(g \circ f)(y)$$

Hence  $g \circ f$  is an isomorphism.

Thus  $G \cong G''$  and hence the relation is transitive.

$\therefore$  Isomorphism is an equivalence relation among groups.

### Example

$$(\mathbb{Z}, +) \cong (2\mathbb{Z}, +)$$

Consider  $f: \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow 2\mathbb{Z}$  given by  $f(x) = 2x$

Clearly  $f$  is a bijection.

$$\text{Also } f(x+y) = 2(x+y) = 2x + 2y = f(x) + f(y)$$

Hence  $f$  is an isomorphism.

### Theorem 3.45

Let  $f: G \rightarrow G'$  be an isomorphism. Then

(i)  $f(e) = e'$  where  $e$  and  $e'$  are the identity elements of  $G$  and  $G'$  respectively.

(ii)  $f(a^{-1}) = [f(a)]^{-1}$

Proof

(i) To prove that  $f(e) = e'$  it is enough if we

prove that  $a' f(e) = f(e) a' = a' \forall a' \in G'$

Let  $a' \in G'$ . Since  $f: G \rightarrow G'$  is a bijection,  $\exists$  such that  $a \in G$  such that  $f(a) = a'$ .

$$\therefore a' f(e) = f(a) f(e) = f(ae) = f(a) = a'$$

Similarly  $f(e) a' = a'$

$$\therefore f(e) = e'$$

(ii) It is enough to prove that

$$f(a) f(a^{-1}) = f(a^{-1}) f(a) = e'$$

$$\text{Now, } f(a) f(a^{-1}) = f(a a^{-1}) = f(e) = e'$$

$$\text{Also, } f(a^{-1}) f(a) = f(a^{-1} a) = f(e) = e'$$

$$\therefore f(a) f(a^{-1}) = f(a^{-1}) f(a) = e'$$

$$\therefore [f(a)]^{-1} = f(a^{-1})$$

### Theorem 3.46

Let  $f: G \rightarrow G'$  be an isomorphism. If  $G$  is abelian, then  $G'$  is also abelian.

Proof

Let  $a', b' \in G'$ ,  $\exists a, b \in G$  such that

$$f(a) = a' \text{ \& } f(b) = b'$$

$$\text{Now, } a' b' = f(a) f(b) = f(ab) = f(ba)$$

$$= f(b) f(a) = b' a'$$

hence  $G'$  is abelian.

### Theorem 3.47

Let  $f: G \rightarrow G'$  be an isomorphism. Let  $a \in G$ . Then the order of  $a$  is equal to the order of  $f(a)$ .

Proof

Suppose the order of  $a$  is  $n$ . Then  $n$  is the least positive integer such that  $a^n = e$ .

Now,

$$\begin{aligned} [f(a)]^n &= f(a) \cdots f(a) \quad (f(a) \text{ written } n \text{ times}) \\ &= f(a^n) \\ &= f(e) = e' \end{aligned}$$

Now, if possible let  $m$  be a positive integer such that  $0 < m < n$  and  $[f(a)]^m = e'$

$$\text{Then } f(a^m) = [f(a)]^m = e'$$

But  $f(e) = e'$ . Since  $f$  is 1-1 we have  $a^m = e$  which contradicts the definition of the order of  $a$ .

$\therefore n$  is the least positive integer such that

$$[f(a)]^n = e'$$

$\therefore$  The order of  $f(a)$  is  $n$ .

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### Theorem 3.48

Let  $f: G \rightarrow G'$  be an isomorphism. If  $G$  is cyclic then  $G'$  is also cyclic.

Proof

Let  $a$  be a generator of the group  $G$ . We shall prove that  $f(a)$  is a generator of the group  $G'$ .

Let  $x' \in G'$ . Since  $f$  is a bijection,  $\exists n \in G$  such that  $f(n) = x'$ .

Now, since  $G = \langle a \rangle$ ,  $x = a^n$  for some integer  $n$ .

Hence  $x^k = f(nk) = f(n)^k = [f(n)]^k$ .

$\therefore x^k \in G'$  is arbitrary every element of  $G'$  is of the form  $[f(n)]^k$  so that  $G' = \langle f(n) \rangle$ .

Hence  $G'$  is cyclic.

### Theorem 3.49

Any infinite cyclic group  $G$  is isomorphic

to  $(\mathbb{Z}, +)$

Proof

Let  $G$  be an infinite cyclic group with generator  $a$ . Then  $G = \{a^n \mid n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ .

Define  $f: \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow G$  by  $f(n) = a^n$ .

$\therefore G$  is infinite,  $n \neq m \Rightarrow a^n \neq a^m$ .

Hence  $f$  is 1-1. Obviously  $f$  is onto.

Now  $f(n+m) = a^{n+m} = a^n \cdot a^m = f(n) \cdot f(m)$

Hence  $f$  is an isomorphism.

### Theorem 3.50

Any finite cyclic group of order  $n$  is isomorphic to  $(\mathbb{Z}_n, \oplus)$

Proof

Let  $G$  be a cyclic group of order  $n$  with generator  $a$ . Then  $G = \{e, a, a^2, \dots, a^{n-1}\}$

Define  $f: \mathbb{Z}_n \rightarrow G$  by  $f(r) = a^r$

Clearly  $f$  is a bijection.

Now, let  $r, s \in \mathbb{Z}_n$ . Let  $r \oplus s = t$

Then  $r+s = gn+t$ , where  $0 \leq t < n$

$\therefore f(r \oplus s) = a^{r \oplus s} = a^t = f(t) \quad (1)$

$$\text{Also, } f(r) f(s) = a^r a^s = a^{r+s} = a^{(r+s)} = a^{r+s} = a^r a^s = (a^r)^s a^t = e a^t = a^t = a^s$$

From (1) & (2), we get  $f(r \oplus s) = f(r) f(s)$  (3)

Hence  $f$  is an isomorphism.

Theorem: 3.51 Cayley's

Cayley's Theorem:

Any finite group is isomorphic to a group of permutations.

Proof

We shall prove this theorem in 3 steps.

We shall first find a set  $G'$  of permutations. Then we prove that  $G'$  is a group of permutations and finally we exhibit an isomorphism  $\phi: G \rightarrow G'$

Step 1

Let  $G$  be a finite group of order  $n$ .

Let  $a \in G$ , define  $f_a: G \rightarrow G$  by  $f_a(x) = ax$ .

Now,  $f_a$  is 1-1.  $\therefore f_a(x) = f_a(y) \Rightarrow ax = ay \Rightarrow x = y$ .

$f_a$  is onto. Thus  $f_a$  is a bijection.

$\therefore G$  has  $n$  elements,  $f_a$  is just a permutation on  $n$  symbols.

Let  $G' = \{f_a \mid a \in G\}$ .

Step 2

We prove  $G'$  is a group. Let  $f_a, f_b \in G'$

$$(f_a \circ f_b)(x) = f_a(f_b(x)) = f_a(bx) = a(bx) = (ab)x = f_{ab}(x)$$

Hence  $f_a \circ f_b = f_{ab}$ . Hence  $G'$  is closed under composition of mappings.  $f_e \in G'$  is the identity element. The inverse of  $f_a$  in  $G'$  is  $f_{a^{-1}}$

### Step 3

we prove  $G \cong G'$

Define  $\phi: G \rightarrow G'$  by  $\phi(a) = f a$

$$\phi(a) = \phi(b) \Rightarrow f a = f b \Rightarrow f a(x) = f b(x) \Rightarrow a(x) = b(x) \Rightarrow a = b$$

Hence  $\phi$  is 1-1. obviously  $\phi$  is onto.

$$\text{Also } \phi(ab) = f ab = f a \circ f b = \phi(a) \circ \phi(b)$$

Hence  $\phi$  is an isomorphism.

### Definition

An isomorphism of a group  $G$  to itself is called an automorphism of  $G$ .

The set of all automorphism of  $G$  is denoted by  $\text{Aut } G$ .

### Example

Any group  $G$  has at least one automorphism namely  $i_G$ .

### Definition

The automorphism  $\phi_a: G \rightarrow G$  defined by  $\phi_a(mn) = \phi_a(m)\phi_a(n)$  is called an inner automorphism of the group  $G$ . The set of all inner automorphism of  $G$  is denoted by  $I(G)$ .

### Theorem 3.52

For any group,

- (i)  $\text{Aut } G$  is a group under composition of functions
- (ii)  $I(G)$  is a normal subgroup of  $\text{Aut } G$ .

### Proof

(i) Let  $f, g \in \text{Aut } G$

$\therefore f$  and  $g$  are isomorphisms of  $G$  to itself.

$\therefore f \circ g$  is an isomorphism of  $G$  to itself.

$\therefore f \circ g \in \text{Aut } G$ .

$$f \in \text{Aut } G \Rightarrow f^{-1} \in \text{Aut } G$$

Clearly composition of functions is associative.

Hence  $\text{Aut } G$  is a group.

(ii) Let  $\phi_a, \phi_b \in I(G)$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned}(\phi_a \phi_b)(x) &= \phi_a(bx b^{-1}) \\ &= a(bx b^{-1})a^{-1} \\ &= (ab)x(ab)^{-1} \\ &= \phi_{ab}(x)\end{aligned}$$

Hence  $\phi_a \phi_b = \phi_{ab} \in I(G)$

$\phi_e$  is the identity element of  $I(G)$  and the inverse of  $\phi_a$  is  $\phi_{a^{-1}}$ .

$\therefore I(G)$  is a subgroup of  $\text{Aut } G$ .

We now prove that  $I(G)$  is a normal subgroup of  $\text{Aut } G$ .

Let  $\alpha \in \text{Aut } G$ ,  $\phi_a \in I(G)$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned}(\alpha \phi_a \alpha^{-1})(x) &= \alpha \phi_a(\alpha^{-1}(x)) \\ &= \alpha(a \alpha^{-1}(x) a^{-1}) \\ &= \alpha(a) \alpha \alpha^{-1}(x) \alpha(a^{-1}) \\ &= \alpha(a) x [\alpha(a)]^{-1} \\ &= \phi_{\alpha(a)}(x)\end{aligned}$$

$\therefore \alpha \phi_a \alpha^{-1} = \phi_{\alpha(a)} \in I(G)$ .

Hence  $I(G)$  is a normal subgroup of  $\text{Aut } G$ .



### 3.11. Homomorphisms

#### Definition.

A map  $f$  from a group  $G$  into a group  $G'$  is called a homomorphism if  $f(ab) = f(a)f(b)$   $\forall a, b \in G$ .

#### Example

$f: (\mathbb{R}^+, \cdot) \rightarrow (\mathbb{R}^+, \cdot)$  defined by  $f(x) = |x|$  is a homomorphism.

For,  $f(xy) = |xy| = |x||y| = f(x)f(y)$ .

This homomorphism is onto.

#### Definition.

Let  $f: G \rightarrow G'$  be a homomorphism.

- i) If  $f$  is onto, then it is called an epimorphism.
- ii) If  $f$  is 1-1, then it is called a monomorphism.

#### Definition

Let  $f: G \rightarrow G'$  be a homomorphism.

Let  $K = \{x \mid x \in G, f(x) = e'\}$ . Then  $K$  is called the kernel of  $f$  and is denoted by  $\ker f$ .

#### Theorem

Let  $f: G \rightarrow G'$  be a homomorphism. Then the kernel  $K$  of  $f$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$ .

#### Proof

$\{e'\}$  is a normal subgroup of  $f(G)$ .

Hence  $\ker f = f^{-1}(\{e'\})$  is a normal

subgroup of  $G$ .

## Theorem

### Fundamental Theorem of Homomorphism

Let  $f: G \rightarrow G'$  be an epimorphism. Let  $K$  be the kernel of  $f$ . Then  $G/K \cong G'$ .

#### Proof

Define  $\phi: G/K \rightarrow G'$  by  $\phi(Ka) = f(a)$

#### Step (i)

$\phi$  is well defined.

Let  $Kb = Ka$ . Then  $b \in Ka$

Hence  $b = ka$  where  $k \in K$

Now,  $f(b) = f(Ka) = f(k)f(a) = e'f(a) = f(a)$

$\therefore \phi(Kb) = f(b) = f(a) = \phi(Ka)$

Hence  $\phi(Ka) = \phi(Kb)$

#### Step (ii)

$\phi$  is 1-1

For  $\phi(Ka) = \phi(Kb) \Rightarrow f(a) = f(b)$

$$\Rightarrow f(a)[f(b)]^{-1} = e'$$

$$\Rightarrow f(ab^{-1}) = e'$$

$$\Rightarrow ab^{-1} \in K$$

$$\Rightarrow a \in Kb$$

$$\Rightarrow Ka = Kb$$

#### Step (iii)

$\phi$  is onto

Let  $a' \in G'$ .  $\therefore f$  is onto,  $\exists a \in G$  such that  $f(a) = a'$ .

Hence  $\phi(Ka) = f(a) = a'$

#### Step (iv)

$\phi$  is a homomorphism.

$$\phi(KaKb) = \phi(Kab) = f(ab) = f(a)f(b) = \phi(Ka)\phi(Kb)$$

Thus  $\phi$  is an isomorphism from  $G/K$  onto  $G'$

$$\therefore G/K \cong G'$$

### Problem

Show that the map  $f: (\mathbb{C}, +) \rightarrow (\mathbb{R}, +)$  defined by  $f(x+iy) = y$  is an epimorphism and  $\ker f = \mathbb{R}$ . Deduce that  $\mathbb{C}/\mathbb{R} \cong \mathbb{R}$ .

### Solution

Let  $z_1 = x_1 + iy_1$  and  $z_2 = x_2 + iy_2$ .

Then  $z_1 + z_2 = (x_1 + x_2) + i(y_1 + y_2)$ .

$$\therefore f(z_1 + z_2) = y_1 + y_2 = f(z_1) + f(z_2)$$

Hence  $f$  is a homomorphism.

Clearly  $f$  is onto.

Now,

$$\ker f = f^{-1} \{x+iy \mid f(x+iy) = 0\}$$

$$= \{x+iy \mid y = 0\}$$

$$= \mathbb{R}$$

$\therefore$  By the fundamental theorem of homomorphism,  $\mathbb{C}/\mathbb{R} \cong \mathbb{R}$ .