

## Review of 561/562

- (1) Structure of Groups
- (2) Symmetry
- (3) Structure of Rings
- (4) Other

Today: (2)

Q: Why is a "group" operation associative?

A: To model composition of functions!

DEF: Let  $X =$  set with structure. Then

$\text{Aut}(X) :=$  group of invertible structure-preserving maps  $X \rightarrow X$   
under composition

$=$  "symmetries" of  $X$ .

Examples:

$$\text{Aut}(\text{set } \{1, 2, \dots, n\}) = S_n$$

$$\text{Aut}(\text{group } \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}) \cong (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^\times$$



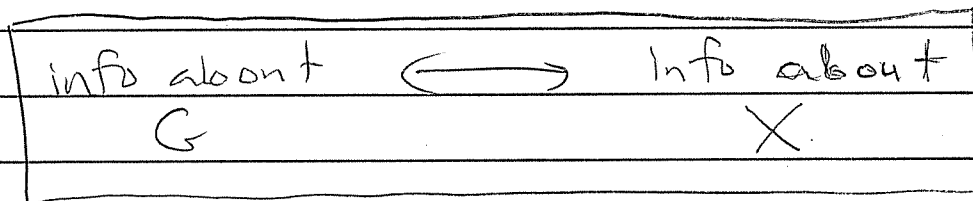
$$\text{Aut}(\text{ring } \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}) = \{ \text{id} \}$$

$$\text{Aut}(\text{vector space } \mathbb{R}^n) = \text{GL}_n(\mathbb{R})$$

$$\text{Aut}(\text{inner product space } \mathbb{R}^n) = \text{O}(n)$$

Philosophy (Representation Theory):

Given abstract group  $G$ , study group  
homs  $\varphi: G \rightarrow \text{Aut}(X)$  for nice  $X$ . Then



Prototype: Let  $X = \text{a set (no structure)}$ .  
 $G = \text{abstract group}$

DEF: A group hom  $\varphi: G \rightarrow \text{Aut}(X)$  is called  
an action of  $G$  on  $X$  (say  $G \overset{\varphi}{\curvearrowright} X$ ).

i.e. send  $a \in G$   
to a bijection  $\varphi_a: X \rightarrow X$ .

★ Exercise: It's equivalent to consider a map

$$G \times X \rightarrow X$$

$$(a, x) \mapsto a * x$$

satisfying

(A1)  $\forall x \in X, e * x = x$

(A2)  $\forall a, b \in G, \forall x \in X, (ab) * x = a * (b * x)$ .

[Hint:  $\varphi_a(x) = a * x$ ]

Fund. Thm. of Group Action

Given  $G \curvearrowright X$  we define

(1)  $\forall x \in X, \text{Orb}(x) := \{a * x : a \in G\} \subseteq X$

(Exercise:  $x \sim y \iff \exists a \in G, a * x = y$   
is an equivalence. Hence  $X = \sqcup \text{Orbits}$ .)

(2)  $\forall x \in X, \text{Stab}(x) := \{a \in G : a * x = x\} \subseteq G$

(Exercise:  $\text{Stab}(x) \leq G$  is a subgroup.  
Probably not normal)

But still  $|G / \text{Stab}(x)| = |G| / |\text{Stab}(x)|$

↑  
NOT a group

Theorem (Orbit-Stabilizer):  $\forall x \in X$   
 $\exists$  a natural bijection.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Orb}(x) &\longrightarrow G/\text{Stab}(x) \\ a*x &\longmapsto a\text{Stab}(x) \end{aligned}$$

Proof:  $a*x = b*x \iff x = (a^{-1}b)*x$   
 $\iff a^{-1}b \in \text{Stab}(x)$   
 $\iff a\text{Stab}(x) = b\text{Stab}(x)$

$\implies$  well-defined  $\checkmark$

$\longleftarrow$  injective  $\checkmark$

surj. is automatic  $\checkmark$



Moreover... Given  $G \curvearrowright X$ . Then  $\forall x \in X$

$$G \xrightarrow{\varphi} \text{Orb}(x) \text{ by } \varphi_a(b*x) := (ab)*x \quad \forall b \in G.$$

$$G \xrightarrow{\mu} G/\text{Stab}(x) \text{ by } \mu_a(b\text{Stab}(x)) := (ab)\text{Stab}(x) \quad \forall b$$

Exercise:  $\forall a \in G, x \in X$  we have

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Orb}(x) & \longrightarrow & G/\text{Stab}(x) \\ \varphi_a \downarrow & & \downarrow \mu_a \\ \text{Orb}(x) & \longrightarrow & G/\text{Stab}(x) \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{Orb}(x) \xrightarrow{\sim} G/\text{Stab}(x) \\ \uparrow \\ \text{as "G-sets"} \end{array}$$

Corollary: IF  $G \curvearrowright X$  transitively (only one orbit) then  $\forall x \in X$  we have

$$X \cong_G G/\text{stab}(x)$$

(philosophy)

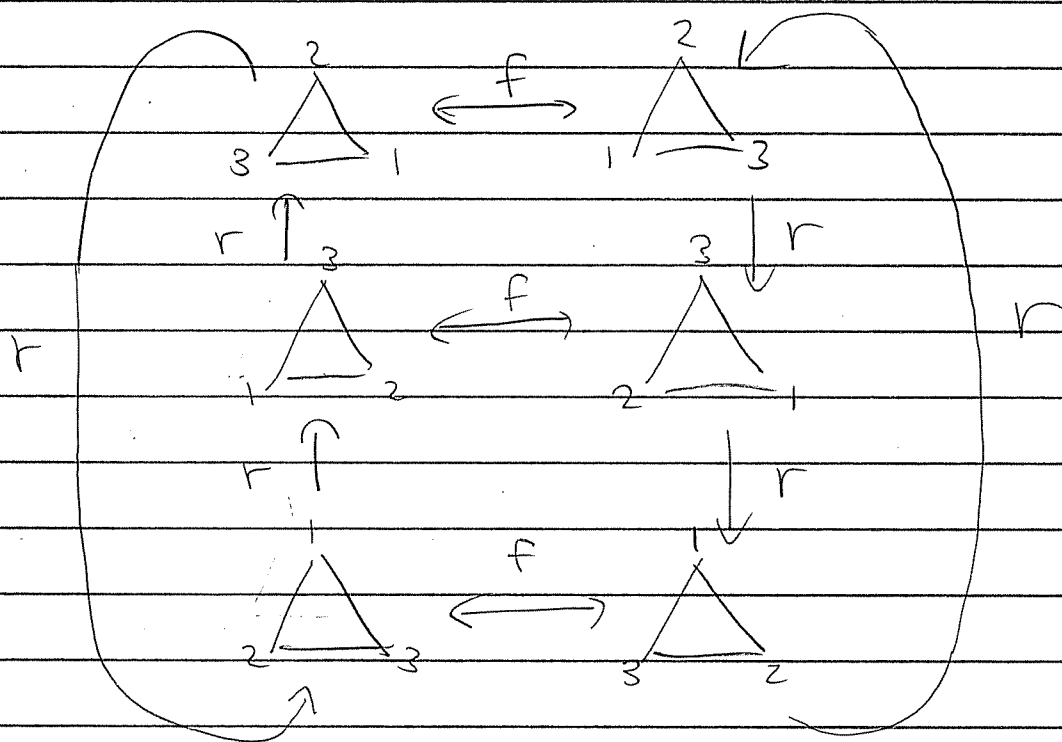
Example:

Let  $X = \{ \text{labeled triangles} \}$

$D_3 =$  dihedral group

$$= \langle r, f : r^3 = f^2 = 1, frf = r^{-1} \rangle$$

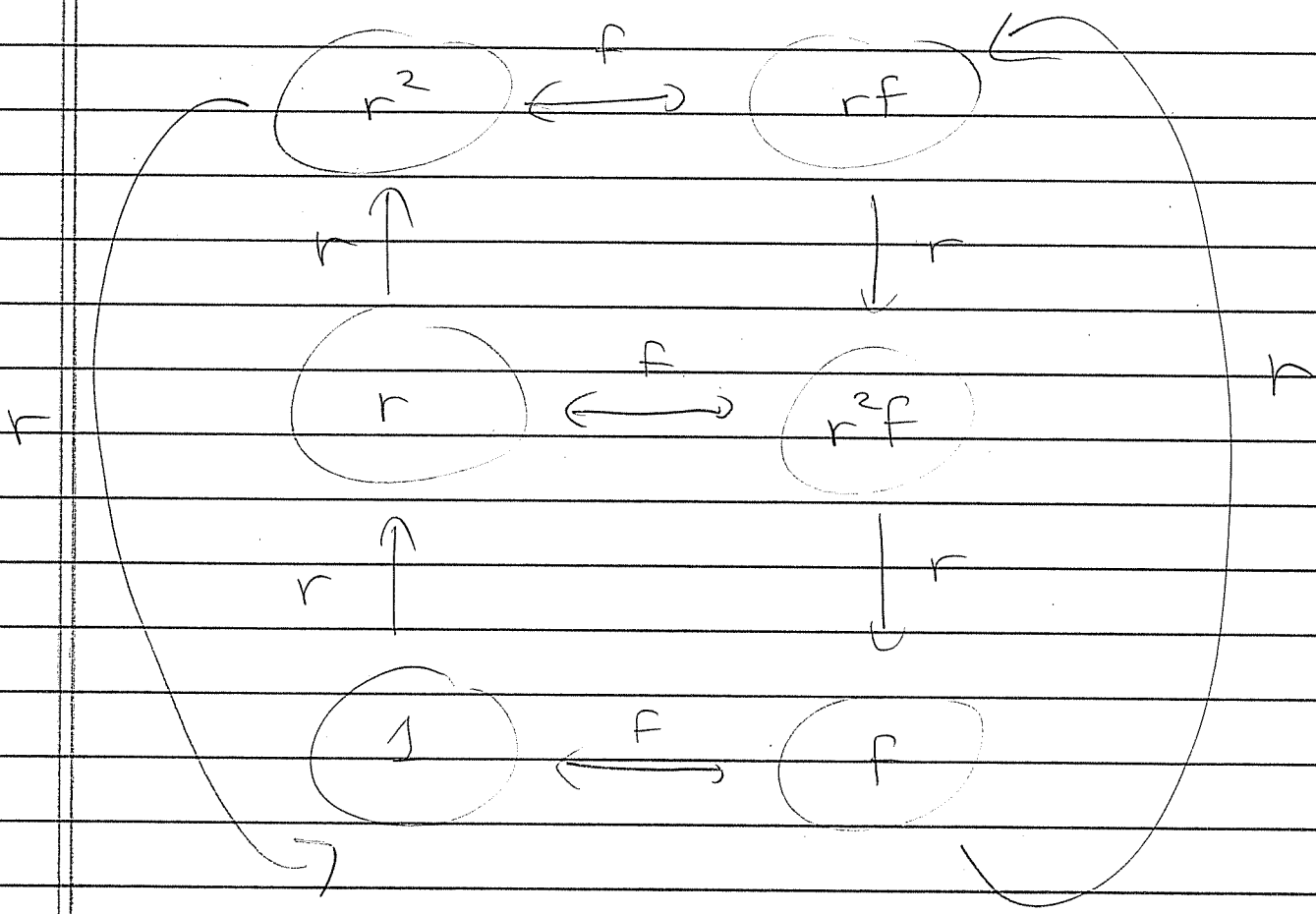
The "Cayley graph"



But  $D_3 \simeq X$  with  $\text{Stab}(x) = \{1\} \forall x \in X$ .

So  $X \simeq_{D_3} D_3$

Choose a basepoint to get



Triangles are unnecessary!

## Appendix:

Note.  $\langle r \rangle \cong D_3$ ,  $\langle f \rangle \cong D_3$   
NOT normal

$$\langle r \rangle \cap \langle f \rangle = \{1\}$$

From R.S. (1) we have

$$\langle r \rangle \langle f \rangle := \left\{ r^i f^j : \forall i, j \in \mathbb{Z} \right\} = D_3$$

↑  
as sets.

Structure? We write

$$D_3 = \langle r \rangle \rtimes \langle f \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z} \rtimes \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$$

In general we have

$$D_n \cong (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}) \rtimes (\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$$

conjugation is inversion

NON-abelian

