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Program for B.Sc (Hons) Part-3

Coset Decomposition

Relation :- $R \subseteq (A \times B)$ or $R \subseteq (B \times A)$

Ex :- $A = \{1,2\}$, $B = \{3\}$

$(A \times B) = \{(1,3), (2,3)\}$ · $R = \{(1,3) \subseteq (A \times B)$

Relation is also called Binary relation.

Relation on a set :- If $A=B$, then $R \subseteq (A \times A)$ or, $R \subseteq (B \times B)$. Here R is called relation on a set . Ex :- $A = \{1,2\} \Rightarrow A \times A = \{(1,1), (1,2), (2,1), (2,2)\}$

Equivalence relation :- A relation R defined on A is called equivalence relation if the following axiom are satisfied :-

- (i) R is reflexive :- For all $a \in A$ $(a,a) \in R$. That is $aRa \forall a \in A$.
- (ii) R is symmetric :- If $(a,b) \in R \Rightarrow (b,a) \in R$ where $a, b \in A$ i.e. if $aRb \forall a \in A$.
- (iii) R is transitive :- If $(a,b) \in R, (b,c) \in R \Rightarrow (a,c) \in R$, i.e $aRb, bRc \Rightarrow aRc$; where $a,b,c \in A$.

Ex :- $A = \{1,2,3\}$

$R = \{(1,1), (2,2), (3,3), (1,2), (2,1)\}$

Equivalence class :- Let $R \subseteq (A \times A)$. That is R is a relation defined on A and R is also equivalence relation.

Now, let $a \in A$ be an arbitrary element , then the set of all those elements of A , say (x) such that $x R a$, is called an equivalence class of A determined by a . Symbolically.

$[a] = \{x : x R a\} = \{x \in A : (x, a) \in R\}$

Silly $[b] = \{x : x R b\} = \{x \in A : (x, b) \in R\}$

Ex :- $A = \{a,b,c\}$ and $R = \{(a,a), (b,b), (c,c), (a,b), (b,a)\}$

Here R is an equivalence relation on A .

$$[a] = \{ x : (x,a) \in R \} = \{a,b\}$$

$$[b] = \{ x : (x,b) \in R \} = \{ b,a \} = \{a,b\}$$

$$[c] = \{ x : (x,c) \in R \} = \{c\}$$

** Equivalence classes are either identical or disjoint. Also the union of equivalence classes determines the set on which R is defined.

Partition of a set :- A partition of a set A is a disjoint class C of non-empty subsets of A whose union gives the set A itself. The subsets are called the partition sets.

$$(i) \quad A_i \neq \emptyset, i \in \mathbb{N}$$

$$(ii) \quad A_i \neq A_j, i \neq j$$

$$(iii) \quad \bigcup_{i \in \mathbb{N}} A_i = A$$

$$\text{Ex :- } A = \{ a,b,c,d,e \}$$

$$A_1 = \{ a,b,d \}, A_2 = \{ c \}, A_3 = \{ e \}$$

(A_1, A_2, A_3) is a partition of A .

Coset Decomposition :- Let G be group and $H \leq G$. Then for every element $a \in G$, there exists a left coset aH or right coset Ha respectively.

The set of all these left coset or right coset provides decomposition of G into disjoint equivalence classes such that for any two elements a,b of the some class (in the form of coset) $b^{-1}a$ (or ab^{-1}) $\in H$.

Theorem on coset Decomposition

Statement :- If H is a subgroup of the finite group G , then G is equal to the union of all left (right) cosets of H in G i.e. there exists a finite number of disjoint cosets of H in G say $a_1 H, a_2 H, a_3 H, \dots, a_k H$ in such a way that $G = a_1 H \cup a_2 H \cup a_3 H \cup \dots \cup a_k H$.

Proof :- We prove this theorem by the help of equivalence relation defined on G . Let G be a group and $H \leq G$. If $a, b \in G$, then we say that a is congruent to b modulo H iff $b^{-1}a \in H$. We can write $a \equiv b \pmod{H}$ if $b^{-1}a \in H$ i.e. $a = bh$; ($h \in H$).

Now, we have to show that this congruence relation is an equivalence relation on G . For this, we do the followings:-

- (i) Reflexive :- It is clear that $a \equiv a \pmod{H}$; since $a = ae, e \in H$.
- (ii) Symmetric :- Let $a \equiv b \pmod{H}$. Now we show that $b \equiv a \pmod{H}$
- $$\begin{aligned} &\because a \equiv b \pmod{H} \\ &\Rightarrow b^{-1} a \in H \Rightarrow (b^{-1}a)^{-1} \in H ; \text{ Since } H \text{ is a group} \\ &\Rightarrow a^{-1}b \in H \\ &\Rightarrow b \equiv a \pmod{H} \end{aligned}$$
- (iii) **Transitive** :- If $a \equiv b \pmod{H}$ and $b \equiv c \pmod{H}$, then we can write $a = bh_1$, and $b = ch_2$ where $h_1, h_2 \in H$ Therefore $a = (ch_2)h_1 = c(h_2 h_1) = ch_3$; Since $h_2 h_1 \in H$ and put $h_2 h_1 = h_3$
- $$\begin{aligned} &\Rightarrow a = c h_3 \\ &\Rightarrow a \equiv c \pmod{H}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence , we observe that congruence relation in G is an equivalence relation . The equivalence relation partitions the group G into disjoint classes which are left cosets of H in G . So, by the properties of equivalence classes, we get $G = a_1 H \cup a_2 H \cup a_3 H \dots \dots \dots a_k H$; $K = \text{no. of distinct left cosets of } G$

We may prove the relation $ab^{-1} \in H$ is also an equivalence relation in G for right cosets also.