

Applying the Cancellation Law 1.9 in H gives that

$$1_H = \varphi(1_G),$$

proving (iii). It follows from (2) that (ii) is satisfied.

Example 7.3. (1) Take $\text{GL}(n, \mathbb{R})$ to be the group of $n \times n$ invertible matrices over \mathbb{R} under matrix multiplication, and \mathbb{R}^* to be the group of non-zero real numbers under multiplication. Consider the mapping

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi : \text{GL}(n, \mathbb{R}) &\mapsto \mathbb{R}^* \\ A &\mapsto \varphi(A) = \det(A) \end{aligned}$$

which maps an invertible $n \times n$ real matrix A to its determinant $\det(A)$. Since A is invertible, $\det(A) \neq 0$. Hence we indeed have that

$$A \in \text{GL}(n, \mathbb{R}) \Rightarrow \varphi(A) \in \mathbb{R}^*.$$

To show that φ is a homomorphism, by Remarks 7.2 (3) it is sufficient to show that it preserves the group operation of product.

93 / 28

Pick $A, B \in \text{GL}(n, \mathbb{R})$. Then

$$\varphi(AB) = \det(AB) = \det(A)\det(B) = \varphi(A)\varphi(B),$$

where the second equality follows from the properties of determinants.

(2) Take $C_2 = \{-1, 1\}$ to be the group of the second roots of unity under multiplication. Consider the mapping φ from the group S_n of permutations of degree n to C_2 given by

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi : S_n &\mapsto C_2 \\ \sigma &\mapsto \varphi(\sigma) = (-1)^\sigma. \end{aligned}$$

So for any permutation σ of degree n , $\varphi(\sigma)$ is its sign.

To show that φ is a homomorphism, by Remarks 7.2 (3) it is sufficient to show that it preserves the group operation of product.

Pick $\sigma, \tilde{\sigma} \in S_n$. Then

$$\varphi(\sigma\tilde{\sigma}) = (-1)^{\sigma\tilde{\sigma}} = (-1)^\sigma (-1)^{\tilde{\sigma}} = \varphi(\sigma)\varphi(\tilde{\sigma}),$$

where the second equality follows from Proposition 5.25.