

Simplicity of Groups

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Abstract

The aim of this paper is to check whether a group is simple or not. For this we use some test.

Key Words - Group, set, prime, simple, sylow subgroup.

I. INTRODUCTION

The theory of simple group plays an important role in Modern Algebra. In this article we discuss about a few theorems that are useful in providing that a group of particular order is a non abelian simple group

Simple Group: A group G is said to be simple if G has no normal subgroup except $\{e\}$ and G itself.

Sylow p Subgroup of G : Let G be finite group & let p be a prime divisor of $O(G)$. If $p^k \mid O(G)$ and $p^{k+1} \nmid O(G)$ then any subgroup of G of order p^k is called a sylow p subgroup.

Result: If a finite group contains unique sylow p -subgroup then it is normal subgroup.

II. SOME USEFUL TEST TO CHECK SIMPLICITY OF A GROUP

Theorem 1

Cayley Test:

Let G be a group.

$O(G) = 2n$ where n is an odd number greater than 1. Then G contains a normal subgroup of order n . Hence G is not simple.

Example:

1. $O(G) = 58$

Then

$$O(G) = 2 \times 29$$

$29 > 1$ & 29 is odd number. Then by Cayley test G is not simple.

Hence, any group of order 58 is not simple.

2. $O(G) = 62$

Then

$$O(G) = 2 \times 31$$

Again G is not simple by Cayley test. Hence, any group of order 62 is not simple.

Theorem 2

If $O(G) = p^h$ ($h > 1$). Then G contains a normal subgroup of order p . Hence, G is not simple.

Example:

1. $O(G) = 125$

Then

$$O(G) = 5^3$$

By Th^m 2. G contains a normal subgroup of order 5 . So G is not simple. Hence any group of order 25 is not simple.

2. $O(G) = 64$

Then

$$O(G) = 2^6$$

By Th^m 2. G contains a normal subgroup of order 2 . So G is not simple. Hence any group of order 64 is not simple.

Theorem 3

Index theorem

If G is a finite group and H is a proper subgroup of G such that $O(G) \nmid ([G:H])!$ Then G has proper normal subgroup and hence G is not simple

Example: 1

If $O(G) = 12$

$$\text{Then } O(G) = 2^2 \cdot 3$$

Hence by Sylow first Th^m G has a subgroup H of order 2^2 . Let it be that subgroup.

Then $[G:H] = \frac{O(G)}{O(H)} = \frac{12}{4} = 3$

As 12 is not divisible by 3! So $O(G) \nmid ([G:H])!$ Then by index th^m G contains a proper normal subgroup. Hence, G is not simple.

Example:2

If $O(G) = 108$

Then $O(G) = 108 = 2^2 \cdot 3^3$

Then by sylow first Th^m G has a subgroup of order 3^3 . Let it be that subgroup

Then $[G:H] = \frac{O(G)}{O(H)} = \frac{108}{27} = 4$

As 108 is not divisible by 4! So $O(G) \nmid ([G:H])!$ So by index Thm G has a proper normal subgroup.

Hence G is not a simple.

Sylow Test for Non Simplicity:-

If G is a group of order p.m where p is prime integer and $(p,m) = 1$, then $n_p = 1 + kp, k \geq 0$ and $n_p \mid O(G)$ where n_p denotes the number of sylow p subgroup of G.

If $n_p = 1$ then G has unique p sylow subgroup which is normal.

Hence G is simple.

Example:-

$O(G) = 40 = 5 \cdot 8 = p^f \cdot q$

$p = 5$ is prime and $(5, 8) = 1$

Hence G has a 5 sylow subgroup of order 5.

$n_5 = 1 + 5k$

If $K=0$ $n_5 = 1 + 5 \cdot 0 = 1 \mid O(G)$

$K=1$ $n_5 = 1 + 5 \cdot 1 = 6 \nmid O(G)$

$K=2$ $n_5 = 1 + 5 \cdot 2 = 11 \nmid O(G)$

$K=3$ $n_5 = 1 + 5 \cdot 3 = 16 \nmid O(G)$

Hence only one sylow 5-subgroup and it must be normal.

Hence G is not simple

Example:

$O(G) = 30 = 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 2$

So $n_3 = 1 + 3K$

$n_3 = 1$ or 10

$n_5 = 1 + 5K$

$n_5 = 1$ or 6

$n_2 = 1 + 2K$

$n_2 = 1, 3, 5, 15$

Case1 If $n_3 = 1$ and $n_5 = 1$ and n_2 is anything

G has a unique sylow 3-subgroup and sylow 5-subgroup, then they must be normal, hence G is not simple.

Case2 If $n_3 = 1$ and $n_5 = 6$ and n_2 is anything

G has a unique sylow 3-subgroup and it must be simple, hence G is not simple

Case3 If $n_3 = 10$ and $n_5 = 1$ and n_2 is anything

G has a unique sylow 5-subgroup and it must be simple, hence G is not simple

Case4 If $n_3 = 10$ and $n_5 = 6$ and n_2 is anything

Let $G_1, G_2, G_3, \dots, G_{10}$ be 10 distinct sylow 3-subgroup of G

Also $G_i \cap G_j \subseteq G_i \quad j \leq 10, i \geq 1$

$G_i \cap G_j$ is a subgroup of G_i

$O(G_i \cap G_j) \mid O(G_i)$ i.e. $O(G_i \cap G_j) \mid 3$

Also $G_i \neq G_j \quad G_i \neq G_i \cap G_j$

$O(G_i \cap G_j) = 1$ or $G_i \cap G_j = \{e\}$

Moreover if $e \neq a \in G_i \quad a^3 = e$

This shows that $O(a) = 3$ for all $a (\neq e) \in G_i$

Which shows that there are $10 \times (3-1) = 20$ *non identity elements of order 3*

Similarly there are $6 \times (5 - 1) = 24$ elements of order 5

G has at least $(20+24)=44$ elements which is a contradiction.

Hence case 4 is not possible

Hence G is not simple.

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