

# การพิสูจน์ของกึ่งสาคิสสัณฐานแบบอื่น

## Another Proof of Half Homomorphisms

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### บทคัดย่อ

สกอตต์ได้พิสูจน์ใน (Scott, 1957) ว่ากึ่งสาคิสสัณฐานของกรุปจะเป็นสาคิสสัณฐานหรือปฏิสาคิสสัณฐานเท่านั้น บทพิสูจน์ของสกอตต์ใช้สมบัติของกึ่งสมสัณฐานของกึ่งกรุปที่มีสมบัติการตัดออก ในอีกมุมมองหนึ่งแมนส์ฟิลด์ได้พิสูจน์ไว้ใน (Mansfield, 1992) ว่าดีเทอร์มิแนนต์ของกรุปสามารถระบุกรุปตั้งต้นได้ เราจะพิสูจน์ในอีกวิธีหนึ่งว่ากึ่งสาคิสสัณฐานของกรุปจะเป็นสาคิสสัณฐานหรือปฏิสาคิสสัณฐานเท่านั้น โดยใช้กระบวนการของแมนส์ฟิลด์ในการระบุกรุปตั้งต้นของดีเทอร์มิแนนต์ของกรุป

**คำสำคัญ** : สาคิสสัณฐาน, ปฏิสาคิสสัณฐาน, ดีเทอร์มิแนนต์ของกรุป

### Abstract

Scott proves in (Scott, 1957) that a half-homomorphism of a group is either a homomorphism or an anti-homomorphism. The proof given by Scott relies on properties of half-isomorphisms of a cancellation semi-group. In a different point of view, Mansfield proves that, in (Mansfield, 1992), a group determinant determines the underlying group. We give an alternate proof that a half-homomorphism of a group is either a homomorphism or an anti-homomorphism by using Mansfield's process to determine the underlying group of a group determinant.

**Keywords** : half-homomorphism, anti-homomorphism, group determinant

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## Introduction

Given groups  $G, H$ , we say that a function  $\phi : G \rightarrow H$  is a semi-homomorphism if

$$\phi(ghg) = \phi(g)\phi(h)\phi(g) \quad (1)$$

for all  $g, h \in G$ . Semi-isomorphisms and semi-automorphisms can be defined in the same manner. Two obvious examples of semi-homomorphisms are homomorphisms and anti-homomorphisms. A homomorphism is a map  $\phi : G \rightarrow H$  such that  $\phi(gh) = \phi(g)\phi(h)$  for all  $g, h \in G$ , while an anti-homomorphism is a map  $\phi : G \rightarrow H$  satisfying  $\phi(gh) = \phi(h)\phi(g)$  for all  $g, h \in G$ . Simply speaking, an anti-homomorphism is a homomorphism that reverse the order of multiplication.

The study of semi-isomorphism has been established, most regarding when a semi-automorphism of a group is either an automorphism or anti-automorphism. We say that such semi-automorphisms are disjunctive. For example, let  $X$  be a set and  $S(X), A(X)$  be the symmetric group and the alternating group on elements of  $X$ . The author of (Scott, 1969) shows that every semi-automorphism of any subgroup  $G \subseteq S(X)$  containing  $A(X)$  comes from inner automorphisms and function  $x \mapsto x^{-1}$ . As in (Sullivan, 1983), every semi-automorphism of a non-abelian simple group with an element of order 2 is disjunctive. A good summary of results on semi-automorphism of various algebraic structures can be found in (Sullivan, 1983) and (Sullivan, 1985). Note from (Dinkines, 1951), it is evident that one can construct a semi-automorphism on a direct product of non-abelian groups to be automorphism on one factor and anti-automorphism on the other. As such, there are non-disjunctive semi-automorphisms.

## Methods

It is known that by adding an extra property to semi-automorphisms, it will be disjunctive.

**Definition 1.** Let  $G, H$  be groups. A map  $\phi : G \rightarrow H$  is a half-homomorphism if  $\phi(gh) = \phi(g)\phi(h)$  or  $\phi(h)\phi(g)$  for all  $g, h \in G$ .

Half-automorphisms are likewise defined. It is proved in (Scott, 1957) that

**Theorem 2.** A half-homomorphism is either homomorphism or anti-homomorphism.

In this article we provide another proof of the same result inspired from a different point of view.

**Definition 3.** Let  $G$  be a finite abelian group of cardinality  $n$ , and let  $\{x_g\}$  be commuting indeterminates indexed by elements of  $G$ . The group matrix is an  $n \times n$  matrix given by  $\{x_{gh^{-1}}\}$ . Its determinant  $\Theta_G$  is called the group determinant associated with  $G$ .

Once expanded,  $\Theta_G$  is then a homogeneous polynomial of degree  $n$  with  $x_g$ 's as its variables. The first study of  $\Theta_G$  is done by Dedekind and Frobenius on the factorization of  $\Theta_G$  over  $\mathbb{C}$ , which lays a foundation of today's representation theory, see (Lam, 1998).

The group determinant compress all information of  $G$  into a single polynomial. In (Mansfield, 1992), Mansfield shows that every group determinant determines its underlying group. Inspired by the proof of Lemma 4 in (Mansfield, 1992) to determine the multiplication in  $G$  after knowing  $\Theta_G$  we produce another proof of Theorem 2.

The proof of Theorem 2 given by Scott relies on properties of half-isomorphisms of a cancellation semi-group to determine the order of multiplication of a half-homomorphism. We will prove in the next section that the steps Mansfield uses to determine the group structure from a group determinant can also determine the order of multiplication of a half-homomorphism.

## Results

We give another proof of Theorem 2 as follows:

*Proof.* First we will show that it suffices to prove that every half-isomorphism is either an isomorphism or an anti-isomorphism. Let  $\phi : G \rightarrow H$  be a half-homomorphism. It is clear that its Kernel  $N = \text{Ker}(\phi)$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$ . The induced map from  $G/N$  to  $\phi(G)$  by  $gN \mapsto \phi(g)$  is then a half-isomorphism.

It also suffices to assume that  $G$  is non-abelian, as every half-homomorphism is a homomorphism in abelian groups. Thus there exist  $g, h \in G$  such that  $gh \neq hg$ . For simplicity, we will write  $g'$  for its image  $\phi(g)$ .

Suppose now that  $\phi(gh) = \phi(g)\phi(h)$ . We claim that  $\phi(rs) = \phi(r)\phi(s)$  for any  $r, s \in G$ . We break down the proof of the claim into the following steps,

- (i) If  $(rs)' = r's'$ , then  $(sr)' = s'r'$ ,
- (ii)  $(ghr)' = g'h'r'$ ,
- (iii)  $(gr)' = g'r'$ ,  $(hr)' = h'r'$ ,
- (iv)  $(rs)' = r's'$ .

The idea is to consider all multiplication orders and show that there is only way to do it without reaching a contradiction.

Proof of (i). Since  $\phi$  is a half-isomorphism,  $(sr)' = r's'$  or  $s'r'$ . But  $(rs)' = r's'$  and  $\phi$  is a bijection, then  $s'r'$  is the only possible value for  $(sr)'$ .

Proof of (ii). We will compute possible values for  $(ghr)'$  in two different ways. Since multiplication is associative, it is clear that  $((gh)r)' = (g(hr))'$ . Recalling that  $(gh)' = g'h'$ , we must have

$$((gh)r)' \in \{g'h'r', r'g'h'\} \text{ and} \quad (2)$$

$$(g(hr))' \in \{g'h'r', g'r'h', h'r'g', r'h'g'\}. \quad (3)$$

If  $(ghr)' = g'h'r'$ , there is nothing to prove. So suppose  $(ghr)' \neq g'h'r'$ . Then Equation 2 implies that  $(ghr)' = r'g'h'$ . It follows from Equation 3 that

$$g'h'r' \neq r'g'h' \in \{g'r'h', h'r'g', r'h'g'\}. \quad (4)$$

We will show that is not possible.

Case 1,  $(ghr)' = r'g'h' = g'r'h'$ . Then  $r'g' = g'r'$ . Since  $\phi$  is a half-isomorphism, then  $(rg)' = r'g'$ . Together with the fact that  $(gh)' = g'h'$ , one gets

$$((rg)h)' \in \{r'g'h', h'r'g'\} \text{ and} \quad (5)$$

$$(r(gh))' \in \{r'g'h', g'h'r'\}. \quad (6)$$

If  $(rgh)' \neq r'g'h'$ , then Equation 5 and 6 implies that

$$h'r'g' = h'g'r' = g'h'r' \quad (7)$$

$$h'g' = g'h'. \quad (8)$$

contradicting that  $g, h$  do not commute. Hence  $(r(gh))' = r'(g'h')$ . Using part (1) to reverse the order of multiplication to get  $((gh)r)' = g'h'r'$ , which contradicts the assumption that they are not equal. Thus this case can be eliminated.

Case 2,  $(ghr)' = r'g'h' = h'r'g'$ . It is a simple observation that  $(h')^{-1} = (h^{-1})'$ , which makes

$$(h^{-1})'(ghr)' = (ghr)'(h^{-1})' = r'g'. \quad (9)$$

Taking the preimage and applying part (i), we get

$$h^{-1}ghr = ghrh^{-1} = rg \text{ or } gr. \quad (10)$$

If  $gr = h^{-1}ghr$ , then  $gh = hg$ , making  $g, h$  commutative. Therefore, from Equation 10,

$$ghrh^{-1} = rg \quad (11)$$

$$ghr = rgh \quad (12)$$

$$((gh)r)' = (r(gh))'. \quad (13)$$

We recall that  $(gh)' = g'h'$ . Again by using part (1), we see that  $r'g'h' = g'h'r'$ . But this contradicts Equation 4.

Case 3,  $r'g'h' = r'h'g'$ . This case simply does not occur as  $gh \neq hg$ . We just finished the proof of part (ii).

Proof of (iii). The proof of  $(gr)' = g'r'$  is achieved by replacing  $g, h$  in part (ii) by  $gh$  and  $h^{-1}$  respectively.

Similarly assigning  $g \mapsto g^{-1}, h \mapsto gh$ , one can easily prove that  $(hr)' = h'r'$ .

Proof of (iv). We consider two cases. One is when  $r$  or  $s$  does not commute with either  $g$  or  $h$ , and the other when both  $r, s$  commute with  $g, h$ .

First case. Without loss of generality suppose  $r$  does not commute with  $g$ . Then we can assign  $h \mapsto r, r \mapsto s$  and apply part (iii) to establish that  $(rs)' = r's'$ .

Finally, we consider the second case, when  $r, s$  commute with both  $g, h$ . Now we will compute all possible values for  $(ghrs)'$ .

$$\begin{aligned} ((gr)(hs))' &\in \{(gr)'(hs)', (hs)'(gr)'\} = \{g'h'r's', h'g's'r'\} \\ ((gh)(rs))' &\in \{g'h'r's', g'h's'r'\}. \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

If  $(ghrs)' \neq g'h'r's'$ , then Equation 14 forces

$$h'g's'r' = g'h's'r' \quad (15)$$

$$h'g' = g'h'. \quad (16)$$

which is not possible. Hence we finally arrive at the conclusion

$$((gh)(rs))' = g'h'r's'. \quad (17)$$

which yields  $(rs)' = r's'$ . We have just shown that if  $\phi(gh) = \phi(g)\phi(h)$  then  $\phi$  must be an isomorphism. In the same manner it is clear that if  $\phi(gh) = \phi(h)\phi(g)$ , then  $\phi$  must be an anti-isomorphism.

### Discussion

We end this article with a short discussion about automorphisms and anti-automorphisms of a group  $G$ , denoted by  $\text{Aut}(G)$  and  $\text{Anti}(G)$  respectively. When  $G$  is abelian  $\text{Aut}(G) = \text{Anti}(G)$ , and they form a group of automorphisms. When  $G$  is non-abelian, however,  $\text{Anti}(G)$  is not a group as it has no identity. In this case,  $\text{Aut}(G) \cap \text{Anti}(G)$  is an empty set as any element in  $\text{Anti}(G)$  always reverses the order of multiplication of non-commutative elements in  $G$ . Note that composition by the inversion map  $x \mapsto x^{-1}$  induces a bijection between  $\text{Aut}(G)$  and  $\text{Anti}(G)$ . Since inversion map is an anti-automorphism, it is clear that  $\text{Aut}(G) \subseteq \langle \text{Anti}(G) \rangle$ . Now we will explicitly describe  $\langle \text{Anti}(G) \rangle$ .

**Lemma 4.**  $\langle \text{Anti}(G) \rangle = \text{Aut}(G) \cup \text{Anti}(G)$ .

*Proof.* The fact is obvious when  $G$  is abelian, so assume that  $G$  is non-abelian. Earlier we show that  $\langle \text{Anti}(G) \rangle \supseteq \text{Aut}(G) \cup \text{Anti}(G)$ . A straightforward computation also shows that for any  $\alpha, \beta \in \text{Anti}(G)$ ,  $\gamma \in \text{Aut}(G)$ ,  $\alpha \circ \beta \in \text{Aut}(G)$  and  $\alpha \circ \gamma \in \text{Anti}(G)$ , as  $\alpha, \beta$  reverse the order of multiplication. Therefore, any element generated by  $\text{Anti}(G)$  is contained in  $\text{Aut}(G) \cup \text{Anti}(G)$ .

We end the article with the following corollary:

**Corollary 5.** The set of all half-automorphisms on a group  $G$  forms a group generated by anti-automorphisms of  $G$ .

### Conclusion

The group determinant compresses the structure of an entire group into a single polynomial. The process to determine the multiplicative order of the group operation limits a half-homomorphism of a group to be either a homomorphism or an anti-homomorphism. As a result, the set of half-homomorphisms forms a group generated by anti-homomorphisms.

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