

$G$ -Sets  
 $G = \pi_1(B, b)$

objects are sets  $S$  together  
with an action of  $G$

$$S \times G \rightarrow S$$

Morphisms are  $G$ -equivariant functions

$$S \xrightarrow{f} T \quad f(sg) = f(s)g$$

$G$ -Sets  
 $G = \pi_1(B, b)$

$S$  is a  $G$  set

$$a \in S \rightsquigarrow \text{Stab}(a) \subseteq G$$

$$\rightsquigarrow \text{Orbit}(a) = \{ ag : g \in G \}$$

$G$  acts transitively  $\Leftrightarrow S = \text{one orbit}$

$G$ -Sets

$$G = \pi_1(B, b)$$

Theorem: Every  $G$ -set  
decomposes into the disjoint  
union of sets on which  
 $G$  acts transitively

Thm: Every  $G$ -set  $S$  on which  
 $G$  acts transitively is isomorphic  
(as a  $G$ -set) to  $H \backslash G$  = the  
set of right cosets of a subgroup  
 $H = \text{Stabilizer}(a)$ .

Proof:  $G$  acts transitively on  $S$ . Choose  
 $a \in S$  and let  $H = \text{Stab}(s)$ .

$$H \backslash G \longleftrightarrow S$$

$$H a \longleftrightarrow a g$$



Detail:  $\text{Stab}(a)$  and  $\text{Stab}(a')$   
are conjugate subgroups of  $G$ .

$$a' = ag \Rightarrow \text{Stab}(a') = g^{-1} \text{Stab}(a) g$$

$$\Rightarrow H \backslash G \cong g^{-1} H g \backslash G$$

as  $G$ -sets.

Also:  $G$  acts transitively on  $S \Rightarrow$

$$S \cong \text{Stab}(a) \backslash G \Rightarrow$$

$$|\text{Orbit}(a)| |\text{Stab}(a)| \cong |G|$$

"Orbit-Stabilizer Theorem"

# The category $G$ -set

- All objects are coproducts of homogeneous  $G$ -sets  
(those on which  $G$  acts transitively)
- Every homogeneous  $G$ -set  $S \cong H \backslash G$  for some  
 $H$  ( $= \text{stab}(a)$ )
- Morphisms?



Every morphism  $H \backslash G \xrightarrow{f} K \backslash G$  is determined  
by  $H \mapsto Kg$  for some  $g \in G$

• well defined iff  $gHg^{-1} \in K$ .

• two morphisms are equal iff  $Kg = Kg'$


$$\begin{array}{l} f \\ f' \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} H \mapsto Kg \\ H \mapsto Kg' \end{array}$$

Conclusion:  $\exists$  morphism of  $G$ -sets

$$H \backslash G \longrightarrow K \backslash G \quad \text{iff}$$

$$\exists g \in G \quad \text{with} \quad g^{-1} H g \subseteq K$$

Theorem: The group of automorphisms  
of  $H \backslash G$  as a  $G$ -set is isomorphic  
to  $N(H)/H$ .

Proof: Morphisms  $H \backslash G \rightarrow H \backslash G$  correspond to  $g \in G$   
with  $g^{-1} H g \in H$  and two are equal iff  
 $H g = H g' \Rightarrow g g^{-1} \in H$ . 

# The category $G\text{-set}$

