

## AN IMPORTANT BIJECTION – ANSWER

Theorem: Let  $G$  be a group, let  $g \in G$ , and define a function  $T_g : G \rightarrow G$  by  $T_g(x) = gxg^{-1}$ . Then  $T_g : G \rightarrow G$  is a one-to-one and onto function, or in other words, a bijection.

Proof: Let  $T_g : G \rightarrow G$  be defined by  $T_g(x) = gxg^{-1}$  for  $x \in G$ . To show that  $T_g$  is one-to-one, we just need to demonstrate that if  $T_g(x) = T_g(y)$ , then  $x = y$ . However, this follows immediately from our right and left cancellation laws in a group. That is,  
 $T_g(x) = T_g(y) \Rightarrow gxg^{-1} = gyg^{-1} \Rightarrow g^{-1}(gxg^{-1})g = g^{-1}(gyg^{-1})g \Rightarrow exe = eye \Rightarrow x = y$ . Thus,  $T_g$  is one-to-one.

To show that  $T_g$  is onto, that means that if  $b \in G$ , then there exists  $x \in G$  such that  $T_g(x) = b$ . But it is easy to find such an  $x$ . Just let  $x = g^{-1}bg$ . Then  
 $T_g(x) = T_g(g^{-1}bg) = g(g^{-1}bg)g^{-1} = ebe = b$ , and  $T_g$  is onto. Therefore,  $T_g : G \rightarrow G$  be defined by  $T_g(x) = gxg^{-1}$  for  $x \in G$  is a bijection.

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