Assignment 1 MAT 347

Q6: Consider a regular n-gon. Given any vertex p, there are n choices where we can move p while preserving the shape. Since the movement must be rigid, the 2 adjacent vertices to p, q, r must be adjacent after the movement. Hence there are two ways to move p, when counting off the vertices counter clockwise we either get the sequence q, p, r or r, p, q. Since motions must be rigid the movement of p determines the motion of the entire shape. Thus by counting the total number of ways we can move a vertex, there are 2n total symmetries of any regular n-gon.