

## Proving the group generated by $A^j$ has $n$ elements

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \frac{2\pi}{n} & -\sin \frac{2\pi}{n} \\ \sin \frac{2\pi}{n} & \cos \frac{2\pi}{n} \end{bmatrix}$$

### Lemma

Before our main proof, we will propose that:

$$A^j = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \frac{2j\pi}{n} & -\sin \frac{2j\pi}{n} \\ \sin \frac{2j\pi}{n} & \cos \frac{2j\pi}{n} \end{bmatrix}$$

for  $j \in \mathbb{Z}^+$

### Proof

We begin by noticing that:

$$\begin{aligned} A^2 &= \begin{bmatrix} \cos \frac{2\pi}{n} & -\sin \frac{2\pi}{n} \\ \sin \frac{2\pi}{n} & \cos \frac{2\pi}{n} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \cos \frac{2\pi}{n} & -\sin \frac{2\pi}{n} \\ \sin \frac{2\pi}{n} & \cos \frac{2\pi}{n} \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} \cos^2(\frac{2\pi}{n}) - \sin^2(\frac{2\pi}{n}) & -2 \cos(\frac{2\pi}{n}) \sin(\frac{2\pi}{n}) \\ -2 \cos(\frac{2\pi}{n}) \sin(\frac{2\pi}{n}) & \cos^2(\frac{2\pi}{n}) - \sin^2(\frac{2\pi}{n}) \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

Using the Double Angle Formulas, we know:

$$\cos 2u = \cos^2 u - \sin^2 u$$

$$\sin 2u = 2 \sin u \cos u$$

So,

$$\begin{bmatrix} \cos^2(\frac{2\pi}{n}) - \sin^2(\frac{2\pi}{n}) & -2 \cos(\frac{2\pi}{n}) \sin(\frac{2\pi}{n}) \\ 2 \cos(\frac{2\pi}{n}) \sin(\frac{2\pi}{n}) & \cos^2(\frac{2\pi}{n}) - \sin^2(\frac{2\pi}{n}) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \frac{4\pi}{n} & -\sin \frac{4\pi}{n} \\ \sin \frac{4\pi}{n} & \cos \frac{4\pi}{n} \end{bmatrix}$$

Now, let's assume this formula is true for  $j = 1, 2, 3, \dots, x - 1$   
Then,

$$A^j = AA^{j-1} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \frac{2\pi}{n} & -\sin \frac{2\pi}{n} \\ \sin \frac{2\pi}{n} & \cos \frac{2\pi}{n} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \cos \frac{2(j-1)\pi}{n} & -\sin \frac{2(j-1)\pi}{n} \\ \sin \frac{2(j-1)\pi}{n} & \cos \frac{2(j-1)\pi}{n} \end{bmatrix}$$

Using the Sum-Difference Formulas for Trigonometric Functions:

$$= \begin{bmatrix} \cos(\frac{2\pi+2\pi j-2\pi}{n}) & -\sin(\frac{2\pi+2\pi j-2\pi}{n}) \\ \sin(\frac{2\pi+2\pi j-2\pi}{n}) & \cos(\frac{2\pi+2\pi j-2\pi}{n}) \end{bmatrix}$$

Now using the Double Angle Formulas:

$$= \begin{bmatrix} \cos \frac{2j\pi}{n} & -\sin \frac{2j\pi}{n} \\ \sin \frac{2j\pi}{n} & \cos \frac{2j\pi}{n} \end{bmatrix}$$

Hence, we conclude our proof.

Since, for  $j \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ ,

$$A^j = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \frac{2j\pi}{n} & -\sin \frac{2j\pi}{n} \\ \sin \frac{2j\pi}{n} & \cos \frac{2j\pi}{n} \end{bmatrix}$$

It is obvious that when  $j = n$ ,  $A^j$  decomposes to:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \cos 2\pi & -\sin 2\pi \\ \sin 2\pi & \cos 2\pi \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = I = A^0$$

So,  $A^j = I$  when  $|j| = n$ .

**Lemma:**  $A^j = A^{j+n}$

$$A^{j+n} = A^j A^n = A^j I = A^j$$

We now know that  $A^j = A^{j+n}$ . That is to say,  $A^j$  repeats for every  $n$  increase in its exponent.

Hence, the group generated by  $A^j$  has unique elements for  $j = (1 + kn, 2 + kn, 3 + kn, \dots, n + kn)$  where  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Hence, it has  $n$  unique elements.

## Proving the group generated by $B$ has 2 elements

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$B^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = I$$

We can now write now write  $B^3$  as  $BB^2 = BI = B$ .  
This pattern continues, and this  $B^k = B$  for all  $k$  that are odd, and  $B^k = I$  for all  $k$  that are even.  
Hence, the group generated by  $B$  has 2 elements.

## Proving $A^j B = BA^{-j}$

We can see that this relationship is true for  $j = 1$

First, we note that:

$$A^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \frac{2\pi}{n} & \sin \frac{2\pi}{n} \\ -\sin \frac{2\pi}{n} & \cos \frac{2\pi}{n} \end{bmatrix}$$

Then,

$$\begin{aligned} BA^{-1} &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \cos \frac{2\pi}{n} & \sin \frac{2\pi}{n} \\ -\sin \frac{2\pi}{n} & \cos \frac{2\pi}{n} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \frac{2\pi}{n} & \sin \frac{2\pi}{n} \\ \sin \frac{2\pi}{n} & -\cos \frac{2\pi}{n} \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} \cos \frac{2\pi}{n} & -\sin \frac{2\pi}{n} \\ \sin \frac{2\pi}{n} & \cos \frac{2\pi}{n} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} = AB \end{aligned}$$

Then, we can see that

$$BA^{-2} = BA^{-1}A^{-1} = ABA^{-1} = AAB = A^2B$$

Assume this is true for  $j = 1, 2, 3, 4, \dots, x-1$

Then, for  $j = x$ , we see that:

$$A^x B = AA^{x-1} B = ABA^{1-x} = BA^{-1}A^{1-x} = BA^{-x}$$

Hence, we have proven the relationship by PCI.

## Conclusion

Hence, we can show that the group generated by A and B has  $2n$  elements. The group has all unique  $A^j B^k$  and  $B^k A^j$ .

However, we have proven that  $B^k A^j = A^{-j} B^k$ , so we can instead consider all unique  $A^j B^k$  and  $A^{-j} B^k$ .

We have also proven that any  $A^j$  can be written as  $A^{j+n}$ . So, any  $A^j$  with a negative value for  $j$  can be written instead with a positive exponent.

So, we are only concerned with  $A^j B^k$ . We know that  $A^j$  has  $n$  possible values, as we saw in our earlier proof(it is unique for  $j = 1, 2, 3, 4, \dots, n$ ).

We also have proven that  $B^k$  has two possible values. Therefore, the group generated by A and B have  $2n$  possible values.