

Nice proof!

You may want to use fewer linebreaks.

ID: 3592

Math A4900

Proof portfolio draft, Round 1

October 4, 2020

**Statement:**  $D_{2n} = \langle s, r \mid s^2 = 1, r^n = 1, rs = sr^{-1} \rangle$ . Show that if  $s_1 = s$  and  $s_2 = sr$ , then those together with the relations

$$s_1^2 = 1, \quad s_2^2 = 1, \quad \text{and} \quad (s_1 s_2)^n = 1$$

forms an alternative presentation of  $D_{2n}$ .

Problem: 1D

No. stars: 2

*Proof.* We need to show that the relations and generators of the two presentations imply one another.

Lets us first show that  $s_1 s_2 \in D_{2n}$  by writing  $s_1$  and  $s_2$  in terms of  $r, s$  and their inverses.

$$s_1 = s \text{ and } s_1 s_2 = s^2 r = r$$

Second we must show that the relations held by  $s_1, s_2$  imply those by held in  $D_{2n}$  between  $r$  and  $s$ .

$$r^n = (s_1 s_2)^n = 1$$

$$s^2 = s_1^2 = 1$$

Note that since  $s_1^2 = s_2^2 = 1$  then  $s_1 = s_1^{-1}$  and  $s_2 = s_2^{-1}$

$$\text{Thus, } rs = (s_1 s_2)(s_1) = s_1(s_2^{-1}s_1^{-1}) = s_1(s_1 s_2)^{-1} = sr^{-1}.$$

Now let us show that  $r, s$  are in the group generated by  $s_1, s_2$ . This has already been done in the question prompt. Thus,  $s_1 = s$  and  $s_2 = sr$ .

We must show that the relations held by  $r, s$  imply those held in the group generated by  $s_1, s_2$ .

$$s_1^2 = (s)^2 = 1$$

$$s_2^2 = (sr)^2 = (sr)(sr) = s(rs)r = s(sr^{-1})r = s^2(r^{-1}r) = 1$$

$$(s_1 s_2)^n = (s(sr))^n = (s^2 r)^n = (r)^n$$

We have shown that that both presentations imply one another and thus,

$$G = \langle s_1, s_2 \mid s_1^2 = s_2^2 = (s_1 s_2)^n = 1 \rangle.$$



1 is an alternative presentation of  $D_{2n}$ .

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□

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	Points Possible					
complete	0	1	2	3	4	5
mathematically valid	0	1	2	3	4	5
readable/fluent	0	1	2	3	4	5
Total:	(out of 15)					



Not sure on convention here, but you may want to use 1 proof environment instead of 2.

**Statement:** (1) Prove that if  $H$  and  $K$  are subgroups of a group  $G$ , then so is  $H \cap K$ . (2) On the other hand, prove  $H \cup K$  is a subgroup if and only if  $H \subseteq K$  or  $K \subseteq H$ .

Problem: 2A

No. stars: 2

1 *Proof.* (1) By definition all subgroups must contain the identity element. Thus,  $H \cap K$  must at  
 2 least be the trivial group. Thus, it is non-empty. Further, since  $H \cap K$  is non-empty we can  
 3 apply the subgroup criterion. Since  $H$  is a subgroup then any  $x, y \in H$  implies  $xy^{-1}$ . Similarly,  
 4 since  $K$  is a subgroup then any  $x, y \in K$  implies  $xy^{-1}$ . Hence for  $x, y \in H \cap K$  we can imply that  
 5  $xy^{-1} \in H \cap K$ .

6 Thus,  $H \cap K$  is a subgroup.

7 *Proof.* (2)  $\Rightarrow$  Assume by contradiction that  $H \cup K$  is a subgroup, but  $H \not\subseteq K$  and  $K \not\subseteq H$ . Then  
 8 either  $H$  and  $K$  are disjoint or intersect for certain values.

9 If  $H$  and  $K$  are disjoint, then the identity element for  $H \cup K$  is not unique. Hence,  $H \cup K$  is not a  
 10 subgroup.

11 If they intersect on certain values, then there exists an  $h \notin K$ . Let us label this element  $h'$ .  
 12 Similarly, there exists a  $k \notin H$ . Let us label this element  $k'$ . Since  $H \cup K$  is a subgroup then  
 13  $H \cup K$  is closed and  $hk \in H \cup K$ . Consider  $h'k' \in H \cup K$ . Then either  $h'k' \in H$  or  $h'k' \in K$ . Take  
 14  $h'k' \in H$ , since  $k' \notin H$  this is a contradiction. Take  $h'k' \in K$ , since  $h' \notin K$  this is a contradiction.

15 Thus, if  $H \cup K$  is a subgroup, then  $H \subseteq K$  or  $K \subseteq H$ .

16  $\Leftarrow$  Assume  $H \subseteq K$ , then  $H \cup K = K$ . Assume further that  $K \subseteq H$ , then  $H \cup K = H$ . Since for  
 17 each respective case  $H \cup K = K$  or  $H \cup K = H$ , and  $H$  and  $K$  are subgroups, then  $H \cup K$  is a  
 18 subgroup.

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□

Nice job!



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	Points Possible					
complete	0	1	2	3	4	5
mathematically valid	0	1	2	3	4	5
readable/fluent	0	1	2	3	4	5
Total:	(out of 15)					



**Statement:** Let  $G$  act on a set  $A$ . Prove that the relation  $\sim$  on  $A$  defined by

$$a \sim b \quad \text{when} \quad a = g \cdot b \text{ for some } g \in G$$

is an equivalence relation.

Problem: **3B**

No. stars: **1**

1 *Proof.* Assume  $a \sim b$  defined by  $a = g \cdot b$ . We want to show that  $a \sim b$  is reflexive, symmetric and  
2 transitive.

3 *Reflexive:*  $a = 1 \cdot a = a$ , since  $1 \in G$ . Thus,  $a \sim b$  is symmetric.

4 *Symmetric:* We want to show that  $a = g \cdot b$  implies  $b = g \cdot a$ .

5 Notice that  $a = g \cdot b$  implies  $ab^{-1} = g$ . Since  $ab^{-1} = g$ , then  $(ab^{-1})^{-1} \in G$  and thus  $ba^{-1} \in G$ .

6 Consequently, then  $ba^{-1} = g$ , which further implies  $b = g \cdot a$ . Thus,  $a \sim b$  is symmetric.

7 *Transitive:* We want to show that if  $a = g \cdot b$  and  $b = g \cdot c$ , then  $a = g \cdot c$ .

8 Notice that  $a = g \cdot b$  implies  $ab^{-1} = g$  and  $b = g \cdot c$  implies  $bc^{-1} = g$ . Let us multiply  $ab^{-1}bc^{-1}$ .

9 Since  $ab^{-1}bc^{-1} \in G$ , then  $ab^{-1}bc^{-1} = g$ . Take note that  $g = ab^{-1}bc^{-1} = a(b^{-1}b)c^{-1} = ac^{-1}$ .

10 Finally, we have that  $g = ac^{-1}$  which further implies that  $g \cdot c = a$ . Thus,  $a \sim b$  is transitive.

11 Because  $a \sim b$  is reflexive, symmetric and transitive  $a \sim b$  is an equivalence relation.

□

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complete	0	1	2	3	4	5
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Total:	(out of 15)					



**Statement:** Prove that the order of an element in  $S_n$  equals the least common multiple of the lengths of the cycles in its cycle decomposition.

Problem: 1E

No. stars: 3

1 *Proof.* Assume that an element  $\tau$  in  $S_n$  can be written as the product of disjoint cycles, that is,  
2 suppose  $\tau = \sigma_1 \sigma_2 \dots \sigma_n$ .

3 With this assumption we can write,  $\tau^i = (\sigma_1 \sigma_2 \dots \sigma_n)^i = 1$ , where  $1 \leq n < m - 1$ . *define i as well* *Make sure to define m before this*

4 Because these disjoint cycles are commutative we have  $\tau^i = \sigma_1^i \sigma_2^i \dots \sigma_n^i = 1$ . This implies further  
5 that that  $\sigma_1^i = \sigma_2^i = \dots = \sigma_n^i = 1$ . Which further implies the orders of the cycles are equal, and less  
6 than  $m$ , *where*  $m$  is the order of  $S_n$ . Let us denote the cycle orders as  $m_n$  for all  $n$ . Thus we have  
7 that  $m_1 + m_2 + \dots + m_n = m$ . This implies that there exists an integer  $p$  such that  $p \times m_n = m$ .  
8 Therefore  $m$  is the least common multiple of the cycle lengths  $m_1, m_2, \dots, m_n$ .  $\square$

Why is this sum true?

Is  $p \times m_n$  necessarily the lcm of  $m_1, m_2, \dots, m_n$ ?

Really nice job overall on these proofs!

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