

L24: Finitely generated abelian groups

Finitely generated abelian groups ("linear algebra / \mathbb{Z} ")

Def An abelian group A is said to be finitely generated if $A = \langle S \rangle$ for a finite set $S \subseteq A$.

\Leftrightarrow Every element $x \in A$ can be written as

$$x = n_1 s_1 + \dots + n_r s_r \quad \text{where } S = \{s_1, \dots, s_r\} \\ n_i \in \mathbb{Z}$$

\Leftrightarrow The group hom $\varphi: \mathbb{Z}^r \rightarrow A$ is surjective.
 $(n_1, \dots, n_r) \mapsto \sum n_i s_i$

• finite groups are fin. gen ($S = \{a\}$)

Ex • cyclic groups are fin. gen $\varphi: \mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z}$

• products of fin. gen groups are fin. gen $\varphi: \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z}$

\mathbb{Q} is not fin. gen Exc

Thm (Fundamental thm of fin. gen. abelian groups)

Let A be a fin. gen. abelian group. Then

$$1) A \cong \mathbb{Z}^r \times \mathbb{Z}/k_1\mathbb{Z} \times \dots \times \mathbb{Z}/k_r\mathbb{Z}$$

where • $r \geq 0$ called rank

• $k_i \mid k_{i+1}$

$k_i \geq 2$

k_i are called invariant factors.

2) The numbers (r, k_1, \dots, k_r) are uniquely determined by A .

Existence proof (sketch of version 1)

By assumption $\exists \varphi: \mathbb{Z}^N \rightarrow A$ surjective group hom.

so that $A \cong \mathbb{Z}^N / \ker \varphi$.

Suppose that $\ker \varphi = \langle v_1, \dots, v_k \rangle = \text{im } M$

where $M: \mathbb{Z}^k \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}^N$, $M(e_i) = v_i$

As in linear algebra: $M \in \text{Mat}_{N \times k}(\mathbb{Z})$

" $N \times k$ matrices with integer coefficients"

Recall: Gauss elimination $\rightarrow M = U \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & 1 & \\ & & & 0 \dots 0 \end{pmatrix} V$ with U, V invertible

\uparrow row ops \uparrow column ops

"Same" without division (see example) $\sim M = U \begin{pmatrix} k_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & k_r & \\ & & & 0 \dots 0 \end{pmatrix} V$

\Rightarrow after changing basis we can assume $M = \begin{pmatrix} k_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & k_r & \\ & & & 0 \dots 0 \end{pmatrix}$

so that $A \cong \mathbb{Z}^N / \text{im } M \cong \mathbb{Z}/k_1\mathbb{Z} \times \dots \times \mathbb{Z}/k_r\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}^r$

Rank $\begin{pmatrix} k_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & k_r & \\ & & & 0 \dots 0 \end{pmatrix}$ is called the Smith normal form of M . □ Variant 1

Ex. $\begin{pmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ 5 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \sim \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ 2 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \sim \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 2 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \sim \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 0 & -7 \end{pmatrix} \sim \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -7 \end{pmatrix} \sim \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 7 \end{pmatrix}$

$\begin{pmatrix} 10 & 5 \\ 6 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \sim \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 4 \\ 6 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \sim \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 4 \\ 2 & -3 \end{pmatrix} \sim \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 10 \\ 2 & -3 \end{pmatrix}$ row ops

$\text{"gcd}(10, 6)$

$\sim \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -3 \\ 0 & 10 \end{pmatrix} \sim \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 10 \end{pmatrix} \sim \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -20 & 10 \end{pmatrix}$ $\text{"gcd}(2, -3)$ column ops

$\sim \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -10 & -20 \end{pmatrix} \sim \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -20 \end{pmatrix} \sim \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 20 \end{pmatrix}$

$\begin{pmatrix} 3 & 5 \end{pmatrix} \sim \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 5 \\ 5 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \sim \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ 5 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \sim \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ -5 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \sim \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 19 \end{pmatrix}$