

# Class 4: Subgroups, Additive Integer Group and Its Subgroup - 2022/09/19

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## Group Cont.

### • Order

**Definition:** The order of a group  $G$  is the number of element  $G$  has, denoted by  $|G|$ .

- If  $|G| < \infty$ , we say  $G$  is a finite group.
- Otherwise  $G$  is an infinite group

### • Notation of composition in groups

If we write the composition of a group is a multiplicative way, we have:

$$\begin{aligned}
 k > 0, \quad g^k &= \underbrace{g * g * \dots * g}_{k\text{-copies}}, \\
 g^{-k} &= \underbrace{g^{-1} * g^{-1} * \dots * g^{-1}}_{k\text{-copies}}, \\
 k = 0, \quad g^0 &= 1
 \end{aligned}$$

Note:

$$g^k \cdot g^l = g^{k+l}$$

## • Examples of Groups

1.  $G = \{\pm 1\}$ , composition is multiplication.

$|G| = 2$ . Finite group.

$$\begin{aligned}
 (+1) \cdot (+1) &= +1 \\
 (+1) \cdot (-1) &= -1 \\
 (-1) \cdot (+1) &= -1 \\
 (-1) \cdot (-1) &= +1
 \end{aligned}$$

- Since it's a finite group, we can use the multiplication table to show the results.

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## Multiplication Table

- "Multiplication Table" for a finite group is a way to express the result of all the compositions for this group.
- Example:  $G$  is a finite group,  $G = \{1, g_1, g_2, \dots, g_{n-1}\}$

	1	$g_1$	$g_2$	$g_3$	$\dots$	$g_{n-1}$
1	1	$g_1$	$g_2$	$\dots$		
$g_1$	$g_1$					
$g_2$	$g_2$			$g_2 g_3$		
$\vdots$	$\vdots$					
$g_{n-1}$						

- In particular, for  $G = \{\pm 1\}$  we just defined,

	+1	-1
+1	+1	-1
-1	-1	+1

- The trivial group,

	1
1	1

## 2. Klein Four Group

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Named after the mathematician Klein

- $K_4 = \{1, a, b, c\}$
- Law of composition is given by the table:

	1	a	b	c
1	1	a	b	c
a	a	1	c	b
b	b	c	1	a
c	c	b	a	1

- Note:
  - $|K_4| = 4$
  - $\forall x \in K_4, x^{-1} = x$
- Associativity: It was checked that  $(xy)z = x(yz), \forall x, y, z \in K_4$ .
  - $4^3 = 64$  cases
- $K_4$  is an abelian group.

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A finite group  $G$  is Abelian  $\iff$  its multiplication table is symmetric along diagonal

## 3. Symmetric Groups $S_n$

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First group in math history

- Recall:
  - $X = \{1, 2, 3, \dots, n\}$ .
  - $S_n$  is the groups of all bijections (permutations) on  $X$ .
  - with function composition
- Problem: We don't have a good way to describe the elements (functions)
  - We can use cycle

Cycle

## • Definition

- A cycle  $(a_1 a_2 \dots a_k)$ , where  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k$  are distinct elements in  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ , is an element in  $S_n$  that sends  $a_1 \mapsto a_2, a_2 \mapsto a_3, \dots, a_{k-1} \mapsto a_k, a_k \mapsto a_1$ , while fixing the remaining numbers.
- A cycle  $(a_1 a_2 \dots a_k)$  is called a k-cycle

## • Example

- $\sigma = (1 \ 2 \ 3) \in S_5$
- $\sigma : \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\} \rightarrow \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$
- $\sigma(1) = 2, \sigma(2) = 3, \sigma(3) = 1$

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NOTE:  $(1 \ 2 \ 3) = (2 \ 3 \ 1) = (3 \ 1 \ 2)$

Not every elements are cycles as the permutations do not always work in a cyclic way

But cycle is enough to describe small groups

- $S_1 = \{id\}$
- $S_2 = \{id, (1 \ 2)\}$
- $S_3 = \{id, (1 \ 2), (1 \ 3), (2 \ 3), (1 \ 2 \ 3), (1 \ 3 \ 2)\}$
- $|S_n| = n!$

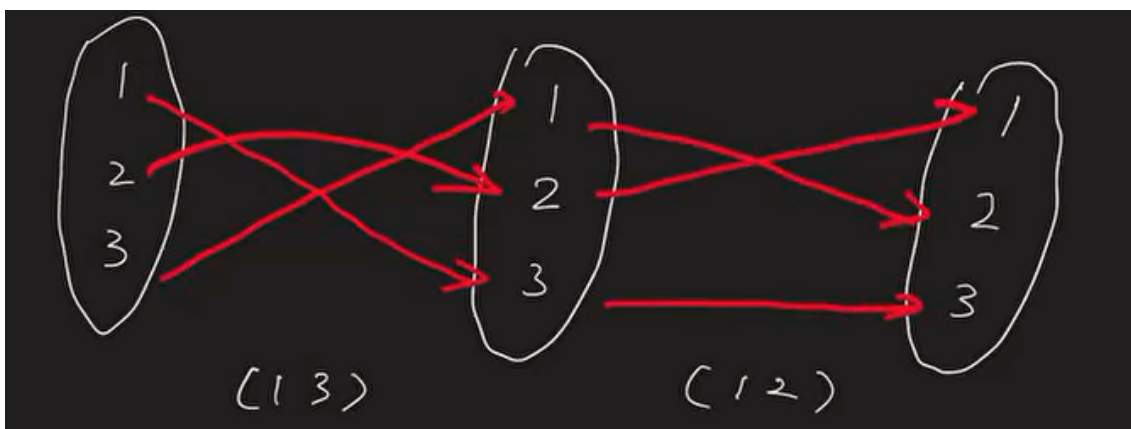
## • Compute

- $(1 \ 2)(1 \ 3) = ?$

“

Each of the cycles is a bijective function. Here, we are composing a pair of functions

$f_1 \circ f_2(x) = f_1(f_2(x))$ , so  $(1 \ 3)$  should be calculated first



$$f(1) = 3, f(2) = 1, f(3) = 2$$

$$\text{Therefore, } (1 \ 2)(1 \ 3) = (1 \ 3 \ 2)$$

- Fun facts
  - $(1 \ 2)^2 = (1 \ 3)^2 = (2 \ 3)^2 = id$
  - $(1 \ 2 \ 3)(1 \ 3 \ 2) = id$

- $S_3$  is non-Abelian, and it's the smallest non-Abelian group
- **Note:** not all permutations are cycles.
  - For example, in  $S_4$ :
  - $\sigma(1) = 2, \sigma(2) = 1, \sigma(3) = 4, \sigma(4) = 3$ ,
  - We can write it as the composition of two cycles
  - $\sigma = (1\ 2)(3\ 4)$

## • Propositions

1. (Will prove later) Each element of  $S_n$  can be written as a product of disjoint cycles, in a unique way up to reordering of these cycles
  - Disjoint cycles:  $(a_1 \dots a_k)(b_1 \dots b_m)$  are disjoint if  $a_1 \dots a_k, b_1 \dots b_m$  are all distinct numbers
2. Two disjoint cycles commute
  - $(a_1 \dots a_k)(b_1 \dots b_m) = (b_1 \dots b_m)(a_1 \dots a_k)$

## • Exercise

- List all the 24 elements in  $S_4$ , as product of disjoint cycles

# Subgroups

## • Wish

- Given a group  $G$ , we want to study a subset of  $G$  that is also a group with the same composition as that of  $G$ .

## • Definition

- A subset of a group  $G$ ,  $H \subseteq G$ , is a subgroup of  $G$  if:
  1. Closure:  $\forall h_1, h_2 \in H, h_1 h_2 \in H$
  2. Identity:  $1 \in H$ 
    - It's the same identity as in  $G$
  3. Inverse:  $\forall h \in H, h^{-1} \in H$
- In other words, it's a smaller subset lives inside of  $G$  and use the same composition, and it's still a group

## • Examples

- For any  $G$ , it has two "uninteresting" subgroups,
  - $G$
  - $\{1\}$
  - They coincide when  $G = \{1\}$

- $G = (\mathbb{R}, +)$ , then  $H = \mathbb{Z}$  is a subgroup
  - $\forall k_1, k_2 \in \mathbb{Z}, k_1 + k_2 \in \mathbb{Z}$
  - $0 \in \mathbb{Z}$
  - $\forall k \in \mathbb{Z}, -k \in \mathbb{Z}$
- For  $S_n$ ,  $H = \{\sigma \in S_n \mid \sigma(n) = n\}$ 
  - $H$  consists of all the functions that fixes the last element  $n$
  - Then  $H$  is a subgroup of  $S_n$
  - Actually,  $H$  can be regarded as a copy of  $S_{n-1}$

## • Proposition

- $H$  is a nonempty subset of a group  $G$  satisfying that  $\forall a, b \in H, a^{-1}b \in H$ . Then  $H$  is a subgroup of  $G$ .

### - Proof:

- $H \neq \emptyset, \exists h \in H$ . then  $1 = h^{-1}h \in H$  ( $a = h, b = h$ )
- $\forall h \in H, h^{-1} = h^{-1}1 \in H$  ( $a = h, b = 1$ )
- $\forall h_1, h_2 \in H, h_1h_2 = (h_1^{-1})^{-1}h_2 \in H$  ( $a = h_1^{-1}, b = h_2$ )

## • Example

- Recall: We defined  $GL_n(\mathbb{R})$  - General Linear Group
  - $GL_n(\mathbb{R})$  consists of all  $n \times n$  invertible real-matrices.
  - Composition is multiplication
- Let  $SL_n(\mathbb{R}) = \{A \in GL_n(\mathbb{R}) \mid \det(A) = 1\}$
- Then  $SL_n(\mathbb{R})$  is a subgroup of  $GL_n(\mathbb{R})$  called Special Linear Group
- Proof:
  - $\forall A, B \in SL_n(\mathbb{R})$ ,
  - $\det(A^{-1}B) = \det(A^{-1})\det(B) = \det(A)^{-1}\det(B) = 1$   
 $\Rightarrow A^{-1}B \in SL_n(\mathbb{R})$
  - So by the prop.,  $SL_n(\mathbb{R})$  is a subgroup of  $GL_n(\mathbb{R})$