

## Q1

Let  $G := \mathbb{R}^*$ , and define the binary operation  $*$  :  $G \times G \rightarrow G$  by:

$$a * b = \begin{cases} ab & a > 0 \\ a/b & a < 0 \end{cases}$$

Which is well-defined as  $a, b \neq 0$  so  $ab, a/b \in G$  and all cases are covered.

(a) Checking the group axioms:

- *Associativity*: For all  $a, b, c \in G$ :

$a$	$b$	
+	+	$(a * b) * c = (a \cdot b) \cdot c = a \cdot (b \cdot c) = a * (b * c)$
-	+	$(a * b) * c = (a/b)/c = a/(b \cdot c) = a * (b * c)$
+	-	$(a * b) * c = (a \cdot b)/c = a \cdot (b/c) = a * (b * c)$
-	-	$(a * b) * c = (a/b) \cdot c = a/(b/c) = a * (b * c)$

Thus, all cases are covered and  $(G, *)$  satisfies the associative property.

- *Identity*: Claim  $e = 1$  is an identity element. For any  $a \in G$ : Since  $1 > 0$ , we have  $1 * a = 1a = a$ . Now consider:

$$a * e = \begin{cases} a \cdot 1 & a > 0 \\ a/1 & a < 0 \end{cases} \implies a * e = a$$

Thus  $a * e = a = e * a$  so  $e = 1$  is an identity.

- *Inverse*: Claim: For any  $a \in G$ , the inverse is given by:

$$b = \begin{cases} 1/a & a > 0 \\ a & a < 0 \end{cases}$$

Note that  $a > 0 \iff b > 0$  therefore:

- Case:  $a, b > 0$ , then:

$$\begin{aligned} a * b &= a \cdot (1/a) = 1 = e \\ b * a &= (1/a) \cdot a = 1 = e \end{aligned}$$

- Case:  $a, b < 0$ , then  $a = b$  so:

$$b * a = a * b = a * a = a/a = 1 = e$$

Thus, we have show  $b$  is an inverse of  $a$  in  $(G, *)$ .

- (b) Checking the *Two-step Test*: First note  $\mathbb{Q}^* \neq \emptyset$  and  $\mathbb{Q} \subset \mathbb{R}^*$ . Thus,  $H = (\mathbb{Q}^*, *)$  is a subgroup of  $G$  if and only if for all  $a, b \in H$  have  $ab \in H$  and  $b^{-1} \in H$ .

For any  $x \in \mathbb{Q}^+$ , we can write  $x = \frac{p}{q}$  where  $p, q \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ . Thus, for any  $a, b \in \mathbb{Q}^*$  for some  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ :

$$a > 0 \implies a * b = \frac{\alpha}{\beta} * \frac{\gamma}{\delta} = \frac{\alpha}{\beta} \cdot \frac{\gamma}{\delta} = \frac{\alpha\gamma}{\beta\delta} \in \mathbb{Q}^*$$

$$a < 0 \implies a * b = \frac{\alpha}{\beta} * \frac{\gamma}{\delta} = \frac{\alpha}{\beta} / \frac{\gamma}{\delta} = \frac{\alpha\delta}{\beta\gamma} \in \mathbb{Q}^*$$

Thus,  $a * b \in H$ . Take any  $a \in H$ , for some  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{Z}^*$  we have  $a = \alpha/\beta$  so:

$$a^{-1} \in \left\{ \frac{\alpha}{\beta}, \frac{\beta}{\alpha} \right\} \subset H$$

Thus, the *Two-Step Test* is satisfied so  $H = (\mathbb{Q}^*, *)$  is a subgroup of  $G$ .

(c) Consider the element  $2 \in \mathbb{Z}^*$ , if  $(\mathbb{Z}^*, *)$  were a subgroup (and thus a group), then 2 should have an inverse  $b \in \mathbb{Z}^*$  such that  $1 = 2 * b = 2b$ , no such element exists in  $\mathbb{Z}^*$ , therefore  $\mathbb{Z}^*$  is not a subgroup.

(d) Consider the elements  $-1, 2 \in G$ , then:

$$(-1) * 2 = -1/2 \quad \wedge \quad 2 * (-1) = 2 \cdot (-1) = -2$$

Yet  $-1/2 \neq -2$  so  $*$  is not commutative, hence  $(G, *)$  is not an abelian group.

(e) Let  $a = 5 \in G$ . Consider  $a^k > 0$  and apply induction on  $k$ .

- Base case:  $k = 1$ , it satisfied as  $a^1 = a = 5 > 0$ .
- Inductive Step: Assume  $a^k > 0$ , then by definition of  $*$  we have that  $a^k * a = a^k \cdot a > 0$  as  $a > 0$ . Thus,  $a^{k+1} > 0$ .

Therefore,  $a^k > 0$  for all  $k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ .

Find elements for  $k < 0$ .

(f) By part (a), for  $a = -5$ , we have that the inverse  $a^{-1} = -5$ .

(g) We want elements where  $x^1 \neq 1$  but  $x^2 = 1$ , for any  $x > 0$  where  $x \neq 1$  we have  $x \star x = xx \neq 1$ .

For  $x < 0$ , we have  $x^2 = x/x = 1$  so all  $x \in \mathbb{R}^*$  where  $x < 0$  are of order 2.

(h) Take any  $g \in \mathbb{R}^*$ , we check for potential elements of  $Z(G)$ .

- For  $g > 0$  let  $z < 0$ , then:

$$\begin{aligned} z * g &= g * z \\ \iff z/g &= gz \\ \iff 1 &= g^2 \end{aligned}$$

Which holds only for  $g = 1$ , since the only  $g > 0$  with  $|g| \leq 2$  is  $g = 1$ .

- For  $g < 0$  let  $z > 0$ , then:

$$\begin{aligned} z * g &= g * z \\ \iff zg &= g/z \\ \iff z^2 &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

Which does not hold for all  $z$ , therefore, this does not hold for any  $g < 0$ .

Verifying the  $g = 1$  case, take any  $z \in \mathbb{R}^*$ , then  $zg = z = gz$ , so  $g = 1 \in Z(G)$ .

(a) We check the conditions for the *Two-step Test*:

First  $1_G = x^0 y^0 \in H$ , so  $H$  is non-empty.

To show  $\forall_{\alpha, \beta \in H} \alpha\beta \in H$ :

For any  $\alpha, \beta \in H$  there are  $n, m \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}^n$  and  $a', b' \in \mathbb{Z}^m$  such that for some  $x, y \in G$  we have:

$$\alpha = x^{a_1} y^{b_1} \dots x^{a_n} y^{b_n}, \quad \beta = x^{a'_1} y^{b'_1} \dots x^{a'_m} y^{b'_m}$$

Therefore:

$$\alpha\beta = x^{a_1} y^{b_1} \dots x^{a_n} y^{b_n} x^{a'_1} y^{b'_1} \dots x^{a'_m} y^{b'_m} \in H$$

Since  $n + m \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $(a_1, \dots, a_n, a'_1, \dots, a'_m), (b_1, \dots, b_n, b'_1, \dots, b'_m) \in \mathbb{Z}^{n+m}$ .

To show  $\forall_{\alpha \in H} \alpha^{-1} \in H$ :

For any  $\alpha \in H$  there are  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}^n$  such that for some  $x, y \in G$  we have:

$$\alpha = x^{a_1} y^{b_1} \dots x^{a_n} y^{b_n}$$

Now define  $a', b' \in \mathbb{Z}^{n+1}$  where:

$$a'_i = \begin{cases} 0 & i = 1 \\ -a_{n+2-i} & i > 1 \end{cases} \quad b'_i = \begin{cases} -b_{n+1-i} & i < n+1 \\ 0 & i = n+1 \end{cases}$$

So there is a  $\beta \in H$  where:

$$\beta = x^{a'_1} y^{b'_1} \dots x^{a'_{n+1}} y^{b'_{n+1}}$$

And so we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha\beta &= x^{a_1} y^{b_1} \dots x^{a_n} y^{b_n} x^{a'_1} y^{b'_1} \dots x^{a'_{n+1}} y^{b'_{n+1}} & \beta\alpha &= x^{a'_1} y^{b'_1} \dots x^{a'_{n+1}} y^{b'_{n+1}} x^{a_1} y^{b_1} \dots x^{a_n} y^{b_n} \\ &= x^{a_1} y^{b_1} \dots x^{a_n} y^{b_n} e y^{-b_n} x^{-a_n} \dots y^{-b_1} x^{-a_1} e & &= e y^{-b_n} x^{-a_n} \dots y^{-b_1} x^{-a_1} e x^{a_1} y^{b_1} \dots x^{a_n} y^{b_n} \\ &= x^{a_1} y^{b_1} \dots x^{a_n} y^{b_n} y^{-b_n} x^{-a_n} \dots y^{-b_1} x^{-a_1} & &= y^{-b_n} x^{-a_n} \dots y^{-b_1} x^{-a_1} x^{a_1} y^{b_1} \dots x^{a_n} y^{b_n} \\ &= e & &= e \end{aligned}$$

As consecutive terms cancel from the middle, hence  $\alpha^{-1} = \beta \in H$ .

So by the *Two-step Test*, we have show  $H$  is a subgroup of  $G$ .

(b) Using the same construction from *Part a*, construct  $H'$  using group  $(L, \cdot)$  as  $x, y \in L$ :

$$H' = \{x^{a_1} y^{b_1} \dots x^{a_n} y^{b_n}, a_i, b_i \in \mathbb{Z}, n \in \mathbb{N}\} \leq L$$

But  $H' = H$  so  $H \leq L$ . Now by definition notice that:

$$\langle x, y \rangle = \bigcap_{\{x, y\} \subset L \leq G} L$$

Since  $\langle x, y \rangle \leq G$ , we have that  $H \leq \langle x, y \rangle$ , however,  $\langle x, y \rangle$  is the smallest subgroup of  $G$  containing  $\{x, y\}$  so we must have  $H = \langle x, y \rangle$ .

(c) First let  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$  with  $n \geq 0$  for  $a, b \in -1, 1$ ,  $a/b = ab$  so  $x^n$  in  $G$  is  $(-1)^k$  in  $\mathbb{Z}$ . IE:

$$x^n = \begin{cases} 1 & n \equiv_2 0 \\ -1 & n \equiv_2 1 \end{cases}$$

Now consider:

$$y^{2n} = (y^2)^n = (-2/-2)^n = 1$$

Therefore

$$y^{2n+1} = y^{2n}y = 1y = -2$$

$$y^n = \begin{cases} 1 & n \equiv_2 0 \\ -2 & n \equiv_2 1 \end{cases}$$

Clearly for any  $a \in \mathbb{R}^*$  we have  $a^{-n} = (a^n)^{-1}$  since  $a^{-n}a^n = 1$ . Using the inverse found in *Part 1*:

$$x^{-n} = x^n, \quad y^{-n} = y^n$$

Therefore we have:

$$\{x^n : n \in \mathbb{Z}\} = \{1, -1\}, \quad \{y^n : n \in \mathbb{Z}\} = \{1, -2\}$$

Hence:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle x, y \rangle &= \{x^{a_1}y^{b_1} \dots x^{a_n}y^{b_n}, a_i, b_i \in \mathbb{Z}, n \in \mathbb{N}\} \\ &= \{g_1 \dots g_n : n \in \mathbb{N}, g_i \in \{1, -1, -2\}\} \\ &= \{2^n : n \in \mathbb{N}\} \cup \{-2^n : n \in \mathbb{N}\} \cup \{1, -1\} \end{aligned}$$

### Q3

- (a) We can compute  $U(20) = \{1, 3, 7, 9, 11, 13, 17, 19\}$ . The Caley Table can be constructed by computed for the upper right entries and mirrored as  $(U(20), \times_{20})$  is an abelian group.

$\times_{20}$	1	3	7	9	11	13	17	19
1	1	3	7	9	11	13	17	19
3	3	9	1	7	13	19	11	17
7	7	1	9	3	17	11	19	13
9	9	7	3	1	19	17	13	11
11	11	13	17	19	1	3	7	9
13	13	19	11	17	3	9	1	7
17	17	11	19	13	7	1	9	3
19	19	17	13	11	9	7	3	1

- (b) Let  $g$  correspond to the label of a row in the Caley table, then the inverse of  $g$  is given by the column  $h$  where the cell corresponding to  $g \times_{20} h$  contains a 1. Thus, we can read off the inverses from the Caley table:

$g \in U(20)$	1	3	7	9	11	13	17	19
$g^{-1}$	1	7	3	9	11	17	13	19

- (c) Since all elements have finite order, we use the Caley table to compute repeated multiplication for each element, and find the lowest exponent where  $g^i = 1$ , thus determining the order of each element:

$g \in U(20)$	1	3	7	9	11	13	17	19
$ g $	1	4	4	2	2	4	4	2

For any  $g \in U(20)$ , we have seen that  $|g| \leq 4$  so  $|\langle g \rangle| \leq 4$ , since  $|U(20)| = 8$ , there is no  $g \in U(20)$  where  $\{g\}$  generates  $U(20)$ . Therefore  $U(20)$  is not a cyclic group.

## Q4

(a) Computing the powers  $g^n$  for each  $g \in \{a, b, ba\}$ :

$$\begin{aligned} a^1 &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}, & a^2 &= \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}, & a^3 &= \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, & a^4 &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \\ b^1 &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 2 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, & b^2 &= \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}, & b^3 &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 2 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, & b^4 &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \\ (ba)^1 &= \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, & (ba)^2 &= \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}, & (ba)^3 &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 \end{pmatrix}, & (ba)^4 &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

For each  $g$ , we find that the smallest  $n$  with  $g^n = 1_G$  is  $n = 4$  so  $a, b, ba$  are all order 4.

(b) From part (a), we have already found 8 distinct  $g$  which must be present in any group containing both  $a$  and  $b$ .

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
$a$	$b$	$(ba)$	$a^2 = b^2 = (ba)^2$	$a^3$	$b^3$	$(ba)^3$	$e = a^4 = b^4 = (ba)^4$

Thus,  $8 \leq |Q|$ .

**NOW SHOW THAT  $|Q| \leq 8$**

(c) From *Example 3 of Week 2's Notes*, we see that for a field  $F$ :

$$Z(\text{GL}_2(F)) = \{\alpha I : \alpha \in F^*\}$$

Since we have  $F = \mathbb{Z}_3$ , we have  $F^* = \{1, 2\}$  and so:

$$Z(\text{GL}_2(F)) = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

(d) Consider any  $g = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \in Q$ , then:

$$\begin{aligned} &g \in C_Q(ba) \\ \Leftrightarrow &\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \cdot g = g \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ \Leftrightarrow &\begin{bmatrix} 2a+1c & 2b+1d \\ 1a+1c & 1b+1d \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2a+1b & 1a+1b \\ 2c+1d & 1c+1d \end{bmatrix} && \text{Multiplying Matrices} \\ \Leftrightarrow &\begin{bmatrix} c & b+d \\ a & b \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} b & a \\ c+d & c \end{bmatrix} && \text{Cancelling} \\ \Leftrightarrow &\begin{bmatrix} 0 & b+d \\ a & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & a \\ b+d & 0 \end{bmatrix} && \text{As } b = c \end{aligned}$$

Thus, the elements in  $C_Q(ba)$  are exactly those where  $a = b + d$  and  $c = b$ . Since we already know the elements of  $Q$ , by checking these conditions we find:

$$C_Q(ba) = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

## Q5

Let  $H = \langle h \rangle$  be cyclic group of infinite order,  $a = h^n \in H$  and  $b = h^m \in H$  where  $n, m \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

(a) Consider  $\langle a, b \rangle$ , from Question 2, we know that:

$$\begin{aligned}\langle a, b \rangle &= \{a^{\alpha_1} b^{\beta_1} \dots a^{\alpha_k} b^{\beta_k} : \alpha_i, \beta_i \in \mathbb{Z}, k \in \mathbb{N}\} \\ &= \{(h^n)^{\alpha_1} (h^m)^{\beta_1} \dots (h^n)^{\alpha_k} (h^m)^{\beta_k} : \alpha_i, \beta_i \in \mathbb{Z}, k \in \mathbb{N}\} \\ &= \{(h^{\alpha_1 n}) (h^{\beta_1 m}) \dots (h^{\alpha_k n}) (h^{\beta_k m}) : \alpha_i, \beta_i \in \mathbb{Z}, k \in \mathbb{N}\} \\ &= \{(h^{\alpha_1 n + \beta_1 m + \dots + \alpha_k n + \beta_k m}) : \alpha_i, \beta_i \in \mathbb{Z}, k \in \mathbb{N}\} \\ &= \{(h^{\alpha n + \beta m}) : \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{Z}\}\end{aligned}$$

To show  $\alpha n + \beta m$  is equivalent to  $k \cdot \gcd(n, m)$  for some  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

For any  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{Z}$ , let  $p = \frac{n}{\gcd(n, m)} \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $q = \frac{m}{\gcd(n, m)} \in \mathbb{Z}$ , then:

$$\alpha n + \beta m = k \cdot \gcd(n, m) \iff \alpha p + \beta q = k$$

Hence  $(\alpha p + \beta q) \in \mathbb{Z}$  so there must exist  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$  satisfying the equation.

Now to show that for any  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$  we can write  $k \cdot \gcd(n, m)$  in the form  $\alpha n + \beta m$ , for some  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

For any  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ , let  $p = \frac{n}{\gcd(n, m)}$  and  $q = \frac{m}{\gcd(n, m)}$ , then  $p, q$  must be coprime, so there are  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that:

$$\begin{aligned}ap + bq &= 1 \\ \implies k \gcd(n, m) ap + k \gcd(n, m) bq &= k \gcd(n, m) \\ \implies akn + bkm &= k \gcd(n, m)\end{aligned}$$

So let  $\alpha = ak$  and  $\beta = bk$  to obtain a solution.

Thus, we have:

$$\langle a, b \rangle = \{(h^{\alpha n + \beta m}) : \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{Z}\} = \{h^{k \cdot \gcd(n, m)} : k \in \mathbb{Z}\} = \langle h^{\gcd(n, m)} \rangle$$

(b) First see that:

$$\begin{aligned}\langle a \rangle \cap \langle b \rangle &= \{a^i : i \in \mathbb{Z}\} \cap \{b^j : j \in \mathbb{Z}\} && \text{By Theorem 6 of Week 2's Notes} \\ &= \{h^{in} : i \in \mathbb{Z}\} \cap \{h^{jm} : j \in \mathbb{Z}\} \\ &= \{h^k : k \in \mathbb{Z}, \exists i, j \in \mathbb{Z} [in = k = jm]\}\end{aligned}$$

We want to show that all such  $k$  are of the form  $t \cdot \text{lcm}(n, m)$  for some  $t \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Consider Euclidean Division:

$$k = t \cdot \text{lcm}(n, m) + r$$

Where  $0 \leq r < \text{lcm}(n, m)$ . Now note that both  $n, m$  divide  $k$  and  $t \cdot \text{lcm}(n, m)$ , so they must also divide  $r$ , since  $0 \leq r < \text{lcm}(n, m)$ , we must have  $r = 0$ . Hence, for some  $t \in \mathbb{Z}$ :

$$k = t \cdot \text{lcm}(n, m)$$

Now notice that  $\text{lcm}(n, m)$  is divisible by  $n, m$  so  $t \cdot \text{lcm}(n, m) = in = jm$  for some  $i, j \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Thus:

$$\langle a \rangle \cap \langle b \rangle = \{h^k : k \in \mathbb{Z}, \exists i, j \in \mathbb{Z} [in = k = jm]\} = \{h^{t \cdot \text{lcm}(n, m)} : t \in \mathbb{Z}\} = \langle h^{\text{lcm}(n, m)} \rangle$$

## Q6

Note that by *Theorem 2* of the *Week 2 Lecture Notes*, if  $G = \langle a \rangle$  is finite then  $|a| = |G|$ .

(a) Since  $|G| = 28$ , we have that  $|a| = 28$ . Thus, by *Theorem 4* of *Week 3's Notes*:

$$|a^{10}| = \frac{28}{\gcd(10, 28)} = \frac{28}{2} = 14$$

Hence  $H = \langle a^{10} \rangle$  has  $|H| = |a^{10}| = 14$ .

(b) Since  $G = \langle a \rangle$  is a finite cyclic group of order  $n = 28$  generated by  $a$ , by *Theorem 8* of *Week 2's Notes*, the set of all generators of  $G$  is:

$$\{a^k : k \in U(28)\} = \{a^1, a^3, a^5, a^9, a^{11}, a^{13}, a^{15}, a^{17}, a^{19}, a^{23}, a^{25}, a^{27}\}$$

(c) By the *Fundamental Theorem of Cyclic Groups*, since  $G = \langle a \rangle$  and  $|G| = 28$ , there is a unique subgroup of order  $k = 14$ ,  $K = \langle a^{\frac{28}{14}} \rangle = \langle a^2 \rangle$ . The generators of this subgroup are the elements of order 14. Applying *Theorem 8* of *Week 2's Notes*, these are:

$$\{(a^2)^i : i \in U(14)\} = \{a^2, a^6, a^{10}, a^{18}, a^{22}, a^{26}\}$$

(d) By *Fundamental Theorem of Cyclic Groups*, each  $H$  subgroup of  $G = \langle a \rangle$  must have order  $k = |H|$  where  $k$  divides  $n$ , and there is a unique subgroup for each  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  where  $k$  divides  $n$ . Thus, there are subgroups of orders:

$$k \in \{1, 2, 4, 7, 14\}$$

The fundamental theorem also gives us the generators  $a^{\frac{n}{k}}$  for a subgroup of order  $k$ :

Subgroup	$\langle a^{28} \rangle$	$\langle a^{14} \rangle$	$\langle a^7 \rangle$	$\langle a^4 \rangle$	$\langle a^2 \rangle$
Order	1	2	4	7	14