

22/08

Recall

If $G = \langle x \rangle$, then $o(x^a) = \frac{n}{\gcd(a, n)}$ and $|G| = n$

Corollary

Let $G = \langle x \rangle$ be a finite cyclic group of order n .

Then x^a generates G . $\Leftrightarrow \gcd(a, n) = 1$

Proof

x^a generates G

$$\Rightarrow o(x^a) = n$$

$$\Rightarrow \gcd(a, n) = 1$$

Generators of $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ are all such \bar{a} such that $\gcd(a, n) = 1$. This is the set $U(n)$.

Proposition

Let $G = \langle x \rangle$ be an infinite cyclic group. Then x^a generates G . $\Leftrightarrow a = \pm 1$

Proof

Suppose $G = \langle x^a \rangle$

since $x \in G$, there exists n such that $(x^a)^n = x$

$$\Rightarrow an - 1 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow an = 1 \quad \Rightarrow a \mid 1 \quad \Rightarrow a = \pm 1$$

Converse is trivial

(Exercise !!)

• Let G be a cyclic group.

If G is infinite, then any subgroup of G is of the form $\langle x^m \rangle$ where $m \in \mathbb{Z}$

• If $|G| = n < \infty$, then there is a bijection

$$\{d \mid n, d > 0\} \longrightarrow \{K \leq H\}$$

For every divisor, there is a subgroup with that number as the order.

Define $\{d \mid d \mid n\} \rightarrow \{k \in G\}$
 $d \mapsto \langle x^{n/d} \rangle$

$$o(x^{n/d}) = \frac{n}{\gcd(n, n/d)} = \frac{n}{(n/d)} = d$$

Suppose $o(x^b) = d$

$$\Rightarrow d = \frac{n}{\gcd(b, n)} \Rightarrow \gcd(b, n) = \frac{n}{d}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{n}{d} \mid b$$

$$\Rightarrow \exists k \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ such that } b = k \frac{n}{d}$$

$$\Rightarrow x^b = (x^{n/d})^k \in \langle x^{n/d} \rangle$$

$$\Rightarrow \langle x^b \rangle \leq \langle x^{n/d} \rangle$$

Note

• Each cyclic group of order n has $\varphi(n)$ generators.

$$\bullet n = \sum_{d \mid n} \varphi(d)$$

Permutation groups

Definition

Let X be a non-empty set.

We define

$$S_X = \{f: X \rightarrow X \mid f \text{ is bijective}\}$$

Notation

$$[n] = \{1, \dots, n\} \text{ for } n \in \mathbb{N}$$

If $X = [n]$, the bijection is denoted by $S_{[n]}$

S_n is a group under composition of maps.

S_n is called the symmetric group on $[n]$

$$|S_n| = n!$$

• Is S_n abelian?

No, S_3 is not abelian

Example :- $(2 \ 1 \ 3) \circ (3 \ 2 \ 1) \neq (3 \ 2 \ 1) \circ (2 \ 1 \ 3)$

where $(a \ b \ c) \Rightarrow f(1)=a, f(2)=b, f(3)=c$

Notation

Let $\sigma \in S_n$

We will denote σ as $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & \dots & n \\ \sigma(1) & \sigma(2) & \dots & \sigma(n) \end{pmatrix}$

For $n=4$, we will see composition

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 3 & 2 & 4 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 4 & 3 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 1 & 4 & 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

Let $\sigma \in S_6$, $\sigma = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 2 & 1 & 4 & 6 & 5 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$



$(1 \ 2) \quad (3 \ 4 \ 6) \quad (5) \rightarrow$ Notation in terms of cycles

Definition

Let n be a positive integer. An element $\sigma \in S_n$ is called a k -cycle if there exist $a_1, \dots, a_k \in [n]$ such that $\sigma = (a_1 \dots a_k)$ where

$$(a_1 \ a_2 \ \dots \ a_k)(x) = \begin{cases} a_{i+1} & \text{if } x = a_i \ (i=1, \dots, k-1) \\ a_1 & \text{if } x = a_k \\ x & \text{if } x \notin \{a_1, \dots, a_k\} \end{cases}$$

Two cycles $(a_1 \dots a_r)$ and $(b_1 \dots b_s)$ are said to be distinct if $\{a_1, \dots, a_r\} \cap \{b_1, \dots, b_s\} = \emptyset$

Proposition

If $\sigma, \tau \in S_n$ are disjoint cycles, then

$$\sigma\tau = \tau\sigma$$

Proof

Let $x \in [n]$. We need to show that $\sigma\tau(x) = \tau\sigma(x)$

Let $\sigma = (a_1, \dots, a_r)$, $\tau = (b_1, \dots, b_s)$

Case - (i)

If $x \in \{a_1, \dots, a_r\}$

$$\sigma\tau(x) = \sigma(x) = \begin{cases} a_{i+1} & \text{if } i \leq r-1 \\ a_1 & \text{if } i = r \end{cases}$$

$$\tau\sigma(x) = \begin{cases} \tau(a_{i+1}) & \text{if } i \leq r-1 \\ \tau(a_1) & \text{if } i = r \end{cases} = \begin{cases} a_{i+1} & \text{if } i \leq r-1 \\ a_1 & \text{if } i = r \end{cases}$$

Case - (ii)

If $y \in \{b_1, \dots, b_s\}$

$$\tau\sigma(y) = \tau(y) = \begin{cases} b_{i+1} & \text{if } i \leq s-1 \\ b_1 & \text{if } i = s \end{cases}$$

$$\sigma\tau(y) = \begin{cases} \sigma(b_{i+1}) & \text{if } i \leq s-1 \\ \sigma(b_1) & \text{if } i = s \end{cases} = \begin{cases} b_{i+1} & \text{if } i \leq s-1 \\ b_1 & \text{if } i = s \end{cases}$$

Case - (iii)

If $y \notin \{a_1, \dots, a_r\}$ and $y \notin \{b_1, \dots, b_s\}$

$$\Rightarrow \tau\sigma(y) = \sigma\tau(y) = y$$

Hence proved.

Theorem

Any permutation $\sigma \in S_n$ can be written as a product of disjoint cycles.

Proof

Let $a \in [n]$ and we define the σ -orbit of a denoted by

$$O_{\sigma(a)} = \{\sigma^i(a) \mid i \in \mathbb{N}\}$$

Since $O_{\sigma(a)} \subseteq [n]$, $O_{\sigma(a)}$ is a finite set.

For some $i < j$, $\sigma^i(a) = \sigma^j(a)$

$$\Rightarrow a = \sigma^{j-i}(a)$$

If $m_1 = \min \{ l \mid \sigma^l(a) = a \}$

$$\text{then } \mathcal{O}_{\sigma}(a) = \{ a, \sigma(a), \dots, \sigma^{m_1-1}(a) \}$$

If $\mathcal{O}_{\sigma}(a) = [n]$, then $\sigma = (a \ \sigma(a) \ \dots \ \sigma^{n-1}(a))$

If $\mathcal{O}_{\sigma}(a) \neq [n]$, then there exists

$b \in [n] \setminus \mathcal{O}_{\sigma}(a)$. Construct σ -orbit of b .

Claim: $\mathcal{O}_{\sigma}(a) \cap \mathcal{O}_{\sigma}(b) = \emptyset$

Proof: Let $\exists x$ such that $x \in \mathcal{O}_{\sigma}(a) \cap \mathcal{O}_{\sigma}(b)$

$$\Rightarrow x = \sigma^m(a) \quad \text{and} \quad x = \sigma^l(b)$$

If $m < l$

$$\Rightarrow \sigma^{l-m}(b) = a \Rightarrow b = \sigma^{m-l}(a) \in \mathcal{O}_{\sigma}(a)$$

$(\Rightarrow \Leftarrow)$

If $m = l$

contradiction