

Algorithms HW

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2. Express each of the following as a direct sum of cyclic modules.

- The quotient of  $\mathbb{Z}^2$  by the  $\mathbb{Z}$ -submodule spanned by the vector  $\begin{pmatrix} 18 \\ 30 \end{pmatrix}$ .
- The quotient of  $\mathbb{Z}[i]^3$  by the  $\mathbb{Z}[i]$ -submodule spanned by the vectors  $\begin{pmatrix} 2+2i \\ 8+6i \\ 6 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\begin{pmatrix} 1+i \\ 7+3i \\ 3-3i \end{pmatrix}$ .
- The quotient of  $\mathbb{Q}[x]^2$  by the  $\mathbb{Q}[x]$ -submodule spanned by the vectors  $\begin{pmatrix} x^2 - 1 \\ x^3 - x^2 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\begin{pmatrix} x^3 + x^2 - 2x \\ x^4 - 2x^2 + x \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\begin{pmatrix} x^4 + x^3 - x^2 - 1 \\ x^5 - x^3 \end{pmatrix}$ .

I will outline the general procedure for how we decompose  $M$  a finitely generated module over a PID  $R$  into its direct sum of cyclic modules.

Since  $M$  is finitely generated, say by  $n$  generators, then we have a surjection from the free module  $R^n$  into  $M$ ,  $f : R^n \twoheadrightarrow M$ . Moreover,  $\ker(f)$  is also finitely generated as a submodule of a finitely generated module over a Noetherian ring (since  $R$  is a PID). Let  $m := \text{rank } \ker(f)$  and then, by similar reasoning, we have another map given by the composition  $g : R^m \twoheadrightarrow \ker f \hookrightarrow R^n$ . Moreover, by the first isomorphism theorem of modules, we have that  $M \cong R^n / \text{im}(g) = \text{coker}(g)$ . And so, if we determine the  $\text{coker}(g)$  we have a representation of  $M$ .

Since  $g : R^m \rightarrow R^n$  we can represent it by a  $m \times n$  matrix  $A$ . Then, if we put  $A$  into Smith Normal Form (SNF) (which amounts to representing the same transformation under a change of basis of  $R^m$  and  $R^n$ ) then we can write  $M \cong \langle e_1, \dots, e_n \rangle / \langle d_1 e_1, \dots, d_k e_k \rangle$  where  $d_i$  are the Smith Normal Form entries, and where  $k \leq n$ .

With this procedure outlined, let me now actually answer the given questions lol.

- We have  $M = \mathbb{Z}^2 / \langle (18, 30) \rangle$  and the surjection  $f : \mathbb{Z}^2 \twoheadrightarrow M$  via the quotient map. Moreover, manifestly, we have  $\ker(f) = \langle (18, 30) \rangle$  and so we have a map  $g : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}^2$  via  $g(a) = a \cdot (18, 30)$ . We can represent  $g$  as the  $2 \times 1$  matrix  $A = [18, 30]^T$ . Let us now put  $A$  into Smith Normal Form. The SNF of  $A$  is of the form  $[d_1, 0]^T$  and we have that generally the first Smith factor  $d_1$  is the greatest common divisor of all the entries of  $A$ . That is  $A \sim [\gcd(18, 30), 0]^T = [6, 0]^T$ . And now we can write our

decomposition

$$M \cong \frac{\langle e_1, e_2 \rangle}{\langle 6e_1 \rangle} \cong \mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}.$$

- Following in a similar fashion to part (a), we have a surjective map  $f : \mathbb{Z}[i]^3 \hookrightarrow M$  given by the quotient map. We have  $\ker f \cong \langle (2+2i, 8+6i, 6), (1+i, 7+3i, 3-3i) \rangle$  and then the matrix representing  $g : \mathbb{Z}[i]^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}[i]^3$  is given by

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 2+2i & 1+i \\ 8+6i & 7+3i \\ 6 & 3-3i \end{bmatrix}.$$

Whose SNF will be of the form

$$A \sim \begin{bmatrix} d_1 & 0 \\ 0 & d_2 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Once, again we can compute  $d_1 = \gcd(1+i, 2+2i, 8+6i, 7+3i, 6, 3-3i)$ . Notice that  $1+i$  is a Gaussian Prime (it has norm 2, and so it is straightforward to verify by enumeration of elements with smaller norm that it has no divisors other than 1 and itself). And so, if  $1+i$  divides every element in  $A$  then  $d_1 = 1+i$  otherwise  $d_1 = 1$ .

It turns out that  $1+i$  divides every element in  $A$ . I will only outline how I attempted to divide one element by  $1+i$ , because I am curious if there's a better method. But I will not write out the details of every check. Consider  $7+3i$ , we want to know if there's some Gaussian integer  $a$  such that  $a(1+i) = 7+3i$ . Notice that  $\|1+i\| = 2$  and  $\|7+3i\| = 58$ . And so any such  $a = x+yi$  must satisfy  $\|a\| = 29$ . Enumerating all the squares up to 100 gives us that we must have  $\|x\| = 4$  and  $\|y\| = 25$  or vice versa. Then, checking the four possibilities for  $x, y$  gives  $7+3i = (1+i) \cdot (5-2i)$ . And so,  $1+i$  is a divisor of  $7+3i$ . Using a similar method gives that  $1+i$  is a divisor of every element in  $A$  and so  $d_1 = 1+i$ . **oh, shit, what if there's a greater common divisor. nooo, since  $1+i$  is a Gaussian prime, the gcd of the whole list is already "bounded above" by this number.**

Now to compute  $d_2$  we have that the 2nd invariant factor of  $A$ , given by the gcd of all the  $2 \times 2$  minors of  $A$ , is equal to  $d_1 d_2$ . Computing all the  $2 \times 2$  minors of  $A$  gives

$$d_2 = \gcd(-24i, 6 - 6i, 6 + 6i).$$

Given the computations I already did for  $d_1$ , it is easy to write down a unique (up to units) factorization of each of the elements

$$\begin{aligned} 6 + 6i &= 6(1 + i) = 3(1 + i)^2(1 - i) \\ 6 - 6i &= 6(1 - i) = 3(1 - i)^2(1 + i) \\ -24i &= -12(1 + i)^2, \end{aligned}$$

And then we can inspect that  $d_2 = 1 + i$ . Quick question, I noticed that we can also write  $-24i = 12(1 - i)(-1 + i)$ , which would then imply that the gcd of these elements is  $(1 - i)$ . Although, of course,  $1 + i = i(1 - i)$ , and so is the gcd only unique up to units? (I suppose even in  $\mathbb{Z}$  it is true that the gcd is unique only up to  $\pm 1$ .)

To summarize, the SNF of  $A$  is given by

$$A \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1+i & 0 \\ 0 & 1+i \\ 0 & 0. \end{bmatrix}$$

And hence, our decomposition of  $M$  is given by

$$M \cong \frac{\langle e_1, e_2, e_3 \rangle}{\langle (1+i)e_1, (1+i)e_2 \rangle} \cong \mathbb{Z}[i]/(1+i) \oplus \mathbb{Z}[i]/(1+i) \oplus \mathbb{Z}[i].$$

Question for self, how can we tell that each of these factors is in fact cyclic? Is  $\mathbb{Z}[i]/(1+i) \cong \mathbb{Z}$ ?

come back and do part 3 later

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3. Show that if  $R$  is a principal ideal domain, then any submodule of  $R^n$  is isomorphic to  $R^m$  for some  $m \leq n$ .

Let  $M \leq R^n$  be an  $R$ -submodule of  $R^n$ . Recall that submodules of finitely generated modules over Noetherian rings are again finitely generated. And so  $M$  is finitely generated, with generators  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k$ , say. Moreover  $M$ , as a finitely generated module over a PID can then be decomposed into a direct product of cyclic modules. why does it matter then if we can put  $A$  into SNF? If  $M$  is a direct sum of cyclic submodules, does that mean it's already free? What if each of the factors has more than one generator? no, because they are cyclic. What if they are not isomorphic to  $R$ ? Ah, in general, they will not be.

Since  $M$  is finitely generated, we have a surjective map  $R$ -linear map  $R^k \twoheadrightarrow M$  via  $e_i \mapsto x_i$ . Moreover, we have a composition

$$R^k \xrightarrow{\sigma} M \xrightarrow{\iota} R^n,$$

which can be represented in terms of a  $k \times n$  matrix  $A$ . We claim that  $M \cong \text{im}(A)$ . First note that since  $\iota$  is an injection, we have  $M \cong \text{im}(\iota)$ . Now, since  $\sigma$  is a surjection we have, for all  $a \in R^k$   $(\iota \circ \sigma)(a) = \iota(a) = m \in R^n$ . That is, we can identify  $(\iota \circ \sigma)(a)$  with an element of  $m$ , for all  $a \in R^k$ .

Notice that if  $A \sim A'$  then  $\text{im}(A) \cong \text{im}(A')$ , since  $A$  and  $A'$  represent the same  $R$ -linear transformation under some change of basis on  $R^k$  and  $R^n$ . In particular we can put  $A$  into Smith Normal Form

$$A \sim \begin{bmatrix} d_1 & & & \\ & d_2 & & \\ & & \ddots & \\ & & & d_{\min(k,n)} \end{bmatrix}$$

wait, im confused, does this not just amount to the idea that we can decompose  $M$  into direct sum of cyclic modules. perhaps a proposition for a basis is each of the generators of the cyclic factors? are these necessarily  $R$ -linearly independent?

4. (Aluffi Exercise VI.7.3) Show that two  $3 \times 3$  matrices are similar if and only if they have the same characteristic and minimal polynomials. Is this true for  $4 \times 4$  matrices?

Suppose we have two matrices  $A, B$  over a field (so that  $k[x]$  is a PID) have the same characteristic and minimal polynomials. To show that  $A \sim B$  we can show that they have the same rational canonical forms. Recall that the rational canonical form of a matrix is of the form

$$\begin{bmatrix} C_{f_1} & & \\ & C_{f_2} & \\ & & C_{f_3} \end{bmatrix},$$

where the  $C_{f_i}$  are companion matrices to the  $f_i$ . And the  $f_i$  are the invariant factors for the cyclic decomposition of the finitely generated  $k[x]$ -module induced by the  $k$ -linear transformation  $A$ , say. That is, we can show that  $A \sim B$  if we can show that they have the same invariant polynomials. In generality, since  $A$  and  $B$  are  $3 \times 3$  matrices, let us say that their characteristic polynomials are of degree 3. Let  $f_1, f_2, f_3$  be the invariant factors for  $A$  and let  $g_1, g_2, g_3$  be the invariant factors for  $B$ , where  $f_1|f_2|f_3$  and  $g_1|g_2|g_3$ .

Recall from Aluffi that the characteristic and minimal polynomials are related to the invariant factors by  $P_A = f_1f_2f_3$  and, since the minimal polynomial is defined to be the minimal degree polynomial dividing  $P_A$ ,  $m_A = f_1$ .

Since  $m_A = m_B$  we have  $f_1 = g_1 := k$ . Since  $k$  is in particular an integral domain we then have  $k(f_2f_3 - g_2g_3) = 0$ , and since  $k \neq 0$ ,  $f_2f_3 = g_2g_3$ . Now how, from here, do we show that  $f_2 = g_2$  and  $f_3 = g_3$ ? probably also need to discuss the cases of the different degrees also

The following is the if direction. On the other hand, suppose that  $A \sim B$ . Then  $A = CBC^{-1}$  for some invertable matrix  $C \in GL_3(k)$ . Note that conjugation by an invertible matrix amounts to a change of basis of the original transformation. Then  $CBC^{-1}$  has the same eigenvalues as  $B$  counted with multiplicity (although, it's eigenvectors must change under this change of basis). And so, since the characteristic polynomial of a linear transformation is determined by its eigenvalues with multiplicity,  $A = CBC^{-1}$  has the

same characteristic polynomial as  $B$ .

Now we claim that  $A$  and  $B$  also have the same minimal polynomial. *i think i might need to think about their jordan normal forms to understand this one*

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6. Let  $f$  be a monic polynomial of degree  $n \geq 1$  over a field  $K$ , and let  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n$  denote the roots of  $f$  (with multiplicity, and possibly after extending the field  $K$ ). In terms of  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n$ , what are the eigenvalues of  $C_f$ ? What about  $C_f^2$ ? What about  $C_f^3 + 2C_f + 3I_n$ ?

Determine the monic polynomial whose roots are the squares of the roots of  $x^3 + 4x + 5$ .

Given the roots of a polynomial we generally can write

$$f(x) = c(x - \alpha_1) \cdots (x - \alpha_n).$$

However, since  $f$  is monic, expanding the linear terms will give that  $c = 1$ . To write the companion matrix of  $f$  we need  $f$  in the form  $a_0 + a_1x + \cdots + a_{n-1}x^{n-1} + x^n$ . Expanding the terms gives us

$$f = x^n + \binom{\alpha}{1}x^{n-1} + \binom{\alpha}{2}x^{n-1} + \cdots + \binom{\alpha}{n-1}x + \binom{\alpha}{n},$$

where  $\binom{\alpha}{k}$  means sum all the  $k$ -subsets of  $\{\alpha_i\}$ . I.e.  $\binom{\alpha}{k} := \sum_{I \subseteq \{\alpha_i\}, |I|=k} \prod_{i \in I} \alpha_i$ . Now we can write the companion matrix  $C_f$  as

$$C_f = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & -\binom{\alpha}{n} \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & -\binom{\alpha}{n-1} \\ & & & \vdots & \\ 0 & \cdots & & 1 & -\binom{\alpha}{1} \end{bmatrix}.$$

From here, one can show, (and should probably prove by using something like induction) that the characteristic polynomial of  $C_f$  is given by

$$P_\alpha(\lambda) = \lambda^n + \binom{\alpha}{1}\lambda^{n-1} + \binom{\alpha}{2}\lambda^{n-1} + \cdots + \binom{\alpha}{n-1}\lambda + \binom{\alpha}{n} = (\lambda - \alpha_1) \cdots (\lambda - \alpha_n).$$

Recalling that the eigenvalues of a matrix  $A$  are given by the roots of its characteristic polynomial, we manifestly have that if  $f$  has roots  $\{\alpha_i\}$  then  $C_f$  has eigenvalues  $\{\alpha_i\}$ .

7. Let  $p$  be a prime number. How many conjugacy classes are there in  $GL_4(\mathbb{F}_p)$ ?  
 [Hint: rational canonical form]

Recall that the conjugacy classes of  $GL_4(\mathbb{F}_p)$  are those matrices which are related to each other by conjugation. That is, the classes of similar matrices over  $GL_4(\mathbb{F}_p)$ . Recall that every similarity class of matrices has a unique rational canonical form. And so, if we can enumerate the different possible rational canonical forms we will have found the number of conjugacy classes  $GL_4(\mathbb{F}_p)$ .

Recall that the rational canonical form of a matrix is of the form

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} C_{f_1} & & & \\ & C_{f_2} & & \\ & & \ddots & \\ & & & C_{f_k} \end{bmatrix},$$

where the  $C_{f_i}$  are the companion matrices of the invariant factors  $f_i$ . Recall that the invariant factors satisfy  $f_1|f_2|\cdots|f_k$ . And so, we have cases given by increasing integer partitions of 4, which will correspond to the possible degrees of the  $f_i$ : 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 2, 2, 2, 1, 3, 4. This follows a degree  $n$  polynomial has an  $n \times n$  companion matrix and we have  $A$  is  $4 \times 4$ .

1,1,1,1: Let us start with the case where we have four invariant factors, all of which are degree 1. Since each  $f_i$  is degree 1 and monic, it follows that we must in fact have  $f_1 = f_2 = f_3 = f_4 =: f = x + a_0$ . In this case  $A$  takes the form

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} -a_0 & & & \\ & -a_0 & & \\ & & -a_0 & \\ & & & -a_0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

In principle, we have one such distinct rational canonical form matrix for each element of  $\mathbb{F}_p$ . However,  $A$  should be an element of  $GL_4(\mathbb{F}_p)$  we should restrict to those  $A$  which are invertible. In particular, we have  $\det(A) = (a_0)^4$  which is zero exactly when  $a_0 = 0$  since  $\mathbb{F}_p$  is in particular an integral domain. And so we have  $p - 1$  such rational canonical matrices of the above form.

1,1,2: We have three invariant factors  $f_1|f_2|f_3$ . However, since  $f_1|f_2$  and both are monic, we must have  $f_1 = f_2 = x + a_0$ . Moreover, since  $f_2|f_3$  we have  $f_3 = (x + a_0)(x + b_0) = x^2 + (a_0 + b_0)x + a_0b_0$ . Then rational canonical form matrix is given by

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} -a_0 & & & \\ & -a_0 & & \\ & & 0 & -a_0b_0 \\ & & & 1 - (a_0 + b_0) \end{bmatrix}.$$

In principle we have  $p$  choices for  $a_0$  and  $p$  choices for  $b_0$ , but we should restrict our choices to those which give invertible  $A$ . We have  $\det A = (-a_0)(-a_0)(a_0b_0) = -(a_0)^3b_0$ . And so we should exclude those choices with  $a_0 = 0$  or  $b_0 = 0$ . This gives  $(p-1)(p-1)$  rational canonical matrices of this form.

2,2: We consider two invariant factors  $f_1, f_2$  each of degree two. Since  $f_1|f_2$  and both are monic and of equal degree, we have  $f_1 = f_2 := f = x^2 + a_1x + a_0$ . We then have

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -a_0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & -a_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -a_0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -a_1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Now we exclude those  $A$  which are non-invertible. We have  $\det(A) = (a_0)^2$ , and so we need to exclude the choices with  $a_0 = 0$ . Thus, we have  $p(p-1)$  rational canonical matrices of this form.

1,3: We have two invariant factors  $f_1, f_3$  degree 1 and degree 3 respectively and with  $f_1|f_3$ . If we write  $f_1 = x + a_0$  then we must have  $f_3 = (x + a_0)(x^2 + b_1x + b_0) = x^3 + (b_1 + a_0)x^2 + (b_0 + b_1a_0)x + a_0b_0$ . Then our rational canonical form in this case is given by

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} -a_0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -a_0b_0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -(b_0 + b_1a_0) \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -(b_1 + a_0) \end{bmatrix},$$

this matrix has determinant  $\det(A) = (a_0)^2 b_0$ . And so, we need to restrict our choices to  $a_0 \neq 0$  and  $b_0 \neq 0$ . This gives **at most**  $p(p-1)^2$  possible such rational canonical forms. **we should double check how much degeneracy there is in these choices.**

4: Lastly, we consider a single invariant factor  $f = x^4 + a_3x^3 + b_2x^2 + b_1x + b_0$  which has companion matrix

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & -a_0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & -a_1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -a_2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -a_3 \end{bmatrix}.$$

This matrix has determinant  $\det(A) = a_0$ . And so we should restrict our choices to  $a_0 \neq 0$ . This leaves us with  $(p-1)p^3$  different such matrices  $A$ . Each one of these choices manifestly gives different matrices, and so we get exactly  $(p-1)p^3$  different rational canonical matrices of this form.

Overall, counting up all the cases gives us **less than or equal to**

$$p-1 + (p-1)^2 + p(p-1) + p(p-1)^2 + (p-1)p^3$$

distinct conjugacy classes in  $GL_4(\mathbb{F}_p)$ .

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