

Introduction to Groups

Contents

1.1: Basic Axioms and Examples	1
Exercises	1
1.2: Dihedral Groups	8
Page 25 – D_{2n} Relations	8
Page 27 – “it is easy to see”	9
Exercises	9
1.3: Symmetric Groups	11
Exercises	11
1.4: Matrix Groups	16
Exercises	16
1.5: The Quaternion Group	19
Exercises	19
1.6: Homomorphisms and Isomorphisms	19
Exercises	20
1.7: Group Actions	26
Page 43-44 –	26
Exercises	26

1.1: Basic Axioms and Examples

Exercises

- (a) no: $a - (b - c) = a - b + c \neq (a - b) - c$
(b) yes:

$$(a \star b) \star c = (a + b + ab) \star c = a + b + ab + c + (a + b + ab)c = a + b + c + ab + ac + bc + abc \quad (1)$$

$$a \star (b \star c) = a \star (b + c + bc) = a + b + c + bc + a(b + c + bc) = a + b + c + bc + ab + ac + abc \quad (2)$$

- (c) no:

$$(a \star b) \star c = \frac{a+b}{5} \star c = \frac{\frac{a+b}{5} + c}{5} = \frac{a+b+5c}{25} \quad (3)$$

$$a \star (b \star c) = a \star \frac{b+c}{5} = \frac{a + \frac{b+c}{5}}{5} = \frac{5a+b+c}{25} \quad (4)$$

- (d) yes:

$$((a, b) \star (c, d)) \star (e, f) = (ad + bc, bd) \star (e, f) = ((ad + bc) \cdot f + bd \cdot e, bd \cdot f) = (adf + bcf + bde, bdf) \quad (5)$$

$$(a, b) \star ((c, d) \star (e, f)) = (a, b) \star (cf + de, df) = (a \cdot df + b \cdot (cf + de), b \cdot df) = (adf + bcf + bde, bdf) \quad (6)$$

- (e) no:

$$(a \star b) \star c = \frac{a}{b} \star c = \frac{a}{bc} \quad (7)$$

$$a \star (b \star c) = a \star \frac{b}{c} = \frac{a}{\frac{b}{c}} = \frac{ac}{b} \quad (8)$$

2. (a) no: $a \star b = a - b \neq b - a = b \star a$
 (b) yes: $a \star b = a + b + ab = b + a + ba = b \star a$
 (c) yes: $a \star b = \frac{a+b}{5} = \frac{b+a}{5} = b \star a$
 (d) yes: $(a, b) \star (c, d) = (ad + bc, bd) = (cb + da, db) = (c, d) \star (a, b)$
 (e) no: $a \star b = \frac{a}{b} \neq \frac{b}{a} = b \star a$
3. I usually don't distinguish between a and \bar{a} but here I will. This is basically just spamming modulo n (since applying it once is the same as applying it e.g. ten times), and then using the associativity of addition.

$$(\bar{a} + \bar{b}) + \bar{c} = ((a + b) \bmod n + c) \bmod n \quad (9)$$

$$= ((a + b) \bmod n + c \bmod n) \bmod n \quad (10)$$

$$= (a \bmod n + (b + c) \bmod n) \bmod n \quad (11)$$

$$= (a + (b + c) \bmod n) \bmod n \quad (12)$$

$$= (\bar{a} + \bar{b}) + \bar{c} \quad (13)$$

4. This is identical to the above with all $+$'s replaced with \cdot 's.
5. We just showed it was associative, we know that $\bar{1}$ is the identity, so we need to show that not every element has an inverse. For $n > 1$, clearly $\bar{0}$ has no inverse since $\bar{0} \cdot \bar{a} = \bar{a} \cdot \bar{0} = \bar{0} \neq \bar{1}$ for all \bar{a} . For $n = 1$, $\bar{0} = \bar{1}$ is the only element.
6. Addition on the reals is obviously associative, and all of these examples contain the additive identity 0, so we just need to check closure and inverses.

- (a) Closure: **idk**

Inverse: For any $\frac{a}{2n+1}$ in this set, $\frac{(-a)}{2n+1}$ is also in the set; the two add to zero.

- (b) no closure: $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} = 1 = \frac{1}{1}$

- (c) no closure: $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} = 1$ again

- (d) no closure: $-\frac{3}{2} + 1 = -\frac{1}{2}$ (can't reuse the same example a third time sadly)

- (e) Closure: A (reduced) rational number with a denominator of 1 can be written with a denominator of 2: $\frac{a}{1} = \frac{2a}{2}, a \in \mathbb{Z}$. A (reduced) rational number with a denominator of 2 must have an odd numerator, since if it didn't then we could divide both top and bottom by 2; so these fractions are of the form $\frac{2b+1}{2}, b \in \mathbb{Z}$. Now just following the rules of adding even and odd numbers (in the numerators) we see that this set is closed under addition: adding two reduced rational numbers with denominator 1, or adding two numbers with a denominator 2, yields a sum with denominator 1; adding a denominator 1 with a denominator 2 gives an denominator 2.

Inverse: The inverse of $\frac{a}{1}$ is $\frac{(-a)}{1}$; likewise for denominator 2.

- (f) no closure: $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} = \frac{5}{6}$.

7. For $x, y \in G$, $0 \leq x, y < 1$ so $0 \leq x + y < 2$. If $0 \leq x + y < 1$ then $\lfloor x + y \rfloor = 0$ and $x \star y = x + y$. If $1 \leq x + y < 2$ then $\lfloor x + y \rfloor = 1$ and $x \star y = x + y - 1$. These two cases cover all possibilities.

- (a) Closure: From the above, if $0 \leq x + y < 1$ then $x \star y = x + y$ so $0 \leq x \star y < 1$ as required. If $1 \leq x + y < 2$, then $x \star y = x + y - 1$ or $x \star y + 1 = x + y$ so $1 \leq (x \star y + 1) < 2$ which means $0 \leq x \star y < 1$ as required.

Associativity: Follow from associativity of addition over \mathbb{R} .

Identity: The additive identity of addition (zero) is in G .

Inverse: For $x \in G$, the inverse is $x^{-1} = 1 - x$ since $x + x^{-1} = x + (1 - x) = 1 \equiv 0$. The exception here is that zero is its own inverse; these two rules cover all elements of G .

Commutativity: $x \star y = x + y - \lfloor x + y \rfloor = y + x - \lfloor y + x \rfloor = y \star x$.

8. (a) Closure: If $z_1^n = z_2^n = 1$, then $(z_1 z_2)^n = 1$.

Associativity: Follows from associativity of multiplication over \mathbb{C} .

Identity: $1^n = 1$ so $1 \in G$.

Inverse: We want to show that the obvious candidate $z^{-1} = \frac{1}{z}$ is the inverse of z where $z^n = 1$. Clearly $z \cdot z^{-1} = 1$, so we just need to check that $z^{-1} \in G$. This follows from $(z^{-1})^n = (\frac{1}{z})^n = \frac{1}{z^n} = 1$.

- (b) Writing each $z \in G$ in polar form, we see that $|z| = 1$. Clearly $1 \in G$ for all n ; but $1 + 1 = 2$ has absolute value 2 and hence is not in G , so the operation of addition is not closed.
9. (a) Closure: The addition of two generic elements is $(a + b\sqrt{2}) + (c + d\sqrt{2}) = (a + c) + (b + d)\sqrt{2}$. There is no weird edge case where maybe something cancels because $\sqrt{2} \notin \mathbb{Q}$ so the two terms are guaranteed to stay separate.
Associativity: Follows from associativity of addition for \mathbb{Q} .
Identity: $a + b\sqrt{2}$ with $a, b = 0$ gives the additive identity.
Inverse: For $a + b\sqrt{2} \in G$, $(-a) + (-b)\sqrt{2} \in G$; the two add to the identity of zero.
- (b) Closure: The multiplication of two generic elements is $(a + b\sqrt{2})(c + d\sqrt{2}) = (ac + 2bd) + (ad + bc)\sqrt{2}$. Since $a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{Q}$, $ac + 2bd \in \mathbb{Q}$ and $ad + bc \in \mathbb{Q}$ so the product is still in G .
Associativity: Follows from associativity of multiplication for \mathbb{R} .
Identity: $a + b\sqrt{2}$ with $a = 1, b = 0$ gives the multiplicative identity.
Inverse: For $a + b\sqrt{2}$, we can define the number $\frac{1}{a+b\sqrt{2}}$ since $0 \notin G$. Now we massage:

$$\frac{1}{a + b\sqrt{2}} = \frac{a - b\sqrt{2}}{a^2 - 2b^2} = \frac{a}{a^2 - 2b^2} + \frac{(-b)}{a^2 - 2b^2} \cdot \sqrt{2}. \quad (14)$$

Since $a, b \in \mathbb{Q}$, both $\frac{a}{a^2 - 2b^2}$ and $\frac{(-b)}{a^2 - 2b^2}$ are also in \mathbb{Q} , so the inverse is in G .

10. Label the elements of G as $i_1, i_2, \dots, i_{|G|}$, and denote the matrix of the multiplication as M (so the product $i_j \cdot i_k$ is in M_{jk}). If G is abelian then $i_j i_k = i_k i_j$ for all j, k , which means $M_{jk} = M_{kj}$ for all j, k . Likewise if $M_{jk} = M_{kj}$ for all j, k , then $i_j i_k = i_k i_j$ for all j, k .
11. This question asks to find the smallest k such that $ka \equiv 0 \pmod{12}$. Then $ka = \text{lcm}(a, 12)$. From the relation $\text{lcm}(a, b) \cdot (a, b) = ab$, we see $k = \frac{\text{lcm}(a, 12)}{a} = \frac{12}{(a, 12)}$.

$\bar{0}$: order 1 (identity)

$\bar{1}$: order 12

$\bar{2}$: order 6

$\bar{3}$: order 4

$\bar{4}$: order 3

$\bar{5}$: order 12

$\bar{6}$: order 2

$\bar{7}$: order 12

$\bar{8}$: order 3

$\bar{9}$: order 4

$\bar{10}$: order 6

$\bar{11}$: order 12

12. $\bar{1}$: order 1

$-\bar{1}$: $-1 \cdot -1 = 1$; order 2

$\bar{5}$: $5 \cdot 5 = 25 \equiv 1$; order 2

$\bar{7}$: $7 \cdot 7 = 49 \equiv 1$; order 2

$-\bar{7}$: $-7 \equiv 5$; order 2

$\bar{13}$: $13 \equiv 1$; order 1

13. Again, the order is $\frac{36}{(a, 36)}$, unless of course $a = 0$.

$\bar{1}$: order 36

$\bar{2}$: order 18

$\bar{6}$: order 6

- $\bar{9}$: order 4
 $\bar{10}$: order 18
 $\bar{12}$: order 3
 $-\bar{1}$: $-1 \equiv 35$ so $(35, 36) = 1$; order 36
 $-\bar{10}$: $-10 \equiv 26$ so $(26, 36) = 2$; order 18
 $-\bar{18}$: $-18 \equiv 18$ so $(18, 36) = 18$; order 2
 14. $\bar{1}$: order 1
 $-\bar{1}$: $-1 \cdot -1 = 1$; order 2
 $\bar{5}$: $5^2 = 25 \rightarrow 25 \cdot 5 = 125 \equiv 17 \rightarrow 17 \cdot 5 = 85 \equiv 13 \rightarrow 13 \cdot 5 = 65 \equiv 29 \rightarrow 29 \cdot 5 = 145 \equiv 1$; order 6
 $\bar{13}$: $13^2 = 169 \equiv 25 \rightarrow 25 \cdot 13 = 325 \equiv 1$; order 3
 $-\bar{13}$: from above, $13^3 \equiv 1$, so $(-13)^3 \equiv -1$. Then $(-13)^6 \equiv -1 \cdot -1 = 1$; order 6
 $\bar{17}$: $17^2 = 289 \equiv 1$; order 2 (thank you)
 15. For $n = 1$ the equality is trivial. For $n = 2$ we want the inverse of $(a_1 a_2)$. Call it x . Then

$$(a_1 a_2)x = 1 \quad (15)$$

$$a_2 x = a_1^{-1} \quad (16)$$

$$x = a_2^{-1} a_1^{-1} . \quad (17)$$

Now we want the inverse of $(a_1 \dots a_n)$, and we know the inverse of $(a_1 \dots a_{n-1})$ is $a_{n-1}^{-1} \dots a_1^{-1}$. Call the total inverse x again.

$$(a_1 \dots a_{n-1} a_n)x = 1 \quad (18)$$

$$(a_1 \dots a_{n-1})a_n x = 1 \quad (19)$$

$$a_n x = (a_1 \dots a_{n-1})^{-1} \quad (20)$$

$$a_n x = a_{n-1}^{-1} \dots a_1^{-1} \quad (21)$$

$$x = a_n^{-1} \cdot a_{n-1}^{-1} \dots a_1^{-1} \quad (22)$$

16. If $|x| = 1$ then $x^1 = x = 1$, so $x^2 = 1 \cdot 1 = 1$. If $|x| = 2$ then by definition $x^2 = 1$. For the other direction, if $x^2 = 1$, then $|x|$ is at most 2 since $|x|$ is by definition the smallest power n such that $x^n = 1$. If $|x| = 2$ then (don't hold your breath) $x^2 = 1$, if $|x| < 2$ the only option is $|x| = 1$ so $x^2 = x \cdot x \equiv 1 \cdot 1 = 1$.
 17. If $n = 1$ then $x^1 = x = 1$ so trivially any power of x is the identity. For $n > 1$, expand $x^n = 1$ to get $x \cdot x \cdot \dots \cdot x = 1$ where there are a total of n factors of x . Group all but the first factor together to get $x \cdot x^{n-1} = 1$. By the uniqueness of the inverse, $x^{n-1} = x^{-1}$.
 18. Start with $xy = yx$. Left multiply by y^{-1} to get $y^{-1}xy = x$. Left multiply by x^{-1} to get $x^{-1}y^{-1}xy = 1$. The other direction of implications follows from this operation being reversible since e.g. $y = (y^{-1})^{-1}$.
 19. (a) The first formula is just counting:

$$x^a x^b = \underbrace{x \dots x}_{a \text{ times}} \underbrace{x \dots x}_{b \text{ times}} = \underbrace{x \dots x}_{a+b \text{ times}} = x^{a+b} . \quad (23)$$

Note that this tells us that $x^a x^a = x^{2a}$. Inductively, we get that the product of b copies of x^a is x^{ab} . More clearly, if $b = 1$ then $(x^a)^b = x^a = x^{ab}$. For $b \geq 2$ we use induction:

$$(x^a)^b = \underbrace{x^a \dots x^a}_{b \text{ times}} = x^a \underbrace{x^a \dots x^a}_{b-1 \text{ times}} = x^a \cdot \overbrace{x^{a + \dots + a}^{b-1 \text{ times}}} = x^a \cdot x^{a(b-1)} = x^{a+a(b-1)} = x^{ab} . \quad (24)$$

- (b) The equation $(x^a)^{-1} = x^{-a}$ seems weirdly tautological so let's rephrase it as $(x^a)^{-1} = (x^{-1})^a$: multiplying a copies of the inverse of x to x^a gives the identity. Prove this inductively as well, starting with $a = 1$. Obviously multiplying 1 copy of x^{-1} to $x^1 = x$ gives the identity. Now for general $a > 1$,

$$\underbrace{x^{-1} \dots x^{-1}}_{a \text{ times}} x^a = x^{-1} \underbrace{x^{-1} \dots x^{-1}}_{a-1 \text{ times}} x^{a-1} x^1 = x^{-1} \left(\underbrace{x^{-1} \dots x^{-1}}_{a-1 \text{ times}} x^{a-1} \right) x^1 = x^{-1} (1) x^1 = x^{-1} x^1 = 1 . \quad (25)$$

(c) aaaaaaaaaaaaaa

20. First we show that $|x^{-1}| \leq |x|$. If $|x| = n$, then by (25), $1 = 1^{-1} = (x^n)^{-1} = (x^{-1})^n$, so the order of x^{-1} is at most n . Now repeat the same process with x and x^{-1} switched to get that $|x| \leq |x^{-1}|$. Therefore the two must be equal.
21. If the order of x is odd then $1 = x^{2k-1}$ for some $k \geq 1$. Multiplying both sides by x , we see that

$$x = x \cdot x^{2k-1} = x^{2k} = (x^2)^k \quad (26)$$

where the second equality is by (23) and the third equality is by (24).

22. We want to find $|g^{-1}xg|$. Start multiplying it by itself to see the pattern:

$$(g^{-1}xg)^1 = g^{-1}xg \quad (27)$$

$$(g^{-1}xg)^2 = g^{-1}xgg^{-1}xg = g^{-1}x1xg = g^{-1}x^2g \quad (28)$$

so it looks like $(g^{-1}xg)^n = g^{-1}x^n g$. Prove this inductively:

$$(g^{-1}xg)^n = g^{-1}xg \cdot (g^{-1}xg)^{n-1} \quad (29)$$

$$= g^{-1}xg \cdot g^{-1}x^{n-1}g \quad (30)$$

$$= g^{-1}x(1)x^{n-1}g \quad (31)$$

$$= g^{-1}x^n g \quad (32)$$

Now we first show that $|x| = n \implies |g^{-1}xg| = n$. Using $x^n = 1$ and manipulating,

$$(g^{-1}xg)^n = g^{-1}x^n g = g^{-1}(1)g = g^{-1}g = 1 . \quad (33)$$

Now we do the implication the other way: $|g^{-1}xg| = n \implies |x| = n$. This is just more manipulation:

$$1 = (g^{-1}xg)^n \quad (34)$$

$$= g^{-1}x^n g \quad (35)$$

$$g = gg^{-1}x^n g \quad (36)$$

$$g = x^n g \quad (37)$$

$$gg^{-1} = x^n gg^{-1} \quad (38)$$

$$1 = x^n \quad (39)$$

23. If $1 = x^n = x^{st}$, from (24) we have $1 = (x^s)^t$ so $|x^s| = t$.
24. For $n = 0$ this is brainless: $(ab)^0 = 1 = 1 \cdot 1 = a^0 b^0$. Just as brainless for $n = 1$: $(ab)^1 = ab = a^1 b^1$. Now prove inductively for $n > 1$, assuming $(ab)^{n-1} = a^{n-1} b^{n-1}$:

$$(ab)^n = (ab)(ab)^{n-1} = (ab)a^{n-1}b^{n-1} . \quad (40)$$

Now we want to show that $ba^{n-1} = a^{n-1}b$ which requires induction again. For $n = 2$ we have $ba = ab$, which is true by the definition of commutativity. Then for $n > 2$,

$$ba^{n-1} = ba^{n-2} \cdot a = a^{n-2}b \cdot a = a^{n-2} \cdot ba = a^{n-2} \cdot ab = a^{n-1}b \quad (41)$$

where, if we're being pedantic, we used (23). Continuing from (40),

$$(ab)^n = (ab)a^{n-1}b^{n-1} = a(ba^{n-1})b^{n-1} = a(a^{n-1}b)b^{n-1} = a^n b^n \quad (42)$$

again using (23). Now we want to prove this for $n < 0$. More explicitly, since

$$(ab)^{-n} = ((ab)^n)^{-1} = (a^n b^n)^{-1} \quad (43)$$

(we used (25) in the first equality), we want to show that $a^{-n}b^{-n}$ is the inverse of $a^n b^n$. Multiplying the two looks like

$$1 \stackrel{?}{=} a^{-n}b^{-n} \cdot a^n b^n. \quad (44)$$

If we can show that b^{-n} and a^n commute then we're done since we get $1 = a^{-n}a^n \cdot b^{-n}b^n = 1 \cdot 1$. We have to show this inductively (wow!), first do it for $n = 1$:

$$ab = ba \implies b^{-1}ab = b^{-1}ba = a \implies b^{-1}abb^{-1} = ab^{-1} \implies b^{-1}a = ab^{-1}. \quad (45)$$

Now inductively we assume that $b^{-(n-1)}a^{(n-1)} = a^{(n-1)}b^{-(n-1)}$ for $n > 1$. Then

$$b^{-n}a^n = b^{-1} \left(b^{-(n-1)}a^{(n-1)} \right) a = b^{-1} \left(a^{(n-1)}b^{-(n-1)} \right) a. \quad (46)$$

We need to show that we can commute b^{-1} with powers of a , and vice versa. Luckily we already did this in (41) and (42); e.g. we can just rename $b^{-1} \rightarrow b$ since the only fact that was used was that these two elements commute. Finally we have

$$b^{-n}a^n = b^{-1}a^{(n-1)}b^{-(n-1)}a = a^{(n-1)}b^{-1}b^{-(n-1)}a = a^{(n-1)}b^{-n}a = a^{(n-1)}ab^{-n} = a^n b^{-n} \quad (47)$$

(using (23) twice) as required.

25. If $x^2 = 1$ for all $x \in G$, then picking any two elements x and y , their product squares to the identity: $1 = (xy)^2 = xyxy$. Then

$$xy = x(1)y = x(xyxy)y = (xx)yx(yy) = (1)yx(1) = yx. \quad (48)$$

26. Closure: We are told that for all $h, k \in H$, $hk \in H$.

Associativity: This is inherited from the associativity of G since all elements in H are also in G .

Inverse: We are given that for all $h \in H$, $h^{-1} \in H$.

Identity: If $h \in H$, then $h^{-1} \in H$, and $hh^{-1} = 1 \in H$.

27. In the language of the previous exercise, let $H(x) = \{x^n \mid n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$. We want to show that for all $h, k \in H(x)$, we have $hk \in H(x)$ and $h^{-1} \in H(x)$. From the form of H we have $h = x^m$ and $k = x^n$ for some $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$. Then $hk = x^m x^n = x^{m+n} \in H(x)$ by (23) and $h^{-1} = (x^m)^{-1} = x^{-m} \in H(x)$ by (25).

28. Given the groups (A, \star) and (B, \diamond) , for the group $A \times B$ we have

- (a) Associativity: follows from algebra bashing using the associativity of A and B in the third equality

$$(a_1, b_1) [(a_2, b_2)(a_3, b_3)] = (a_1, b_1) [(a_2 \star a_3, b_2 \diamond b_3)] \quad (49)$$

$$= (a_1 \star (a_2 \star a_3), b_1 \diamond (b_2 \diamond b_3)) \quad (50)$$

$$= ((a_1 \star a_2) \star a_3, (b_1 \diamond b_2) \diamond b_3) \quad (51)$$

$$= [a_1 \star a_2, b_1 \diamond b_2] (a_3, b_3) \quad (52)$$

$$= [(a_1, b_1)(a_2, b_2)] (a_3, b_3) \quad (53)$$

- (b) Identity: We want to show that $ae = ea = a$ for all $a \in A \times B$, with $e = (1_A, 1_B)$:

$$(a, b)(1_A, 1_B) = (a \star 1_A, b \diamond 1_B) = (a, b) \quad (54)$$

$$(1_A, 1_B)(a, b) = (1_A \star a, 1_B \diamond b) = (a, b) \quad (55)$$

- (c) Inverse: We want to show that $(a, b)^{-1} = (a^{-1}, b^{-1})$:

$$(a^{-1}, b^{-1})(a, b) = (a^{-1} \star a, b^{-1} \diamond b) = (1_A, 1_B) = 1 \quad (56)$$

Since $a^{-1} \in A$ and $b^{-1} \in B$, (a^{-1}, b^{-1}) is in $A \times B$ and this is well-defined.

29. Use the same notation from the previous exercise. For arbitrary (a, b) and $(c, d) \in A \times B$,

$$(a, b)(c, d) = (a \star c, b \diamond d) . \quad (57)$$

If $A \times B$ is abelian, then we also have

$$(a, b)(c, d) = (c, d)(a, b) = (c \star a, d \diamond b) \quad (58)$$

which tells us that $a \star c = c \star a$ (for arbitrary $a, c \in A$) meaning A is abelian. The same can be said for B . This works in the other direction: if A and B are both abelian then

$$(a, b)(c, d) = (a \star c, b \diamond d) = (c \star a, d \diamond b) = (c, d)(a, b) . \quad (59)$$

30. Proving $(a, 1_B)$ and $(1_A, b)$ commute is trivial:

$$(a, 1_B)(1_A, b) = (a \star 1_A, 1_B \diamond b) = (a, b) = (1_A \star a, b \diamond 1_B) = (1_A, b)(a, 1_B) . \quad (60)$$

Then, using the result from exercise 24 to split apart the product group (please don't make me prove the last equality),

$$(a, b)^n = ((a, 1_B)(1_A, b))^n = (a, 1_B)^n(1_A, b)^n = (a^n, 1_B)(1_A, b^n) . \quad (61)$$

If we want $|(a, b)| = n$ then we must have both $a^n = 1_A$ and $b^n = 1_B$. The smallest positive n that satisfies this condition is the least common multiple of $|a|$ and $|b|$.

31. Following the hint, let $t(G)$ be the set of all elements in G that are not their own inverse. From exercise 32 we know that, since G is a finite group, the order of all $x \in G$ is finite. Choose an arbitrary element x and call its order n , then

$$1 = x^n = x \cdot x^{n-1} \implies x^{-1} = x^{n-1} . \quad (62)$$

If $n > 2$, then $x \neq x^{n-1}$, so we have found two elements that are not their own inverse: x and x^{-1} . Add these to $t(G)$. Continuing like this and finding all such pairs in G (double-counting is fine; we just care that they come in pairs), we end up with an even number of elements in $t(G)$. Clearly, $1 \notin t(G)$ since the identity is its own inverse. That means the set $t(G) \cup 1$ has an odd number of elements in it, and contains all $x \in G$ such that $|x| = 1$ or $|x| > 2$. Then $G - (t(G) \cup 1)$, assuming it is nonempty, contains all elements of order 2. If $|G|$ is even, then this set must contain an odd (i.e. nonzero) number of elements, hence there is at least one element of order 2.

32. Prove the contrapositive. Suppose that $1, x, x^2, \dots, x^{n-1}$ are not all distinct, i.e. there exist $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ with $0 \leq a < b \leq n-1$ such that $x^a = x^b$. Then, multiplying both sides by x^{-a} and using (23) we see

$$1 = x^{-a}x^a = x^{-a}x^b = x^{b-a} \quad (63)$$

so $|x| = b - a < n$. Then it cannot be the case that $|x| = n$.

Since there are $|G|$ distinct elements in G (duh), by the sequence of $|G| + 1$ elements $1, x, x^2, \dots, x^{|G|}$ cannot contain $|G| + 1$ distinct elements. Following the above argument, we see that $|x| < |G| + 1$ meaning $|x| \leq |G|$.

33. If $x^n = 1$ for some n then, for some given power x^a ,

$$(x^i)^{-1} = x^{-i} = 1 \cdot x^{-i} = x^n x^{-i} = x^{n-i} \quad (64)$$

using (25) and (23), so if we want the two equal we require $i = n - i$ (more technically, both sides are modulo n), so $n = 2i$.

(a) If n is odd then there is no i such that $n = 2i$, so the above is impossible.

(b) If n is even, then there is only one solution for i (modulo n), and we have $n = 2i$.

34. Prove the contrapositive. Suppose that the elements $x^n, n \in \mathbb{Z}$ are not all distinct. That means there exist $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $x^a = x^b$. Then, multiplying both sides by x^{-a} and using (23) we see

$$1 = x^{-a}x^a = x^{-a}x^b = x^{b-a} \quad (65)$$

so we see $|x| = b - a$, so x does not have infinite order.

35. Suppose $|x| = n$ for some finite (duh) integer $n > 0$, so $x^n = 1 = 1^{-1} = x^{-n}$. Consider an arbitrary power x^a . By the division algorithm, we can write $a = qn + r$ for some $q, r \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $0 \leq r < n$. Then

$$x^a = x^{qn+r} = x^{qn}x^r = (x^n)^qx^r = 1^qx^r = 1x^r = x^r \quad (66)$$

where the second equality is by (23) and the third equality is by (24). We see that $x^a = x^{a \bmod n}$.

36. not sure how to do this using the hint about cancellation rules, the only way I could do this was extremely ugly and trial and error; it'd be easier if I could use the fact that no element has order 3 but we're not there yet

1.2: Dihedral Groups

Page 25 – D_{2n} Relations

Given an regular n -gon with its vertices labeled 0 through $n - 1$, denote the set of all vertices $S = \{0, 1, \dots, n - 1\}$. This makes modular arithmetic much easier, and is equivalent to the textbook formulation; just add 1 to every label. Then any element $g \in D_{2n}$ sends each vertex to some (possibly the same) vertex, so we have a corresponding function $\sigma_g : S \rightarrow S$. We want to describe r and s in terms of their corresponding functions in order to understand arbitrary compositions of them. We (the textbook authors) have already established what σ_r is:

$$\sigma_r(i) = \begin{cases} i + 1, & 0 \leq i < n - 1 \\ 0, & i = n - 1 \end{cases} \quad (67)$$

which can be written in the succinct form (this is why I labeled them 0 to $n - 1$)

$$\sigma_r(i) = (i + 1) \bmod n. \quad (68)$$

For σ_s we go vertex-by-vertex. Since the axis of reflection goes through vertex 0, clearly this is a fixed point with $\sigma_s(0) = 0$. The two adjacent vertices, labeled by 1 and $n - 1$, swap under the action of s . The two vertices after, 2 and $n - 2$ also switch. This goes all the way around the polygon, so the total description is

$$\sigma_s(i) = \begin{cases} n - i, & 0 < i \leq n - 1 \\ 0, & i = 0 \end{cases} \quad (69)$$

and, since $n - 0 = n \equiv 0$ when considered modulo n , we can combine the two cases into

$$\sigma_s(i) = (n - i) \bmod n = -i \bmod n. \quad (70)$$

1. Given σ_r , the action of σ_{r^2} is easy:

$$\sigma_{r^2}(i) = \sigma_r(\sigma_r(i)) = \sigma_r((i+1) \bmod n) = (((i+1) \bmod n) + 1) \bmod n = ((i+1)+1) \bmod n = (i+2) \bmod n. \quad (71)$$

Inductively,

$$\sigma_{r^k}(i) = \sigma_r(\sigma_{r^{k-1}}(i)) = \sigma_r((i+k-1) \bmod n) = (((i+k-1) \bmod n) + 1) \bmod n = (i+k) \bmod n. \quad (72)$$

The easiest way to show that r^k and r^l ($0 \leq k, l < n$ and $k \neq l$) are different transformations is to show that there exists an i such that $\sigma_{r^k}(i) \neq \sigma_{r^l}(i)$. This is easily verified by choosing $i = 0$: $\sigma_{r^k}(0) = k$ and $\sigma_{r^l}(0) = l$, so these cannot be the same function and hence r^k and r^l are not the same transformation. Showing that $r^n = 1$ is just as straightforward:

$$\sigma_{r^n}(i) = (i + n) \bmod n = i \bmod n = i \quad (73)$$

where the last equality is because $0 \leq i < n$. Since σ_{r^n} is the identity map on all of S , r^n is the identity element of D_{2n} .

2. We know what σ_s is so we just compose it twice:

$$\sigma_{s^2}(i) = \sigma_s(\sigma_s(i)) = \sigma_s(-i \bmod n) = -(-i \bmod n) \bmod n = -(-i) \bmod n = i \bmod n = i \quad (74)$$

where, again, the last equation is because $0 \leq i < n$. Just as in the above example, this shows that $s^2 = 1$. Obviously $s \neq 1$ so we see $|s| = 2$.

3. This is easily shown by looking at the image of 0 and 1. The action of s has $\sigma_s(0) = 0$ and $\sigma_s(1) = n - 1$. If we want a power of r that recreates $0 \mapsto 0$ then we want $\sigma_{r^k}(0) = (0 + k) \bmod n = k \bmod n = 0$ so we have k is a multiple of n , write it $k = an$. But then $r^k = r^{an} = (r^n)^a = 1^a = 1$ so we must have $\sigma_{r^k}(1) = 1$. The only way this can agree with σ_s is if $n = 2$, but then we don't even have a polygon to begin with.
4. We want to show that $sr^k \neq sr^l$ (again for $0 \leq k, l < n$ and $k \neq l$). Again, this just requires showing that there is one element $i \in S$ such that $\sigma_{sr^k}(i) \neq \sigma_{sr^l}(i)$. Choose $i = 0$ again; the left-hand side is

$$\sigma_{sr^k}(0) = \sigma_s(\sigma_{r^k}(0)) = \sigma_s(k \bmod n) = -(k \bmod n) \bmod n = -k \bmod n \quad (75)$$

and likewise the right-hand side is $-l \bmod n$. Since $k \neq l$, $n - k \neq n - l$ so $-k$ and $-l$ are different equivalence classes modulo n .

5. We can show this for all $i \in S$, but first we need to establish what $\sigma_{r^{-1}}$ is. Since $r^n = 1$, we immediately have $r^{-1} = r^{n-1}$ which means

$$\sigma_{r^{-1}}(i) = \sigma_{r^{n-1}}(i) = (i + n - 1) \bmod n = (i - 1) \bmod n \quad (76)$$

as expected. Now to show $rs = sr^{-1}$ by showing $\sigma_r \circ \sigma_s = \sigma_s \circ \sigma_{r^{-1}}$. The left-hand side is

$$\sigma_r(\sigma_s(i)) = \sigma_r(-i \bmod n) = ((-i \bmod n) + 1) \bmod n = (-i + 1) \bmod n . \quad (77)$$

The right-hand side is

$$\sigma_s(\sigma_{r^{-1}}(i)) = \sigma_s((i - 1) \bmod n) = -((i - 1) \bmod n) \bmod n = -(i - 1) \bmod n = (-i + 1) \bmod n . \quad (78)$$

6. We have already shown equality for $k = 1$. Now inductively commute all but one power of r , then do the last by itself:

$$r^k s = r(r^{k-1} s) = r(sr^{-(k-1)}) = (rs)r^{-(k-1)} = (sr^{-1})r^{-(k-1)} = s(r^{-1}r^{-(k-1)}) = sr^{-k} . \quad (79)$$

Page 27 – “it is easy to see”

not sure, following the discussion for X_{2n} I just get $r = r$ lol

Exercises

1. The elements of D_{2n} are $\{1, r, r^2, \dots, r^{n-1}, s, sr, sr^2, \dots, sr^{n-1}\}$. A lot of these have the same answers: consider sr^k for some $k \geq 1$. Squaring it gives

$$(sr^k)^2 = (sr^k)(sr^k) = s(r^k s)r^k = s(sr^{-k})r^k = s^2 r^{-k} r^k = s^2 = 1 \quad (80)$$

so every element of this form has order 2. We also know $s^2 = 1$, and we made no reference to k being positive, so this is in fact true for all integer k .

(a) for D_6 , $n = 3$:

$$\begin{aligned} 1 &: 1 \\ r &: 3 \\ r^2 &: r^6 = (r^2)^3 = 1 \text{ so order is 3; note this is } \frac{\text{lcm}(2,3)}{2} \text{ which is equivalent to } \frac{3}{(2,3)} \text{ (c.f. exercise 1.1.11)} \\ s &: 2 \\ sr &: 2 \\ sr^2 &: 2 \end{aligned}$$

(b) for D_8 , $n = 4$:

$$\begin{aligned} 1 &: 1 \\ r &: 4 \\ r^2 &: \frac{4}{(2,4)} = 2 \\ r^3 &: \frac{4}{(3,4)} = 4 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
s &: 2 \\
sr &: 2 \\
sr^2 &: 2 \\
sr^3 &: 2 \\
\text{(c) for } D_{10}, n = 5:
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
1 &: 1 \\
r &: 5 \\
r^2 &: \frac{5}{(2,5)} = 5 \\
r^3 &: \frac{5}{(3,5)} = 5 \\
r^4 &: \frac{5}{(4,5)} = 5 \\
s &: 2 \\
sr &: 2 \\
sr^2 &: 2 \\
sr^3 &: 2 \\
sr^4 &: 2
\end{aligned}$$

2. If x is not a power of r , then we can write it in the form sr^k . Now do the algebra bash:

$$rx = r(sr^k) = (rs)r^k = (sr^{-1})r^k = sr^{k-1} = (sr^k)r^{-1} = xr^{-1}. \quad (81)$$

3. See (80). D_{2n} is generated by $\{r, s\}$, but we can write $r = s \cdot sr$, so we can also generate the group with $\{sr, s\}$. We already knew $s^2 = 1$; we have shown $(sr)^2 = 1$.

4. If $n = 2k$, then $1 = r^n = r^{2k} = (r^k)^2$ so r^k has order 2 (and is its own inverse). Any element of D_{2n} is either r^l for some l , or sr^l . Commutation is obvious in the first case since $r^k r^l = r^{k+l} = r^{l+k} = r^l r^k$ (I guess I showed it anyway). In the second case, we can use (81) to inductively show that $r^l x = xr^{-l}$:

$$r^l x = r(r^{l-1}x) = r(xr^{1-l}) = (rx)r^{1-l} = xr^{-1}r^{1-l} = xr^{-l}. \quad (82)$$

We see that r^l commutes with any and all of these x elements exactly when $r^l = r^{-l} = r^{n-l}$. For $0 \leq l < n$, the only solutions are the identity (trivial), and $n = 2l$. We see that r^k is the only element (other than the identity) that commutes with everything.

5. This follows from my solution of the previous exercise; there is no solution to $n = 2l$ if n is odd, so there is no second element that commutes with everything.

6. If x and y are order two then $x = x^{-1}$ and $y = y^{-1}$. Then $t^{-1} = (xy)^{-1} = y^{-1}x^{-1} = yx$ so

$$tx = (xy)x = x(yx) = xt^{-1}. \quad (83)$$

7. Two of the relations follow trivially since $a = s$ and $ab = ssr = r$:

$$s^2 = 1 \iff a^2 = 1 \quad (84)$$

$$(ab)^n = 1 \iff r^n = 1 \quad (85)$$

The last relation is also pretty easy:

$$b^2 = 1 \iff b = b^{-1} \iff sr = (sr)^{-1} \iff sr = r^{-1}s^{-1} = r^{-1}s \iff r = sr^{-1}s \iff rs = sr^{-1} \quad (86)$$

8. The order is $n...$ this seems so easy I think I have to be interpreting it incorrectly... we showed in (72) and (73) that $1, r, r^2, \dots, r^{n-1}$ are all distinct, and $r^n = 1$.

9. These problems seem intimidating but have a straightforward solution. If we orient the solid such that one face is on "the bottom", and specify the rotation of this face, we have fixed the entire solid. The rotational symmetry group of the face is $\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z}$ so it has three elements. There are four possible faces we can choose to be on the bottom, so the total number of automorphisms of the vertices of a tetrahedron is $4 \cdot 3 = 12$.

10. Likewise, the cube has six faces, each of which has 4 vertices, so $6 \cdot 4 = 24$.
11. Eight faces, three vertices on a face, $8 \cdot 3 = 24$.
12. Twelve faces, five vertices on a face, $12 \cdot 5 = 60$.
13. Twenty faces, three vertices on a face, $20 \cdot 3 = 60$.
14. Wasn't this given as an example? $\mathbb{Z} = \langle 1 \rangle$.
15. We can reach every element of $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ by repeatedly adding 1 to itself. The only condition is that $n \neq 0$ so

$$\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z} = \langle 1 \mid n(1) = 0 \rangle . \quad (87)$$

16. Take exercise 7 and set $n = 2$.
17. We already know that $|X_{2n}| \leq 6$, and $x^3 = 1$ for any n . That means $x^2 = x^{-1}$ and the relation $xy = yx^2$ can be rewritten $xy = yx^{-1}$, which is the same as the relation for D_{2n} with y taking the role of s and x taking the role of r . The other relations are $y^2 = 1$, which is identical to $s^2 = 1$, and $x^n = 1$.

- (a) If $n = 3k$, then $1 = x^n = x^{3k} = (x^3)^k = 1^k$ and the condition that $x^n = 1$ is the same as the condition that $x^3 = 1$. We have $x^3 = y^2 = 1$ and $xy = yx^{-1}$, which is the presentation for D_6 . The elements are $1, x, x^2, y, yx, yx^2$.
- (b) If $(3, n) = 1$ then there exist integers a, b such that $3a + nb = 1$. Then

$$x = x^1 = x^{3a+nb} = x^{3a}x^{nb} = (x^3)^a(x^n)^b = 1^a1^b = 1 \quad (88)$$

and the only elements of the group are 1 and y .

18. The presentation is $Y = \langle u, v \mid u^4 = v^3 = 1, uv = v^2u^2 \rangle$.
 - (a) This is so easy that I used it without comment in the previous exercise. Take $v^3 = 1$ and apply v^{-1} to both sides to get $v^2 = v^{-1}$.
 - (b) Lots of algebra bashing:

$$vu^3 = vu1u^2 = vuv^3u^2 = v(uv)(v^2u^2) = v(v^2u^2)(uv) = v^3u^3v = u^3v . \quad (89)$$

- (c) Since $u^4 = 1$, $u = (u^4)^2u = u^8u = u^9$. Then

$$vu = vu^9 = vu^3u^3u^3 = u^3vu^3u^3 = u^3u^3vu^3 = u^3u^3u^3v = u^9v = uv . \quad (90)$$

- (d) Now that we know we can arbitrarily commute u and v , the last relation becomes

$$uv = v^2u^2 = uvuv = (uv)^2 \implies 1 = uv . \quad (91)$$

- (e) Use $u^4 = v^3 = 1$:

$$1 = 1 \cdot 1 = u^4v^3 = uvuvuvu = (uv)^3u = 1^3u = u , \quad (92)$$

then since $uv = 1$ we see that we also have $v = 1$. Since Y is generated by $u = 1$ and $v = 1$, and arbitrary products of 1 still equal to 1, we find that the only element of Y is the identity.

1.3: Symmetric Groups

Exercises

1. This was not fun.
 - (a) $\sigma = (1 \ 3 \ 5)(2 \ 4)$
 - (b) $\tau = (1 \ 5)(2 \ 3)$
 - (c) $\sigma^2 = (1 \ 3 \ 5)(2 \ 4) \circ (1 \ 3 \ 5)(2 \ 4) = (1 \ 5 \ 3)$

- (d) $\sigma\tau = (1\ 3\ 5)(2\ 4) \circ (1\ 5)(2\ 3) = (2\ 5\ 3\ 4)$
(e) $\tau\sigma = (1\ 5)(2\ 3) \circ (1\ 3\ 5)(2\ 4) = (1\ 2\ 4\ 3)$
(f) $\tau^2\sigma = (1\ 5)(2\ 3) \circ (1\ 5)(2\ 3) \circ (1\ 3\ 5)(2\ 4) = (1\ 3\ 5)(2\ 4)$

2. This was so not fun that I wrote a program to do it. It also computes orders because why not.

```

1 def f_to_perm(l):
2     #given a mapping f as a list l, returns the cycle decomp
3     #l[i] = j iff f(i) = j
4     #choose a convention of l[0] = -1
5
6     cycles = []
7     i = 1
8     done = [] #numbers we already considered
9     while i < len(l):
10         if len(done) == len(l)-1: #ignoring the l[0]
11             break
12         if i not in done:
13             cycle = [i]
14             current = l[i]
15             done.append(i)
16             while current != i:
17                 cycle.append(current)
18                 done.append(current)
19                 current = l[current]
20             if len(cycle) > 1:
21                 cycles.append(cycle)
22         i += 1
23     return cycles
24
25 def perm_to_f(cycles, n):
26     #given cycle decomp, returns a list l of the mapping
27     #numbers are [1, n]
28
29     l = [-1 for _ in range(n+1)] #l[0] = -1
30
31     for c in cycles:
32         for i in range(len(c)):
33             l[c[i]] = c[(i+1)%len(c)]
34
35     #cycles don't include fixed points
36     for i in range(1, len(l)):
37         if l[i] == -1:
38             l[i] = i
39
40     return l
41
42 def compose(f1, g1):
43     #takes list f1 of f, g1 of g
44     #returns list l of f \circ g
45     assert len(f1) == len(g1) #don't need robustness so just check
46     l = [-1]
47     for i in range(1, len(f1)):
48         l.append(f1[g1[i]])
49     return l
50
51 def get_order(l, MAXN=100):
52     power = 1
53     power_l = l
54     while power < MAXN:
55         if len(f_to_perm(power_l)) == 0: #identity map
56             return power
57         power += 1
58         power_l = compose(l, power_l)
59     return -1 #recursion depth reached
60
61 def pprint(cycles):
62     #cycle to latex
63     s = '$'
64     for c in cycles:
65         s += "\cycle{" + (",".join(str(i) for i in c)) + "}"

```

```

66     s += "$"
67     print(s)
68
69 s = [-1,13,2,15,14,10,6,12,3,4,1,7,9,5,11,8]
70 t = [-1,14,9,10,2,12,6,5,11,15,3,8,7,4,1,13]
71
72 ss = compose(s,s)
73 st = compose(s,t)
74 ts = compose(t,s)
75 tts = compose(t,ts)
76
77 cs = f_to_perm(s)
78 ct = f_to_perm(t)
79 css = f_to_perm(ss)
80 cst = f_to_perm(st)
81 cts = f_to_perm(ts)
82 ctts = f_to_perm(tts)
83
84 print(" S:", f_to_perm(s), get_order(s))
85 pprint(cs)
86 print("\n T:", f_to_perm(t), get_order(t))
87 pprint(ct)
88 print("\n SS:", f_to_perm(ss), get_order(ss))
89 pprint(css)
90 print("\n ST:", f_to_perm(st), get_order(st))
91 pprint(cst)
92 print("\n TS:", f_to_perm(ts), get_order(ts))
93 pprint(cts)
94 print("\n TTS:", f_to_perm(tts), get_order(tts))
95 pprint(ctts)

```

- (a) $\sigma = (1\ 13\ 5\ 10)(3\ 15\ 8)(4\ 14\ 11\ 7\ 12\ 9)$
- (b) $\tau = (1\ 14)(2\ 9\ 15\ 13\ 4)(3\ 10)(5\ 12\ 7)(8\ 11)$
- (c) $\sigma^2 = (1\ 5)(3\ 8\ 15)(4\ 11\ 12)(7\ 9\ 14)(10\ 13)$
- (d) $\sigma\tau = (1\ 11\ 3)(2\ 4)(5\ 9\ 8\ 7\ 10\ 15)(13\ 14)$
- (e) $\tau\sigma = (1\ 4)(2\ 9)(3\ 13\ 12\ 15\ 11\ 5)(8\ 10\ 14)$
- (f) $\tau^2\sigma = (1\ 2\ 15\ 8\ 3\ 4\ 14\ 11\ 12\ 13\ 7\ 5\ 10)$

3. A single cycle of length n has order n on its own. This is evident by following the image of the first element. For the purposes of illustration, choose $\sigma = (1\ 2\ \dots\ n)$, without loss of generality since the numerical labels are arbitrary. For the first power, σ sends 1 to 2. Then σ^2 sends 1 to 3, etc. so σ^k sends 1 to $k+1$; this is basically just induction of the successor function on the natural numbers. When we reach the right end of the cycle we loop back to the beginning so σ^k actually sends 1 to $(k+1) \bmod n$. The first power $k > 0$ such that we loop back and return to $1 = (k+1) \bmod n$ is $k = n$.

For multiple disjoint cycles, we want each cycle to exponentiate to the identity map on its elements. Given two cycles with orders n_1 and n_2 , an exponent that is a multiple of n_1 will send the first cycle to the identity; likewise a multiple of n_2 will do the same for the second cycle. The first time both of these are true is $\text{lcm}(n_1, n_2)$. This extends for any number of disjoint cycles by induction. Therefore, the order of a permutation is the least common multiple of the lengths of the disjoint cycles in its cycle decomposition.

For the first exercise,

- (a) $|\sigma| = \text{lcm}(3, 2) = 6$
- (b) $|\tau| = \text{lcm}(2, 2) = 2$
- (c) $|\sigma^2| = 3$
- (d) $|\sigma\tau| = 4$
- (e) $|\tau\sigma| = 4$
- (f) $|\tau^2\sigma| = \text{lcm}(3, 2) = 6$

and for the second exercise,

- (a) $|\sigma| = \text{lcm}(4, 3, 6) = 12$

- (b) $|\tau| = \text{lcm}(2, 5, 2, 3, 2) = 30$
(c) $|\sigma^2| = \text{lcm}(2, 3, 3, 3, 2) = 6$
(d) $|\sigma\tau| = \text{lcm}(3, 2, 6, 2) = 6$
(e) $|\tau\sigma| = \text{lcm}(2, 2, 6, 3) = 6$
(f) $|\tau^2\sigma| = 13$
4. (a) The order of the group is $3! = 6$ so we can just list everything, using that the order of a cycle is just its length.
- i. $|1| = 1$
 - ii. $|(1\ 2)| = 2$
 - iii. $|(1\ 3)| = 2$
 - iv. $|(2\ 3)| = 2$
 - v. $|(1\ 2\ 3)| = 3$
 - vi. $|(1\ 3\ 2)| = 3$
- (b) For S_4 it's more annoying to list everything out.
- i. $|1| = 1$
 - ii. There are $\binom{4}{2} = 6$ ways to pick two elements to make a two-cycle. The order of the two elements doesn't matter so there are 6 two-cycles, each with order 2:

$$|(1\ 2)| = |(1\ 3)| = |(1\ 4)| = |(2\ 3)| = |(2\ 4)| = |(3\ 4)| = 2 \quad (93)$$

- iii. There are $\binom{4}{3} = 4$ ways to pick three elements for a three-cycle. Then there are two distinct ways to order them since $(1\ 2\ 3) \neq (1\ 3\ 2)$. More generally, this factor of 2 comes from choosing a 'first' element and then finding every permutation of the $3 - 1 = 2$ remaining elements ($2! = 2$). These 8 three-cycles have order 3:

$$|(1\ 2\ 3)| = |(1\ 3\ 2)| = |(1\ 2\ 4)| = |(1\ 4\ 2)| = |(1\ 3\ 4)| = |(1\ 4\ 3)| = |(2\ 3\ 4)| = |(2\ 4\ 3)| = 3 \quad (94)$$

- iv. There's obviously only one set of elements to use for a four-cycle. Choosing 1 to be the first element (we can always do this by cycling the permutation), there are $3! = 6$ ways to order the remaining elements, so there are 6 four-cycles with order 4:

$$|(1\ 2\ 3\ 4)| = |(1\ 2\ 4\ 3)| = |(1\ 3\ 2\ 4)| = |(1\ 3\ 4\ 2)| = |(1\ 4\ 2\ 3)| = |(1\ 4\ 3\ 2)| = 4 \quad (95)$$

- v. We can also form the product of two disjoint two-cycles in the form $(a\ b)(c\ d)$. Since these cycles commute, and $(a\ b) = (b\ a)$, we can set $a = 1$ without loss of generality. Then since $(c\ d) = (d\ c)$ all that remains is to choose the element b that's in the same cycle as the element 1. There are 3 choices, so there are 3 two-by-two cycles, of course with order 2:

$$|(1\ 2)(3\ 4)| = |(1\ 3)(2\ 4)| = |(1\ 4)(2\ 3)| = 2 \quad (96)$$

5. Following exercise 3, $\text{lcm}(5, 2, 3, 2) = 30$.
6. See exercise 4.
7. See exercise 4.
8. It suffices to show that there are an infinite number of 2-cycles in S_Ω . Consider the subset of 2-cycles of the form $(1\ n)$ for some $n \neq 1$. There are infinitely many possible values for n , so there are infinitely many 2-cycles in S_Ω .
9. Go back to the code from exercise 2:

```

1 def exercise9(cycle):
2     s = perm_to_f(cycle, len(cycle[0]))
3     sk = s
4     for k in range(1, get_order(s)+1):
5         print(k, get_order(sk))
6         sk = compose(sk, s)

```

and now just run this for the three given cycles

(a) `exercise9([[1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12]])`

gives that $|\sigma^k| = 12$ for $k = 1, 5, 7, 11$, modulo 12 of course since $\sigma^{12} = 1$.

(b) `exercise9([[1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8]])`

gives that $|\tau^k| = 8$ for $k = 1, 3, 5, 7$ modulo 8.

(c) `exercise9([[1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14]])`

gives that $|\omega^k| = 14$ for $k = 1, 3, 5, 9, 11, 13$ modulo 14.

10. See exercise 3 and note that the labeling of the elements is arbitrary, as is the choice to follow the 1 element.

11.

12. (a) We want a single m -cycle σ such that, for some k , σ^k breaks up into 2-cycles, meaning that σ^{2k} is the identity map. The easiest thing to try is $2k = 10$, so we have a 10-cycle where $\sigma^5(1) = 2$, $\sigma^5(2) = 1$, etc. The explicit form is

$$\sigma = (1\ 3\ 5\ 7\ 9\ 2\ 4\ 6\ 8\ 10) . \quad (97)$$

(b) This is not possible. Since the cycling the elements of the elements in the permutation is arbitrary, if we can take some m -cycle and exponentiate it to $(1\ 2)(3\ 4\ 5)$, then we can cycle the elements and then do the exponentiation again to get e.g. $(3\ 4)(5\ 6\ 7)$ (if $m < 7$ then the last two values are modulo m) which is clearly not equal.

13. Let σ be the element of S_n we care about, and let c be its cycle decomposition. From exercise 3, we know that $|\sigma|$ is the lcm of the lengths of the cycles in c . Suppose c has a cycle whose length is at least 3. Then, since the lcm of a set is at least its maximum, we would have $|\sigma| \geq 3$. Therefore, if it is the case that $|\sigma| = 2$, then we cannot have any cycles of length three or more, so all cycles are 1-cycles or 2-cycles. We do not explicitly write 1-cycles, so every cycle explicitly written in c will have length 2. In the other direction, if c is a product of disjoint 2-cycles, then again from exercise 3 we know that $|\sigma| = \text{lcm}(2, 2, \dots) = 2$.

14. This is just a generalization of the previous example, and the proof proceeds similarly. From above we know that if $|\sigma| = p$, then all cycles in c have length at most p . If there is a cycle in c whose length is $a \neq 1, p$, then $(|\sigma|, a) \neq 1$, so $|\sigma|$ cannot be prime. The contrapositive is that, if $|\sigma| = p$, then the only cycles in c are 1-cycles and p -cycles. The other direction is the same as before: $|\sigma| = \text{lcm}(p, p, \dots) = p$.

For the other part of the question, the product of a 2-cycle and a disjoint 3-cycle has order 6, but cannot be written as a 6-cycle (c.f. exercise 12.b).

15. See exercise 3. It'd be miserable to do most of this section without proving this first.

16. I can't believe there isn't a better notation for permutations: let

$$x^{\underline{m}} := x(x-1) \dots (x-n+1) \quad (98)$$

denote the falling factorial. Then there are $n^{\underline{m}}$ ways to pick m distinct elements from the set $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ where the order matters. Once we've chosen the m elements we want in our m -cycle, we can rotate the elements and still have the same cycle, which means that there are m permutations that represent the same cycle. Therefore the number of cycles is $n^{\underline{m}}/m$.

17. To make two 2-cycles $(a\ b)(c\ d)$ we need four elements a, b, c, d ; there are $n^{\underline{4}}$ (ordered) ways to pick them. Then we can switch $a \leftrightarrow b$, $c \leftrightarrow d$, and also swap the two cycles because they're disjoint. That means there are $2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 = 8$ ways that represent the same element of S_n , so the number we want is $n^{\underline{4}}/8$.

18. We want to partition the set $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$ every way possible and find the lcm of the cardinalities of the subsets. The easy ones are:

(a) $1, 1, 1, 1, 1$ (identity) $\rightarrow n = 1$

(b) $2, 1, 1, 1$ (one 2-cycle) $\rightarrow n = 2$

(c) $3, 1, 1$ (one 3-cycle) $\rightarrow n = 3$

(d) 4, 1 (one 4-cycle) $\rightarrow n = 4$

(e) 5 (one 5-cycle) $\rightarrow n = 5$

the other possibilities are

(a) 2, 2, 1 (two 2-cycle) $\rightarrow n = 2$

(b) 3, 2 (a 2-cycle and 3-cycle) $\rightarrow n = 6$

so $n = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6$.

19. The easy ones, from above, are $n = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7$. The more interesting ones are

(a) 5, 2 $\rightarrow n = 10$

(b) 4, 3 $\rightarrow n = 12$

(c) 4, 2, 1 $\rightarrow n = 4$

(d) 3, 3, 1 $\rightarrow n = 3$

(e) 3, 2, 2 $\rightarrow n = 6$

(f) 3, 2, 1, 1 $\rightarrow n = 6$

(g) 2, 2, 1, 1, 1 $\rightarrow n = 2$

(h) 2, 2, 2, 1 $\rightarrow n = 2$

so $n = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 12$.

20. We can reach any 3-cycle using $s = (1\ 2\ 3)$, and any 2-cycle with $r = (1\ 2)$, or by composing r with s since s just cycles which two elements r swaps. Experimentally, I found $rs^2 = sr = (1\ 3)$ so that's a relation between the two. Obviously $s^3 = r^2 = 1$, so I think a presentation is

$$S_3 = \langle s, r \mid s^3 = r^2 = 1, rs^2 = sr \rangle. \quad (99)$$

1.4: Matrix Groups

Exercises

1. We have a matrix $\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$ where a, b, c, d are all 0 or 1, and we want $ad \neq bc$. Enumerate the possibilities:

- $ad = 1$, meaning $a = d = 1$. Then $bc = 0$, which means either $b = 0$, $c = 0$, or both $b = c = 0$. There are therefore three different invertible matrices of this type.
- $ad = 0$, meaning $a = 0$, $d = 0$, or both $a = d = 0$. There are again three different choices; all three require $bc = 1$ meaning $b = c = 1$.

the two options together make $3 + 3 = 6$ total elements.

2. “Manual labor has become obsolete by the invention of the computer” – Nikola Tesla

```
1 import numpy as np
2
3 def get_order_z2(m, timeout=100):
4     identity = np.identity(m.shape[0])
5     current = m
6     for n in range(1, timeout):
7         if np.array_equal(current, identity):
8             return n
9         current = (current @ m)%2
10    return -1
11
12 #ad = 1
13 g1 = np.array([[1,0],[0,1]])
14 g2 = np.array([[1,0],[1,1]])
15 g3 = np.array([[1,1],[0,1]])
```



```

16
17 #bc = 1
18 g4 = np.array([[0,1],[1,0]])
19 g5 = np.array([[0,1],[1,1]])
20 g6 = np.array([[1,1],[1,0]])
21
22 print(get_order_z2(g1))
23 print(get_order_z2(g2))
24 print(get_order_z2(g3))
25 print(get_order_z2(g4))
26 print(get_order_z2(g5))
27 print(get_order_z2(g6))

```

tells us that

- (a) $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ has order 1 (wow!)
- (b) $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ has order 2
- (c) $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ has order 2
- (d) $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ has order 2
- (e) $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ has order 3
- (f) $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ has order 3

3. The first two elements I picked didn't commute:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \neq \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} . \quad (100)$$

- 4. If n is not a prime, then $(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^\times \not\cong \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$, i.e. there exists at least one element g that does not have a multiplicative inverse modulo n . Therefore $F - \{0\}$ cannot be a group.
- 5. Let M be an arbitrary element of $GL_n(F)$. If F has finite cardinality, then, ignoring the determinant constraint, each M_{ij} can be any of $|F|$ elements, so there are $|F|^{n^2}$ possibilities for M and hence only a finite number of matrices in the group. The determinant constraint means that some of these M s are not in the group (e.g. the zero matrix), making $|GL_n(F)| < |F|^{n^2}$. In the other direction, there is a subset S (subgroup, but whatever) of $GL_n(F)$ that consists of matrices of the form eI_n , where $e \in F$ and I_n is the n -by- n identity matrix. If $|GL_n(F)|$ is finite, then $|S| < |GL_n(F)|$ is finite, and we clearly have a bijection from S to F so $|F|$ is also finite.
- 6. See exercise 5.
- 7. can't get the right form despite 5000 attempts
- 8. In (100) we gave explicit 2-by-2 matrices in any field F (since the entries are just the multiplicative and additive identities) that do not commute; hence $GL_2(F)$ is nonabelian for any F . We can reuse this for any $n > 2$ by just extending these matrices with the identity on the diagonal, e.g. for $GL_4(F)$:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} & 0 \\ 0 & I_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} & 0 \\ 0 & I_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} & 0 \\ 0 & I_2 \end{bmatrix} \neq \begin{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} & 0 \\ 0 & I_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} & 0 \\ 0 & I_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} & 0 \\ 0 & I_2 \end{bmatrix} \quad (101)$$

is an explicit example of two noncommuting 4-by-4 matrices over F , where I_2 is the 2-by-2 identity matrix.

9. Algebra bash: multiply the second two first...

$$\begin{aligned}
\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \left(\begin{bmatrix} e & f \\ g & h \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} i & j \\ k & l \end{bmatrix} \right) &= \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} ei + fk & ej + fl \\ gi + hk & gj + hl \end{bmatrix} \\
&= \begin{bmatrix} a(ei + fk) + b(gi + hk) & a(ej + fl) + b(gj + hl) \\ c(ei + fk) + d(gi + hk) & c(ej + fl) + d(gj + hl) \end{bmatrix} \\
&= \begin{bmatrix} aei + afk + bgi + bhk & aej + afl + bgj + bhl \\ cei + cfk + dgi + dhk & cej + cfl + dgj + dhl \end{bmatrix}
\end{aligned} \tag{102}$$

...and now multiply the first two first

$$\begin{aligned}
\left(\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} e & f \\ g & h \end{bmatrix} \right) \begin{bmatrix} i & j \\ k & l \end{bmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} ae + bg & af + bh \\ ce + dg & cf + dh \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} i & j \\ k & l \end{bmatrix} \\
&= \begin{bmatrix} (ae + bg)i + (af + bh)k & (ae + bg)j + (af + bh)l \\ (ce + dg)i + (cf + dh)k & (ce + dg)j + (cf + dh)l \end{bmatrix} \\
&= \begin{bmatrix} aei + bgi + afk + bhk & aej + bgj + afl + bhl \\ cei + dgi + cfk + dhk & cej + dgj + cfl + dhl \end{bmatrix}.
\end{aligned} \tag{103}$$

The two are equal by commutativity of addition of the reals.

10. I am allergic to using indices.

(a) Since none of a, c, d, f are zero, ad and cf are both nonzero:

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & c \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} d & e \\ 0 & f \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} ad & ae + bf \\ 0 & cf \end{bmatrix} \tag{104}$$

(b) All $g \in G$ are invertible since $\det g = ac \neq 0$. Use the general form of the inverse of a 2-by-2 matrix:

$$\left(\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & c \end{bmatrix} \right)^{-1} = \frac{1}{ac} \begin{bmatrix} c & -b \\ -0 & a \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{a} & -\frac{b}{c} \\ 0 & \frac{1}{c} \end{bmatrix} \tag{105}$$

(c) G is closed under matrix multiplication (from part a), associative (inherited from $GL_2(\mathbb{R})$), contains the identity ($a = c = 1$ and $b = 0$), and contains an inverse for every element (from part b).

(d) If $a = c$ and $d = f$, then $ad = cf$ in (104) so the product has equal entries on the diagonal. We also see that $\frac{1}{a} = \frac{1}{c}$ in (105) so the inverse of one of these matrices satisfies the same condition. By the same argument as in part c, this is a subgroup of $GL_2(\mathbb{R})$.

11. (a) We don't have any restrictions on a, b, c, d, e, f so all that matters is the placement of the 0s and 1s:

$$XY = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & a & b \\ 0 & 1 & c \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & d & e \\ 0 & 1 & f \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & d + a & e + af + b \\ 0 & 1 & f + c \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \tag{106}$$

We can show noncommutativity using only the identity elements 0 and 1, which are the same regardless of F . Let $a = f = 0$, and $b = c = d = e = 1$. The upper-right-most entry in XY is $e + af + b = 1 + 0 + 1$, while the same entry in YX is $b + dc + e = 1 + 1 + 1$. The two are only equal if $0 = 1$.

(b) The inverse is

$$\left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 & a & b \\ 0 & 1 & c \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \right)^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -a & ac - b \\ 0 & 1 & -c \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \tag{107}$$

which obviously satisfies the conditions of the subgroup.

(c) In exercise 9 we proved that matrix multiplication for 2-by-2 matrices of reals was associative. We only used associativity of multiplication and commutativity of addition, so this is true for any field (not just the reals). The 3-by-3 case is the same exact computation just with more terms per entry.

(d) More code, just iterating through all ordered triples (a, b, c) :

```

1 for a in [0,1]:
2     for b in [0,1]:
3         for c in [0,1]:
4             X = np.array([[1,a,b],[0,1,c],[0,0,1]])
5             print(a,b,c, get_order_z2(X))

```

yields

- i. $(a, b, c) = (0, 0, 0)$ has order 1 (identity)
 - ii. $(0, 0, 1)$ has order 2
 - iii. $(0, 1, 0)$ has order 2
 - iv. $(0, 1, 1)$ has order 2
 - v. $(1, 0, 0)$ has order 2
 - vi. $(1, 0, 1)$ has order 4
 - vii. $(1, 1, 0)$ has order 2
 - viii. $(1, 1, 1)$ has order 4
- (e) Consider $Y = X$ in (106):

$$X^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & a & b \\ 0 & 1 & c \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2a & ac + 2b \\ 0 & 1 & 2c \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}. \quad (108)$$

By induction,

$$X^n = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & a & b \\ 0 & 1 & c \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^n = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & na & (n \text{ mess}) \\ 0 & 1 & nc \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (109)$$

First consider the case where at least one of a, c are nonzero. If we want $X^n = 1$ for some n , then we must have $na = nc = 0$. Obviously $n > 0$, so we require two nonzero values to multiply to zero which is impossible. In the other case when $a = c = 0$, the top-right entry in (108) is just $2b$ so the top-right entry in (109) is nb and we have the same argument.

1.5: The Quaternion Group

Exercises

1. It's not worth it to write a program for this:
 - (a) 1: order 1 obviously
 - (b) -1 : order 2, given in group definition
 - (c) i : order 4, $i^2 = -1$ so $i^3 = -i$ and $i^4 = 1$
 - (d) j : order 4, same as above
 - (e) k : order 4, same as above
 - (f) $-i$: order 4, $(-i)^2 = (-1 \cdot i)^2 = (i \cdot -1)(-1 \cdot i) = i \cdot 1 \cdot i = i^2 = -1$, so $((-i)^2)^2 = 1$
 - (g) $-j$: order 4, same as above
 - (h) $-k$: order 4, same as above
2. For each table, the entry in row a and column b is the product ab , e.g. $(1 \ 3 \ 2)(2 \ 3) = (1 \ 3)$.
 - (a) S_3 :
 - (b) D_8 :
 - (c) Q_8 :
3. Obviously we need two of i, j, k to get the third, but we also need to include -1 and the fact that it commutes with everything. To simplify products we also need that i, j, k square to -1 :

$$Q_8 = \langle i, j, -1 \mid i^2 = j^2 = -1, (-1)^2 = 1, (-1)i = i(-1), (-1)j = j(-1), ij = (-1)ji \rangle \quad (110)$$

	1	(1 2)	(1 3)	(2 3)	(1 2 3)	(1 3 2)
1	1	(1 2)	(1 3)	(2 3)	(1 2 3)	(1 3 2)
(1 2)	(1 2)	1	(1 3 2)	(1 2 3)	(2 3)	(1 3)
(1 3)	(1 3)	(1 2 3)	1	(1 3 2)	(1 2)	(2 3)
(2 3)	(2 3)	(1 3 2)	(1 2 3)	1	(1 3)	(1 2)
(1 2 3)	(1 2 3)	(1 3)	(2 3)	(1 2)	(1 3 2)	1
(1 3 2)	(1 3 2)	(2 3)	(1 2)	(1 3)	1	(1 2 3)

	1	r	r^2	r^3	s	sr	sr^2	sr^3
1	1	r	r^2	r^3	s	sr	sr^2	sr^3
r	r	r^2	r^3	1	sr^3	s	sr	sr^2
r^2	r^2	r^3	1	r	sr^2	sr^3	s	sr
r^3	r^3	1	r	r^2	sr	sr^2	sr^3	s
s	s	sr	sr^2	sr^3	1	r	r^2	r^3
sr	sr	sr^2	sr^3	s	r^3	1	r	r^2
sr^2	sr^2	sr^3	s	sr	r^2	r^3	1	r
sr^3	sr^3	s	sr	sr^2	r	r^2	r^3	1

	1	-1	i	$-i$	j	$-j$	k	$-k$
1	1	-1	i	$-i$	j	$-j$	k	$-k$
-1	-1	1	$-i$	i	$-j$	j	$-k$	k
i	i	$-i$	-1	1	k	$-k$	$-j$	j
j	j	$-j$	$-k$	k	-1	1	i	$-i$
k	k	k	j	$-j$	$-i$	i	-1	1
$-i$	$-i$	i	1	-1	$-k$	k	j	$-j$
$-j$	$-j$	j	k	$-k$	1	-1	$-i$	i
$-k$	$-k$	k	$-j$	j	i	$-i$	1	-1

1.6: Homomorphisms and Isomorphisms

Exercises

1. The statement is trivial for $n = 1$: $\phi(x^1) = \phi(x) = \phi(x)^1$ for all $x \in G$.

- (a) Proceed inductively for $n > 1$: assuming $\phi(x^{n-1}) = \phi(x)^{n-1}$,

$$\phi(x^n) = \phi(x \cdot x^{n-1}) = \phi(x) \cdot \phi(x^{n-1}) = \phi(x) \cdot \phi(x)^{n-1} = \phi(x)^n \quad (111)$$

where the second equality uses the fact that ϕ is a homomorphism.

- (b) First show the $n = 0$ case, i.e. that ϕ maps the identity of G to the identity of H . Note that, for all $x \in G$,

$$\phi(x) = \phi(1 \cdot x) = \phi(1)\phi(x), \quad (112)$$

then canceling (since the inverse of $\phi(x)$ exists in H) tells us that $1 = \phi(1)$ (more technically, $1_H = \phi(1_G)$) as required. Now we can also see

$$1_H = \phi(1_G) = \phi(x^{-1} \cdot x) = \phi(x^{-1})\phi(x) \quad (113)$$

for all $x \in G$, meaning that $\phi(x^{-1})$ is the inverse of $\phi(x)$ in H . In other words, $\phi(x^{-1}) = \phi(x)^{-1}$. This generalizes to any n :

$$1_H = \phi(1_G) = \phi(x^{-n} \cdot x^n) = \phi(x^{-n})\phi(x^n) = \phi(x^{-n})\phi(x)^n \quad (114)$$

so again, $\phi(x^{-n})$ is the inverse of $\phi(x)^n$, so it is equal to $\phi(x)^{-n}$ by uniqueness of group inverses.

2. If $\phi : G \rightarrow H$ is a homomorphism, and $|x| = n$ for some $x \in G$, then

$$\phi(x)^n = \phi(x^n) = \phi(1_G) = 1_H \quad (115)$$

where the first and last equalities use exercise 1. This tells us that $n = k|\phi(x)|$ for some positive integer k , i.e. $|\phi(x)|$ divides $|x|$. Switching gears for a moment, if ϕ is an isomorphism then it has a well-defined inverse $\phi^{-1} : H \rightarrow G$. This inverse is also a homomorphism:

$$\phi^{-1}(\phi(x)\phi(y)) = \phi^{-1}(\phi(xy)) = xy = \phi^{-1}(\phi(x))\phi^{-1}(\phi(y)) \quad (116)$$

where the first equality uses that ϕ is a homomorphism, and the other equalities just use that $\phi^{-1} \circ \phi$ is the identity. Now, since ϕ^{-1} is a homomorphism, we can run the same argument switching the roles of x and $\phi(x)$ to find that $|x|$ divides $|\phi(x)|$ as well. The two conditions are only possible if the two orders are equal; hence $|x| = |\phi(x)|$.

Let G_n be the subset of G containing every element of order n in G . Obviously the G_n partition the set G . Likewise let H_n be the subsets of H . We have shown that, for each element $x \in G_n$, the image $\phi(x)$ is in H_n . Therefore there is a bijection between each G_n and its corresponding H_n , so the two have the same cardinality.

If we only have a homomorphism, and not an isomorphism, then we only know that $|\phi(x)|$ divides $|x|$ but not the other way around. For example, let H be the trivial group consisting of just an identity element, and ϕ sends every element in G to the identity in H . Then $|\phi(x)| = 1$ for all $x \in G$, even though there exists at least one element in G whose order is greater than one (unless, of course, G is trivial as well).

3. If $\phi : G \rightarrow H$ is a homomorphism and G is abelian, then

$$\phi(y)\phi(x) = \phi(yx) = \phi(xy) = \phi(x)\phi(y) \quad (117)$$

for all $x, y \in G$. If ϕ is an isomorphism then it is surjective, and all $h \in H$ can be written in the form $h = \phi(x)$ for some $x \in G$. Therefore we see that H is abelian as well. Since ϕ is an isomorphism, ϕ^{-1} is also an isomorphism and we can repeat the proof swapping the roles of G and H to see that if H is abelian, then so is G .

As seen in the proof, all that we require is that $\phi : G \rightarrow H$ is a surjective homomorphism to show that G being abelian implies H being abelian. It does not need to be injective (and hence bijective), although bijectivity is required to prove the opposite direction.

4. Let $G = (\mathbb{R} - \{0\}, \times)$ and $H = (\mathbb{C} - \{0\}, \times)$. In exercise 2 we showed that isomorphic groups have bijections between their subsets of elements with a specific order, so let's analyze the orders of elements in each group. In G , the equation $x^n = 1$ only has solutions ± 1 , so we see that the orders of all elements are:

1 : 1

2 : -1

∞ : everything else

Now consider the same equation in H . By the Fundamental Theorem of Algebra, $x^n = 1$ has n solutions, so obviously we won't have the bijections we require. As an explicit example consider $n = 4$; the solutions are $x = \pm 1, \pm i$. The order of i and $-i$ is 4 in H , but there are no elements of order 4 in G . Therefore there is no isomorphism between G and H .

5. The two sets \mathbb{R} and \mathbb{Q} have different cardinalities, so there is no bijection between them. No homomorphism between them can be an isomorphism because no map whatsoever can be bijective.

6. **todo**

7. Just like in exercise 4, it suffices to show that there are a different number of elements with order 2 in D_8 and Q_8 . In D_8 we have five such elements (r^2, s, sr, sr^2, sr^3), while in Q_8 we only have one (-1). For easy proofs see the multiplication tables in section 1.5.

8. Again like in exercise 4, we want to compare the number of elements of order 2 in S_m and S_n . From section 1.3 exercise 13 we know that the elements of order 2 are exactly products of disjoint 2-cycles, so we just need to count how many there are. Generalizing section 1.3 exercise 17, if we want a product of k disjoint 2-cycles (obviously $2k < n$ otherwise this makes no sense), we have $n^{\underline{2k}}$ ways to pick the elements of $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ in order. Then each cycle can be ordered in either way so we have to divide by 2 for each cycle, and finally the order of the cycles doesn't matter so we divide by $k!$. Summing over all possible k gives us the number of elements of order 2 to be

$$f(n) = \sum_{k=1}^{\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor} f_k(n) \quad (118)$$

where

$$f_k(n) = \frac{n^{\underline{2k}}}{2^k k!} = \begin{cases} \frac{n!}{2^k (n-2k)! k!} & , n \geq 2k \\ 0 & , n < 2k \end{cases} \quad (119)$$

is the number of elements that are a product of k disjoint 2-cycles. If $f(n)$ is different for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, then no symmetric groups are isomorphic. The easiest way to prove this is to show that each $f_k(n)$ is an increasing function, and f_1 is strictly increasing. The first part matters because otherwise some terms might go down and balance out the increase of other terms.

For the first part, $f_k(n) = 0$ if $n < 2k$ because we can't make k disjoint 2-cycles from less than $2k$ elements. When we reach $n = 2k$ we have $f_k(2k) = \frac{(2k)!}{2^k k!} > 0$. After that, we can just compare terms:

$$\frac{f_k(n+1)}{f_k(n)} = \frac{\frac{(n+1)!}{2^k ((n+1)-2k)! k!}}{\frac{n!}{2^k (n-2k)! k!}} = \frac{\frac{(n+1)n!}{(n+1-2k)(n-2k)!}}{\frac{n!}{(n-2k)!}} = \frac{n+1}{n+1-2k} > 1 \quad (120)$$

so each f_k is strictly increasing once it stops being zero.

In the case where $k = 1$, f_1 stops being zero once $n = 2k = 2$. Therefore $f_1(1) = 0$, $f_1(2) > 0$, and from the above general proof we know $f_1(n+1) > f_1(n)$ for $n \geq 2$. Therefore $f(n)$ is different for every $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

9. Again again again, consider the number of elements of order 2. For S_4 we have

$$f(4) = \frac{4!}{2^1(4-2 \cdot 1)!1!} + \frac{4!}{2^2(4-2 \cdot 2)!2!} = \frac{24}{2 \cdot 2 \cdot 1} + \frac{24}{4 \cdot 1 \cdot 2} = 6 + 3 = 9. \quad (121)$$

For D_{24} , all elements are of the form r^k or sr^k for $k = 0, \dots, 11$. In the first case only r^6 has order two; in the second case all twelve elements have order two since

$$(sr^k)^2 = (sr^k)(sr^k) = (sr^k)(r^{-k}s) = s^2 = 1. \quad (122)$$

Therefore D_{24} has 13 elements of order 2.

10. AAAAAAAAAA

11. Let $G = A \times B$ and $H = B \times A$. We want to show that the obvious candidate $\phi : (a, b) \mapsto (b, a)$ is an isomorphism. First check that it's a homomorphism, using \cdot for multiplication in G , \star for multiplication in H , and no symbol for multiplication in A or B :

$$\phi((a_1, b_1) \cdot (a_2, b_2)) = \phi((a_1 a_2, b_1 b_2)) = (b_1 b_2, a_1 a_2) = (b_1, a_1) \star (b_2, a_2) = \phi(a_1, b_1) \star \phi(a_2, b_2). \quad (123)$$

It's obvious that ϕ is a bijection, but anyway, it's injective because the preimage of each (b, a) is exactly one element (a, b) , and it's surjective because every element in $B \times A$ can be written in the form (b, a) for some $a \in A$ and $b \in B$.

12. The obvious map is $\phi : ((a, b), c) \mapsto (a, (b, c))$. First, show it's a homomorphism:

$$\phi(((a_1, b_1), c_1) \cdot ((a_2, b_2), c_2)) = \phi(((a_1, b_1)(a_2, b_2), c_1 c_2)) \quad (124)$$

$$= \phi((a_1 a_2, b_1 b_2), c_1 c_2) \quad (125)$$

$$= (a_1 a_2, (b_1 b_2, c_1 c_2)) \quad (126)$$

$$= (a_1 a_2, (b_1, c_1)(b_2, c_2)) \quad (127)$$

$$= (a_1, (b_1, c_1))(a_2, (b_2, c_2)) \quad (128)$$

$$= \phi(((a_1, b_1), c_1)) \cdot \phi(((a_2, b_2), c_2)) \quad (129)$$

then the argument for bijectivity is the same as the previous exercise; the preimage of $(a, (b, c))$ is a one-element set, and every element of $A \times (B \times C)$ can be written $(a, (b, c))$.

13. Just go down the list here:

- (a) Closure: We want to show that if $a, b \in \text{im } \phi$, then so is ab . The preimages of both a and b are nonempty, so choose some x and y such that $\phi(x) = a$ and $\phi(y) = b$. Then $ab = \phi(x)\phi(y) = \phi(xy) \in \text{im } \phi$.
- (b) Associativity: Since $\text{im } \phi \subset H$, we inherit associativity from the group structure of H .
- (c) Identity: From exercise 1, we know that $\phi(1_G) = 1_H$ so the $1 \in \text{im } \phi$.
- (d) Inverse: Also from exercise 1, $\phi(x^{-1}) = \phi(x)^{-1}$ for all $x \in G$, so for all $a \in \text{im } \phi$, we know that $a^{-1} \in \text{im } \phi$ as well.

14. (a) Closure: For $x, y \in G$, if $x, y \in \ker \phi$, then $\phi(xy) = \phi(x)\phi(y) = 1_H 1_H = 1_H$ so $xy \in \ker \phi$.
- (b) Associativity: Inherited from G this time.
- (c) Identity: Again, from exercise 1, $\phi(1_G) = 1_H$.
- (d) Inverse: Using the above, $1_H = \phi(1_G) = \phi(x \cdot x^{-1}) = \phi(x)\phi(x^{-1})$ for any $x \in G$, so if $\phi(x) = 1_H$ then we find that $\phi(x^{-1}) = 1_H$ as well.

If ϕ is injective then, if $\phi(g) = \phi(1_G) = 1_H$ for some $g \in G$, then $g = 1_G$. For the other direction we show the contrapositive: if there exist $g \neq h \in G$ such that $\phi(g) = \phi(h)$, then $\ker \phi \neq \{1_G\}$. Since $g \neq h$, $hg^{-1} \neq 1_G$, and

$$\phi(h) = \phi(hg^{-1}g) = \phi(hg^{-1})\phi(g) \implies 1_H = \phi(hg^{-1}) \quad (130)$$

by canceling $\phi(h)$ and $\phi(g)$ in H . We see that $hg^{-1} \in \ker \phi$.

15. I'm assuming the groups in question are $(\mathbb{R}^2, +)$ and $(\mathbb{R}, +)$. Given two elements (a, b) and (c, d) of \mathbb{R}^2 ,

$$\pi((a, b) + (c, d)) = \pi((a + c, b + d)) = a + c = \pi((a, b)) + \pi((c, d)) . \quad (131)$$

The kernel is $\{(0, y) \mid y \in \mathbb{R}\}$, the “y axis”.

16. This is pretty much just the previous exercise without the plus signs. Let (a_1, b_1) and (a_2, b_2) be elements of G . For the first projection,

$$\pi_1((a_1, b_1) \cdot (a_2, b_2)) = \pi_1((a_1 a_2, b_1 b_2)) = a_1 a_2 = \pi_1((a_1, b_1)) \cdot \pi_1((a_2, b_2)) . \quad (132)$$

Likewise

$$\pi_2((a_1, b_1) \cdot (a_2, b_2)) = \pi_2((a_1 a_2, b_1 b_2)) = b_1 b_2 = \pi_2((a_1, b_1)) \cdot \pi_2((a_2, b_2)) . \quad (133)$$

The kernel of π_1 is $(1_A, B)$; the kernel of π_2 is $(A, 1_B)$.

17. If $\phi : g \mapsto g^2$ is a homomorphism, then, for arbitrary $x, y \in G$,

$$\phi(xy) = \phi(x)\phi(y) \implies (xy)^{-1} = x^{-1}y^{-1} \implies y^{-1}x^{-1} = x^{-1}y^{-1} . \quad (134)$$

Since every element in G is the inverse of some other element, this tells us that $xy = yx$ for all x, y . In the other direction, if G is abelian then

$$xy = yx \implies \phi(xy) = \phi(yx) = (yx)^{-1} = x^{-1}y^{-1} = \phi(x)\phi(y) . \quad (135)$$

18. If $\phi : g \mapsto g^2$, then

$$\phi(xy) = (xy)^2 = xyxy \quad (136)$$

and

$$\phi(x)\phi(y) = x^2 y^2 = xxyy . \quad (137)$$

If ϕ is a homomorphism then, left-canceling x and right-canceling y , we find $yx = xy$ hence G is abelian. If G is abelian, then we can commute x and y in (136) to get $xyxy = xxyy$ and we see that (136) and (137) are equal.

19. **todo**

20. Let $\phi_1, \phi_2 \in \text{Aut}(G)$.

- (a) Closure: The composition of two bijections is also a bijection so $\phi_1 \circ \phi_2$ is a bijection. Showing that it's a homomorphism is also straightforward:

$$\phi_1(\phi_2(xy)) = \phi_1(\phi_2(x)\phi_2(y)) = \phi_1(\phi_2(x))\phi_1(\phi_2(y)) \quad (138)$$

since $\phi_2(x)$ and $\phi_2(y)$ are just some elements of G .

- (b) Associativity: Function composition is associative.

- (c) Identity: The identity map $I : g \mapsto g$ is an isomorphism since it's a bijection and obviously $\phi(xy) = \phi(x)\phi(y)$. This is also the identity in $\text{Aut}(G)$ since $\phi \circ I = I \circ \phi = \phi$ for all functions ϕ .

- (d) Inverse: For a given ϕ , ϕ^{-1} exists since ϕ is a bijection. Then If $\phi(xy) = \phi(x)\phi(y)$ for all $x, y \in G$ then

$$\phi(\phi^{-1}(x)\phi^{-1}(y)) = \phi(\phi^{-1}(x))\phi(\phi^{-1}(y)) = xy = \phi(\phi^{-1}(xy)) \quad (139)$$

so $\phi^{-1}(x)\phi^{-1}(y) = \phi^{-1}(xy)$ (applying ϕ^{-1} to both sides) and ϕ^{-1} is a homomorphism.

21. For a given nonzero k we want to show that $f_k : q \mapsto kq$ is injective and surjective.

- (a) Injective: If $f_k(q) = f_k(r)$ then $kq = kr$, dividing by k we get $q = r$.

- (b) Surjective: Assume $\text{im } f_k \subsetneq \mathbb{Q}$. Then there exists $y \in \mathbb{Q}$ such that there does not exist any q such that $y = kq$. But $\frac{y}{k}$ is such a q .

22. For $x \in A$, the map is $\phi : x \rightarrow x^a$. Then, for arbitrary x, y , we have $\phi(x)\phi(y) = x^k y^k = (xy)^k = \phi(xy)$ where the hard equality is from exercise 1.1.24. If $k = -1$, then:

- (a) Injective: If $\phi(x) = \phi(y)$ then $x^{-1} = y^{-1}$, so

$$yy^{-1} = 1 = xx^{-1} = xy^{-1} \implies y = x. \quad (140)$$

- (b) Surjective: For all $x \in A$, the inverse x^{-1} exists and $\phi(x^{-1}) = x$.

23. **todo**

24. From exercise 1.2.6, if we define $t = xy$, then $tx = xt^{-1}$. If $|xy| = n$, then $t^n = 1$. We also know that $x^2 = 1$. Since $G = \langle x, y \rangle$ and $y = x^{-1}t$, we see that $G = \langle x, t \rangle$. Then the presentation is $G = \langle x, t \mid x^2 = t^n = 1, tx = xt^{-1} \rangle$, which is the usual presentation of D_{2n} .

25. Oh boy

- (a) Let $M_\theta = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix}$. For any θ , $\det M = 1$ so $|Mv| = |v|$ for all $v \in \mathbb{R}^2$ and it suffices to study the action of M on the unit circle. Let $v = (\cos \phi, \sin \phi)$ be an arbitrary unit vector. Then

$$Mv = (\cos \phi \cos \theta - \sin \phi \sin \theta, \cos \phi \sin \theta + \sin \phi \cos \theta) \quad (141)$$

and the (cosine of the) angle between them is given as

$$\frac{v \cdot Mv}{|v||Mv|} = \frac{(\cos^2 \phi \cos \theta - \cos \phi \sin \phi \sin \theta) + (\cos \phi \sin \phi \sin \theta + \sin^2 \phi \cos \theta)}{1 \cdot 1} \quad (142)$$

$$= \cos^2 \phi \cos \theta + \sin^2 \phi \cos \theta \quad (143)$$

$$= \cos \theta (\cos^2 \phi + \sin^2 \phi) \quad (144)$$

$$= \cos \theta \quad (145)$$

where

$$|Mv|^2 = (\cos \phi \cos \theta - \sin \phi \sin \theta)^2 + (\cos \phi \sin \theta + \sin \phi \cos \theta)^2 \quad (146)$$

$$= (\cos^2 \phi \cos^2 \theta + \sin^2 \phi \sin^2 \theta - 2 \cos \phi \sin \phi \cos \theta \sin \theta) + (\cos^2 \phi \sin^2 \theta + \sin^2 \phi \cos^2 \theta + 2 \cos \phi \sin \phi \cos \theta \sin \theta) \quad (147)$$

$$= \cos^2 \phi \cos^2 \theta + \sin^2 \phi \sin^2 \theta + \cos^2 \phi \sin^2 \theta + \sin^2 \phi \cos^2 \theta \quad (148)$$

$$= \cos^2 \phi (\cos^2 \theta + \sin^2 \theta) + \sin^2 \phi (\cos^2 \theta + \sin^2 \theta) \quad (149)$$

$$= \cos^2 \phi + \sin^2 \phi \quad (150)$$

$$= 1 \quad (151)$$

which means that θ is the angle between v and Mv . However, we don't know if v was rotated clockwise or counterclockwise. We can see what happens by looking at a specific point that's easy to work with: $\phi = 0$, corresponding to $v = (1, 0)$. Then $Mv = (\cos \theta, \sin \theta)$ which is a counterclockwise rotation.

- (b) It suffices to show that $\phi(r)^n = \phi(s)^2 = 1$ and $\phi(s)\phi(r) = \phi(r^{-1})\phi(s)$ (see “example 1” in this section on page 39). We're given that

$$\phi(r) = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix}, \quad \phi(s) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (152)$$

and $n\theta = 2\pi$. We just showed that $\phi(r)$ is a counterclockwise rotation of θ , so $\phi(r)^n$ is a counterclockwise rotation of $n\theta = 2\pi \equiv 0$ i.e. $\phi(r)^n$ is the identity. It's also trivial to show that $\phi(s)$ squares to the identity matrix. To show the last piece we first note that since $\phi(r)$ is a counterclockwise rotation of θ , $\phi(r)^{-1}$ must correspond to a clockwise rotation of θ , or equivalently a counterclockwise rotation of $-\theta$.

$$\phi(s)\phi(r) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \sin \theta & \cos \theta \\ \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \end{bmatrix} \quad (153)$$

$$\phi(r^{-1})\phi(s) = \begin{bmatrix} \cos(-\theta) & -\sin(-\theta) \\ \sin(-\theta) & \cos(-\theta) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & \sin \theta \\ -\sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \sin \theta & \cos \theta \\ \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \end{bmatrix} \quad (154)$$

- (c) We want to show that $\phi(g)$ is a different matrix for each $g \in D_{2n}$. All elements of D_{2n} are r^k or sr^k for $k = 0, 1, \dots, n-1$. These look like

$$\phi(r^k) = \begin{bmatrix} \cos k\theta & -\sin k\theta \\ \sin k\theta & \cos k\theta \end{bmatrix} \quad (155)$$

$$\phi(sr^k) = \phi(s)\phi(r^k) = \begin{bmatrix} \sin k\theta & \cos k\theta \\ \cos k\theta & -\sin k\theta \end{bmatrix} \quad (156)$$

The two are easily distinguishable since the diagonal elements are the same for $\phi(r^k)$ and the off-diagonal elements are the same for $\phi(sr^k)$; the other two elements are negatives of each other. For the $\phi(r^k)$ s, the image of $(1, 0) = (\cos k\theta, \sin k\theta)$ is different for every $k = 0, 1, \dots, n-1$. Likewise $(1, 0) \mapsto (\sin k\theta, \cos k\theta)$ is different for each $\phi(sr^k)$.

26. Use the presentation of Q_8 given in exercise 1.5.3. We're given

$$\phi(i) = \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & -\sqrt{-1} \end{bmatrix}, \quad \phi(j) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (157)$$

and we want to show that ϕ respects the group presentation. For ease of reading, list all the relations:

- (a) $i^2 = j^2 = -1$: Define the element $\phi(-1)$ to be $\phi(i)^2$. We want to show that $\phi(i)^2 = \phi(j)^2$:

$$\phi(-1) := \phi(i)^2 = \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & -\sqrt{-1} \end{bmatrix}^2 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} = -I_2 \quad (158)$$

$$\phi(j)^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}^2 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} = -I_2 \quad (159)$$

where I_2 is the 2-by-2 identity matrix.

- (b) $(-1)^2 = 1$: Obviously $(-I_2)^2 = I_2$.
(c) $(-1)i = i(-1)$: $\phi(-1)$ is a scalar multiple of the identity matrix and therefore commutes with every other matrix in $GL_2(\mathbb{C})$.
(d) $(-1)j = j(-1)$: Same as above.
(e) $ij = (-1)ji$: Just bash out both sides

$$\phi(i)\phi(j) = \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & -\sqrt{-1} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -\sqrt{-1} \\ -\sqrt{-1} & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (160)$$

$$\phi(-1)\phi(j)\phi(i) = -I_2 \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & -\sqrt{-1} \end{bmatrix} = -I_2 \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \sqrt{-1} \\ \sqrt{-1} & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -\sqrt{-1} \\ -\sqrt{-1} & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (161)$$

To show that ϕ is injective we can just bash out all eight matrices and observe that they're all different. We calculated $\phi(k) = \phi(i)\phi(j)$ in the last relation, and we know that multiplication by $\phi(-1)$ is just entrywise multiplication by -1 , so we're pretty much done:

$$\phi(1) = I_2 \quad (162)$$

$$\phi(-1) = -I_2 \quad (163)$$

$$\phi(i) = \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & -\sqrt{-1} \end{bmatrix} \quad (164)$$

$$\phi(-i) = \begin{bmatrix} -\sqrt{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & \sqrt{-1} \end{bmatrix} \quad (165)$$

$$\phi(j) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (166)$$

$$\phi(-j) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (167)$$

$$\phi(k) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -\sqrt{-1} \\ -\sqrt{-1} & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (168)$$

$$\phi(-k) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \sqrt{-1} \\ \sqrt{-1} & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (169)$$

1.7: Group Actions

Page 43-44 –

future

Exercises

1. For a group G acting on a set A , we want to show that the action is associative and 1_G is the trivial map. For (F^\times, \times) acting on F with $g \cdot a = ga$,
 - (a) Associativity: $g_1 \cdot (g_2 \cdot a) = g_1 \cdot (g_2 a) = g_1(g_2 a) = (g_1 g_2)a = (g_1 g_2) \cdot a$ where the third equation uses associativity of multiplication in F .
 - (b) Identity: The identity in the group (F^\times, \times) is the multiplicative identity in F so $1 \cdot a = 1a = a$ by definition.
2. For $(\mathbb{Z}, +)$ acting on \mathbb{Z} with $z \cdot a = z + a$:
 - (a) Associativity: $z_1 \cdot (z_2 \cdot a) = z_1 \cdot (z_2 + a) = z_1 + (z_2 + a) = (z_1 + z_2) + a = (z_1 + z_2) \cdot a$ where the third equation uses associativity of addition.
 - (b) Identity: The identity of $(\mathbb{Z}, +)$ is 0, and $0 \cdot a = 0 + a = a$.
3. For $(\mathbb{R}, +)$ acting on \mathbb{R}^2 with $r \cdot (x, y) = (x + ry, y)$:
 - (a) Associativity: $r_1 \cdot (r_2 \cdot (x, y)) = r_1 \cdot (x + r_2 y, y) = ((x + r_2 y) + r_1 y, y) = (x + (r_1 + r_2)y, y) = (r_1 + r_2) \cdot (x, y)$ where the third equation uses associativity of addition, distribution of multiplication over addition, and commutativity of addition.
 - (b) Identity: The identity of $(\mathbb{R}, +)$ is 0, and $0 \cdot (x, y) = (x + 0y, y) = (x, y)$.
4. From exercise 1.1.26 we just want to show that these sets are closed under the group operation and inverse. For a group G acting on a set A ,
 - (a) the kernel of the action:
 - i. Closure: If g_1, g_2 are in the kernel of the action, then $g_1 \cdot a = g_2 \cdot a = a$ for all $a \in A$. Then

$$(g_1 g_2) \cdot a = g_1 \cdot (g_2 \cdot a) = g_1 \cdot a = a \quad (170)$$

so $g_1 g_2$ is also in the kernel.

ii. Inverse: If g is in the kernel then

$$a = 1_G \cdot a = (g^{-1}g) \cdot a = g^{-1} \cdot (g \cdot a) = g^{-1} \cdot a \quad (171)$$

so g^{-1} is also in the kernel.

- (b) The above argument doesn't use anything about multiple elements of A , so the proof is the same for a specific element $a \in A$.
5. The permutation representation is given as $\phi_g(a) = g \cdot a$. If $g \in G$ is in the kernel of the action, then $g \cdot a = a$ for all $a \in A$, so $\phi_g(a) = a$ and the corresponding permutation is trivial. In the other direction, if the associated permutation is trivial with $\phi_g(a) = a$ for all a , then $a = \phi_g(a) = g \cdot a$ so g is in the kernel of the action.
6. The definition of a faithful group action that was given is that G acts faithfully on A if the homomorphism $\phi : G \rightarrow S_A$ sends the elements of G to distinct permutations in S_A . Mathematically, that says if $g \neq h$ are two elements of G , then $\phi(g) \neq \phi(h)$, i.e. ϕ is injective. From exercise 1.6.14 we know that ϕ is an injective homomorphism if and only if $\ker \phi = \{1_G\}$.
7. From the previous exercise we know that we just have to show that the kernel of the action is trivial. Here we have \mathbb{R}^\times acting on \mathbb{R}^n with the action

$$\alpha \cdot (r_1, r_2, \dots, r_n) = (\alpha r_1, \alpha r_2, \dots, \alpha r_n) . \quad (172)$$

If α acts trivially then $\alpha r_i = r_i$, which means that $\alpha = 1$. Therefore the kernel is $\{1\}$.

8. This is basically just S_A acting on itself but with some extremely wordy constraints to make sure the size of the set stays the same.

(a) Same checks as before:

i. Associativity: For $\sigma_1, \sigma_2 \in S_A$, and any $\{a_1, \dots, a_k\} \in B$,

$$\sigma_1 \cdot (\sigma_2 \cdot \{a_1, \dots, a_k\}) = \sigma_1 \cdot \{\sigma_2(a_1), \dots, \sigma_2(a_k)\} = \{\sigma_1(\sigma_2(a_1)), \dots, \sigma_1(\sigma_2(a_k))\} = (\sigma_1 \circ \sigma_2) \cdot \{a_1, \dots, a_k\} \quad (173)$$

and the sets have the same cardinality because each σ is injective.

ii. Identity: The identity of S_A has $\phi_I(x) = x$ for all x , and

$$\sigma_I \cdot \{a_1, \dots, a_k\} = \{\sigma_I(a_1), \dots, \sigma_I(a_k)\} = \{a_1, \dots, a_k\} \quad (174)$$

(b) The action of $(1\ 2)$ is:

- i. $\{1, 2\} \mapsto \{2, 1\} = \{1, 2\}$
- ii. $\{1, 3\} \mapsto \{2, 3\}$
- iii. $\{1, 4\} \mapsto \{2, 4\}$
- iv. $\{2, 3\} \mapsto \{1, 3\}$
- v. $\{2, 4\} \mapsto \{1, 4\}$
- vi. $\{3, 4\} \mapsto \{3, 4\}$

The action of $(1\ 2\ 3)$ is:

- i. $\{1, 2\} \mapsto \{2, 3\}$
- ii. $\{1, 3\} \mapsto \{2, 1\} = \{1, 2\}$
- iii. $\{1, 4\} \mapsto \{2, 4\}$
- iv. $\{2, 3\} \mapsto \{3, 1\} = \{1, 3\}$
- v. $\{2, 4\} \mapsto \{3, 4\}$
- vi. $\{3, 4\} \mapsto \{1, 4\}$

9. The proof of the group action is identical other than the $\{\cdot\} \rightarrow (\cdot)$ notation change, and closure being trivial. For the second part, they really decided that it was fun to write out 64 ordered pairs. The action of $(1\ 2)$ is

- (a) $(1, 1) \mapsto (2, 2)$
- (b) $(1, 2) \mapsto (2, 1)$

- (c) $(1, 3) \mapsto (2, 3)$
- (d) $(1, 4) \mapsto (2, 4)$
- (e) $(2, 1) \mapsto (1, 2)$
- (f) $(2, 2) \mapsto (1, 1)$
- (g) $(2, 3) \mapsto (1, 3)$
- (h) $(2, 4) \mapsto (1, 4)$
- (i) $(3, 1) \mapsto (3, 2)$
- (j) $(3, 2) \mapsto (3, 1)$
- (k) $(3, 3) \mapsto (3, 3)$
- (l) $(3, 4) \mapsto (3, 4)$
- (m) $(4, 1) \mapsto (4, 2)$
- (n) $(4, 2) \mapsto (4, 1)$
- (o) $(4, 3) \mapsto (4, 3)$
- (p) $(4, 4) \mapsto (4, 4)$

and the action of $(1\ 2\ 3)$ is

- (a) $(1, 1) \mapsto (2, 2)$
- (b) $(1, 2) \mapsto (2, 3)$
- (c) $(1, 3) \mapsto (2, 1)$
- (d) $(1, 4) \mapsto (2, 4)$
- (e) $(2, 1) \mapsto (3, 2)$
- (f) $(2, 2) \mapsto (3, 3)$
- (g) $(2, 3) \mapsto (3, 1)$
- (h) $(2, 4) \mapsto (3, 4)$
- (i) $(3, 1) \mapsto (1, 2)$
- (j) $(3, 2) \mapsto (1, 3)$
- (k) $(3, 3) \mapsto (1, 1)$
- (l) $(3, 4) \mapsto (1, 4)$
- (m) $(4, 1) \mapsto (4, 2)$
- (n) $(4, 2) \mapsto (4, 3)$
- (o) $(4, 3) \mapsto (4, 1)$
- (p) $(4, 4) \mapsto (4, 4)$

10. **TODO**

11. From the labeling in section 1.2, r sends vertex i to $(i + 1) \bmod n$, and s keeps vertices 1 and 3 static while swapping 2 and 4. Therefore

- (a) $r \mapsto (1\ 2\ 3\ 4)$
- (b) $s \mapsto (2\ 4)$

and the other elements of D_8 can be built using these:

- (a) $r^2 \mapsto (1\ 3)(2\ 4)$
- (b) $r^3 \mapsto (1\ 4\ 3\ 2)$
- (c) $sr \mapsto (1\ 4)(2\ 3)$
- (d) $sr^2 \mapsto (1\ 3)$
- (e) $sr^3 \mapsto (1\ 2)(3\ 4)$

and obviously the identity maps to the trivial cycle $()$.

12. We have D_{2n} acting on the set $A = \{\{1, \frac{n}{2} + 1\}, \{2, \frac{n}{2} + 2\}, \dots, \{\frac{n}{2}, n\}\}$ where opposite vertices are paired up. Associativity of the group action is the same exact proof again, and the identity is the identity in D_{2n} since that corresponds to the identity permutation. The nontrivial part is checking that this is well-defined and that the image of any action is still A .

The intuitive argument is that D_{2n} is the symmetry group of the rigid n -gon so it cannot change which vertices are opposite from each other. The formal argument is to consider the generators. First, r sends A to A since $\sigma_r : \{i, \frac{n}{2} + i\} \mapsto \{i + 1, \frac{n}{2} + i + 1\}$ (modulo n). The more wordy one is that s sends each i to $(n + 2) - i$ (again, modulo n), unless $i = 1$ or its opposite, which are fixed. The map $i \mapsto (2 - i) \bmod n$ on opposite vertices looks like

$$\left\{i, \frac{n}{2} + i\right\} \mapsto \left\{(2 - i) \bmod n, 2 - \left(\frac{n}{2} + i\right) \bmod n\right\} = \left\{(2 - i) \bmod n, \frac{n}{2} + (2 - i) \bmod n\right\} \quad (175)$$

since $-\frac{n}{2} = \frac{n}{2}$ when considered modulo n . We see that both r and s send A to A . These generate D_{2n} , so all elements of the group will respect the set structure.

The kernel consists of all elements that respect opposite vertices. We know that s and $r^{n/2}$ do this (reflection and rotation by 180 degrees), therefore their composition $sr^{n/2}$ also is in the kernel. Including the identity, in total the kernel has four elements.

13. For the action of G on itself given by $g \cdot a = ga$, if g is in the kernel of the group action, then $g \cdot a = a$ for all $a \in G$. That means that $ga = a$ for arbitrary a , so $g = 1_G$. The kernel is trivial.
14. For nonabelian G acting on itself with $g \cdot a = ag$, and $a, g_1, g_2 \in G$,

$$g_1 \cdot (g_2 \cdot a) = g_1 \cdot ag_2 = (ag_2)g_1 = ag_2g_1 \quad (176)$$

but

$$(g_1g_2) \cdot a = a(g_1g_2) = ag_1g_2 \quad (177)$$

so the two are not equal in general and the proposed action is not associative.

15. Closure is obvious since everything happens inside the group G , which is closed under the group operation.

(a) Associativity: For $a, g_1, g_2 \in G$,

$$g_1 \cdot (g_2 \cdot a) = g_1 \cdot (ag_2^{-1}) = (ag_2^{-1})g_1^{-1} = ag_2^{-1}g_1^{-1} = a(g_1g_2)^{-1} = (g_1g_2) \cdot a \quad (178)$$

(b) Identity: The identity of G has $1_G \cdot a = a1_G = a$ for all $a \in G$.

16. Closure is obvious for the same reason as above.

(a) Associativity: For $a, g_1, g_2 \in G$,

$$g_1 \cdot (g_2 \cdot a) = g_1 \cdot (g_2ag_2^{-1}) = g_1(g_2ag_2^{-1})g_1^{-1} = g_1g_2ag_2^{-1}g_1^{-1} = (g_1g_2)a(g_1g_2)^{-1} = (g_1g_2) \cdot a \quad (179)$$

(b) Identity: The identity of G has $1_G \cdot a = 1_Ga1_G = a$ for all $a \in G$.

17. We want to show that the map $\phi_g : x \rightarrow gxg^{-1}$ (for some fixed $g \in G$) is an automorphism of G :

(a) Homomorphism: For $x_1, x_2 \in G$,

$$\phi_g(x_1)\phi_g(x_2) = (gx_1g^{-1})(gx_2g^{-1}) = gx_1g^{-1}gx_2g^{-1} = gx_11_Gx_2g^{-1} = g(x_1x_2)g^{-1} = \phi_g(x_1x_2) \quad (180)$$

(b) Injective: If $\phi(x_1) = \phi(x_2)$ for some $x_1, x_2 \in G$, then, left-canceling g and right-canceling g^{-1} , we see that $x_1 = x_2$.

(c) Surjective: Every $y \in G$ can be written in the form gxg^{-1} for some $x \in G$, since we just invert the relation to find $x = g^{-1}yg$.

From exercise 1.6.2, we know that $|x| = |gxg^{-1}|$ for all $x \in G$. Since the map ϕ_g is injective, $|\phi_g(A)| = |A|$ for any subset A of G .

18. The group H acts on the set A with action \cdot .

(a) Reflexive: For all $a \in A$, $a = 1_H \cdot a$ so $a \sim a$.

(b) Symmetric: For all $a, b \in A$, if $a \sim b$ then $a = h \cdot b$ for some $h \in H$ and

$$b = 1_H \cdot b = (h^{-1}h) \cdot b = h^{-1} \cdot (h \cdot b) = h^{-1} \cdot a \quad (181)$$

so $b \sim a$ as well.

(c) Transitive: For all $a, b, c \in A$, if $a \sim b$ with $a = h_1 \cdot b$ and $b \sim c$ with $b = h_2 \cdot c$, then

$$a = h_1 \cdot b = h_1 \cdot (h_2 \cdot c) = (h_1 h_2) \cdot c \quad (182)$$

so $a \sim c$.

19. For the map $H \rightarrow \mathcal{O}$ with $h \mapsto hx$ where x is an arbitrary element of G ,

(a) Injective: If $h_1 x = h_2 x$ for some $h_1, h_2 \in H$, then right-canceling x gives us $h_1 = h_2$

(b) Surjective: Every $y \in \mathcal{O}$ can be written in the form $y = hx$ for some $h \in H$ by definition of the orbit.

The previous example showed that we can partition G with the equivalence relation $x \sim y$ iff y is in the orbit of x . In this case all of these equivalence classes have size $|H|$. Since they partition G , we must have $|G| = n|H|$ where n is the number of distinct equivalence classes.

20.

21.

22.

23.