

## 1. Rings, subrings and fields

- **Ring  $R$ :** set with binary operations addition and subtraction, where  $(R, +)$  is an abelian group and:
  - **Identity:** exists  $1 \in R$  such that  $\forall x \in R, 1 \cdot x = x \cdot 1 = x$
  - **Associativity:** for every  $x, y, z \in R, x(yz) = (xy)z$
  - **Distributivity:** for every  $x, y, z \in R, x(y + z) = xy + xz$  and  $(y + z)x = yx + zx$
- **Set of remainders modulo  $n$  (residue classes):**  $\mathbb{Z} / n = \{\overline{0}, \overline{1}, \dots, \overline{n-1}\}$
- $\mathbb{Z} / n$  is a ring:  $\overline{a} + \overline{b} = \overline{a + b}, \overline{a} - \overline{b} = \overline{a - b}, \overline{a} \cdot \overline{b} = \overline{a \cdot b}$
- **Subring  $S$  of ring  $R$ :** a set  $S \subseteq R$  that contains 0 and 1 and is closed under addition, multiplication and negation:
  - $0 \in S, 1 \in S$
  - $\forall a, b \in S, a + b \in S$
  - $\forall a, b \in S, ab \in S$
  - $\forall a \in S, -a \in S$
- **Field  $F$  is a ring with:**
  - $F$  is commutative
  - $0 \neq 1 \in F$  ( $F$  has at least two elements)
  - $\forall 0 \neq a \in R, \exists b \in R, ab = 1$ .  $b$  is the **inverse** of  $a$
- $a$  is a **zero divisor** if  $ab = 0$  for some  $b \neq 0$

## 2. Integral domains

- **Integral domain  $R$ :** ring which is commutative, has at least two elements ( $0 \neq 1$ ), and has no zero divisors apart from 0
- Any subring of a field is an integral domain
- If  $R$  is an integral domain, then  $R[x] = \{a_0 + a_1x + \dots + a_nx^n : a_i \in R\}$  is also an integral domain.
- $a$  is a **unit** if  $ab = ba = 1$  for some  $b \in R$ .  $b = a^{-1}$  is the **inverse** of  $a$
- Inverses are unique
- $R^\times$ , set of all units in  $R$ , is a group under multiplication of  $R$
- For field  $F$ ,  $F^\times = F - \{0\}$
- $a \in \mathbb{Z} / n$  is a unit iff  $\gcd(a, n) = 1$
- $\mathbb{Z} / p$  is a field iff  $p$  is prime
- $\mathbb{Z} / n$  is an integral domain iff  $n$  is prime (iff  $\mathbb{Z} / n$  is a field)

## 3. Polynomials over a field

- **Degree** of  $f(x) = a_0 + a_1x + \dots + a_nx^n$ :

$$\deg(f) = \begin{cases} \max\{i : a_i \neq 0\} & \text{if } f \neq 0 \\ -\infty & \text{if } f = 0 \end{cases}$$

- $\deg(fg) = \deg(f) + \deg(g)$
- $\deg(f + g) \leq \max\{\deg(f), \deg(g)\}$
- If  $\deg(f) \neq \deg(g)$  then  $\deg(f + g) = \max\{\deg(f), \deg(g)\}$

- Let  $f(x), g(x) \in F[x]$ ,  $g(x) \neq 0$ , then  $\exists q(x), r(x) \in F[x]$  with  $\deg(r) < \deg(g)$  such that  $f(x) = q(x)g(x) + r(x)$

## 4. Divisibility and greatest common divisor in a ring

- $a$  **divides**  $b$ ,  $a \mid b$ , if  $\exists r \in R$  such that  $b = ra$
- $d$  is a **greatest common divisor** of  $a$  and  $b$ ,  $\gcd(a, b)$ , if:
  - $d \mid a$  and  $d \mid b$  and
  - If  $e \mid a$  and  $e \mid b$  then  $e \mid d$
- $\gcd(0, 0) = 0$
- **Euclidean algorithm example:** find  $\gcd$  of  $f(x) = x^2 + 7x + 6$  and  $g(x) = x^2 - 5x - 6$  in  $\mathbb{Q}[x]$ :

$$f(x) = g(x) + 12(x + 1)$$

$$g(x) = \frac{1}{12}x \cdot 12(x + 1) - 6(x + 1)$$

$$12(x + 1) = -2 \cdot -6(x + 1) + 0$$

Remainder is now zero so stop. A  $\gcd$  is given by the last non-zero remainder,  $-6(x + 1)$ . We can write  $-6(x + 1)$  as a combination of  $f(x)$  and  $g(x)$ :

$$\begin{aligned} -6(x + 1) &= g(x) - \frac{1}{12}x \cdot 12(x + 1) \\ &= g(x) - \frac{1}{12}x \cdot (f(x) - g(x)) \\ &= \left(1 + \frac{1}{12}x\right)g(x) - \frac{1}{12}xf(x) \end{aligned}$$

- Let  $R$  be integral domain,  $a, b \in R$  and  $d = \gcd(a, b)$ . Then  $\forall u \in R^\times$ ,  $ud$  is also a  $\gcd(a, b)$ . Also, for  $d$  and  $d'$   $\gcd$ s of  $a$  and  $b$ ,  $\exists u \in R^\times$  such that  $d = ud'$  (so  $\gcd$  is unique up to units).
- Polynomial is **monic** if leading coefficient is 1
- There always exists a unique monic  $\gcd$  of two polynomials in  $F[x]$
- Let  $R = \mathbb{Z}$  or  $F[x]$ ,  $a, b \in R$ . Then
  - A  $\gcd(a, b)$  always exists
  - $a \neq 0$  or  $b \neq 0$  then a  $\gcd(a, b)$  can be computed by Euclidean algorithm
  - If  $d$  is a  $\gcd(a, b)$  then  $\exists x, y \in R$  such that  $ax + by = d$

## 5. Factorisations in rings

- $r \in R$  **irreducible** if:
  - $r \notin R^\times$  and
  - If  $r = ab$  then  $a \in R^\times$  or  $b \in R^\times$
- $a \in F$  is **root** of  $f(x) \in F[x]$  if  $f(a) = 0$
- Let  $f(x) \in F[x]$ .
  - If  $\deg(f) = 1$ ,  $f$  is irreducible.
  - If  $\deg(f) = 2$  or  $3$  then  $f$  is irreducible iff it has no roots in  $F$ .

- If  $\deg(f) = 4$  then  $f$  is irreducible iff it has no roots in  $F$  and it is not the product of two quadratic polynomials.
- Let  $f(x) = a_0 + a_1x + \dots + a_nx^n \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ ,  $\deg(f) \geq 1$ . If  $f(p/q) = 0$ ,  $\gcd(p, q) = 1$ , then  $p \mid a_0$  and  $q \mid a_n$ .
- **Gauss's lemma:** let  $f(x) = a_0 + a_1x + \dots + a_nx^n \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ ,  $\deg(f) \geq 1$ . Then  $f(x)$  is irreducible in  $\mathbb{Z}[x]$  iff it is irreducible in  $\mathbb{Q}[x]$  and  $\gcd(a_0, a_1, \dots, a_n) = 1$ .
- If monic polynomial in  $\mathbb{Z}[x]$  factors in  $\mathbb{Q}[x]$  then it factors into integer monic polynomials.
- Let  $R$  be commutative,  $x \in R$  be irreducible and  $u \in R^\times$ . Then  $ux$  is also irreducible.
- **Eisenstein's criterion:** let  $f(x) = a_0 + a_1x + \dots + a_nx^n \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ ,  $p$  be prime with  $p \mid a_0$ ,  $p \mid a_1, \dots, p \mid a_{n-1}$ ,  $p \nmid a_n$ ,  $p^2 \nmid a_0$ . Then  $f(x)$  is irreducible in  $\mathbb{Q}[x]$
- Let  $f(x) \in F[x]$ , then  $f$  can be uniquely factorised into a product of irreducible elements, up to order of factors and multiplication by units.
- Let  $R$  be commutative.  $x \in R$  is **prime** if:
  - $x \neq 0$  and  $x \notin R^\times$  and
  - If  $x \mid ab$  then  $x \mid a$  or  $x \mid b$
- If  $R = \mathbb{Z}$  or  $F[x]$  then  $a \in R$  is prime iff it is irreducible.
- Let  $R$  be an integral domain and  $x \in R$  prime. Then  $x$  is irreducible.
- Integral domain  $R$  is **unique factorisation domain (UFD)** if every non-zero non-unit element in  $R$  can be written as a unique product of irreducible elements, up to order of factors and multiplication by units.

## 6. Ring homomorphisms

- For  $R, S$  rings,  $f : R \rightarrow S$  is **homomorphism** if:
  - $f(1) = 1$  and
  - $f(a + b) = f(a) + f(b)$  and
  - $f(ab) = f(a)f(b)$
- Let  $f : R \rightarrow S$  homomorphism, then
  - $f(0) = 0$  and
  - $f(-a) = -f(a)$
- **Kernel:**

$$\ker(f) := \{a \in R : f(a) = 0\}$$

- **Image:**

$$\text{Im}(f) := \{f(a) : a \in R\}$$

- **Isomorphism:** bijective homomorphism.
- $R$  and  $S$  **isomorphic**,  $R \cong S$  if there exists isomorphism between them.
- Homomorphism  $f$  injective iff  $\ker(f) = \{0\}$ .
- **Direct product** of  $R$  and  $S$ ,  $R \times S$ :
  - $(r, s) + (r', s') = (r + r', s + s')$ .
  - $(r, s)(r', s') = (rr', ss')$ .
  - Identity is  $(1, 1)$ .

- For  $p_1(r, s) = r$  and  $p_2(r, s) = s$ ,  $\ker(p_1) = \{(0, s) : s \in S\}$  and  $\ker(p_2) = \{(r, 0) : r \in R\}$ . These are both rings, with  $\ker(p_1) \cong S$  (via  $(0, s) \rightarrow s$ ) and  $\ker(p_2) \cong R$  (via  $(r, 0) \rightarrow r$ ). ( $\ker(p_1)$  and  $\ker(p_2)$  are not subrings of  $R \times S$  though). So

$$\ker(p_1) \times \ker(p_2) \cong R \times S$$

## 7. Ideals and quotient rings

- $I \subseteq R$  is an **ideal** if  $I$  closed under addition and if  $x \in I, r \in R$  then  $rx \in I$  and  $xr \in I$ .
- **Left ideal**:  $I$  closed under addition and if  $x \in I, r \in R$  then  $rx \in I$ .
- **Right ideal**:  $I$  closed under addition and if  $x \in I, r \in R$  then  $xr \in I$ .
- If  $x \in I$ , then  $(-1)x = x(-1) = -x \in I$  so  $I$  closed under negation.
- For  $f : R \rightarrow S$  homomorphism,  $\ker(f)$  is ideal of  $R$ .
- For  $R$  commutative ring and  $a \in R$ , **principal ideal generated by  $a$**  is

$$(a) := \{ra : r \in R\}$$

- For  $R$  commutative and  $a_1, \dots, a_n \in R$ ,

$$(a_1, \dots, a_n) := \{r_1 a_1 + \dots + r_n a_n : r_1, \dots, r_n \in R\}$$

is an ideal.  $(a_1, \dots, a_n)$  is **generated** by  $a_1, \dots, a_n$ .  $a_i \in (a_1, \dots, a_n)$  for all  $i$ .

- If ideal  $I$  contains unit  $u$ , then  $u^{-1}u = 1 \in I$  so  $\forall r \in R, r \cdot 1 = r \in I$ . So  $R \subseteq I$  so  $R = I$ .
- For field  $F$ , any ideal is either  $\{0\}$  or  $F$ .
- Let  $I_1 = (a_1, \dots, a_m), I_2 = (b_1, \dots, b_n)$  then  $I_1 = I_2$  iff  $a_1, \dots, a_m \in I_2$  and  $b_1, \dots, b_n \in I_1$ .
- $a, b \in R$  **equivalent modulo  $I$**  if  $a - b \in I$ . Write  $\bar{a} = \bar{b}$  or  $a \equiv b \pmod{I}$ .
- Let  $a(x) \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$ , then  $p(x) = q(x)a(x) + r(x)$  with  $\deg(r) < \deg(a)$ .  
 $\frac{p(x)}{a(x)} - r(x) = q(x) \in (a(x))$  so  $\bar{p(x)} = \bar{r(x)}$ .  $r(x)$  is **representative** of the class  $\bar{p(x)}$ .

- Let  $I \subseteq R$  ideal. **Coset** of  $I$  generated by  $x \in I$  is

$$\bar{x} := x + I = \{x + r : r \in I\} \subseteq R$$

$x$  is a **representative** of  $x + I$ .

- For  $x, y \in R$ ,

$$x + I = y + I \iff x + I \cap y + I \neq \emptyset \iff x - y \in I$$

- If  $x$  is a representative of  $x + I$ , so is  $x + r$  for every  $r \in I$ .
- **Quotient** of  $R$  by  $I$  (" $R \bmod I$ ") : set of all cosets of  $R$  by  $I$ :

$$R / I := \{\bar{x} : x \in R\} = \{x + I : x \in R\}$$

with

- $(x + I) + (y + I) = (x + y) + I$ .
- $(x + I)(y + I) = xy + I$ .
- $R / I$  is a ring, with zero element  $0 + I = I$  and identity  $1 + I \in R / I$ .
- **Quotient map (canonical map/homomorphism)**:  $R \rightarrow R / I, r \rightarrow \bar{r} = r + I$ .
- Kernel of quotient map is  $I$  and image is  $R / I$ . Hence every ideal is a kernel.

- **First isomorphism theorem (FIT):** Let  $\varphi : R \rightarrow S$  be homomorphism. Then

$$\overline{\varphi} : R / \ker(\varphi) \rightarrow \text{Im}(\varphi), \overline{\varphi}(\overline{x}) = \varphi(x)$$

is an isomorphism:  $R / \ker(\varphi) \cong \text{Im}(\varphi)$ .

## 8. Prime and maximal ideals

- Ideal  $I \subseteq R$  **prime ideal** if  $I \neq R$  and  $ab \in I \implies a \in I$  or  $b \in I$ .
- $I \subseteq R$  **maximal** if only ideals containing  $I$  are  $I$  and  $R$  (so no ideals strictly between  $I$  and  $R$ ).
- $x \in R$  is prime iff  $(x)$  is prime ideal.
- To contain is to divide:

$$a \in (x) \iff (a) \subseteq (x) \iff x \mid a$$

- For  $R$  commutative and  $I$  ideal:
  - $I$  prime iff  $R / I$  integral domain.
  - $I$  maximal iff  $R / I$  field.
- $(I, x)$  is ideal generated by  $I$  and  $x$ :

$$(I, x) : \{rx + x' : r \in R, x' \in I\}$$

- If  $I$  is maximal ideal, then it is prime.

## 9. Principal ideal domains

- **Principal ideal domain (PID):** integral domain where every ideal is principal.
- $\mathbb{Z}$ ,  $F[x]$ ,  $\mathbb{Z}[i]$  and  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{\pm 2}]$  are PIDs.
- Every PID is a UFD.
- Let  $R$  be PID and  $a, b \in R$ . Then  $d = \gcd(a, b)$  exists and  $(d) = (a, b)$ .

## 10. Fields as quotients

- Let  $R$  be PID,  $a \in R$  irreducible. Then  $(a)$  is maximal.
- Let  $f(x) \in F[x]$  irreducible. Then  $F[x] / (f(x))$  is field and  $F[x] / (f(x))$  is a vector space over  $F$  with basis  $\{\overline{1}, \overline{x}, \dots, \overline{x}^{n-1}\}$  where  $n = \deg(f)$ . So every element in  $F[x] / f(x)$  can be uniquely written as  $a_0 + a_1x + \dots + a_{n-1}x^{n-1}$ ,  $a_i \in F$ .
- Let  $p$  prime and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , then there exists irreducible  $f(x) \in (\mathbb{Z} / p)[x]$  with  $\deg(f) = n$  and  $(\mathbb{Z} / p)[x] / (f(x))$  is a field with  $p^n$  elements. Any two such fields are isomorphic so unique (up to isomorphism) field with  $p^n$  elements is written  $\mathbb{F}_{p^n}$ .

## 11. The Chinese remainder theorem

- $a, b \in R$  **coprime** if no irreducible element divides  $a$  and  $b$ .
- Let  $R$  be PID,  $a, b \in R$  coprime. Then  $(a, b) = (1) = R$  so  $ax + by = 1$  for some  $x, y \in R$ . So any  $\gcd(a, b)$  is a unit.
- **Chinese remainder theorem (CRT):** Let  $R$  be PID,  $a_1, \dots, a_k$  pairwise coprime. Then

$$\varphi : R / (a_1 \cdots a_k) \rightarrow R / (a_1) \times \cdots \times R / (a_k)$$

$$\varphi(r + (a_1 \cdots a_k)) = (r + (a_1), \dots, r + (a_k))$$

is an isomorphism.

## 12. Basics of groups

- **Group**  $(G, \circ)$ : set  $G$  with binary operation  $\circ : G \times G \rightarrow G$  satisfying:
  - **Closure**:  $g \circ h \in G, h \circ g \in G$ .
  - **Associativity**:  $a \circ (b \circ c) = (a \circ b) \circ c$ .
  - **Identity**:  $g \circ e = g$  and  $e \circ g = g$  for some  $e \in G$ .
  - **Inverse**:  $g \circ h = h \circ g = e$  for some  $h = g^{-1} \in G$ .
- Group **abelian** if  $\circ$  commutative:  $g \circ h = h \circ g$ .
- $H \subseteq G$  is **subgroup** of  $(G, \circ)$ ,  $H < G$  if  $H$  is group under same operation.
- Subgroup  $H$  **proper** if  $H \neq \{e\}$  and  $H \neq G$ .
- **Subgroup criterion**:  $H < G$  iff:
  - $H$  non-empty.
  - $h_1, h_2 \in H \implies h_1 \circ h_2 \in H$ .
  - $h \in H \implies h^{-1} \in H$ .
- **Order** of group  $G$  is number of elements in it,  $|G|$ .
- **Lagrange's theorem**: Let  $G$  finite,  $H < G$ , then

$$\#H \mid \#G$$

- Let  $H < G, g \in G$ . **Left coset** of  $g$  with respect to  $H$  in  $G$ :

$$g \circ H := \{g \circ h : h \in H\}$$

- All left cosets with respect to  $H$  have same cardinality as cardinality of  $H$ .
- **Right coset** of  $g \in G$  with respect to  $H < G$  in  $G$ :

$$H \circ g := \{h \circ g : h \in H\}$$

- $H < G$  **normal**,  $H \triangleleft G$ , if  $\forall g \in G, gH = Hg$ .
- $H$  is normal iff  $\forall g \in G$ ,

$$\forall h \in H, ghg^{-1} \in H \iff gHg^{-1} \subset H$$

where  $gHg^{-1} = \{ghg^{-1} : h \in H\}$ .

- Every subgroup of abelian group is normal.
- **Subgroup of  $G$  generated by  $g$** :

$$\langle g \rangle := \{g^n : n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$$

- **Subgroup of  $G$  generated by  $S \subseteq G$** :

$$\langle S \rangle := \{\text{all finite products of elements in } S \text{ and their inverses}\}$$

so if  $G$  abelian (doesn't hold for non-abelian), for  $S = \{g_1, \dots, g_n\}$ ,

$$\langle S \rangle = \{g_1^{a_1} \cdots g_n^{a_n} : a_i \in \mathbb{Z}\}$$

- If  $G$  not abelian,

$$\langle g, h \rangle = \{g^{a_1} h^{b_1} \cdots g^{a_m} h^{b_m}\}$$

- **Order** of  $g \in G$ ,  $\text{ord}_G(g)$  is smallest  $r > 0$  such that  $g^r = e$ . If  $r$  doesn't exist, order is  $\infty$ .

- Order of  $\overline{m} \in \mathbb{Z} / n$  is  $n / \gcd(m, n)$ .

### 13. Specific families of groups

- Quaternion group:

$$Q_8 = \{\pm 1 \pm i, \pm j, \pm k\}, \quad i^2 = j^2 = k^2 = -1, ij = k = -ji$$

- **Cyclic group**: can be generated by single element.
- **Example of cyclic group**:

$$C_n = \left\{ e^{\frac{2\pi i}{n}k} : 0 \leq k < n \right\}$$

- Cyclic groups are abelian.
- If  $|G|$  is prime,  $G$  is cyclic and is generated by any  $e \neq g \in G$ .
- **Permutation** of  $X \neq \emptyset$ : bijection  $X \rightarrow X$ .
- $S_X := \{\text{bijection } X \rightarrow X\}$ .
- **Notation**:  $S_n := S_{\{1, \dots, n\}}$ .
- $(S_X, \circ)$  is group where  $\circ$  is composition of permutations.
- $(S_n, \circ)$  is **symmetric group of degree  $n$**  (or **symmetric group on  $n$  letters**).
- **Notation**: write  $\sigma \in S_n$  as

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & \dots & n \\ \sigma(1) & \sigma(2) & \dots & \sigma(n) \end{bmatrix}$$

- $|S_n| = n!$ .
- **Cycle of length  $k$  (or  $k$ -cycle)**: permutation  $\sigma$  in  $S_n$ , with

$$\sigma(i_1) = i_2, \quad \sigma(i_2) = i_3, \dots, \sigma(i_{k-1}) = i_k, \quad \sigma(i_k) = i_1$$

and leaves all other elements fixed. Write as  $(i_1 \ i_2 \ \dots \ i_k)$  or

$$\begin{bmatrix} i_1 & i_2 & \dots & i_k \\ i_2 & i_3 & \dots & i_1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- 2-cycles are **transpositions** (or **inversions**).
- $k$ -cycle has order  $k$ .
- There are  $k$  ways of writing  $k$  cycle.
- Cycles are **disjoint** if they don't have any common elements.
- Disjoint cycles commute.
- Every permutation is product of disjoint cycles, unique up to swapping cycles and  $k$  ways of writing a  $k$ -cycle.
- $k$ -cycle can be written as product of transpositions:

$$(i_1 \ i_2 \ \dots \ i_k) = (i_1 \ i_2)(i_2 \ i_3) \cdots (i_{k-1} \ i_k)$$

- When composing cycles, **work right to left**.
- $g, g' \in G$  **conjugate** in  $G$  to each other if for some  $h \in G$ ,  $hgh^{-1} = g'$ .
- Any conjugate of transposition in  $S_n$  is transposition.
- Every  $\sigma \in S_n$  can be factored into product of transpositions.

- **Parity** of number of transpositions needed in any factorisation of  $\sigma$  is the same. So remainder of this number modulo 2 is well-defined.
- Element made of disjoint cycles of lengths  $k_1, \dots, k_m$  has order  $\text{lcm}(k_1, \dots, k_m)$ .
- **Sign of permutation  $\sigma$ :**

$$\text{sgn}(\sigma) := (-1)^t = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } t \text{ is even} \\ -1 & \text{if } t \text{ is odd} \end{cases}$$

where  $t$  is number of transpositions needed in factorisation of  $\sigma$ . If  $t$  even,  $\sigma$  is **even**, else  $\sigma$  is **odd**.

- **Alternating group,  $A_n$ :** subgroup of even permutations of  $S_n$ .
- $|A_n| = \frac{n!}{2}$ .
- $A_n$  normal in  $S_n$ .
- $A_n$  generated by 3-cycles.
- **Isometry:** map from plane to itself which preserves distances between points.
- For  $n \geq 3$ , there are  $2n$  isometries of the plane which preserve regular  $n$ -gon.
- Group of isometries of regular  $n$ -gon form group, the **dihedral group,  $D_n$** .
- **$D_n$  alternative definition:** group with two generators  $r$  (rotation) and  $s$  (reflection), with  $srs^{-1} = r^{-1}$ ,  $r^n = e$  and  $s^2 = e$ . So  $D_n = \langle r, s \rangle$ .
- Every element in  $D_n$  can be written  $r^j s^k$ ,  $0 \leq j < n$ ,  $0 \leq k \leq 1$ .
- $|D_n| = 2n$ .
- Rotations of plane which preserve regular  $n$ -gon form cyclic subgroup of  $D_n$ , which is normal in  $D_n$ .

## 14. Relating, identifying and distinguishing groups

- **Group homomorphism:** map  $\varphi : G \rightarrow G'$  between groups, with

$$\varphi(g_1 g_2) = \varphi(g_1) \varphi(g_2)$$

- **Group isomorphism:** bijective group homomorphism.
- $G$  and  $G'$  **isomorphic**,  $G \cong G'$  if exists isomorphism between them.
- **Kernel** of group homomorphism:

$$\ker(\varphi) := \{g \in G : \varphi(g) = e\}$$

- **Image** of group homomorphism:

$$\text{im}(\varphi) := \{\varphi(g) : g \in G\}$$

- $\ker(\varphi)$  is normal subgroup of  $G$ .
- $\text{im}(\varphi)$  is subgroup of  $G'$ .
- Let  $N$  normal subgroup of  $G$ . **Quotient group (factor group)** of  $G$  with respect to  $N$ , is  $G / N := \{gN : g \in G\}$ , with group multiplication

$$(g_1 N)(g_2 N) = (g_1 g_2) N$$

and inverse

$$(gN)^{-1} = (g^{-1})N$$



- **First isomorphism theorem for groups (FIT):** let  $\varphi : G \rightarrow G'$  homomorphism, then

$$G / \ker(\varphi) \cong \text{im}(\varphi)$$

- Let  $p$  prime, then every group of order  $p$  is isomorphic to  $(\mathbb{Z} / p, +)$ .
- Each cyclic group of order  $n$  isomorphic to  $(\mathbb{Z} / n, +)$ .
- Each infinite cyclic group isomorphic to  $(\mathbb{Z}, +)$ .
- For groups  $G, H$ ,  $G \times H$  also a group, with  $e = (e_G, e_H)$ ,  
 $(g, h) \circ (g', h') = (g \circ_G g', h \circ_H h')$ , inverse  $(g, h)^{-1} = (g^{-1}, h^{-1})$ .
- $\mathbb{Z} / 2 \times \mathbb{Z} / 3 \cong \mathbb{Z} / 6$ .
- $\mathbb{Z} / (mn) \cong \mathbb{Z} / m \times \mathbb{Z} / n \iff \gcd(m, n) = 1$ .
- Group isomorphism preserves:
  - Order of group.
  - Set of orders of elements (with multiplicity - i.e. count repeated occurrences of an order).
  - Size of its centre.
  - Property of being abelian/non-abelian.
  - Property of having proper (normal) subgroups and their sizes.
- **Notation:** for  $E_1, E_2 \subseteq G$ ,

$$E_1 \circ E_2 := \{e_1 \circ e_2 : e_1 \in E_1, e_2 \in E_2\}$$

- Let  $H, K$  subgroups of  $G$  with:
  - $H \circ K = G$ ,
  - $H \cap K = \{e\}$ ,
  - $\forall h \in H, k \in K, hk = kh$ .

Then  $G \cong H \times K$ .

- Group of symmetries of unit cube in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  isomorphic to  $S_4$ .
- **Cayley's theorem:** Every group  $(G, \cdot)$  is isomorphic to a subgroup of  $(S_G, \circ)$  where  $S_G$  is set of bijections of  $G$  by the isomorphism  $\psi(g) = L_g$ , where  $L_g(h) = gh$ .

## 15. Group actions

- **Action of group  $G$  on non-empty set  $X$ :** homomorphism

$$\varphi : G \rightarrow S_X$$

$G$  acts on  $X$ .

- Let  $\varphi : G \rightarrow S_X$  group action,  $x \in X$ . **Orbit** of  $x$  inside  $X$  is

$$G(x) := \mathcal{O}(x) := \{\varphi(g)(x) : g \in G\}$$

- Let  $\varphi : G \rightarrow S_X$  group action,  $x \in X$ . **Stabiliser** of  $x$  in  $G$  is

$$G_x := \text{Stab}_G(x) := \{g \in G : \varphi(g)(x) = x\}$$

- For every  $x \in X$ ,  $\text{Stab}_G(x)$  is subgroup of  $G$ .
- **Notation:** can write  $g(x)$  instead of  $\varphi(g)(x)$ .
- Let  $\varphi : G \rightarrow S_X$  group action. Then all orbits  $\mathcal{O}(x)$  partition  $X$  so:
  - Every orbit non-empty subset of  $X$ .
  - Union of all orbits is  $X$ .
  - Two orbits either disjoint or equal.

- Action of group on itself:
  - By left translation:  $g(h) = gh$ .
  - By conjugation:  $g(h) = ghg^{-1}$ .
- **Conjugacy class** of  $g \in G$  is set of all elements conjugate to  $g$ :

$$\text{ccl}_G(g) := \{hgh^{-1} : h \in G\}$$

- Conjugacy class of  $g$  is orbit of conjugation action of  $g$ .
- Conjugacy classes of  $G$  all of size 1 iff  $G$  abelian.
- **Orbit-stabiliser theorem**: Let  $G$  act on  $X$ . Then  $\forall x \in X$ , exists bijection

$$\begin{aligned} \beta : \mathcal{O}(x) &\rightarrow \{\text{left cosets of } \text{Stab}_G(x) \text{ in } G\} \\ \beta(g(x)) &= g\text{Stab}_G(x) \end{aligned}$$

- **Consequence of Orbit-Stabiliser theorem**: if finite  $G$  acts on finite  $X$ , then  $\forall x \in X$ ,

$$|\mathcal{O}(x)| \cdot |\text{Stab}_G(x)| = |G|$$

- So size of each conjugacy class in  $G$  divides  $|G|$ .
- If  $x \in \mathcal{O}(y)$ , then  $\text{Stab}_G(x)$  and  $\text{Stab}_G(y)$  conjugate to each other:

$$\exists h \in G, \quad \text{Stab}_G(x) = h\text{Stab}_G(y)h^{-1}$$

(here  $h(y) = x$ ).

## 16. Cauchy's theorem and classification of groups of order $2p$

- **Cauchy's theorem**: let  $G$  finite group,  $p$  prime,  $p \mid |G|$ . Then exists subgroup of  $G$  of order  $p$ .
- Let  $p$  odd prime, then any group of order  $2p$  is either cyclic or dihedral.

## 17. Classification of groups of order $p^2$

- **Centre** of group  $G$ :

$$Z(G) := \{g \in G : \forall h \in G, gh = hg\}$$

- $Z(G)$  is normal subgroup of  $G$ .
- $Z(G)$  is union of all conjugacy classes of size 1. So every  $z \in Z(G)$  has  $|\text{ccl}_G(z)| = 1$ .
- $Z(G) = G$  iff  $G$  abelian.
- If  $G$  acts on itself via conjugation then for every  $h \in G$ ,  $Z(G) \subset \text{Stab}_G(h)$ .
- Let  $p$  prime,  $|G| = p^r$ ,  $r \geq 0$ . Then  $Z(G)$  non-trivial ( $Z(G) \neq \{e\}$ ).
- If  $|G| = p^2$ ,  $p$  prime, then  $G$  abelian.
- Let  $p$  prime,  $|G| = p^2$ . Then  $G \cong \mathbb{Z} / p^2$  or  $G \cong \mathbb{Z} / p \times \mathbb{Z} / p$ .
- **Sylow's theorem**: let  $G$  group,  $|G| = p^r m$ ,  $\gcd(p, m) = 1$ . Then  $G$  has subgroup of order  $p^r$  (and subgroup of order  $p^i$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq r$ ).

## 18. Classification of finitely generated abelian groups

- $G$  **finitely generated** if exists set  $\{g_1, \dots, g_r\}$  such that  $G = \langle g_1, \dots, g_r \rangle$ .
- Any finitely generated abelian group can be written as

$$G \cong \mathbb{Z}^n / K$$

for some  $n \geq 0$ ,  $K$  is subgroup of  $\mathbb{Z}^n$ ,  $K = \{\underline{a} \in \mathbb{Z}^n : a_1 g_1 + \dots + a_n g_n = 0\}$ .  $\underline{a} \in K$  is **relation** and  $K$  is **relation subgroup** of  $G$ .

- $G$  is **free abelian group of rank  $n$**  if no non-trivial solutions in  $K$ , i.e.  
 $a_1 g_1 + \dots + a_r g_r = 0 \implies a_1 = \dots = a_r = 0$ . Here,  $K = \{0\}$ .
- Every subgroup of  $\mathbb{Z}^n$  is free abelian group generated by  $r \leq n$  elements, so  $\text{rank} \leq n$ .
- **Fundamental theorem of finitely generated abelian groups:** let  $G$  be finitely generated abelian group. Then

$$G \cong \mathbb{Z} / d_1 \times \dots \times \mathbb{Z} / d_k \times \mathbb{Z}^r$$

where  $r \geq 0$ ,  $k \geq 0$ ,  $d_j \geq 1$ . If  $d_1 \mid d_2 \mid \dots \mid d_k$  and  $d_1 > 1$ , then this form is unique.

- $r$  is **rank** of  $G$ ,  $d_1, \dots, d_k$  are **torsion invariants (torsion coefficients)**. Torsion coefficients are given with repetitions (multiplicities).
- To classify all groups of order  $n$ , use that  $d_1 \dots d_k = n$  and  $1 < d_1 \mid d_2 \mid \dots \mid d_k$ .
- Let  $e \neq x \in S_n$  be written as product of disjoint cycles:

$$x = (a_1 \ a_2 \ \dots \ a_{k_1}) (b_1 \ b_2 \ \dots \ b_{k_2}) \dots (t_1 \ t_2 \ \dots \ t_{k_r})$$

where  $r \geq 1$ ,  $2 \leq k_1 \leq k_2 \leq \dots \leq k_r$ ,  $n \geq k_1 + \dots + k_r$ . Then  $x$  has **cycle shape**  $[k_1, k_2, \dots, k_r]$ .

- Let  $x = (i_1 \ i_2 \ \dots \ i_k) \in S_n$ ,  $g \in S_n$ . Then action of  $g$  on  $x$  by conjugation is

$$gxg^{-1} = (g(i_1) \ g(i_2) \ \dots \ g(i_k))$$

- Let  $x \in S_n$ , then  $\text{ccl}_{S_n}(x)$  consists of all permutations with same cycle shape as  $x$ .
- Conjugacy classes of  $S_n$  have cycle shapes given by non-decreasing partitions of  $n$ , without 1 (except for cycle shape  $[1]$ ).
- Let  $x = (a_1 \ a_2 \ \dots \ a_m) \in S_n$ , then

$$\gamma(n; m) := |\text{ccl}_{S_n}(x)| = \frac{n(n-1) \dots (n-m+1)}{m}$$

- Let  $x \in S_n$  have cycle shape  $[m_1, \dots, m_r]$ ,  $m_1 < m_2 < \dots < m_r$ . Then

$$\gamma(n; m_1, \dots, m_r) := |\text{ccl}_{S_n}(x)| = \prod_{k=1}^r \gamma\left(n - \sum_{i=1}^{k-1} m_i; m_k\right)$$

- Let  $x \in S_n$  has cycle shape  $[m_1, \dots, m_1, m_2, \dots, m_2, \dots, m_r, \dots, m_r]$ ,  $m_1 < m_2 < \dots < m_r$ ,  $m_i$  repeated  $s_i$  times, then number of elements of that cycle shape is

$$|\text{ccl}_{S_n}(x)| = \frac{\gamma(n; m_1, \dots, m_1, m_2, \dots, m_2, \dots, m_r, \dots, m_r)}{s_1! s_2! \dots s_r!}$$

- Let  $H$  subgroup of  $G$ . Then  $H$  normal in  $G$  iff  $H$  is union of conjugacy classes of  $G$ .
- So if  $H$  normal then sum of sizes of its conjugacy classes divides  $|G|$ . But converse doesn't imply  $H$  is subgroup.
- To find all normal subgroups  $H$  of  $S_n$ , use that size of  $H$  is sum of sizes of conjugacy classes of  $S_n$ . Use formula above to work out all possible sizes of conjugacy classes, and fact that  $H$  must contain identity so must include 1 in its sum (size of conjugacy class of 1

is 1). Then use Lagrange's theorem to restrict the possible sums of the sizes. Then check that each set formed by the union is a group.