

Foreword

Usage

- Notes are presented in two columns: main notes on the left, and sidenotes on the right. Main notes will have a larger margin.
- The following is the color code for the notes:

Blue	Definitions
Red	Important points
Yellow	Points to watch out for / comment for incompleteness
Green	External definitions, theorems, etc.
Light Blue	Regular highlighting
Brown	Secondary highlighting
- The following is the color code for boxes, that begin and end with a line of the same color:

Blue	Definitions
Red	Warning
Yellow	Notes, remarks, etc.
Brown	Proofs
Magenta	Theorems, Propositions, Lemmas, etc.
- Hyperlinks are underlined in magenta. If your PDF reader supports it, you can follow the links to either be redirected to an external website, or a theorem, definition, etc., in the same document. Note that this is only reliable if you have the full set of notes as a single document, which you can find on:
https://japorized.github.io/TeX_notes

7 Lecture 7 May 16th 2018

7.1 Subgroups (Continued 3)

7.1.1 Order of Elements (Continued)

Example 7.1.1

Consider $(\mathbb{Z}, +)$. Note that $\forall k \in \mathbb{Z}$, we can write $k = k \cdot 1 = \underbrace{1 + 1 + \dots + 1}_{k \text{ times}}$.

So we have that $(\mathbb{Z}, +) = \langle 1 \rangle$. Similarly, we would have $(\mathbb{Z}, +) = \langle -1 \rangle$.

However, observe that $\forall n \in \mathbb{Z}$ with $n \neq \pm 1$, there is no $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $k \cdot n = 1$. Therefore, ± 1 are the only *generators* of \mathbb{Z} .

Let G be a group and $g \in G$. Suppose $\exists k \in \mathbb{Z}$ with $k \neq 0$ such that $g^k = 1$. Then $g^{-k} = (g^k)^{-1} = 1$. Thus wlog, we can assume that $k \geq 1$. By the **Well Ordering Principle**, $\exists n \in \mathbb{N}$ such that n is the smallest, such that $g^n = 1$.

With that, we may have the following definition:

Definition 16 (Order of an Element)

Let G be a group and $g \in G$. If n is the smallest positive integer such that $g^n = 1$, we say that the order of g is n , denoted by $o(g) = n$.

If no such n exists, then we say that g has infinite order and write $o(g) = \infty$.

Proposition 13 (Properties of Elements of Finite Order)

Let G be a group with $g \in G$ where $o(g) = n \in \mathbb{N}$. Then

1. $g^k = 1 \iff n|k$;
2. $g^k = g^m \iff k \equiv m \pmod n$; and
3. $\langle g \rangle = \{1, g, g^2, \dots, g^{n-1}\}$ where each g^i is distinct from others.

Proof

1. (\Leftarrow) If $n|k$, then $k = nq$ for some $q \in \mathbb{Z}$. Then

$$g^k = g^{nq} = (g^n)^q = 1^q = 1$$

(\Rightarrow) Suppose $g^k = 1$. Since $k \in \mathbb{Z}$, the **Division Algorithm**, we can write $k = nq + r$ with $q, r \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $0 \leq r < n$. Note $g^n = 1$. Thus

$$g^r = g^{k-nq} = g^k (g^n)^{-q} = 1 \cdot 1 = 1.$$

Since $0 \leq r < n$, we must have that $r = 0$. Thus $n|k$.

2. (\Rightarrow) $g^k = g^m \implies g^{k-m} = 1 \xrightarrow{\text{by 1}} n|(k-m) \iff k \equiv m \pmod n$

(\Leftarrow) $k \equiv m \pmod n \implies \exists q \in \mathbb{Z} \ k = qn + m$. The result follows from 1.

3. (\supseteq) is clear by definition of $\langle g \rangle = \{g^k : k \in \mathbb{Z}\}$.

To prove (\subseteq), let $x = g^k \in \langle g \rangle$ for some $k \in \mathbb{Z}$. By the **Division Algorithm**, $k = nq + r$ for some $q, r \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $0 \leq r < n$. Then

$$x = g^k = g^{nq+r} = g^{nq} g^r \stackrel{\text{by 1}}{=} g^r.$$

Since $0 \leq r < n$, we have that $x \in \{1, g, g^2, \dots, g^{n-1}\}$. Thus $\langle g \rangle = \{1, g, g^2, \dots, g^{n-1}\}$.

It remains to show that all the elements in $\langle g \rangle$ are distinct. Suppose $g^k = g^m$ for some $k, m \in \mathbb{Z}$ with $0 \leq k, m < n$. By 2, we have that $k \equiv m \pmod n$. Therefore, $k = m$.

We can also use 1 by the fact that $g^{k-m} = 1$ from assumption to complete the uniqueness proof.

□

Proposition 14 (Property of Elements of Infinite Order)

Let G be a group, and $g \in G$ such that $o(g) = \infty$. Then

1. $g^k = 1 \iff k = 0$;
2. $g^k = g^r \iff k = r$;
3. $\langle g \rangle = \{\dots, g^{-2}, g^{-1}1, g, g^2, \dots\}$ where each g^i is distinct from others.

Proof

It suffices to prove 1, since 2 easily becomes true with 1, and $2 \implies 3$.

1. $(\iff) g^0 = 1$

(\implies) Suppose for contradiction that $g^k = 1$ for some $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ $k \neq 0$. Then $g^{-k} = (g^k)^{-1} = 1$. Then we can assume that $k \geq 1$. This, however, implies that $o(g)$ is finite, which contradicts our assumption. Thus $k = 0$.

- 2.

$$g^k = g^m \iff g^{k-m} = 1 \xrightarrow{\text{by 1}} k - m = 0 \iff k = m$$

□

Proposition 15 (Orders of Powers of the Element)

Let G be a group, and $g \in G$ with $o(g) = n \in \mathbb{N}$. We have that

$$\forall d \in \mathbb{N} \quad d \mid n \implies o(g^d) = \frac{n}{d}$$

Proof

Let $k = \frac{n}{d}$. Note that $(g^d)^k = g^n = 1$. It remains to show that k is the smallest such positive integer. Suppose $\exists r \in \mathbb{N} \quad (g^d)^r = 1$. Since $o(g) = n$, then $n \mid dr$. Then $\exists q \in \mathbb{Z} \quad dr = nq$ by definition of divisibility. $\therefore n = dk$ and $d \neq 0$, we have

$$dr = dkq \xrightarrow{d \neq 0} r = kq \implies r > k \quad \because r, k \in \mathbb{N} \implies q \in \mathbb{N}$$

□

7.1.2 Cyclic Groups

Recall the definition of a cyclic groups.

Definition 17 (Cyclic Groups)

Let G be a group and $g \in G$. Then we call $\langle g \rangle$ the *cyclic subgroup* of G generated by g . If $G = \langle g \rangle$ for some $g \in G$, then we say that G is a *cyclic group*, and g is a *generator* of G .

Proposition 16 (Cyclic Groups are Abelian)

All cyclic groups are abelian.

Proof

Note that a cyclic group G is of the form $G = \langle g \rangle$. So

$$\begin{aligned} \forall a, b \in G \quad \exists m, n \in \mathbb{Z} \quad a = g^m \wedge b = g^n \\ a \cdot b = g^m g^n = g^{m+n} = g^{n+m} = g^n g^m = b \cdot a \end{aligned}$$

□