

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

18 Lecture 18 Jun 13th 2018

18.1 Finite Abelian Groups

18.1.1 Primary Decomposition

Note (Notation)

Let G be an abelian group and $m \in \mathbb{Z}$. We define

$$G^{(m)} := \{g \in G : g^m = 1\}$$

Proposition 50 (Group of Elements of the Same Order is a Subgroup)

Let G be an abelian group. Then $G^{(m)} \leq G$.

Proof

Note that $1^m = 1 \in G^{(m)}$. $\forall g, h \in G^{(m)}$, since G is abelian, we have that¹

$$(gh)^m = g^m h^m = 1 \cdot 1 = 1.$$

Therefore $gh \in G^{(m)}$. Also, for $g \in G^{(m)}$, we have

$$(g^{-1})^m = (g^m)^{-1} = 1.$$

Thus $g^{-1} \in G^{(m)}$. By the **Subgroup Test**, we have that $G^{(m)} \leq G$. \square

¹ Pay attention that this is only true if G is abelian.

Proposition 51 (Decomposition of a Finite Abelian Group)

Let G be a finite abelian group with $|G| = mk$ such that $\gcd(m, k) = 1$.
Then

1. $G \cong G^{(m)} \times G^{(k)}$; and
2. $|G^{(m)}| = m$ and $|G^{(k)}| = k$.

Proof

1. Since G is abelian, $G^{(m)} \triangleleft G$ and $G^{(k)} \triangleleft G$.

Claim 1: $G^{(m)} \cap G^{(k)} = \{1\}$

Proof of Claim 1: $\forall g \in G^{(m)} \cap G^{(k)}, g^m = 1 = g^k$

$\therefore \gcd(m, k) = 1$, by **Bezout's Lemma**, $\exists x, y \in \mathbb{Z} \quad 1 = mx + ky$

$$\implies g = g^1 = g^{mx+ky} = (g^m)^x (g^k)^y = 1 \cdot 1 = 1$$

$\implies G^{(m)} \cap G^{(k)} = \{1\}$ as claimed.

Claim 2: $G = G^{(m)} G^{(k)}$ ²

² Recall that this is the Product

$$\forall g \in G \quad \therefore o(g) = mk \quad 1 = g^{mk} = (g^k)^m = (g^m)^k$$

It follows that $g^k \in G^{(m)}$ and $g^m \in G^{(k)}$. From **Claim 1** and by abelianness, we have that

$$g = g^{mx+ky} = (g^k)^y (g^m)^x \in G^{(m)} G^{(k)}$$

Thus $G \subseteq G^{(m)} G^{(k)}$. On the other hand, since $G^{(m)} \triangleleft G$ and $G^{(k)} \triangleleft G$, by Lemma 29, we have that $G^{(m)} G^{(k)} \leq G$ and hence $G^{(m)} G^{(k)} \subseteq G$.

Thus $G = G^{(m)} G^{(k)}$ as claimed.

From **Claims 1 and 2**, we can conclude by Corollary 33³, that $G \cong G^{(m)} \times G^{(k)}$ as required.

³ Should this not be Theorem 32?

2. Write $|G^{(m)}| = m'$ and $|G^{(k)}| = k'$. By part (1), we have that $mk = |G| = m'k'$.

Claim 3: $\gcd(m, k') = 1$

Suppose not

$$\implies \exists p \text{ prime} \quad p \mid m \text{ and } p \mid k'$$

$$\implies \exists g \in G^{(k)} \quad o(g) = p \quad \therefore \text{Cauchy's Theorem}$$

$$\text{Now } p \mid m \implies \exists q \in \mathbb{Z} \quad m = pq$$

$$\implies g^m = g^{pq} = 1 \quad \therefore o(g) = p$$

$$\implies g \in G^{(m)}.$$

By part (1), we have that $g \in G^{(m)} \cap G^{(k)} = \{1\} \implies g = 1$, which

contradicts the fact that $o(g) = p$. Thus $\gcd(m, k') = 1$ as claimed. Similarly, we can get that $\gcd(m', k) = 1$.

Notice that $mk = m'k' \implies m \mid m'k'$
 $\implies m \mid m' \quad \because \gcd(m, k') = 1$ and similarly $k \mid k'$. But then $mk = m'k'$ would imply that $m' = m$ and $k' = k$.

□

As a direct consequence of Proposition 51, we have the following:

Theorem 52 (Primary Decomposition)

Let G be a finite abelian group with $|G| = p_1^{n_1} \cdots p_k^{n_k}$, where p_1, \dots, p_k are distinct primes, and $n_1, \dots, n_k \in \mathbb{N}$. Then

1. $G \cong G^{(p_1^{n_1})} \times \cdots \times G^{(p_k^{n_k})}$; and
 2. $\forall i \ 1 \leq i \leq k \quad \left| G^{(p_i^{n_i})} \right| = p_i^{n_i}$.
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18.1.2 p -Groups

On a related note of the groups $G^{(p_i^{n_i})}$, we define the following:

Definition 30 (p-Group)

Let p be a prime. A **p -group** is a group in which every element has an order that is a non-negative power of p .

Proposition 53 (p-Groups are Finite)

A finite group G is a p -group $\iff |G|$ is a power of p (including p^0).

Proof

(\Leftarrow) If $|G| = p^\alpha$ for some $\alpha \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$ and $g \in G$, by Corollary 24, $o(g) \mid p^\alpha$

$\implies G$ is a p -group.

(\implies) Consider the contrapositive and let $|G| = p^n p_2^{n_2} \dots p_k^{n_k}$ where p, p_2, \dots, p_k are distinct primes, $n \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$, and $n_2, \dots, n_k \in \mathbb{N}$. For $k \geq 2$, by Cauchy's Theorem, $p_2 \mid |G|$

$\implies \exists g_1 \in G \quad o(g_1) = p_2$

$\implies G$ is not a p -group.

Therefore, our desired result follows. \square

OUR END GOAL here is to prove to ourselves that all finite abelian groups can be written as cross products of cyclic groups, i.e. if G is an abelian group, then

$$G \cong C_1 \times C_2 \times \dots \times C_n.$$

With Theorem 52, we have that

$$G \cong G_1 \times G_2 \times \dots \times G_n.$$

The following proposition will enable us to get to our goal from our current position:

Proposition (Finite Abelian p -Groups of order p are Cyclic)

If G is a finite abelian p -group that contains only one subgroup of order p , where p is prime, then G is cyclic. In other words, if a finite abelian p -group is not cyclic, then it must have at least 2 subgroups of order p .