

Homework 2

PH 431

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Date: October 16, 2017

4.4.8

List all of the cyclic subgroups of $U(30)$.

Recall that $U(30)$ is the set of elements in \mathbb{Z}_{30} that are relatively prime to 30. Thus:

$$U(30) = \{1, 7, 11, 13, 17, 19, 23, 29\}$$

We have that $1 = id$ for $U(30)$ but $\langle 1 \rangle$ is a trivial subgroup. We can calculate the other cyclic subgroups by analyzing powers of each element of $U(30)$. We have that:

$$\begin{array}{l} 7 \\ 7^2 \mod (30) = 19 \\ 7^3 \mod (30) = 13 \\ 7^4 \mod (30) = 1 \\ 11 \\ 11^2 \mod (30) = 1 \\ 13 \\ 13^2 \mod (30) = 19 \\ 13^3 \mod (30) = 7 \\ 13^4 \mod (30) = 1 \\ 17 \\ 17^2 \mod (30) = 19 \\ 17^3 \mod (30) = 23 \\ 17^4 \mod (30) = 1 \\ 23 \\ 23^2 \mod (30) = 19 \\ 23^3 \mod (30) = 17 \\ 23^4 \mod (30) = 1 \\ 29 \\ 29^2 \mod (30) = 1 \end{array}$$

Thus from this information we can conclude that the cyclic subgroups of $U(30)$ are:

$$\begin{array}{l} \langle 7 \rangle = \langle 13 \rangle = \{1, 7, 13, 19\} \\ \langle 11 \rangle = \{1, 11\} \\ \langle 17 \rangle = \langle 23 \rangle = \{1, 17, 19, 23\} \\ \langle 29 \rangle = \{1, 29\} \end{array}$$

4.4.25

Let p be prime and r be a positive integer. How many generators does \mathbb{Z}_{p^r} have?

Note that \mathbb{Z}_{p^r} has exactly p^r elements. Now, an element g of \mathbb{Z}_{p^r} is a generator if $1 \leq g < p^r$ and $\gcd(g, p^r) = 1$. Since p is prime, the only possible values of $\gcd(g, p^r)$ are p, p^2, p^3, \dots, p^r . The only way $\gcd(g, p^r) \neq 1$ is if $g = mp$ for some integer m . This set is:

$$\{p, 2p, 3p, \dots, pp, 2pp, 3pp, \dots, p^3, 2p^3, 3p^3, \dots, p^{r-1}, 2p^{r-1}, \dots, pp^{r-1}\}$$

We can see this set has p^{r-1} elements and so the set of values with $\gcd(g, p^r) = 1$ has $p^r - p^{r-1}$ elements. Thus by definition, \mathbb{Z}_{p^r} has $p^r - p^{r-1}$ elements.

4.3.2.d

evaluate $(1423)(34)(56)(1324)$.

To evaluate this composition of cycles, I will first name each one and then list out the full mapping for each cycle as I'm still getting used to cycle notation.

$$\delta = (1432) \quad \gamma = (34) \quad \beta = (56) \quad \alpha = (1324)$$

And the mappings are:

$$\begin{array}{llll} \delta(1) = 4 & \gamma(1) = 1 & \beta(1) = 1 & \alpha(1) = 3 \\ \delta(2) = 3 & \gamma(2) = 2 & \beta(2) = 2 & \alpha(2) = 4 \\ \delta(3) = 1 & \gamma(3) = 4 & \beta(3) = 3 & \alpha(3) = 2 \\ \delta(4) = 2 & \gamma(4) = 3 & \beta(4) = 4 & \alpha(4) = 1 \\ \delta(5) = 5 & \gamma(5) = 5 & \beta(5) = 6 & \alpha(5) = 5 \\ \delta(6) = 6 & \gamma(6) = 6 & \beta(6) = 5 & \alpha(6) = 6 \end{array}$$

Thus we have that the following is the mapping for the composition of cycles $\delta\gamma\beta\alpha$:

$$\begin{array}{l} \delta\gamma\beta\alpha(1) = \delta\gamma\beta(3) = \delta\gamma(3) = \delta(4) = 2 \\ \delta\gamma\beta\alpha(2) = \delta\gamma\beta(4) = \delta\gamma(4) = \delta(3) = 1 \\ \delta\gamma\beta\alpha(3) = \delta\gamma\beta(2) = \delta\gamma(2) = \delta(2) = 3 \\ \delta\gamma\beta\alpha(4) = \delta\gamma\beta(1) = \delta\gamma(1) = \delta(1) = 4 \\ \delta\gamma\beta\alpha(5) = \delta\gamma\beta(5) = \delta\gamma(6) = \delta(6) = 6 \\ \delta\gamma\beta\alpha(6) = \delta\gamma\beta(6) = \delta\gamma(5) = \delta(5) = 5 \end{array}$$

From this mapping we can see that 3 and 4 are fixed and therefore this cycle is equivalent to:

$$\delta\gamma\beta\alpha = (12)(56)$$

5.3.3.d

Express the following permutation as a product of transpositions and identify then as even or odd

To begin we will first simplify the cycle as much as possible.

$$\rho = (17254) \quad \tau = (1423) \quad \sigma = (154632)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \rho(1) &= 7 & \tau(1) &= 4 & \sigma(1) &= 5 \\ \rho(2) &= 5 & \tau(2) &= 3 & \sigma(2) &= 1 \\ \rho(3) &= 3 & \tau(3) &= 1 & \sigma(3) &= 2 \\ \rho(4) &= 1 & \tau(4) &= 2 & \sigma(4) &= 6 \\ \rho(5) &= 4 & \tau(5) &= 5 & \sigma(5) &= 4 \\ \rho(6) &= 7 & \tau(6) &= 6 & \sigma(6) &= 3 \\ \rho(7) &= 2 & \tau(7) &= 7 & \sigma(7) &= 7 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \rho\tau\sigma(1) &= \rho\tau(5) = \rho(5) = 4 \\ \rho\tau\sigma(2) &= \rho\tau(1) = \rho(4) = 1 \\ \rho\tau\sigma(3) &= \rho\tau(2) = \rho(3) = 3 \\ \rho\tau\sigma(4) &= \rho\tau(6) = \rho(6) = 6 \\ \rho\tau\sigma(5) &= \rho\tau(4) = \rho(2) = 5 \\ \rho\tau\sigma(6) &= \rho\tau(3) = \rho(1) = 7 \\ \rho\tau\sigma(7) &= \rho\tau(7) = \rho(7) = 2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\rho\tau\sigma = (14672)$$

Now that we have one cycle, we can easily decompose it as follows:

$$(14672) = (12)(17)(16)(14)(31)(13)(51)(15)$$

Counting the number of 2-cycles gives that the original cycle must be an even permutation.

5.3.4

Find $(a_1a_2a_3\dots a_{n-1}a_n)^{-1}$.

Let $\sigma = (a_1a_2a_3\dots a_{n-1}a_n)$. I claim that $\sigma^{-1} = (a_na_{n-1}\dots a_3a_2a_1) = (a_1a_na_{n-1}\dots a_3a_2)$ is the inverse to σ . Let $x = a_i$ then $\sigma(a_{i-1}) = a_i$ and so $\sigma^{-1}(a_i) = a_{i-1}$ hence, the 'reverse order' of σ^{-1} . For $x = a_1$ we have the special case of $\sigma(a_k) = a_1$ and so by definition $\sigma^{-1}(a_1) = a_k$ if $x \neq a_i$ then $\sigma(x) = x$ which implies $\sigma^{-1}(x) = x$. Thus σ^{-1} is the inverse for σ because:

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma^{-1}\sigma(a_{i-1}) &= \sigma^{-1}(a_i) = a_{i-1} \\ \sigma\sigma^{-1}(a_i) &= \sigma(a_{i-1}) = a_i \end{aligned}$$

So every element maps to itself, i.e. $\sigma\sigma^{-1} = \sigma^{-1}\sigma = id$

5.3.18

Show A_n is non-Abelian for $n \geq 4$.

Note that it is sufficient to find two examples from A_4 that do not commute because if they are in A_4 they must also be in every A_n with $n \geq 4$. Let us examine the even permutations $\alpha = (123) = (13)(12)$ and $\beta = (234) = (24)(23)$.

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha\beta &= (123)(234) = (12)(34) \\ \beta\alpha &= (234)(123) = (13)(24) \\ &\Rightarrow \alpha\beta \neq \beta\alpha\end{aligned}$$

Thus since $\alpha, \beta \in A_n, n \geq 4$ we have that A_n is non-Abelian.