

# MAT 150A Homework 8

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1. Choose a subgroup  $H \leq G$ .

Then  $\exists \varepsilon > 0$  s.t.:

- (a)  $\forall t_a \in H, \|a\| \geq \varepsilon$  as  $t_a \in G$
- (b)  $\forall \rho_\theta \in H, |\theta| \geq \varepsilon$  as  $\rho_\theta \in G$

Since our choice of  $H$  was arbitrary, any subgroup  $H \leq G$  is discrete.

2. If a discrete group  $G$  is rotations about the origin, let  $\rho_\theta \in G$  be the smallest rotation.

Choose  $\rho_\psi \in G$ , then  $\exists \varphi \in \mathbb{R}, n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\psi = n\theta + \varphi$  and  $0 \leq \varphi < \theta$ .

Then

$$\begin{aligned}\rho_\psi &= \rho_{n\theta + \varphi} \\ &= \rho_{n\theta} \rho_\varphi \\ &= \rho_\theta^n \rho_\varphi \\ \rho_\theta^{-n} \rho_\psi &= (\rho_\theta^{-n} \rho_\theta^n) \rho_\varphi \\ \rho_\theta^{-n} \rho_\psi &= \rho_\varphi\end{aligned}$$

Since the LHS is in  $G$ , the RHS is also in  $G$ . But, as we chose  $\theta$  as the smallest rotation angle, this implies  $\varphi = 0$ .

$$\begin{aligned}\rho_\theta^{-n} \rho_\psi &= \rho_0 \\ (\rho_\theta^n \rho_\theta^{-n}) \rho_\psi &= \rho_\theta^n \rho_0 \\ \rho_\psi &= \rho_\theta^n \\ \rho_\psi &= \rho_{n\theta}\end{aligned}$$

So we have that  $\psi = n\theta$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Since our choice of  $\rho_\psi$  was arbitrary, this shows that every rotation in  $G$  is generated by the smallest rotation. In other words, a discrete group  $G$  of rotations about the origin is a cyclic group generated by the smallest rotation  $\rho_\theta \in G$ .

3. Choose two elements of  $G$  as  $a = t_a \rho_\theta, b = t_b \rho_\psi$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
aba^{-1}b^{-1} &= (t_a \rho_\theta)(t_b \rho_\psi)(t_a \rho_\theta)^{-1}(t_b \rho_\psi)^{-1} \\
&= (t_a \rho_\theta)(t_b \rho_\psi)(\rho_\theta^{-1} t_a^{-1})(\rho_\psi^{-1} t_b^{-1}) \\
&= (t_a \rho_\theta)(t_b \rho_\psi)(\rho_{-\theta} t_{-a})(\rho_{-\psi} t_{-b}) \\
&= (t_a \rho_\theta) t_b (\rho_\psi \rho_{-\theta}) t_{-a} (\rho_{-\psi} t_{-b}) \\
&= t_a (\rho_\theta t_b) \rho_{\psi-\theta} t_{-a} (\rho_{-\psi} t_{-b}) \\
&= t_a (t_{b'} \rho_\theta) \rho_{\psi-\theta} t_{-a} (\rho_{-\psi} t_{-b}) \\
&= t_{a+b'} (\rho_\theta \rho_{\psi-\theta}) t_{-a} (\rho_{-\psi} t_{-b}) \\
&= t_{a+b'} (\rho_{\theta+\psi-\theta} t_{-a}) (\rho_{-\psi} t_{-b}) \\
&= t_{a+b'} (\rho_\psi t_{-a}) (\rho_{-\psi} t_{-b}) \\
&= (t_{a+b'} t_{-a'}) (\rho_\psi \rho_{-\psi}) t_{-b} \\
&= t_{a+b'-a'} (\rho_\psi \rho_{-\psi}) t_{-b} \\
&= t_{a+b'-a'} \rho_{\psi-\psi} t_{-b} \\
&= t_{a+b'-a'} t_{-b} \\
&= t_{a+b'-a'-b}
\end{aligned}$$

So  $G$  contains a translation.

4. Since  $\mathcal{O}_2$  does not contain translations, we only need concern ourselves with showing:

$$\forall \text{ discrete subgroups } G \leq \mathcal{O}_2, \exists \varepsilon > 0 \text{ s.t. } \forall \rho_\theta \in G, |\theta| \geq \varepsilon$$

Choose a discrete subgroup  $G \leq \mathcal{O}_2$ .

Suppose  $G$  is infinite. That is, there are an infinite number of angles.

Then, for any  $\varepsilon > 0$  we can choose an  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and construct  $n$  divisions from 0 to  $2\pi$  each of size  $\frac{2\pi\varepsilon}{n}$ .

Since  $G$  is infinite, there must be at least two non-zero angles  $\theta, \psi$  such that  $|\theta - \psi| < \frac{2\pi}{n} < \varepsilon \leq |\theta + \psi'|$ .

This means that  $\rho_\theta \rho_\psi \in G$ .

Which also means that  $\rho_\theta \rho_\psi^{-1} = \rho_\theta \rho_{-\psi} = \rho_{\theta-\psi} \in G$ .

But  $\theta - \psi < \varepsilon$ , which would make this not a discrete subgroup by construction.

So our assumption was incorrect and  $G$  must not be infinite.

Thus any discrete subgroup  $G \leq \mathcal{O}_2$  is finite.

5.  $G$  acts transitively on  $G$ -set  $S$  if,  $\forall s_1, s_2 \in S, s_2$  is the orbit of  $s_1$  in  $S$ .

That is,  $O_{s_1} = \{s_2 \in S | s_2 = g s_1 \text{ for some } g \in G\}$

6. We want to show that  $G$  acts faithfully on  $S \iff \forall g, g' \in G, s \in S, (g \neq g' \implies gs \neq g's)$

- $(\implies)$

Choose  $e, g \in G$  where  $e \neq g$ .

$$\begin{aligned} es &\neq gs \\ s &\neq gs \end{aligned}$$

Since  $G$  acts faithfully on  $S$ .

So, we have shown for any  $g, g' \in G, s \in S, (g \neq g' \implies gs \neq g's)$

- $(\impliedby)$

Choose  $e, g \in G$  where  $e \neq g$  and any  $s \in S$ .

We know that  $gs \neq es$  so  $gs \neq s$ .

This is the contrapositive of  $G$  acting faithfully on  $G$ -set  $S$ .

So we have that  $G$  acts faithfully on  $G$ -set  $S$ .

From these two, we have shown both directions.

Thus,  $G$  acts faithfully on  $S \iff \forall g, g' \in G, s \in S, (g \neq g' \implies gs \neq g's)$