Previously.

This Section.

- Cosets

- Dihedral Groups

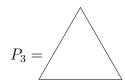
- Lagrange's Theorem

- Groups of order 2p

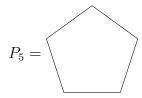
- Corollaries to Lagrange!

**Definition.** A regular n-gon is an n-sided polygon whose sides are all congruent. Denote this figure by  $P_n$ .

Example.



$$P_4 =$$



**Definition.** A symmetry of  $P_n$  is any action on  $P_n$  by a sequence of flips and/or rotation which return  $P_n$  to its original position in the plane.

**Definition.** The dihedral group  $D_n$  is the group of symmetries of the figure  $P_n$ . (Operation is composition.)

**Definition.** Let  $n \geq 2$ . The dihedral group  $D_n$  is the group of order 2n presented as follows:

$$D_n = \{e, r, r^2, \dots, r^{n-1}, f, fr, fr^2, \dots, fr^{n-1}\},\$$

where |r|=n, |f|=2, and  $rf=fr^{-1}$ .

**Note.** The last relation  $rf = fr^{n-1}$  can be written in many other ways, such as

- $frf = r^{n-1}$
- rfr = f (this is the one the book uses)
- $r^i f = f r^{-i}$  for all  $i \in \mathbb{Z}$
- $fr^i f = r^{-i}$  for all  $i \in \mathbb{Z}$
- $r^i f r^i = f$  for all  $i \in \mathbb{Z}$

**Note.** Here's the generator notation for  $D_n$ :

$$D_n = \langle f, r \mid f^2 = e, r^n = e, rf = fr^{-1} \rangle$$
.

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Section 2.7: Groups of Motions and Symmetries Last Updated: March 29, 2024

**Theorem 2.6.3.** Let G be a group and p a prime. If |G| = 2p, then G is cyclic or  $G \cong D_p$ .

**Exercise 1.** Let  $D_4 = \{e, r, r^2, r^3, f, fr, fr^2, fr^3\}$ . The subgroup of order 4 are

- $\{\varepsilon, r^2, f, fr^2\}$
- $\{\varepsilon, r, r^2, r^3\}$
- $\{\varepsilon, r^2, fr, fr^3\}$

Which of these are cyclic, and which are isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$ ?

**Example.** The subgroups of  $D_4 = \{e, r, r^2, r^3, f, fr, fr^2, fr^3\}.$ 

- Subgroups of order 2:  $\langle f \rangle$ ,  $\langle fr^2 \rangle$ ,  $\langle r^2 \rangle$ ,  $\langle fr^3 \rangle$ ,  $\langle fr \rangle$ ,
- Subgroup of order 1:  $\{e\}$

The full subgroup lattice of  $D_4$ .

