

# Math 322 Homework 4

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**Question 2.** Let  $a \in M$ . Since  $M = \langle S \rangle$ , we can write  $a$  as  $a = s_1 \cdot s_2 \cdots s_k, s_i \in S \forall i = 1, 2, \dots, k$ . Then we have  $a^{-1} = s_k^{-1} \cdots s_1^{-1}$ , so each element in  $M$  is invertible and thus  $M$  is a group.

**Question 5.** Let  $S = \{q_1, q_2, \dots, q_n\} \subset \mathbb{Q}$ . We can write each  $q_i$  as  $q_i = \frac{a_i}{b_i}$  for some  $a_i \in \mathbb{Z}, b_i \in \mathbb{N}, \gcd(a_i, b_i) = 1$ . Define  $q = \frac{1}{\text{lcm}(b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n)}$ . Then for each  $q_i$ , we can write  $q_i = qm$  for some  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Thus  $\langle S \rangle = \langle q \rangle$ , i.e.  $S$  is cyclic.

For the second part, let  $\phi : \mathbb{Q} \times \mathbb{Q} \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$  be a map, we will show by contradiction that  $\phi$  can't be an isomorphism, so for now assume that it is one. Let  $G$  be the group generated by  $(1, 0)$  and  $(0, 1)$ . By the result from the first part and the fact that  $\phi$  is supposedly an isomorphism we have that  $G = \langle (q_1, q_2) \rangle$  with at least one of  $q_1, q_2 \neq 0$ . However then  $(1, 0) = a(q_1, q_2), (0, 1) = b(q_1, q_2)$  for some  $a, b$  since  $(1, 0) \in G, (0, 1) \in G$ . However this implies that  $a = 0, b = 0 \implies q_1 = 0$  or  $q_2 = 0$  which is clearly a contradiction, so  $\mathbb{Q}$  isn't isomorphic to the direct product of itself.

**Question 6.** By way of contradiction let  $x \in \langle a \rangle$  and  $x \in \langle b \rangle$  with  $x \neq 1$ . Then since  $x$  is in a cyclic subgroup generated by  $a$  we can write  $x = a^k$  for some  $k < m$ , and it must be that  $x^m = x^n = 1$ . Without loss of generality assume  $m > n$ , then  $x^{m-n} = a^{k(m-n)} = 1 \implies m|k(m-n)$ . However  $k < m$  and  $m-n$  shares no factors with  $m$ , so this is clearly impossible and it must instead be that  $\langle a \rangle \cap \langle b \rangle = 1$ .

For the second part, note firstly that clearly  $\langle ab \rangle \subset \langle a, b \rangle$  since any  $ab^k = a^k b^k$ . For the other direction, let  $x = a^k b^l \in \langle a, b \rangle$ . Let  $c$  be a solution to the set of modular equations  $c \equiv 0 \pmod n, c \equiv k \pmod m$  and similarly  $d$  be the solution to  $d \equiv 0 \pmod m, d \equiv l \pmod n$ . Such solutions are guaranteed to exist since  $(m, n) = 1$ . Then  $(ab)^{c+d} = a^{c+d} b^{c+d} = a^c b^d = a^k b^l$ . Thus both sets contain one another and  $\langle a, b \rangle = \langle ab \rangle$ .

**Question 7.** For an element  $p \in \langle a \rangle$  with  $p = a^{sx+y}$  for some  $0 \leq x < r, 0 \leq y < s$  (we can write it this way due to the division algorithm), define  $\phi : \langle a \rangle \rightarrow \langle a \rangle \times \langle b \rangle$  as  $\phi(p) = (a^x, b^y)$ . Clearly the identity is preserved over this map, so only the preservation of the product is required. Let  $p, q \in \langle a \rangle$  with  $p = a^{sx_1+y_1}$  and  $q = a^{sx_2+y_2}$ . Then  $\phi(pq) = \phi(a^{s(x_1+x_2)+y_1+y_2}) = (b^{x_1+x_2}, c^{y_1+y_2}) = \phi(p)\phi(q)$  as required.

We can apply what we just proved iteratively  $k$  times to any  $o(a) = n = P_1^{\alpha_1} \cdots P_k^{\alpha_k}$  to show that  $\langle a \rangle = \langle P_1^{\alpha_1} \rangle \cdots \langle P_k^{\alpha_k} \rangle$ . Thus any finite cyclic group is isomorphic to a direct product of cyclic groups of prime power orders.