

# Intro to Abstract Algebra

## -MA136-

$$(ab)^{-1} = b^{-1}a^{-1}$$

$e$  is unique and inverse is unique

### binary operation

let  $S$  be a set, A binary operation  $*$  is a rule  $S \times S \rightarrow S$  given  $s_1, s_2 \in S$ ,  $s_1 * s_2 \in S$

#### commutative

\* commutative on  $S$   
 $a * b = b * a \quad \forall a, b \in S$

#### associative

\* associative on  $S$  if  
 $(a * b) * c = a * (b * c) \quad \forall a, b, c \in S$

### general linear group

$GL_2(\mathbb{R}) = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} : a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{R}, \det(A) \neq 0 \right\}$   
 is a group under matrix multiplication

### coset classes

$(\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}, +)$  is an abelian group

### order of a group

$G$  group, order of  $G$  is the number of elements  $G$  has.  $|G|, \#G$

### $U_n$

$U_n = \text{set of } n \text{th roots of unity}$   
 $\zeta = e^{2\pi i/n}$

$$U_n = \{1, \zeta, \zeta^2, \dots, \zeta^{n-1}\}$$

### special linear group

$$SL_2(\mathbb{R}) = \{A \in M_{2 \times 2}(\mathbb{R}) \mid \det(A) = 1\}$$

### modular group

$$SL_2(\mathbb{Z})$$

### special orthogonal group

$$SO_2(\theta) = \{R_\theta \mid \theta \in \mathbb{R}\}$$

### permutations

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & \dots & n \\ a_1 & a_2 & \dots & a_n \end{pmatrix} \mapsto (a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)$$

every permutation can be written as the product of disjoint cycles

disjoint cycles commute

## Group

A group is a pair  $(G, *)$ .  $G$  set,  $*$  binary operation satisfying:

- (i)  $\forall a, b \in G, a * b \in G$  [closure]
- (ii)  $\forall a, b, c \in G, (a * b) * c = a * (b * c)$  [associativity]
- (iii)  $\exists e \in G$  s.t.  $\forall a \in G, a * e = e * a = a$  [identity]
- (iv)  $\forall a \in G, \exists b \in G$  s.t.  $a * b = b * a = e$  [inverse]

### examples

$(\mathbb{R}, +), (\mathbb{Q}, +), (\mathbb{R}^2, +)$  etc.

### abelian

a group  $(G, *)$  is abelian if it also satisfies commutativity  
 $(\forall a, b \in G, a * b = b * a)$

[Group axioms and power rules apply]

can have multiplicative or additive notation

### order of an element

$a \in G$ . order of  $a$  in  $G$  is the smallest positive integer  $n$  s.t.  $a^n = 1$ . If  $\nexists n$ , infinite order

### $G$ group, $g \in G$

- (i)  $\text{order}(g) = 1 \Leftrightarrow g = 1$
- (ii)  $g^m = 1 \Leftrightarrow \text{ord}(g) \mid m$

Proof: ...

## Subgroup

let  $(G, *)$  be a group, let  $H \subseteq G$ , suppose  $(H, *)$  also a group. Then  $(H, *)$  is a subgroup of  $(G, *)$

same binary op!

$G$  and  $\{1\}$  are subgroups of  $G$

proper-subgroup  
 a subgroup not equal to  $G$   
 trivial subgroup  
 that is  $\{1\}$ .

### Criteria

$H \subseteq G$  subgroup if

- (a)  $1 \in H$
- (b)  $a, b \in H \Rightarrow ab \in H$
- (c)  $a \in H \Rightarrow a^{-1} \in H$

e.g. planes are subgroups of  $\mathbb{R}^3$

### cyclic subgroup

$$\langle g \rangle = \{g^n \mid n \in \mathbb{Z}\} = \{\dots, g^{-2}, g^{-1}, 1, g, g^2, \dots\}$$

is a subgroup of  $G$ .  $g \in G$ .  
 $g$  is a generator of  $G$  if  $\langle g \rangle = G$

$G$  group,  $g \in G$ , cyclic groups are abelian

$\text{order}(g) = n$   
 $\langle g \rangle = \{1, g, g^2, \dots, g^{n-1}\}$  Proof: to sets equal show subset of each other.

$2\mathbb{Z}$  is a subgroup of  $\mathbb{Z}$

all subgroups of  $\mathbb{Z}$  are cyclic

## Isomorphism

let  $(G, \circ)$  and  $(H, *)$  be groups

$\phi: G \rightarrow H$  is an isomorphism is a bijection

$$\phi(g_1 \circ g_2) = \phi(g_1) * \phi(g_2) \Rightarrow (G, \circ) \text{ and } (H, *) \text{ are isomorphic}$$

$\text{Map}(A)$   
 the set of functions from  $A$  to itself

### $\text{Sym}(A)$

set of bijections from  $A$  to itself

$$S_n = \text{Sym}\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$$

$$|S_n| = n!$$



## Co set

Let  $G$  be a group  $H$  a subgroup  
 $g \in G$ . The cosets are

$$gH = \{ gh \mid h \in H \} \text{ [left coset]}$$

$$Hg = \{ hg \mid h \in H \} \text{ [right coset]}$$

e.g.  $2\mathbb{Z}$  has 10 cosets,  $2\mathbb{Z}$  and  $1+2\mathbb{Z}$

e.g.  $2\mathbb{Z}^2$  has 4 cosets etc.

e.g. a line in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  is a subgroup ( $\Rightarrow$ ) it passes through the origin. If it does, its cosets are the lines parallel to it

related to the  $x = x_0 + \text{nullspace}(A)$  in MA106 & solutions to DEs in ODEs in MATH33

NOTE: for non-abelian groups, we have a right cosets version. For additive abelian groups:

Let  $(G, +)$  be an abelian group, let  $H$  be a subgroup. Let  $g_1, g_2 \in G$  so that  $g_1 + H$  and  $g_2 + H$  are cosets. Then

$$(i) g_1 + H = g_2 + H \iff g_1 - g_2 \in H$$

$$(ii) (g_1 + H) \cap (g_2 + H) = \emptyset \iff g_1 - g_2 \notin H$$

## Lagrange's Theorem

Thm: Let  $G$  be a finite group and  $H$  a subgroup. Then

$$|G| = [G:H] \cdot |H|$$

Corollaries:

•  $G$  finite group,  $H$  a subgroup. Then the order of  $H$  divides the order of  $G$   
 $|H| \mid |G|$

•  $G$  finite group,  $g \in G$ . Then  $\text{order}(g) \mid |G|$

• Let  $G$  be a finite group of order  $n$ ,  $g \in G$ . Then  $g^n = 1$

## Index

Let  $G$  be a group and  $H$  a subgroup. Define the index of  $H$  in  $G$   $[G:H]$  to be the number of left cosets of  $H$  in  $G$

$$[\mathbb{Z}:2\mathbb{Z}] = 2, [\mathbb{Z}^2:2\mathbb{Z}^2] = 4$$

Example  $S = \{a \in \mathbb{C} \mid |a| = 1\}$ . cosets of  $S$  are  $aS$  where  $a \in \mathbb{C}$  so  $a = re^{i\theta}$ .

so  $re^{i\theta}S = rS$  where  $r \in \mathbb{R}$  as just rotated

so we have as many cosets as there are  $r$  could numbers:  $[\mathbb{C}^*: S] = \infty$

## TWO FACTS

(1) Coset of a Subgroup has same size as Subgroup

Lemma:  $G$  group,  $H$  finite subgroup. If  $g \in G$ , then  $gH$  has and  $Hg$  have same # elements as  $H$ .

Pf: Set up a bijection  $\phi: H \rightarrow gH$  s.t.  $h \mapsto gh$  & prove it is injective & surjective.

(2) Any two cosets of  $H$  are either equal or disjoint

Lemma:  $G$  group,  $H$  subgroup. Let  $g_1, g_2 \in G$  s.t.  $g_1H$  and  $g_2H$  both left cosets. Then

$$(i) g_1H = g_2H \iff g_2^{-1}g_1 \in H$$

$$(ii) g_1H \cap g_2H = \emptyset \iff g_2^{-1}g_1 \notin H$$

either  $g_1H = g_2H$   
 or  $g_1H \cap g_2H = \emptyset$   
 Pfs in notes

Proof: Let  $g_1H, \dots, g_mH$  be the distinct left cosets of  $H$ . By fact (2), they are disjoint.

Suppose  $g \in G$ . Then  $gH = \text{one of the } g_iH$  but as  $1 \in H$ , then  $g \in gH$  so every element  $g$  belongs to exactly 1 coset so

$$|G| = |g_1H| + |g_2H| + \dots + |g_mH|$$

But we know

$$|g_1H| = \dots = |g_mH| = |H|$$

so  $|G| = m \cdot |H|$  where  $m$  is the number of left cosets in  $G$ , so  $m = [G:H]$

Pf of bullet 2: As  $G$  finite,  $\text{order}(g) < \infty$

Therefore  $\langle g \rangle = \{g^n \mid n \in \mathbb{Z}\} \subseteq G$ . we know order of subgroup  $\langle g \rangle = \{1, g, g^2, \dots, g^{n-1}\}$  as  $g^n = 1$  where  $n$  is order of  $g$ , so  $|\langle g \rangle| = \text{order}(g)$ . we know the order of a subgroup divides  $|G|$  so

$$\text{order}(g) \mid |G|$$



# Quotient Groups

## Examples

Def: let  $(G, +)$  be an additive abelian group and  $H$  a subgroup. Define the quotient group  $(G/H, +)$  to be the set of cosets

$$G/H = \{a + H \mid a \in G\}$$

Note: addition defined by  $(a + H) + (b + H) = (a + b) + H$  [we add cosets together]

need to check addition well defined & prove it is a group

### Example

$a + m\mathbb{Z} = \bar{a}$  so cosets modulo  $m$  are the same group as the quotient group  $(\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}, +)$

consequence multiplication:  $\bar{a} = \bar{a}'$  and  $\bar{b} = \bar{b}'$  in  $\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}$  then  $\bar{a}\bar{b} = \bar{a}'\bar{b}'$

$$\mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z} = \{a + \mathbb{Z} \mid a \in [0, 1)\}$$

$f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow S, f(\theta) = e^{2\pi i \theta}$  is not a bijection  
 $\hat{f}: \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow S, \hat{f}(\theta + \mathbb{Z}) = e^{2\pi i \theta}$  is a bijection  
 $\rightarrow (\mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z}, +)$  and  $(S, \cdot)$  are isomorphic

$$\mathbb{R}^2/\mathbb{Z}^2 = \{(x, y) + \mathbb{Z}^2 \mid x, y \in [0, 1)\}$$

elements of order 2 in  $\mathbb{R}^2/\mathbb{Z}^2$ , then

$$((x, y) + \mathbb{Z}^2) + ((x, y) + \mathbb{Z}^2) = (0, 0) + \mathbb{Z}^2$$

$\therefore 2x, 2y$  integers

$$2x = \dots, -1, 0, 1, \dots \quad 2y = \dots, -1, 0, 1, \dots$$

$$x = \dots, -\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{2}, 0, \frac{1}{2}, \dots$$

so  $x = 0, \frac{1}{2}, y = 0, \frac{1}{2}$  so order 2 elements are

$$(\frac{1}{2}, 0) + \mathbb{Z}^2, (0, \frac{1}{2}) + \mathbb{Z}^2, (\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}) + \mathbb{Z}^2$$

Every permutation can be written as a product of transpositions

$n$ th alternating polynomial

$$P_n = \prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} (x_i - x_j)$$

if  $\sigma \in S_n$

$$\sigma(P_n) = \prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} (x_{\sigma(i)} - x_{\sigma(j)})$$

let  $\tau \in S_n$  be a transposition

$$\text{then } \tau(P_n) = -P_n$$

If  $\sigma \in S_n, \sigma(P_n) = \pm P_n$

If  $\sigma$  is a product of an even number of transpositions then  $\sigma(P_n) = P_n$

If  $\sigma$  product of an odd number of transpositions, then  $\sigma(P_n) = -P_n$

$$(1, 2, 3, 4) = (1, 4)(1, 3)(1, 2) \in \mathbb{R} \text{ ring, } a \in \mathbb{R}, \text{ then } 0, a: 0 \cdot a = a \cdot 0 = 0$$

$$A_n$$

Let  $n \geq 2$ . The  $n$ th alternating group is

$$A_n = \{\sigma \in S_n \mid \sigma \text{ even}\}$$

Prove that  $A_n$  Subgroup of  $S_n$

closed so id  $\in A_n$

if  $\sigma, \tau \in A_n$  then  $\sigma\tau$  even so  $\sigma\tau \in A_n$

Suppose  $\sigma$  even

$$\sigma = \tau_1 \dots \tau_m$$

$$\sigma^{-1} = (\tau_1 \dots \tau_m)^{-1}$$

$$\sigma^{-1} = \tau_m^{-1} \dots \tau_1^{-1}$$

$$= \tau_m \dots \tau_1$$

even so  $\sigma^{-1} \in A_n$

$\therefore A_n$  Subgroup of  $S_n$

$$|A_n| = \frac{|S_n|}{2} = \frac{n!}{2}$$

Every permutation in  $S_n$  can be written as a product of either an even or an odd number of transpositions but not both

Proof: Suppose we can - then  $\sigma(P_n) = \sigma(P_n) \Rightarrow P_n = -P_n$

even: can write as a product of an even number of transpositions

odd: can write as a product of an odd number of transpositions

## Rings

A ring is a triple  $(R, +, \cdot)$  where  $R$  set,  $+, \cdot$  binary operations such that the following properties hold

- 1 closure:  $\forall a, b \in R, a + b \in R$  and  $a \cdot b \in R$
- 2 associativity:  $\forall a, b, c \in R, (a + b) + c = a + (b + c)$
- 3 identity of addition:  $\exists 0 \in R$  s.t.  $\forall a \in R, a + 0 = 0 + a = a$
- 4 inverse of addition:  $\forall a \in R$  element  $-a$  such that  $a + (-a) = (-a) + a = 0$
- 5 commutativity of addition:  $\forall a, b \in R, a + b = b + a$
- 6 associativity of multiplication:  $\forall a, b, c \in R, (a \cdot b) \cdot c = a \cdot (b \cdot c)$
- 7 distributivity:  $\forall a, b, c \in R, a \cdot (b + c) = a \cdot b + a \cdot c$  and  $(b + c) \cdot a = b \cdot a + c \cdot a$
- 8 existence of multiplicative identity:  $\exists 1 \in R$  s.t.  $\forall a \in R, 1 \cdot a = a \cdot 1 = a$

A ring  $(R, +, \cdot)$  is commutative if it additionally satisfies 9 commutativity of multiplication:  $\forall a, b \in R, a \cdot b = b \cdot a$

Examples: commutative rings:  $\mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}, \mathbb{R}[x], (\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}, +, \cdot)$   
 non-commutative rings:  $M_{2 \times 2}(\mathbb{R}), M_{2 \times 2}(\mathbb{C})$  etc  
 non-rings:  $(\mathbb{R}[x], +, \cdot)$  distributivity fails. take  $f = x^2, h = x \cdot x$

Note: can define multiplication in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  is several ways.  
 $(a_1, b_1) \times (a_2, b_2) = (a_1 a_2, b_1 b_2)$  is obvious or using dot geometry  $(a_1, b_1) \times (a_2, b_2) = (a_1 b_1 - a_2 b_2, a_1 b_2 + a_2 b_1)$  with multiplicative identity  $(1, 0) \neq (1 + 0i)$

Is  $(\mathbb{R}^2, +, \times)$  a ring?

$i \times (j \times j) = 0$   
 $(i \times j) \times j = -i$   
 so cross product not associative. so no

Also  $a \times b = -b \times a$  so  $a \times 1 = 1 \times a = -a$  so 9 fails



# Subrings $1_{R \in S}$

Let  $(R, +, \cdot)$  be a ring. Let  $S \subseteq R$  and suppose  $(S, +, \cdot)$  is also a ring wrt same multiplicative identity. Then  $S$  is a subring of  $R$   
 $[(S, +, \cdot)$  is a subring of  $(R, +, \cdot)$ ]

(e.g.  $\mathbb{Z}$  subring of  $\mathbb{R}$ .  $\mathbb{R}$  subring of  $\mathbb{R}[x]$ )

$(2\mathbb{Z}, +, \cdot)$  is a subring of  $(\mathbb{Z}, +, \cdot)$  But

$(\mathbb{Z}, +, \cdot)$  is not a subring of

$(\mathbb{Z}, +, \cdot)$  as  $1 \notin 2\mathbb{Z}$

$\Rightarrow$  only subring of  $\mathbb{Z}$  is itself!  
 but  $\mathbb{Z}$  has infinite subgroups

# Conditions to check

Let  $R$  be a ring.  $S \subseteq R$  ring iff

- (a)  $0, 1 \in S$  [ $S$  contains additive & multiplicative identity elements of  $R$ ]
- (b) if  $a, b \in S$ , then  $a+b \in S$
- (c) if  $a \in S$ , then  $-a \in S$
- (d) if  $a, b \in S$ , then  $ab \in S$

Easiest way to show a set is a ring is to show it is a subring of a known ring

## Unit

Def: Let  $R$  be a ring.  $u \in R$  is a unit if  $\exists v \in R$  s.t.  $uv = vu = 1$

(e.g. an element  $u$  of  $R$  is a unit if it has a multiplicative inverse that belongs to  $R$ )

units of  $\mathbb{Z}$  are  $\pm 1$   
 so  $\mathbb{Z}^* = \{ -1, 1 \}$

units of  $M_{2 \times 2}(\mathbb{R})$  are the invertible matrices, those with non-zero determinant  
 so  $(M_{2 \times 2}(\mathbb{R}))^* = GL_2(\mathbb{R})$

## Norm map

$N: \mathbb{Z}[i] \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  given by  
 $N(a+ib) = a^2 + b^2, a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$

$N(aB) = N(a)N(B)$  for  $a, B \in \mathbb{Z}[i]$

## Fields

A field  $(F, +, \cdot)$  is a commutative ring which is not the zero ring s.t. every non-zero element is a unit

So a commutative ring  $F$  is a field  $\Leftrightarrow$

its unit group  $F^* = \{ a \in F \mid a \neq 0 \}$

$\mathbb{Z}$  not a field since  $2 \in \mathbb{Z}$  but  $2$  is not a unit.  
 $\mathbb{R}[x]$  not a field as  $x \in \mathbb{R}[x]$ ,  $x \neq 0$  but  $x$  is not a unit

Gaussian integers  
 $\mathbb{Z}[i] = \{ a+ib \mid a, b \in \mathbb{Z} \}$

or that  $\mathbb{Z}[i]$  is a ring - check (a), (b), (c), (d) true so subring  $\Rightarrow$  ring

$S = \{ \frac{a}{2^r} \mid a, r \in \mathbb{Z}, r \geq 0 \}$  should be a ring by showing  $S$  is a subring of  $\mathbb{Q}$

## The Unit Group of a Ring

Let  $R$  be a ring. we define the unit group of  $R$  to be the set

$$R^* = \{ a \in R \mid a \text{ is a unit in } R \}$$

units of  $M_{2 \times 2}(\mathbb{Z})$ ?  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  but  $A^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & -\frac{1}{2} \\ -\frac{1}{2} & \frac{3}{2} \end{pmatrix}$  so  $A^{-1} \notin M_{2 \times 2}(\mathbb{Z})$   
 Back to unit def:  
 $AB = BA = I_2 \Rightarrow \det(A)\det(B) = 1$   $\Rightarrow \det(A)$  and  $\det(B)$  integers  
 $\therefore A, B \in M_{2 \times 2}(\mathbb{Z})$  so  $\det(A) = \det(B) = \pm 1$   
 so in all,  $(M_{2 \times 2}(\mathbb{Z}))^* = \{ A \in M_{2 \times 2}(\mathbb{Z}) \mid \det(A) = \pm 1 \}$

## Unit group of $\mathbb{Z}[i]$

let  $a$  be a unit, then  $\exists B \in \mathbb{Z}[i]$  s.t.  $aB = 1 \Rightarrow N(a)N(B) = 1$   
 $\Rightarrow a = a+ib$  so  $(a, b) = (\pm 1, 0)$  or  $(0, \pm 1)$   
 $\therefore \mathbb{Z}[i]^* = \{ 1, -1, i, -i \}$

## Steps to show $\mathbb{Q}[i]$ is a field

1 Show  $\mathbb{Q}[i]$  commutative ring:

- (a) enough to show  $\mathbb{Q}[i]$  is a subring of  $\mathbb{C}$ .
- (b)  $0 \in \mathbb{Q}[i]$ ,  $1 \in \mathbb{Q}[i]$ .  
 closed under addition, multiplication, negation

2 Need to show every non-zero element of  $\mathbb{Q}[i]$  is a unit.

WTS  $\exists B \in \mathbb{Q}[i]$  s.t.  $AB = BA = 1$   
 so need to show  $\frac{1}{a}$  exists and indeed  $\frac{1}{a} \in \mathbb{Q}[i] \Rightarrow \mathbb{Q}[i]$  field

## Units in $\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}$

Use multiplicative test:

$$(\mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z})^* = \{ 1, 5 \}$$

$$(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})^* = \{ 1 \}$$

$$(\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z})^* = \{ 1, 2 \}$$

$$(\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z})^* = \{ 1, 3 \}$$

$$(\mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z})^* = \{ 1, 2, 3, 4 \}$$

general relation on the last page!



## Relationship between the units of $\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}$

Let  $\bar{a} \in \mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}$ .

$\bar{a}$  unit in  $\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z} \iff \gcd(m, a) = 1$

so  $(\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z})^* = \{ \bar{a} \mid 0 \leq a \leq m-1 \text{ and } \gcd(a, m) = 1 \}$

Proof: Suppose  $\bar{a}$  unit in  $\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}$ . Then  $\exists \bar{b} \in \mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}$  s.t.  $ab \equiv 1 \pmod{m} \iff ab - 1 = km$  for  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Let  $g = \gcd(a, m)$ .  
 $\Rightarrow g \mid a$  and  $g \mid m \therefore g \mid (ab - km) = 1 \Rightarrow g = 1$

$\Leftarrow$  Suppose  $\gcd(a, m) = 1$ . By Bezout's lemma,  $\exists b, c \in \mathbb{Z}$  s.t.  $1 = ba + cm$   
 $\Rightarrow ab \equiv 1 \pmod{m}$

$\Rightarrow \bar{a}$  is a unit

$\Rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$  field

~~Remark: Little's theorem~~

Let  $p$  be a prime. Then  $\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$  is a field

so  $(\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})^* = \{ \bar{1}, \bar{2}, \dots, \overline{p-1} \}$

Inverse of 19 in  $\mathbb{Z}/256\mathbb{Z}$ ?

$\gcd(19, 256) = 1$ . Using Euclid's algorithm

$$256 = 13 \times 19 + 9$$

$$19 = 2 \times 9 + 1$$

$$\Rightarrow 1 = 19 - 2 \times 9$$

$$1 = 19 - 2(256 - 13 \times 19)$$

$$1 = 27 \times 19 - 2 \times 256$$

$$\text{So } 27 \times 19 \equiv 1 \pmod{256}$$

$$\Rightarrow \overline{27} \text{ inverse of } \overline{19} \text{ in } \mathbb{Z}/256\mathbb{Z}$$

Thinks of the def of a unit here!

Proof: We know  $\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}$  is a commutative ring  $\forall m \geq 2$  so wts every nonzero  $\bar{a} \in \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$  is a unit [so is invertible]. Consider  $\bar{a} \in \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$  non-zero.  $a = 1, \dots, p-1$  so  $a \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ . As  $p$  prime,  $\gcd(a, p) = 1$  so by thm in top left of page,  $\bar{a}$  is a unit so invertible in  $\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$ .  $\Rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$  is a field.

## Fermat's Little Theorem

Let  $p$  be a prime,  $a \in \mathbb{Z}$  s.t.  $p \nmid a$ . Then

$$a^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$$

Proof: We let's consider  $\bar{a} \pmod{p}$ . We know  $a \equiv b \pmod{p}$  where  $b = 0, \dots, p-1$ . As  $p \nmid a \Rightarrow b \neq 0$  [ $a \neq p \mid$ ]. By thm on right,  $\bar{b} \in (\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})^* = \{ \bar{1}, \dots, \overline{p-1} \}$ . Consider

$|(\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})^*| = p-1$ . So by Lagrange's thm coset theory,  $\bar{b}^{p-1} = 1 \Rightarrow b^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$   
 As  $a \equiv b \pmod{p}$ ,  $a^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$

trick - what is  $2^{1000} \pmod{13}$ ?

13 prime,  $2 \nmid 13$ ,  $\therefore \bar{2} \in (\mathbb{Z}/13\mathbb{Z})^*$   $\Rightarrow 2^{12} \equiv 1 \pmod{13}$

$$\text{Note } 1000 = 83 \times 12 + 4$$

$$\text{So } 2^{1000} \equiv 2^{83 \times 12 + 4} \equiv (2^{12})^{83} \times 2^4 \equiv 16 \equiv 3 \pmod{13}$$

next!

## Euler's $\phi$ function

order of the group  $(\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z})^*$  is  $\phi(m)$

### Euler's theorem

$m \geq 2$ .  $a \in \mathbb{Z}$  s.t.  $\gcd(a, m) = 1$ . Then

$$a^{\phi(m)} \equiv 1 \pmod{m}$$

Pf: modifying what's on the left!

### formula

write  $m = p_1^{r_1} \dots p_k^{r_k}$  where  $p_1, \dots, p_k$  are distinct primes and  $r_1, \dots, r_k$  positive integers. Then

$$\phi(m) = (p_1^{r_1} - p_1^{r_1-1}) \dots (p_k^{r_k} - p_k^{r_k-1})$$

Proof: non-terminable!