

**Problem 1. (Image of Intersection)**

Let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  and let  $A, B \subset X$ .

- (a) Show that  $f(A \cap B) \subset f(A) \cap f(B)$ .
- (b) Give an example where  $f(A \cap B) \neq f(A) \cap f(B)$ .

*Solution.* We show that  $f(A \cap B) \subset f(A) \cap f(B)$ .

Let  $y \in f(A \cap B)$ . Then there exists  $x \in A \cap B$  such that  $y = f(x)$ . Now  $x \in A$  and  $x \in B$ , so  $y = f(x) \in f(A)$  and  $y = f(x) \in f(B)$ . Therefore  $y \in f(A) \cap f(B)$ .

However, the reverse inclusion is false. For example, let  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be given by  $f(x) = x^2$ , let  $A = \{0, 1\}$ , and let  $B = \{0, -1\}$ . In this case,  $f(A \cap B) = f(\{0\}) = \{0\}$ , but  $f(A) \cap f(B) = \{0, 1\} \cap \{0, 1\} = \{0, 1\}$ . So  $f(A \cap B) \neq f(A) \cap f(B)$ .  $\square$

**Definition 1.** Let  $\mathcal{C}$  and  $\mathcal{D}$  be partitions of a set  $X$ . A *congruence* from  $\mathcal{C}$  to  $\mathcal{D}$  is a bijective function  $\alpha : X \rightarrow X$  such that  $\mathcal{D} = \{\alpha(C) \mid C \in \mathcal{C}\}$ .

We say that  $\mathcal{C}$  and  $\mathcal{D}$  are *congruent* if there exists a congruence between them.

**Problem 2. (Congruent Partitions)**

Let  $X = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9\}$ . Consider the partitions

- $\mathcal{A} = \{\{1\}, \{2, 3\}, \{4, 5, 6\}, \{7, 8, 9\}\}$
- $\mathcal{B} = \{\{1\}, \{2\}, \{3, 4\}, \{5, 6\}, \{7, 8, 9\}\}$
- $\mathcal{C} = \{\{1\}, \{2, 3\}, \{4, 5\}, \{6, 7\}, \{8, 9\}\}$

Each of the following partitions  $\mathcal{D}$ , is congruent to either  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\mathcal{B}$ , or  $\mathcal{C}$ . State which of the above is congruent to  $\mathcal{D}$ , and find a bijection  $\alpha \in S_9$  which maps  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\mathcal{B}$ , or  $\mathcal{C}$  to  $\mathcal{D}$ .

*Solution.* We use array notation and cycle notation for permutations.

- (a)  $\mathcal{D} = \{\{1, 2\}, \{3, 4\}, \{5\}, \{6, 7, 8\}, \{9\}\}$

This is congruent to  $\mathcal{B}$ . We define a function which sends  $\mathcal{B}$  to  $\mathcal{D}$  as follows:

$$\alpha : X \rightarrow X \quad \text{given by} \quad \alpha = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 \\ 5 & 9 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 6 & 7 & 8 \end{pmatrix} = (1 \ 5 \ 3)(2 \ 9 \ 8 \ 7 \ 6 \ 4).$$

- (b)  $\mathcal{D} = \{\{1, 5, 6\}, \{2\}, \{3, 8\}, \{4\}, \{7, 9\}\}$  This is congruent to  $\mathcal{B}$  via

$$\alpha : X \rightarrow X \quad \text{given by} \quad \alpha = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 \\ 2 & 4 & 3 & 8 & 7 & 9 & 1 & 5 & 6 \end{pmatrix} = (1 \ 2 \ 4 \ 8 \ 5 \ 7)(6 \ 9).$$

- (c)  $\mathcal{D} = \{\{1, 9\}, \{2, 4\}, \{3, 5\}, \{6, 8\}, \{7\}\}$  This is congruent to  $\mathcal{B}$  via

$$\alpha : X \rightarrow X \quad \text{given by} \quad \alpha = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 \\ 7 & 1 & 9 & 2 & 4 & 3 & 5 & 6 & 8 \end{pmatrix} = (1 \ 7 \ 5 \ 3 \ 2)(3 \ 9 \ 8 \ 6).$$

$\square$

**Problem 3. (Permutations)**

Let  $\alpha \in S_n$ . Recall that the order of  $\alpha$  is the least common multiple of the lengths of its disjoint cycles. Recall also that the *shape* of  $\alpha$  is the sorted list of the lengths of its disjoint cycles.

- (a) Find all possible shapes of elements in  $S_4$ , and how many of each shape exists.
- (b) Find all possible shapes of elements in  $S_6$ , and find the order of an element of each shape.
- (c) Let  $\alpha = (1\ 3\ 5\ 7)(2\ 4\ 6)$  and  $\beta = (1\ 2\ 3\ 4\ 5)$ . Compute  $\beta\alpha\beta^{-1}$ .
- (d) Find  $\beta \in S_9$  such that  $\beta(1\ 5\ 3\ 2) = (4\ 9\ 7\ 6)\beta$ .

*Solution.* (a) The shapes of  $S_4$ . There are  $4! = 24$  total elements in  $S_4$ .

- [1]            1    This is the identity only.
- [2]            6    There are  $\binom{4}{2} = 6$  two-cycles.
- [3]            8    There are  $\binom{4}{3} = 4$  orbits of three elements, each with two possible cycles.
- [4]            6    There is one set of four elements, and  $3! = 6$  ways of arranging them into cycles.
- [2,2]        3    There are  $24 - (1 + 6 + 8 + 6) = 3$  remaining elements in  $S_4$ .

(b) We list the shapes of  $S_6$  and there lcm's.

- [1]            1
- [2]            2
- [3]            3
- [4]            4
- [5]            5
- [6]            6
- [2,2]        2
- [2,2,2]     2
- [2,3]        6
- [2,4]        4
- [3,3]        3

(c)  $\beta\alpha\beta^{-1} = (1\ 2\ 3\ 4\ 5)(1\ 3\ 5\ 7)(2\ 4\ 6)(1\ 5\ 4\ 3\ 2) = (1\ 7\ 2\ 4)(3\ 5\ 6)$ . Notice that conjugating by  $\beta$  has the effect of replacing each  $x$  in the support of  $\alpha$  with  $\beta(x)$ .

(d) We need a permutation which sends  $(1\ 5\ 3\ 2)$  to  $(4\ 9\ 7\ 6)$ . There are many possibilities, such as

$$\beta = (1\ 4\ 5\ 9\ 3\ 7\ 2\ 6) \quad \text{or} \quad \beta = (1\ 4)(5\ 9)(3\ 7)(2\ 6).$$

□

**Problem 4. (Modular Integers)**

Let  $n \geq 2$ . Let  $\mathbb{Z}_n$  denote the set of congruence classes modulo  $n$ . Define  $\mathbb{Z}_n^* = \{\bar{a} \in \mathbb{Z}_n \mid \gcd(a, n) = 1\}$ . We know the  $\mathbb{Z}_n^*$  consists of the elements in  $\mathbb{Z}_n$  which are invertible.

- (a) Find the (additive) order of  $\overline{10}$  in  $\mathbb{Z}_{35}$ .
- (b) Find the (multiplicative) order of  $\overline{7}$  in  $\mathbb{Z}_{20}$ .
- (c) Find the cardinality of  $\mathbb{Z}_{50}^*$ .
- (d) Circle all of the groups below which are cyclic.

$$\mathbb{Z}_8^* \quad \mathbb{Z}_9^* \quad \mathbb{Z}_{10}^* \quad \mathbb{Z}_{11}^* \quad \mathbb{Z}_{12}^* \quad \mathbb{Z}_{14}^*.$$

*Solution.* We point out that since  $\mathbb{Z}_n$  is a group under addition and not multiplication, the order of an element in this group is additive order. Similarly,  $\mathbb{Z}_n^*$  is a group under multiplication and not addition, so the the order of an element in this group is its multiplicative order.

- (a) Find the (additive) order of  $\overline{10}$  in  $\mathbb{Z}_{35}$ .

$$\text{The order is } \frac{n}{\gcd(a, n)} = \frac{35}{\gcd(35, 10)} = \frac{35}{5} = 7.$$

- (b) Find the (multiplicative) order of  $\overline{7}$  in  $\mathbb{Z}_{20}$ .

Here we compute  $\overline{7}^2 = \overline{49} = \overline{9} = \overline{-1}$ , so  $\overline{7}^4 = \overline{-1}^2 = \overline{1}$ . Thus the order is 4.

- (c) Find the cardinality of  $\mathbb{Z}_{50}^*$ .

We remove from the set of positive integer less than 50 all multiples of 2 and of 5. If  $0 \leq a < 50$  and  $\bar{a} \in \mathbb{Z}_{50}^*$ , then  $a \bmod 10$  is 1, 3, 7, and 9, and  $a \div 10$  is 0 through 4. So, there are  $4 \times 5 = 20$  elements in  $\mathbb{Z}_{50}^*$ .

- (d) Find the groups which are cyclic. We do this by attempting to find an element of order  $\phi(n)$  in  $\mathbb{Z}_n^*$ . We will write without bars.

- $\mathbb{Z}_8^* = \{1, 3, 5, 7\}$ . Now  $3^2 = 9 = 1$ ,  $5^2 = 25 = 1$ ,  $7^2 = 49 = 1$ . There is no element of order 4, so this group is not cyclic.
- $\mathbb{Z}_9^* = \{1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8\}$ . We have  $2^3 = 8 = -1$ , so  $2^6 = 1$ . Thus 2 is an element of order 6, and  $\mathbb{Z}_9^* = \langle 2 \rangle$  is cyclic.
- $\mathbb{Z}_{10}^* = \{1, 3, 7, 9\}$ . Here  $3^2 = -1$ , so  $\text{ord}(3) = 4$ , so  $\mathbb{Z}_{10}^* = \langle 3 \rangle$  is cyclic.
- $\mathbb{Z}_{12}^* = \{1, 5, 7, 11\}$ . All elements have order two, so this group is not cyclic.
- $\mathbb{Z}_{14}^* = \{1, 3, 5, 9, 11, 13\}$ . We have  $3^3 = 27 = -1$ , so  $\text{ord}(3) = 6$ , and  $\mathbb{Z}_{14}^* = \langle 3 \rangle$  is cyclic.

□

**Problem 5. (Euclidean Algorithm)**

Let  $m = 508$  and  $n = 1029$ .

(a) Find  $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $mx + ny = 1$ .

(b) Solve the equation  $508x + \overline{979} = \overline{0}$  in  $\mathbb{Z}_{1029}$ .

*Solution.* First we perform the Euclidean algorithm to find  $x$  and  $y$ .

$$\begin{aligned} 1029 &= 508(2) + 13 \\ 508 &= 13(39) + 1 \\ 1 &= 508 - 13(39) \\ &= 508 - [1029 - 508(2)](39) \\ &= 508(79) + 1029(-39) \end{aligned}$$

So,  $x = 79$  and  $y = -39$ .

Next, we use what we have discovered:  $\overline{79}$  is the inverse of  $\overline{508}$  in  $\mathbb{Z}_{1029}$ . Thus

$$508x + \overline{979} = \overline{0} \quad \Rightarrow \quad 508x = \overline{-979} = \overline{50} \quad \Rightarrow \quad x = \overline{79} \cdot \overline{50} = \overline{863}.$$

□