

**Homework 5***Due: Tuesday, 10/6/20*

Question:	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total
Points:	3	3	3	3	3	3	18
Score:							

1. (3 points) Prove that  $(n\mathbb{Z}, +)$  is a subgroup of  $(\mathbb{Z}, +)$  for any integer  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Do you think there are any other subgroups of  $(\mathbb{Z}, +)$  that do not have this form?

( $\Rightarrow$ ) The identity element  $e = 0$  is in  $n\mathbb{Z}$  for all  $n$  since  $0 \cdot n = 0$ . So the group  $(n\mathbb{Z}, +)$  is non-empty. To show  $(n\mathbb{Z}, +)$  is a subgroup, we'll use the One-Step Subgroup Test. So let's suppose  $a, b \in n\mathbb{Z}$ . Note that  $b^{-1} = -b$ .

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

Being elements of  $n\mathbb{Z}$ ,  $a = nk, b = nj$  for some  $n, j \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Thus,

$$ab^{-1} = a - b = nj - nk = n(j - k).$$

Since  $j - k \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $ab^{-1}$  is an element of  $n\mathbb{Z}$ . Thus  $(n\mathbb{Z}, +)$  is a subgroup of  $(\mathbb{Z}, +)$  by the One-Step Subgroup Test.

2. (3 points) Let  $G$  be an Abelian (commutative) group with identity  $e$ . Prove that the subset  $H = \{x \in G \mid x^2 = e\}$  is a subgroup of  $G$ .

( $\Rightarrow$ ) The identity element of  $G$ ,  $e$ , is in  $H$  since  $e^2 = e$ . Therefore  $H$  is non-empty and we can use the One-Step Subgroup Test on it. Let  $a, b \in H$ . We want to show that  $(ab^{-1})^2 = e$ .

$$(ab^{-1})^2 = a^2(b^{-1})^2 = a^2(b^2)^{-1} = ee^{-1} = e.$$

The first equal sign uses a property of being Abelian.  $H$  passes the One-Step Subgroup Test and is therefore is a subgroup of  $G$ .

3. (3 points) Prove that  $SL(2, \mathbb{R})$ , the set of all  $2 \times 2$  matrices with entries from  $\mathbb{R}$  and determinant 1, is a subgroup of  $GL_2(\mathbb{R})$  under multiplication.

( $\Rightarrow$ ) The identity element of  $GL_2(\mathbb{R})$  is

$$e = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

The determinant of  $e$  being 1 implies that  $e \in SL(2, \mathbb{R})$ . We will use the One-Step Subgroup Test again. Let  $a, b \in SL(2, \mathbb{R})$ . We want to show  $(ab^{-1}) \in SL(2, \mathbb{R})$  by showing its determinant is 1.

$$\det(ab^{-1}) = \det(a)\det(b^{-1}) = \det(a)\frac{1}{\det(b)} = 1 \cdot 1 = 1.$$

Since  $\det(ab^{-1}) = 1$ , it is an element of  $SL(2, \mathbb{R})$  and thus  $SL(2, \mathbb{R})$  is subgroup of  $GL(2, \mathbb{R})$ .

4. (3 points) Let  $H_1, H_2$  be subgroups of a group  $G$ .

(a) Prove that  $H_1 \cap H_2$  is a subgroup.

( $\Rightarrow$ ) Being subgroups of  $G$ ,  $H_1$  and  $H_2$  both contain  $e$ . Thus  $e \in H_1 \cap H_2$ . If  $a, b \in H_1 \cap H_2$ ,  $a, b \in H_1$  and  $a, b \in H_2$ . Being subgroups, both  $H_1$  and  $H_2$  contain  $ab^{-1}$ . Thus

$$ab^{-1} \in H_1 \cap H_2.$$

By the One-Step Subgroup Test,  $H_1 \cap H_2$  is a subgroup of  $G$ .

(b) Prove or disprove. If  $H_1$  and  $H_2$  are subgroups of a group  $G$ , then  $H_1 \cup H_2$  is a subgroup of  $G$ .

( $\Rightarrow$ ) Disprove by counterexample. Let  $G = (\mathbb{Z}, +)$ ,  $H_1 = (2\mathbb{Z}, +)$ , and  $H_2 = (3\mathbb{Z}, +)$ . Both  $H_1$  and  $H_2$  are subgroups of  $G$  by Problem 1. Let  $a = 2$  and  $b = 3$ .

$$ab^{-1} = 2 - 3 = -1.$$

1 is not a multiple of either 2 or 3 so it is not an element of  $2\mathbb{Z} \cup 3\mathbb{Z}$ .

5. (3 points) Let  $G$  be a group with the following Cayley table:

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
2	2	1	8	7	6	5	4	3
3	3	4	5	6	7	8	1	2
4	4	3	2	1	8	7	6	5
5	5	6	7	8	1	2	3	4
6	6	5	4	3	2	1	8	7
7	7	8	1	2	3	4	5	6
8	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1

(a) Find  $Z(G)$  (the center of  $G$ ).

$$Z(G) = \{1, 5\}$$

(b) Find  $\langle 3 \rangle$  and  $\langle 4 \rangle$ .

$$\langle 3 \rangle = \{3, 5, 7, 1\}$$

$$\langle 4 \rangle = \{4, 1\}$$

- (c) A group  $G$  is called **cyclic** provided that there is an element  $a \in G$  such that  $G = \langle a \rangle$ . Is group  $G$  in this example a cyclic group? Why or why not?

$G$  is not a cyclic group because no element of  $G$  generates it. We come to this conclusion by evaluating each element of  $G$ . We can do this by inspecting the Cayley Table. Take 3 for example. We know that  $3 \in \langle 3 \rangle$ . Generally,  $a \in \langle a \rangle$ . Next we look at the entry of row 3 column 3 to evaluate  $3 \cdot 3 = 5$ . This means that  $5 \in \langle 3 \rangle$ . To evaluate  $3^3 = 3 \cdot 3^2 = 3 \cdot 5$ , we look at row 3 column 5. This entry being 7 implies  $7 \in \langle 3 \rangle$ . We continue doing this until reaching the identity element 1. All of the powers of  $a \in G$  results in 1 before exhausting all possible values of  $G$ . This means that no element of  $G$  generates  $G$ . Therefore it is not a cyclic group.

6. (3 points) Let  $\mathbb{C}^* = \{a + ib \mid a, b \in \mathbb{R} \text{ and not both } a \text{ and } b \text{ are zero}\}$  be the group of non-zero complex numbers with operation multiplication. For each positive integer  $n$ , the set of solutions to the equation  $x^n - 1 = 0$  forms a subgroup of  $\mathbb{C}^*$  called **the  $n$ th roots of unity**.

- (a) Find all of the solutions in  $\mathbb{C}^*$  to the equation  $x^n - 1 = 0$  for  $n = 2, 3$ , and 4.

( $\Rightarrow$ ) The  $n^{th}$  roots of unity are represented by points lying equally spaced apart on a unit circle in the complex plane with  $(1, 0)$  being one of them. The points are separated by angle  $\frac{2\pi}{n}$  radians.

- $n = 2 \Rightarrow \{1, -1\}$
- $n = 3 \Rightarrow \{1, -\frac{1}{2} + i\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}, -\frac{1}{2} - i\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\}$
- $n = 4 \Rightarrow \{1, i, -1, -i\}$

- (b) Check that the  $n$  solutions in  $\mathbb{C}^*$  of the equation  $x^n - 1 = 0$  each form a multiplicative subgroup of  $\mathbb{C}^*$  for  $n = 2, 3$ , and 4 by building the table for each group.

	1	-1
1	1	-1
-1	-1	1

Table 1: n=2

	1	$-\frac{1}{2}(1 + i\sqrt{3})$	$\frac{1}{2}(-1 + i\sqrt{3})$
1	1	$-\frac{1}{2}(1 + i\sqrt{3})$	$\frac{1}{2}(-1 + i\sqrt{3})$
$-\frac{1}{2}(1 + i\sqrt{3})$	$-\frac{1}{2}(1 + i\sqrt{3})$	$-\frac{1}{2}(1 + i\sqrt{3})$	1
$\frac{1}{2}(-1 + i\sqrt{3})$	$\frac{1}{2}(-1 + i\sqrt{3})$	1	$\frac{1}{2}(-1 + i\sqrt{3})$

Table 2: n=3

	1	i	-1	-i
1	1	i	-1	-i
i	i	-1	-i	1
-1	-1	-i	1	i
-i	-i	1	i	-1

Table 3: n=4

- (c) For  $n = 2, 3$ , and  $4$ , plot the roots of  $x^n = 1$  on the complex plane and draw the picture of what shape you get back when you connect the dots.

**See next page. It was too difficult to LaTeX.**