

## Lecture 2

### Chapter 3

Def: Let  $G$  be a group.

The order of  $G$  is the number elements in  $G$ .  
 $|G|$  — the order of  $G$ .

Note, we can have  $|G| = \infty$

$\nearrow |Z_n| = n$   
 $|D_n| = 2n$   
 $|U(n)| = \# \text{ of numbers in } \{0, 1, \dots, n-1\} = \varphi(n) \text{ that are relatively prime.}$

$\searrow W_n = \{x \in \mathbb{C} \mid x^n = 1\}$   
 $|W_n| = n$

example:  $W_4 = \{1, -1, i, -i\}$

Def: The order of an element  $g \in G$  is the least positive integer  $n$  s.t.  $g^n = e$ .

If no such  $n$  exists, we say that  $g$  has infinite order.

Examples:

$R_{180}$  in  $D_4$

$|R_{180}| = 2$

What is  $|9|$  in  $\mathbb{Z}_{13}$ ?  $|9| = 13$   $\underbrace{9+9+\dots+9}_{13 \text{ times}} \equiv 0 \pmod{13}$

In  $D_n$ , all reflections have order 2.

What is  $|3|$  in  $U(5)$ ?

$$3^1 = 3 \not\equiv 1 \pmod{5}$$

$$3^2 = 4 \not\equiv 1 \pmod{5}$$

$$3^3 = 2 \not\equiv 1 \pmod{5}$$

$$3^4 = 81 \not\equiv 1 \pmod{5}$$

So  $|3| = 4$

problem of finding prime elements.

Fix  $p$  a prime #, find  $k \in \mathbb{Z}_p$  s.t.  $|k| = p-1$ ,  $|U(p)| = p-1$

Infinite order:

$\mathbb{Z}$ :  $|\text{identity}| = 1$  by convention

Every non-identity element has infinite order.

$\mathbb{R}^*$  under multiplication. What are the orders of elements?

Claim: only  $\pm 1$  have finite order in  $\mathbb{R}^*$ .

Pf:  $(0, 1), (1, \infty)$   
 $(-1, 0), (-\infty, 1)$

Let  $x \in \mathbb{R}^*$ , and suppose  $x$  has finite order. Then  $x^n = 1$  for some  $n$ . Then  $x^n - 1 = 0$ .  
But we know that  $\pm 1$  are the only roots of unity in  $\mathbb{R}$ .

What are finite order elements in  $\mathbb{C}^*$

$\{\pm 1, \pm i, \dots\}$  all  $n$ th roots of unity for any  $n$ .  
 $\mathbb{M}_n = \{e^{2\pi ir} \mid r \in \mathbb{Q}\} \rightarrow$  this is a group.

Def: (subgroup)

Let  $G$  be a group and let  $H \subseteq G$ . We say  $H$  is a subgroup of  $G$  if  $H$  is a group under the multiplication operation coming from  $G$ .

Notation:  $H \leq G$  (Compare this w/ the notion of subspace).

Classify all subgroups of  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

- ①  $\mathbb{Z} \leq \mathbb{Z}$   
②  $\{e\} \leq \mathbb{Z}$   
③  $\mathbb{N} \not\leq \mathbb{Z}$ ? It does not have inverse.

- ④ even numbers  $= 2\mathbb{Z}$

$\mathbb{Z}_n \not\leq \mathbb{Z}$ ? The multiplication is not the operation coming from  $\mathbb{Z}$ .  
Same reason:  $\cup(n) \not\leq \mathbb{Z}$

- ⑤  $\{-1, 1\} \not\leq \mathbb{Z}$  There isn't  $0 \in \{-1, 1\}$   
Multiplication is different.

- ⑥  $n\mathbb{Z} = \{all \text{ multiples of } n\}$

Theorem: All subgroups of  $\mathbb{Z}$  look like either  $n\mathbb{Z}$  for  $n \geq 1$  or are  $\{0\}$ .

Proof: Sps  $S \leq \mathbb{Z}$  and  $S \neq n\mathbb{Z}$  and  $S \neq \{0\}$ . Since  $S \neq \{0\}$ , there is some  $x \in S$  s.t.  $x \neq 0$ .

Taking inverses if necessary, we may assume  $x > 0$ . therefore  $S$  has at least one positive element.

Let  $k$  be the least positive elements of  $S$ .

I claim that  $S = k\mathbb{Z}$ .

Sps  $S \neq k\mathbb{Z}$ . Then  $\exists r \in S$  s.t.  $r$  is not a multiple of  $k$ .

But we know  $r \equiv S \pmod{k}$  where  $0 < S \leq k-1$

Thus  $S = r + m \cdot k$  Thus  $S \in S$ .

But  $S < k$ , which contradicts the fact that  $k$  is the least positive integer in  $S$ .

**Thm (One-step subgroup test)**

Let  $G$  be a group, and let  $H \subseteq G$ . Then  $H$  is a subgroup of  $G$  iff

$$H \neq \emptyset$$

$\forall a, b \in H, ab^{-1} \in H$ .

Proof:

" $\Rightarrow$ " Assume  $H$  is a subgroup.

Then  $H \neq \emptyset$  because  $e \in H$ .

Also  $\forall a, b \in H, ab^{-1} \in H$ . This is b/c first  $b^{-1} \in H$  as  $H$  is closed under taking inverses, and then  $ab^{-1} \in H$  as  $H$  is closed under multi.

" $\Leftarrow$ " Assume  $\forall a, b \in H$  that  $ab^{-1} \in H$  &  $H \neq \emptyset$ .

Let  $x \in H$  (which is possible since  $H \neq \emptyset$ )

Then  $x(x^{-1}) \in H$ , i.e.  $e \in H$

Sps  $x \in H$ , then setting  $a = e, b = x$ , we see that  $x^{-1} \in H$ .

Sps  $x \in H, y \in H$ , then setting  $a = x, b = y^{-1}$ , we get  $ab \in H$ .

**Thm (2-step subgroup test)**

Let  $G$  be a group,  $H \leq G$ , then  $H \leq G$  iff

$$H \neq \emptyset$$

$\forall a, b \in H, ab \in H$

$\forall c \in H, c^{-1} \in H$

Proof:  $\Rightarrow$  easy

$\Leftarrow$  Assume  $H \neq \emptyset$

$\forall a, b \in H, ab \in H$  and  $\forall c \in H, c^{-1} \in H$ .

Since  $H \neq \emptyset$ , take any  $x \in H$  & will have  $x^{-1} \in H$ . And  $x(x^{-1}) \in H$   
so...

**Thm (Finite subgroup test)**

Assume in addition to the previous assumptions that  $H$  is a finite set. Then  $H \leq G$  iff  $\forall a, b \in H, ab \in H, H \neq \emptyset$ . We can take  $x \in H$  and look at its powers.

$$\{x^n \mid n \in \mathbb{N}\} \subseteq H$$

But  $H$  is a finite set.

So  $x^n = x^m$  for some  $n \neq m$ .

$$x^{n-m} = e \text{ where } n > m$$

$$x \cdot (x^{n-m-1}) = e, \text{ so } x^{-1} = x^{n-m-1}$$

Def: Let  $a \in G$ . Define  $\langle a \rangle = \{a^n \mid n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$

**Thm:  $\langle a \rangle \leq G$**

- $a^n \cdot a^m = a^{m+n}$  closed multi.
- $(a^n)^{-1} = a^{-n} = (a^{-1})^n$
- $e = a$

Def: The center of  $G$  is  $Z(G) = \{a \in G \mid \forall x \in G, ax = xa\}$

Thm:  $Z(G) \leq G$

Proof:  $Z(G) \neq \emptyset$  because  $e \in Z(G)$

Sps  $a, b \in Z(G)$ , let  $x \in G$  and we want to show that  
 $(ab)x = x(ab)$

But we know  $abx = axb = xab$

$$\begin{matrix} & \uparrow & \uparrow \\ abx & = & xab \\ b \in Z(G) & & a \in Z(G) \end{matrix}$$

Finally, we want to show that  
 $a^{-1} \in Z(G)$ , i.e.  $\forall x \in G, a^{-1}x = xa^{-1}$ .

We know that  $ax = xa$

Multiplying on the left by  $a^{-1}$  we get  $x = a^{-1}xa$ .

Multiplying on the right by  $a^{-1}$ , we get  $xa^{-1} = a^{-1}x$ .

The centralizer of  $a$  in  $G$ .

Def: Let  $x \in G$ , define the centralizer  $C(x)$  by  
 $C(x) = \{a \in G \mid xa = ax\}$

Thm:  $C(C(x)) \leq G$

Practice problems

Ch 3: (8th ed / 7th)

(28/14), (34/20), (36/22), (37/23), (38/24), (52/36), (55/39),  
(61/45), (68/52)

### Cyclic groups (Ch 4)

Def: Say  $G$  is cyclic if  $\exists a \in G$  s.t.  $G = \langle a \rangle$ , we say  $a$  is a generator for  $G$ .

Examples:  $\mathbb{Z}_n = \langle 1 \rangle = \langle n-1 \rangle$   
 $\mathbb{Z} = \langle 1 \rangle = \langle -1 \rangle$

Ex: Show  $U(8)$  is not cyclic

Thm (for when  $a^i = a^j$  in cyclic group)  
criteria

Assume  $G = \langle a \rangle$ .

If  $G$  is finite, then  $a^i = a^j$  iff  $i = j$

If  $G$  is finite, then  $G = \{e, a, a^2, \dots, a^{n-1}\}$  and  $a^i = a^j$  iff  
 $i \equiv j \pmod{n}$ .

In particular,  $|G| = n$ .

Corollary:  $|\langle a \rangle| = |a|$

Cor:  $a^k = e$  iff  $n \mid k$  i.e.  $k \equiv 0 \pmod{n}$

Prop: baby thm

Thm: provable-thm

Lema : helper thm

Cor : immediate consequence of thm