

18MAB302T-DISCRETE MATHEMATICS

UNIT-4 : Group Theory and Group Codes



Topics

- Binary operation on a set- Groups and axioms of groups
- Properties of groups
- Permutation group, equivalence classes with addition modulo m and multiplication modulo m
- Cyclic groups and properties
- Subgroups and necessary and sufficiency of a subset to be a subgroup
- Group homomorphism and properties
- Rings- definition and examples-Zero divisors
- Integral domain- definition , examples and properties.
- Fields – definition, examples and properties
- Coding Theory – Encoders and decoders- Hamming codes
- Hamming distance-Error detected by an encoding function
- Error correction using matrices
- Group codes-error correction in group codes-parity check matrix.
- Problems on error correction in group codes

INTRODUCTION

- INTRODUCTION
- BASIC ALGEBRA
- ALGEBRAIC SYSTEM
- PROPERTIES OF ALGEBRAIC SYSTEM



MODULE-1

SETS

- A **Set** is a well defined collection of objects. These objects are otherwise called members or elements of the set. The set is denoted by capital letters A, B, C...
- **Examples** : A - The set of all colors in rainbow , S – the set of even numbers
- **Notations** : Sets are represented in two ways .
- **Roster form** : All the elements are listed. Ex. $A = \{1,3,5,7,9\}$
- **Set builder form** : Defining the elements of the set by specifying their common property .
- **Example:** $V = \{ x / x \text{ is vowel} \}$
 - [the elements of V are a,e,i,o,u]
 - $S = \{ x / x = n^2, n \text{ is positive integer less than } 30 \}$
 - $S = \{1,4,9,16,25\}$

BASIC ALGEBRA

Number system

There are common notations for the number system which are

\mathbb{R} – the set of all **Real numbers**, \mathbb{R}^+ - the set of **Positive real numbers**.

\mathbb{Z} , \mathbb{Z}^+ , \mathbb{Z}^- - set of all **Integers**, **Positive integers**, **Negative integers**.

\mathbb{C} , \mathbb{C}^+ , \mathbb{C}^- - set of all **Complex**, **Positive complex**, **Negative complex numbers**.

\mathbb{N} – set of all **Natural numbers** i.e $\mathbb{N} = \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$

\mathbb{Q} , \mathbb{Q}^+ , \mathbb{Q}^- - set of **rational**, **positive rational**, **negative rational numbers**

BASIC ALGEBRA-Number system

- **Congruence modulo n**

Let n be a positive integer. If a and b are two integers and n divides $a - b$ then we say that “ a is congruent to b modulo n ” and we write $a \equiv b \pmod{n}$. The integer n is called modulus.

Example : $23 \equiv 3 \pmod{5}$; $16 \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$

- **Congruence classes modulo n**

Let a be an integer. Let $[a]$ denote the set of all integers congruent to $a \pmod{n}$

i.e $[a] = \{x : x \in \mathbb{Z}, x \equiv a \pmod{n}\} = \{x : x \in \mathbb{Z}, x = a + kn\}$ for some integer k , then $[a]$ is said to be equivalence class, modulo n , represented by $[a]$. The set of all congruence classes modulo n is denoted by \mathbb{Z}_n .

$$\therefore \mathbb{Z}_n = \{[0], [1], [2], \dots, [n-1]\}$$



BASIC ALGEBRA-Number system

- **Addition of residue classes**

Let $[a], [b] \in Z_n$ then their sum is denoted by $+_n$ and is defined as follows:

$$[a] +_n [b] = \begin{cases} [a+b] & \text{if } a+b < n \\ [r] & \text{if } a+b \geq n \end{cases} \quad \text{where } r \text{ is the least non negative remainder when } a+b \text{ is}$$

divided by n . hence $0 \leq r \leq n$

Ex. $[1] +_5 [2] = [1+2] = 3$

$$[3] +_5 [4] = [2] \quad \text{for } 3+4=7 > 5, \quad 7=1 \times 5 + 2$$

$$[3] +_5 [2] = [0]$$

- **Multiplication of residue classes**

Let $[a], [b] \in Z_n$ then their product is denoted by \times_n and is defined as follows:

$$[a] \times_n [b] = \begin{cases} [ab] & \text{if } ab < n \\ [r] & \text{if } ab \geq n \end{cases} \quad \text{where } r \text{ is the least non negative integer when } ab \text{ is divided by}$$

n . hence $0 \leq r \leq n$

Ex. $[2] \times_5 [2] = [4] \quad ; \quad [2] \times_5 [4] = [3] .$

$$Z_n = \{[0], [1], [2], \dots [n-1]\}$$

Algebraic systems

- A **binary operation** $*$ on a set A is defined as a function from $A \times A$ into the set A itself. .
- A non empty set A with one or more binary operations on it is called an **algebraic system**.

Examples.

- Set : $N = \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$ – the set of **natural numbers**, Operation : the usual addition ‘+’ which is a binary operation on N , then $(N, +)$ is an algebraic system.
- Similarly, $(Q, +)$, $(Z, +)$, $(R, +)$, $(C, +)$... are algebraic systems

General properties of algebraic system

Let $(S, *)$ be an algebraic system, $*$ is the binary operation on S .

- **Closure property** – For all $a, b \in S$, $a * b \in S$
- **Associativity** - For all $a, b, c \in S$, $(a * b) * c = a * (b * c)$,
- **Commutativity** - For all $a, b \in S$, $a * b = b * a$
- **Identity element** – There exists an element $e \in S$, such that

$$\text{for any } a \in S, \quad a * e = e * a = a$$

- **Inverse element** – For every $a \in S$, there exists some $b \in S$ such that

$$a * b = b * a = e, \text{ then } b \text{ is called the inverse element of } a.$$



MODULE 2

- GROUP
- ABELIAN GROUP
- FINITE AND INFINITE GROUP
- EXAMPLES
- ORDER OF GROUP
- ORDER OF ELEMENT



GROUPS

Definition : Group

If G is a non empty set and $*$ is a binary operation on G , then the algebraic system $\{G, *\}$ is called a **group** if the following axioms are satisfied:

- 1) For all $a, b \in S$, $a * b \in S$ [**Closure property**]
- 2) For all $a, b, c \in G$, $(a * b) * c = a * (b * c)$ (**Associativity**)
- 3) There exists an element $e \in G$ such that, for any $a \in G$, $a * e = e * a = a$
(**Existence of identity**)
- 4) For every $a \in G$, there exists an element $a^{-1} \in G$ such that
$$a * a^{-1} = a^{-1} * a = e$$
(**Existence of inverse**)



Abelian group

The group $(G, *)$ which has commutative property ,

for all $a, b \in S$, $a * b = b * a$, is called an abelian group.

- **Finite/Infinite group**

The group $(G, *)$ is said to be finite or infinite according as the underlying set is finite or infinite.

- **Order of a group**

If $(G, *)$ is a finite group , then the number of elements of G is the order of the group written as $O(G)$ or $|G|$

- **Order of an element**

Let $(G, *)$ be a group and $a \in G$, the least positive integer m , such that $a^m = e$, the identity element of G , is called order of a and is written as $O(a)=m$

Examples for Groups

- 1) The set $(\mathbb{Z}, +)$, of all integers under addition forms a group.
- 2) The set of all 2×2 non singular matrices over \mathbb{R} is an abelian group under matrix addition, but not abelian with respect to matrix multiplication as $AB \neq BA$
- 3) The set $\{1, -1, i, -i\}$ is an abelian group under multiplication of complex numbers .

Permutation group

Let A be a non empty set, then a function $f: A \rightarrow A$ is a permutation of A if f is both one to one and onto, that is f is bijective. Let S_A denotes the set of all permutations on A . Let $f: A \rightarrow A$ and $g: A \rightarrow A$ be two functions. Then their composition, denoted by $f \circ g$, is the function $f \circ g: A \rightarrow A$ defined by $(f \circ g)(a) = g(f(a))$, the composition of function is the binary operation on S_A .

If $A = \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$, then the permutation p on A can be written as

$$p = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & \dots & n \\ p(1) & p(2) & \dots & p(n) \end{pmatrix}$$

For example $p = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 3 & 4 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

If A has n elements S_A has $n!$ Permutations.

Permutation group

Let $p1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 1 & 4 & 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$ and $p2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 3 & 2 & 4 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$, the composition of these two permutations is defined as

$$p1 \circ p2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 1 & 4 & 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \circ \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 3 & 2 & 4 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$$



MODULE 3

- PROPERTIES OF GROUPS
- PROBLEMS ON GROUPS
- PROBLEMS ON ABELIAN GROUPS

Properties of Group

1. The identity element of the group $(G, *)$ is unique.

Proof : If possible , let e_1 and e_2 be two identities of G .

$$e_1 = e_2 * e_1 \text{ [since } e_2 \text{ is the identity]}$$

$$= e_2 \text{ [since } e_1 \text{ is the identity]}$$

i.e $e_1 = e_2$, the identity element is unique

2. The inverse of each element of $(G, *)$ is unique.

Proof : If possible , let a' and a'' be two inverses for a in G .

$$a * a' = a' * a = e$$

$$a * a'' = a'' * a = e$$

$$a' = a' * e = a' * (a * a'') = (a' * a) * a'' = e * a'' = a''$$

$a' = a''$ implies the inverse is unique.



Properties of Group

3. The cancellation laws are true in a group

Viz, $a * b = a * c \Rightarrow b = c$ [left cancellation law]

and $b * a = c * a \Rightarrow b = c$ [right cancellation law]

Proof :

Let $a * b = a * c$ ----(1)

Since $a \in G$, $a^{-1} \in G$ exists such that $a * a^{-1} = a^{-1} * a = e$

Pre multiplying (1) by a^{-1} , $a^{-1} * (a * b) = a^{-1} * (a * c)$

$$(a^{-1} * a) * b = (a^{-1} * a) * c$$

$$e * b = e * c \Rightarrow b = c$$

Let $b * a = c * a \Rightarrow b = c$ -----(2)

Since $a \in G$, $a^{-1} \in G$ exists such that $a * a^{-1} = a^{-1} * a = e$

Post multiplying (2) by a^{-1} , $(b * a) * a^{-1} = (c * a) * a^{-1}$

$$b * (a * a^{-1}) = c * (a * a^{-1})$$

$$b * e = c * e \Rightarrow b = c$$



4. Prove $(a * b)^{-1} = b^{-1} * a^{-1}$, for any $a, b \in G$.

Proof:

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Consider } (a * b) * (b^{-1} * a^{-1}) \\ &= a * (b * (b^{-1} * a^{-1})) \text{ [Associativity]} \\ &= a * (b * b^{-1}) * a^{-1} = a * e * a^{-1} = e \\ \therefore b^{-1} * a^{-1} \text{ is the inverse of } a * b.\end{aligned}$$

5. If $a, b \in G$, the equation $a * x = b$ has the unique solution $x = a^{-1} * b$.

6. $(G, *)$ cannot have an idempotent element except the identity element.

7. If a has inverse b and b has inverse c , then $a = c$.

Problems on Groups

1. Show that the set of all non zero real numbers namely $\mathbb{R}-\{0\}$ forms an abelian group with respect to $*$ defined by $a * b = ab/2$ for all $a, b \in \mathbb{R}-\{0\}$

Proof : [To prove all the four axioms]

- Closure** : if $a, b \in \mathbb{R}-\{0\}$ then , $ab/2$ is also a non zero real number $\in \mathbb{R}-\{0\}$

- Associativity** : $a * (b * c) = a * (bc/2) = abc/4$ -----(1)

$$(a * b) * c = ab/2 * c = abc/4 \text{ -----(2)}$$

From (1) and (2), $a * (b * c) = (a * b) * c$

- Identity element** : $a * e = a$

$ae/2 = a$ implies $e = 2$ is the identity element .

- Inverse element** : for $a \in \mathbb{R} - \{0\}$, $a * a^{-1} = e$

$$\frac{aa^{-1}}{2} = 2 \Rightarrow a^{-1} = \frac{4}{a} \text{ is the inverse of } a$$

Problems on Groups

2. Prove that the set $R - \{1\}$ forms an abelian group with respect to $*$ defined by

● **$a * b = (a + b - ab)$, for all $a, b \in R - \{1\}$.**

Proof :

- **Closure** : If $a, b \in R - \{1\}$ then , $(a + b - ab)$ is also a real number $\in R - \{1\}$
- **Associativity** :

$$\begin{aligned} a * (b * c) &= a * (b + c - bc) = a + b + c - bc - a(b + c - bc) \\ &= a + b + c - ab - bc - ac + abc \\ (a * b) * c &= (a + b - ab) * c = a + b - ab + c - (a + b - ab)c \\ &= a + b + c - ab - bc - ac + abc \end{aligned}$$

Hence , $a * (b * c) = (a * b) * c$.

- **Identity element** : $a * e = a$
 $a + e - ae = a \Rightarrow e = 0$ is the identity element .
- **Inverse element** : For $a \in R - \{0\}$, $a * a^{-1} = e$
 $a + a^{-1} - aa^{-1} = 0$
 $a^{-1} = \frac{a}{a-1}$ is the inverse of 'a' , ($a \neq 1$).



3. Let $G = \{ f_1, f_2, f_3, f_4 \}$ where $f_1(x) = x$, $f_2(x) = -x$, $f_3(x) = \frac{1}{x}$, $f_4(x) = -\frac{1}{x}$ and \circ be the composition of functions. Prove that (G, \circ) is a group.

Proof:

	f_1	f_2	f_3	f_4
f_1				
f_2				
f_3				
f_4				

- **Closed** : From the table it is
- **Associativity** :

$$f_1 * (f_2 * f_3) = f_1 * f_4 = f_4$$

$$(f_1 * f_2) * f_3 = f_2 * f_3 = f_4$$

Hence , $f_1 * (f_2 * f_3) = (f_1 * f_2) * f_3$.

- **Identity element** : From the table, we can see that f_1 is the identity element.
- **Inverse element** : Inverse of every element is the element itself



4. Let $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$, S_A be the set of all permutations of A , then prove that with respect to right composition of permutations \circ , $\{S_A, \circ\}$ is an abelian group.

Proof :

Let $S_A = \{p_1, p_2, p_3, p_4, p_5, p_6\}$ where

$$p_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix}, p_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 3 & 2 \end{pmatrix}, p_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 3 & 1 \end{pmatrix},$$
$$p_4 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix}, p_5 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 3 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } p_6 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

\circ	p_1	p_2	p_3	p_4	p_5	p_6
p_1	p_1	p_2	p_3	p_4	p_5	p_6
p_2	p_2	p_1	p_4	p_3	p_6	p_5
p_3	p_3	p_4	p_1	p_2	p_4	p_1
p_4	p_4	p_3	p_2	p_1	p_3	p_2
p_5	p_5	p_6	p_4	p_3	p_1	p_4
p_6	p_6	p_5	p_1	p_2	p_4	p_1

- From the above table, for any two or three elements we can prove closure and associative property.
- The identity element is p_1 and the inverse of any element is the element itself.



Problems on Groups

4. Let $a \neq 0$ be a fixed real number and $G = \{a^n : n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$, Prove that G is an abelian group under multiplication .

Proof :

- **Closed** : if $a^{n_1}, a^{n_2} \in G$ then $a * b = a^{n_1+n_2} \in G$ as $n_1+n_2 \in \mathbb{Z}$

- **Associativity** : For $a^{n_1}, a^{n_2}, a^{n_3} \in G$

$$a^{n_1} * (a^{n_2} * a^{n_3}) = a^{n_1} * a^{n_2+n_3} = a^{n_1+n_2+n_3}$$

$$(a^{n_1} * a^{n_2}) * a^{n_3} = a^{n_1+n_2} * a^{n_3} = a^{n_1+n_2+n_3}$$

- **Identity element** - $a^n * a^e = a^n$

$$a^{n+e} = a^n \text{ implies } e=0 \text{ and } a^e = a^0 = 1 \text{ is the identity element}$$

- **Inverse element** – for $a \in R, a^n * a^{n_1} = a^0 \Rightarrow n + n_1 = 0 \Rightarrow n_1 = -n$

$$a^{n_1} = a^{-n} \text{ is the inverse of } a^n$$



5. For any group $(G, *)$ if $a^2 = e$ with $a \neq e$, then prove that G is abelian
[Or, if every element of a group $(G, *)$ is its own inverse, then G is abelian]

Proof:

Let $a^2 = e$.

$$\text{Then } a^2 * a^{-1} = (a * a) * a^{-1} = e * a^{-1} = a^{-1}$$

$$a^2 * a^{-1} = a * (a * a^{-1}) = a * e = a$$

$$\text{implies } a = a^{-1}$$

$$\text{Then for any } a, b \in G, (a * b)^{-1} = a * b$$

$$b^{-1} * a^{-1} = a * b$$

$$b * a = a * b, \text{ } G \text{ is abelian.}$$

6. Let $(G,*)$ be a group. Prove that G is abelian if and only if $(a * b)^2 = a^2 * b^2$

Proof:

Let G be abelian,

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Consider } (a * b)^2 &= (a * b) * (a * b) \\ &= a * (b * (a * b)) \text{ [Associativity]} \\ &= a * ((b * a) * b) \\ &= a * (a * b) * b \text{ [commutativity]} \\ &= (a * a) * (b * b) = a^2 * b^2\end{aligned}$$

Now , suppose $(a * b)^2 = a^2 * b^2$

$$\begin{aligned}(a * b) * (a * b) &= (a * a) * (b * b) \\ a * (b * (a * b)) &= a * (a * (b * b)) \\ b * (a * b) &= a * (b * b) \\ (b * a) * b &= (a * b) * b \text{ [Associativity]} \\ b * a &= a * b \text{ ----commutative.}\end{aligned}$$

Thus G is abelian.



- Exercises :

1. The set $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ is an abelian group under matrix multiplication.
2. The set $\{0,1,2,3,4\}$ is a finite abelian group of order 5 under addition modulo 5.
3. The set $\{1,3,7,9\}$ is an abelian group under multiplication modulo 10.

MODULE 4

- SUBGROUPS
- EXAMPLES FOR SUBGROUP
- CONDITIONS FOR SUBGROUP
- PROBLEMS ON SUBGROUPS



Problems on subgroups

1. The intersection of two subgroups of a group G is also a subgroup of G .

Proof:

Let H_1 and H_2 be any two subgroups of G . $H_1 \cap H_2$ is a non-empty set, since, at least the identity element e is common to both H_1 and H_2

Let $a \in H_1 \cap H_2$, then $a \in H_1$ and $a \in H_2$

Let $b \in H_1 \cap H_2$, then $b \in H_1$ and $b \in H_2$

H_1 is a subgroup of G , $a * b^{-1} \in H_1$ a and $b \in H$

H_2 is a subgroup of G , $a * b^{-1} \in H_2$ a and $b \in H$

$\therefore a * b^{-1} \in H_1 \cap H_2$ implies $H_1 \cap H_2$ is a subgroup of G .



SUBGROUPS

If $\{G, *\}$ is a group and $H \subseteq G$ is a non-empty subset of G , called **subgroup** of G , if H itself forms a group.

Theorem:

The necessary and sufficient condition for a non empty subset H of a group $\{G, *\}$ to be a subgroup is, for every $a, b \in H \Rightarrow a * b^{-1} \in H$.

2. Show that the set $\{a + bi \in \mathbb{C} \mid a^2 + b^2 = 1\}$ is a subgroup of (\mathbb{C}, \cdot) where \cdot is the multiplication operator.

Proof:

Let $H = \{a + bi \in \mathbb{C} \mid a^2 + b^2 = 1\}$, consider two elements $x + iy, p + iq \in H$ such that $x^2 + y^2 = 1, p^2 + q^2 = 1$ and the identity element of \mathbb{C} is $1 + 0i$

Consider $(x + iy)(p + iq)^{-1} = (x + iy)(p - iq) = xp + yq + i(yq - xp)$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Now } (xp + yq)^2 + (yq - xp)^2 &= x^2p^2 + y^2q^2 + 2xpyq + y^2p^2 + x^2q^2 - 2ypxq \\ &= x^2(p^2 + q^2) + y^2(p^2 + q^2) = 1 \end{aligned}$$

$\therefore (x + iy)(p + iq)^{-1} \in H$, H is a subgroup.



3. Let G be an abelian group with identity e , prove that all elements x of G satisfying the equation $x^2 = e$ form a subgroup H of G

Proof:

$$H = \{x \mid x^2 = e\}$$

$$e^2 = e \therefore \text{the identity element } e \text{ of } G \in H$$

$$x^2 = e$$

$$x^{-1} \cdot x^2 = x^{-1} \cdot e \Rightarrow x = x^{-1}$$

Hence, if $x \in H, x^{-1} \in H$ [inverse exists]

Let $x, y \in H$, since G is abelian, $xy = yx = y^{-1}x^{-1} = (xy)^{-1}$

$$\therefore (xy)^2 = e. \text{ i.e } xy \in H$$

Thus, if $x, y \in H$, we have $xy \in H$ [closed]

Thus H is a subgroup.

4. Union of two subgroups of $(G, *)$ need not be a subgroup of $(G, *)$.



Module 5

- Cyclic groups
- Examples
- Properties
- Problems



Cyclic group

A group $(G, *)$ is said to be a **cyclic group** if there exists an element $a \in G$ such that every element of G can be expressed as some integral power of a , **a is called generator of G .**

We write **$G = \langle a \rangle$**

Examples :

1. Let $G = \{1, -1, i, -i\}$ and G is a group under multiplication. It is **cyclic with the generator i**

(i.e.) **$G = \langle i \rangle$ or $G = \langle -i \rangle$**

2. Let $G = \{1, \omega, \omega^2\}$ is a **cyclic group** under multiplication generated by ω . **ω^2 is also a generator.**

3. $(\mathbb{Z}, +)$ is a **cyclic group with generator 1**. **Note -1 is also a generator.**



Properties of cyclic groups

1. Every cyclic group is abelian

Proof:

Let $(G, *)$ be a cyclic group with generator a . Let $x, y \in G$ such that $x = a^m, y = a^n$

$$x * y = a^m * a^n = a^{m+n} = a^{n+m} = a^n * a^m = y * x$$

Therefore $(G, *)$ abelian.

2. Let $(G, *)$ be a cyclic group generated by a , then a^{-1} is also a generator of G .

Proof:

Let $(G, *)$ be a cyclic group generated by a , then for $x \in G$ then $x = a^n$ for some $n \in \mathbb{Z}$

$$x = (a^{-1})^{-n}, -n \in \mathbb{Z}$$

$\therefore a^{-1}$ is also a generator of G .



3. Any subgroup of a cyclic group is itself a cyclic group.

Proof :

Let $(G, *)$ be a cyclic group generated by a and H be a subgroup of G .

if $a^k \in H$ then $a^{-k} \in H$. Let m be the least positive integer such that $a^m \in H$

we have to prove that $H = (a)^m$. Let $c \in H$. $\therefore c \in G$

$$c = a^n \text{ for some } n \in \mathbb{Z}$$

Now $n, m \in \mathbb{Z}$, there exists integers q and r such that $n = mq + r$, $0 \leq r < m$ by division algorithm.

$$\text{Now } c = a^n = a^{mq+r} = a^{mq} * a^r$$

$$a^r = a^{-mq} * c = (a^m)^{-q} * c \in H$$

Since $c \in H$, $(a^m)^{-q} \in H$ and H is a subgroup. But $0 \leq r < m$ and m is the least positive integer such that $a^m \in H$. Therefore $r = 0$

$$\therefore c = a^{mq} = (a^m)^q$$

Hence every element of H can be written as an integer power of a^m . $\therefore H = (a^m)$ is a cyclic group.

- 4. The order of a cyclic group is the same as the order of its generator.**
- 5. A finite group of order n containing an element a of order n is cyclic.**



Problems

●
1. Find the number of generators of a cyclic group of order 5.

Let $G = \langle a \rangle$ be a cyclic group of order 5. Then $G = \{a, a^2, a^3, a^4, a^5 = e\}$.

Since $(1,5)=1, (2,5)=1, (3,5)=1, (4,5)=1$.

The generators are a, a^2, a^3 and a^4 .

The number of generators is 4.

2. Find the number of generators of a cyclic group of order 8 .

Let $G = \langle a \rangle$ be a cyclic group of order 8. Then $G = \{a, a^2, a^3, a^4, a^5, a^6, a^7, a^8 = e\}$.

Since $(1,8)=1, (3,8)=1, (5,8)=1, (7,8)=1$.

The generators are a, a^3, a^5 and a^7 .

The number of generators is 4.