

# Solution for Homework 6

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**Exercise 3.1.4** Prove that a nonempty set  $G$  with an associative operation  $*$  is a group if and only if the equations  $g * x = h$  and  $x * g = h$  have solutions in  $G$  for all  $g, h \in G$ .

- $\implies$ : If  $G$  is a group, then for all  $g, h \in G$  there exists  $g^{-1} * h, h * g^{-1} \in G$  such that

$$g * x = g * (g^{-1} * h) = (g * g^{-1}) * h = e * h = h \text{ and } y * g = (h * g^{-1}) * g = h * (g^{-1} * g) = h * e = h.$$

- $\impliedby$ : First we prove if  $e * g = g$  for some  $g$ , then  $e * h = h$  for all  $h \in G$ . Note that such  $e$  exists since for any  $g \in G$ , there exists  $x, e \in G$  such that  $g * x = g$  and  $e * g = g$ .

For  $g, h \in G$ , there exists  $x, y \in G$  such that  $g * x = g$  and  $y * g = g$ .

Hence, we have

$$\begin{aligned} e * g = g &\implies (e * g) * x = g * x \\ &\implies e * (g * x) = g * x && \text{by associativity} \\ &\implies e * h = h. \end{aligned}$$

We conclude there exists an element  $e \in G$  so that  $e * g = g$  for all  $g \in G$ .

Then for any  $g \in G$ , since  $e \in G$ , there exists an element  $x \in G$  so that  $x * g = e$ . Let  $x = g^{-1}$ . Hence, for all  $g \in G$ , there exists an element  $g^{-1} \in G$  so that  $g^{-1} * g = e$ .

By **Exercise 3.1.3**,  $G$  is a group.

We conclude  $G$  is a group if and only if  $*$  is an associative operation such that for all  $g, h \in G$  there exist  $x, y \in G$  such that  $g * x = h$  and  $y * g = h$ .

**Exercise 3.2.1** Suppose  $n \geq 2$  is an integer and  $d, d' > 0$  are two divisors of  $n$ . Prove that  $\langle [d] \rangle < \langle [d'] \rangle$  if and only if  $d' \mid d$ .

- $\implies$ : Since  $\langle [d] \rangle < \langle [d'] \rangle$ ,  $\langle [d] \rangle \subset \langle [d'] \rangle$ . By **Proposition 3.2.3**,  $\langle [d] \rangle = \{[d]^n \mid n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ . Hence,  $[d] \in \langle [d] \rangle$ . We have  $\langle [d'] \rangle = \{[d']^a \mid a \in \mathbb{Z}\} = \{[ad'] \mid a \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ . Then  $[d] \in \{[ad'] \mid a \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ . Hence,  $[d] = [kd']$  for some  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ . We have  $d + np = ad' + nq$  for some  $p, q \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Then  $ad' - d = n(p - q)$ . Note that  $p - q \in \mathbb{Z}$ , then  $n \mid ad' - d$ .

Since  $d'$  are two divisors of  $n$ , we have  $d' \mid n$ . Therefore,  $d' \mid ad' - d$ , which indicates  $ad' - d = td'$  for some  $t \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Then  $d = (a - t)d'$ . Since  $a - t \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $d' \mid d$ .

- $\impliedby$ : From **Theorem 3.2.10**, we know that  $\langle [d] \rangle$  and  $\langle [d'] \rangle$  are subgroups. Hence, both  $\langle [d] \rangle$  and  $\langle [d'] \rangle$  are groups. Need  $\langle [d] \rangle \subset \langle [d'] \rangle$ .

Since  $d' \mid d$ ,  $d = td'$  for some  $t \in \mathbb{Z}$ . By **Proposition 3.2.3**,  $\langle [d] \rangle = \{[nd] \mid n \in \mathbb{Z}\} = \{ntd' \mid nt \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ . Also,  $\langle [d'] \rangle = \{[d']^a \mid a \in \mathbb{Z}\} = \{[ad'] \mid a \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ . Hence, for any  $s \in \langle [d] \rangle$ , we have  $s \in \langle [d'] \rangle$ , which implies  $\langle [d] \rangle \subset \langle [d'] \rangle$ .

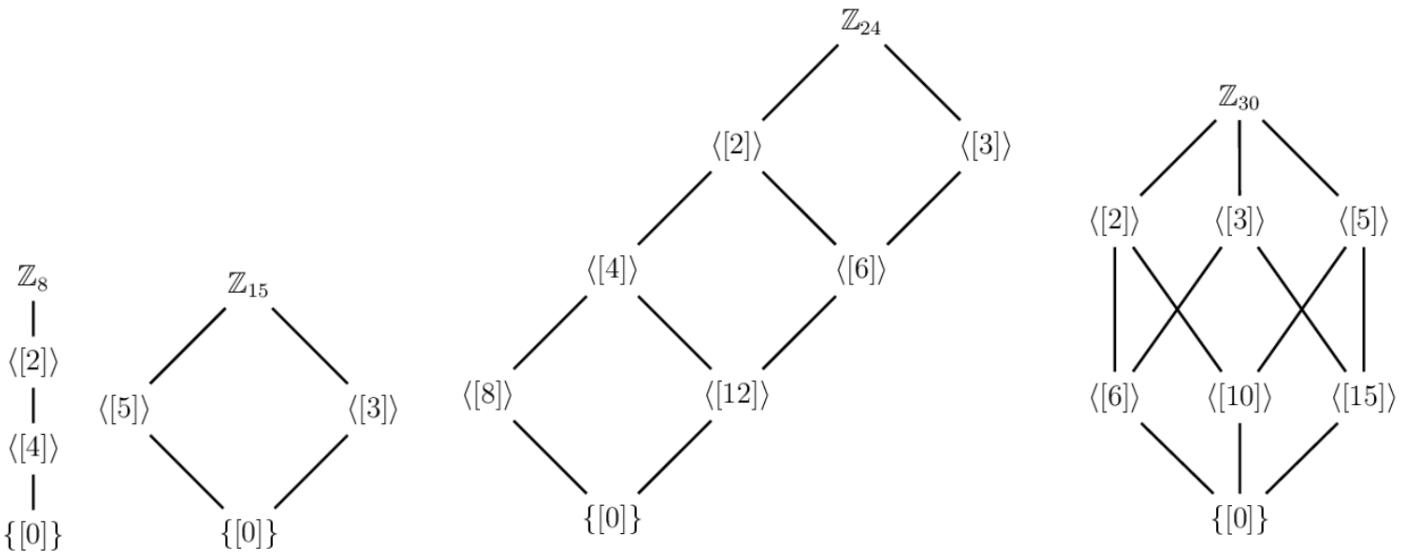
**Exercise 3.2.2** Prove that the number of elements of order  $n$  in  $\mathbb{Z}_n$  is exactly  $\phi(n)$ , the Euler phi function of  $n$ .

We first need to prove that  $\gcd(a, n) = 1$  if and only if  $[[a]] = n$ . By **Proposition 3.2.6**, since  $[[a]] = n \leq \infty$ , there exists a an integer  $m \neq 0$  so that  $[a]^m = [ma] = [0]$ , the identity in  $\mathbb{Z}_n$ . Note that  $m$  is the smallest positive number so that  $[ma] = [0]$ . Hence,  $m = n$ . Then we have  $[na] = [0]$ .

- $\implies$  : Since  $\gcd(a, n) = 1$ ,  $pa + qn = 1$  for some  $p, q \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Let  $0 < b < n$ , then  $b = pab + bnq$ . Since  $n \nmid b$ ,  $n \nmid pab + bnq$ . Then either  $n \nmid pab$  or  $n \nmid bnq$ . Since  $bnq = (bq)n$ , where  $bq \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $n \nmid pab$ . Hence,  $n \nmid pb$  for all  $0 < b < n$ . Since  $n \mid nk$ ,  $n$  is the smallest positive number such that  $[na] = [0]$ . Hence,  $[[a]] = n$ .
- $\impliedby$  : Suppose  $\gcd(a, n) = t > 1$ , then  $t \mid a$  and  $t \mid n$ . We also have  $n/t \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $n > n/t$ . Since  $s = a/t \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $n \mid na/t$ , i.e.,  $n \mid (n/t)a$ . Then  $[(n/t)a] = [0]$ . Since  $n/t < n$ ,  $[[k]] \neq n$ . Hence, if  $[[k]] = n$ ,  $\gcd(a, n) = 1$ .

We conclude  $\gcd(a, n) = 1$  if and only if  $[[a]] = n$ . Then all elements of order  $n$  form  $\mathbb{Z}_n^\times$ . Then the number of elements of order  $n$  in  $\mathbb{Z}_n$  is exactly  $|\mathbb{Z}_n^\times|$ , which is equal to  $\phi(n)$ .

**Exercise 3.2.3** Draw the subgroup lattice for the groups  $\mathbb{Z}_8$ ,  $\mathbb{Z}_{15}$ ,  $\mathbb{Z}_{24}$ , and  $\mathbb{Z}_{30}$ .



**Exercise 3.2.4** Draw the subgroup lattice for  $S_3$  (a group with respect to composition  $\circ$ ). You will need to find all the subgroups  $H < S_3$  by hand (because we don't yet have any theorems that tell us what the subgroups of  $S_3$  are).

By the definition of  $S_3$ , we have  $S_3 = \{(1)(2)(3), (1\ 2), (1\ 3), (2\ 3), (1\ 2\ 3), (1\ 3\ 2)\}$ . We first find all cyclic subgroups of  $S_3$  by hands.

- $\langle (1)(2)(3) \rangle = \{(1)(2)(3)\}$
- $\langle (1\ 2) \rangle = \{(1\ 2), (1)(2)(3)\}$
- $\langle (1\ 3) \rangle = \{(1\ 3), (1)(2)(3)\}$
- $\langle (2\ 3) \rangle = \{(2\ 3), (1)(2)(3)\}$
- $\langle (1\ 2\ 3) \rangle = \{(1\ 2\ 3), (1\ 3\ 2), (1)(2)(3)\}$
- $\langle (1\ 3\ 2) \rangle = \{(1\ 3\ 2), (1\ 2\ 3), (1)(2)(3)\}$

Since  $\langle (1\ 3\ 2) \rangle = \langle (1\ 2\ 3) \rangle$ , the cyclic subgroups are

- $\{(1)(2)(3)\}$
- $\{(1\ 2), (1)(2)(3)\}$
- $\{(1\ 3), (1)(2)(3)\}$

- $\{(2\ 3), (1)(2)(3)\}$
- $\{(1\ 2\ 3), (1\ 3\ 2), (1)(2)(3)\}$

By Lagrange's Theorem, since  $S_3$  is a finite group, the order of any subgroup  $H$  divides the order of  $S_3$ .

Note that  $|S_3| = 6$ . Then  $|H| = 1, 2, 3$  or  $6$ . Note that when  $|H| = 1$ , the only element in  $H$  is the identity. Hence,  $H = \{(1)(2)(3)\}$ . Also, when  $|H| = 6$ , clearly,  $H = S_3$ .

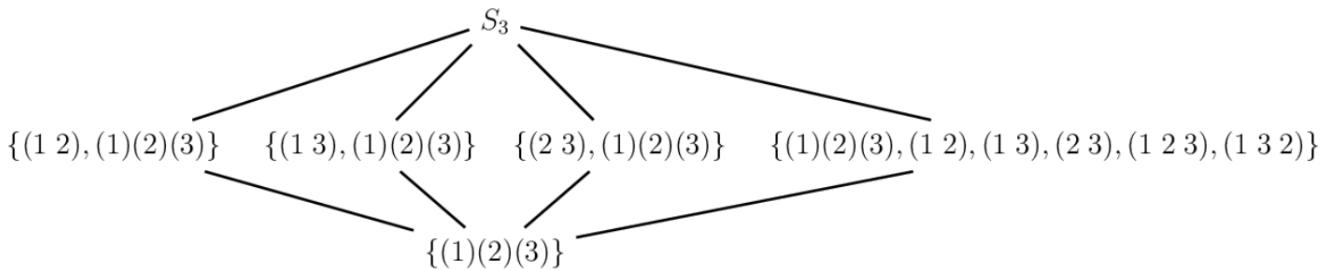
Then there are only two cases to consider:  $|H| = 2$  or  $3$ .

Since  $2$  and  $3$  are both prime integers, by **Corollary 3.5.8**,  $H$  is cyclic. Then cyclic subgroups found above with order  $2$  and  $3$  are what we want.

Hence, all the subgroups of  $S_3$  are

- $\{(1)(2)(3)\}$
- $\{(1\ 2), (1)(2)(3)\}$
- $\{(1\ 3), (1)(2)(3)\}$
- $\{(2\ 3), (1)(2)(3)\}$
- $\{(1\ 2\ 3), (1\ 3\ 2), (1)(2)(3)\}$
- $\{(1)(2)(3), (1\ 2), (1\ 3), (2\ 3), (1\ 2\ 3), (1\ 3\ 2)\}$

The subgroup lattice is



**Exercise 3.2.5** Prove that if  $G$  and  $H$  are groups and  $K < G, J < H$  are subgroups, then  $K \times J \subset G \times H$  is a subgroup. Construct an example of a subgroup of  $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$  which is **not** of the form  $K \times J$  for some  $K < \mathbb{Z}_2$  and  $J < \mathbb{Z}_2$ .

Let  $m, n$  and  $p, q$  be arbitrary elements in  $K$  and  $J$ , respectively. Then  $(m, p)$  and  $(n, q)$  are arbitrary elements in  $K \times J$ .

We have  $(m, p)(n, q) = (mn, pq)$ . Since  $K, J$  are subgroups,  $m, n \in K$  and  $p, q \in J$ ,  $mn \in K$  and  $pq \in J$ . Hence,  $(mn, pq) \in K \times J$ .

Since  $K, J$  are subgroups,  $m \in K$  and  $p \in J$ , there exists some  $m^{-1} \in K$  and  $p^{-1} \in J$  such that  $mm^{-1} = m^{-1}m = e_1$  and  $pp^{-1} = p^{-1}p = e_2$ , where  $e_1$  and  $e_2$  are identities in  $K$  and  $J$ , respectively.

Then  $(m^{-1}, p^{-1}) \in K \times J$  and we have

$$\begin{aligned}(m^{-1}, p^{-1})(m, p) &= (m^{-1}m, p^{-1}p) = (e_1, e_2) \\ (m, p)(m^{-1}, p^{-1}) &= (mm^{-1}, pp^{-1}) = (e_1, e_2)\end{aligned}$$

Hence, there exists an inverse  $(m^{-1}, p^{-1}) \in K \times J$  such that  $(m^{-1}, p^{-1})(m, p) = (m, p)(m^{-1}, p^{-1}) = (e_1, e_2)$ .

Since  $(m, n)$  and  $(p, q)$  are arbitrary, for all  $(g_1, g_2), (h_1, h_2) \in K \times J$ ,  $(g_1, g_2)(h_1, h_2) \in K \times J$  and for all  $(g_1, g_2) \in K \times J$ ,  $(g_1, g_2)^{-1} = (g_1^{-1}, g_2^{-1}) \in K \times J$ .

We conclude  $K \times J$  is a subgroup.

$\{([0], [0]), ([1], [1])\}$  is a subgroup of  $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$  and is not of the form  $K \times J$  for some  $K < \mathbb{Z}_2$  and  $J < \mathbb{Z}_2$ .

Note that  $\mathbb{Z}_2 = \{[0], [1]\}$  and  $\{[0]\}, \{[0], [1]\}$  is a subgroup of  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ .

Then the following sets is of the form  $K \times J$ :

$$\begin{aligned}\{[0], [1]\} \times \{[0], [1]\} &= \{([0], [0]), ([0], [1]), ([1], [0]), ([1], [1])\} \\ \{[0], [1]\} \times \{[0]\} &= \{([0], [0]), ([1], [0])\} \\ \{[0]\} \times \{[0], [1]\} &= \{([0], [0]), ([0], [1])\} \\ \{[0]\} \times \{[0]\} &= \{([0], [0])\}\end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $\{([0], [0]), ([1], [1])\}$  is not of the form  $K \times J$ .

Let  $S = \{([0], [0]), ([1], [1])\} \subset \mathbb{Z}_2$ .

We have

$$\begin{aligned}([0], [0]) + ([0], [0]) &= ([0], [0]) \in S \\ ([0], [0]) + ([1], [1]) &= ([1], [1]) \in S \\ ([1], [1]) + ([0], [0]) &= ([1], [1]) \in S \\ ([1], [1]) + ([1], [1]) &= ([0], [0]) \in S\end{aligned}$$

Then for any  $g, h \in S$ ,  $gh \in S$ .

We also have

$$\begin{aligned}([0], [0]) + ([0], [0]) &= ([0], [0]) \in S \\ ([1], [1]) + ([1], [1]) &= ([0], [0]) \in S\end{aligned}$$

Then for any  $g \in S$ ,  $g^{-1} \in S$ .

Hence,  $S$  is a subgroup of  $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$ .

We conclude  $\{([0], [0]), ([1], [1])\}$  is a subgroup of  $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$  and is not of the form  $K \times J$  for some  $K < \mathbb{Z}_2$  and  $J < \mathbb{Z}_2$ .