

## § 4 Groups

### Groups

Definition 4.1

A group is a set  $G$  equipped with a binary operation  $*$  that satisfies

$\gamma_1$ ) (Associativity) For all  $a, b, c \in G$ , we have  $(a * b) * c = a * (b * c)$ .

$\gamma_2$ ) (Existence of Identity) There exists  $e \in G$  such that for all  $a \in G$ , we have  $a * e = e * a = a$ .

$\gamma_3$ ) (Existence of Inverse) For all  $a \in G$ , there exists  $b \in G$  such that  $a * b = b * a = e$ .

Caution: For simplicity, some simply write  $ab$  instead of  $a * b$  and readers may misunderstand that a group operation must be a multiplication.

If  $G$  is a group, then the order of  $G$  is defined as the cardinality of  $G$ , which is denoted by  $|G|$ . In particular, if  $G$  has finite number of elements,  $|G|$  is just the number of elements of  $G$ .

Example 4.1

$\mathbb{Z}$  with usual addition  $+$  is a group and the identity element  $0$ .

$\mathbb{Z}$  with usual multiplication  $\cdot$  is NOT a group (identity =  $1$ , but  $0$  has no inverse)

$\mathbb{Z}^* = \mathbb{Z} \setminus \{0\}$  with usual multiplication  $\cdot$  is a NOT group (identity element =  $1$ , we know

$$2 \cdot \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{2} \cdot 2 = 1, \text{ but } \frac{1}{2} \notin \mathbb{Z}!$$

In fact,  $\mathbb{Q}$ ,  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $\mathbb{C}$  with usual additions are groups.

Similarly,  $\mathbb{Q}^* = \mathbb{Q} \setminus \{0\}$ ,  $\mathbb{R}^* = \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}$  and  $\mathbb{C}^* = \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$  with usual multiplication are groups.

Example 4.2

$\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z} = \{[0], [1], \dots, [n-1]\}$  with addition  $+$  is a group and the identity element  $[0]$

$$|\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}| = n.$$

Remark: Sometimes, for simplicity, the bracket  $[ ]$  may be dropped.

### Example 4.3

$(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^* = \{[a] \in \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z} : \gcd(a, n) = 1\}$  with multiplication  $\cdot$  is a group and the identity element  $[1]$ .

1) Prove that if  $[a], [b] \in (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^*$ , then  $[ab] \in (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^*$ .

(i.e. if  $\gcd(a, n) = \gcd(b, n) = 1$ , then  $\gcd(ab, n) = 1$ )

2) If  $\gcd(a, n) = 1$ , then there exist  $b, q \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $ab + nq = 1$ .

Therefore,  $\gcd(b, n) = 1$  and so  $[b] \in (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^*$  with  $[a][b] = [1]$

$$|(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^*| = \varphi(n).$$

### Example 4.4

$M_{nn}(\mathbb{R})$  = the set of all  $n \times n$  real matrices with matrix addition

is a group and the identity element is the zero matrix  $O_n$ .

$GL_n(\mathbb{R})$  = the set of all  $n \times n$  real matrices with nonzero determinant

with matrix multiplication is a group and the identity element is the identity matrix  $I_n$ .

$SL_n(\mathbb{R})$  = the set of all  $n \times n$  real matrices with determinant 1.

with matrix multiplication is a group and the identity element is the identity matrix  $I_n$ .

### Example 4.5

Let  $A$  be a nonempty set and let  $S_A = \{f : A \rightarrow A \text{ bijective}\}$ .

Then  $S_A$  with the composition of functions forms a group and the identity element is the identity function on  $A$ .

In particular, if  $|A| = n$ , then  $|S_A| = n!$

### Definition 4.2

A group  $(G, *)$  is abelian if  $a * b = b * a$  for all  $a, b \in G$  (i.e.  $*$  is commutative)

Note that :  $GL_n(\mathbb{R})$  and  $SL_n(\mathbb{R})$  are not abelian.

#### Proposition 4.1

Let  $(G, *)$  be a group and let  $a, b, c \in G$ .

1) (Left cancellation) If  $a * b = a * c$ , then  $b = c$ .

2) (Right cancellation) If  $b * a = c * a$ , then  $b = c$ .

proof:

Suppose that  $a * b = a * c$ .

By  $\gamma_3$ , there exists  $a' \in G$  such that  $a' * a = a * a' = e$ . Then,

$$a * b = a * c$$

$$a' * (a * b) = a' * (a * c)$$

$$(a' * a) * b = (a' * a) * c \quad (\because \gamma_1)$$

$$e * b = e * c$$

$$b = c \quad (\because \gamma_2)$$

#### Corollary 4.1

Let  $(G, *)$  be a group. Then inverse of an element in  $G$  is unique.

proof:

Let  $a \in G$ . Suppose that  $b, c \in G$  are inverse of  $a$ , then

$$b * a = c * a = e$$

$$b = c \quad (\text{Right cancellation})$$

Remark: Since inverse of an element  $a \in G$  must be unique, we denote it as  $a^{-1}$ .

Think: Is the inverse of a square matrix with nonzero determinant unique?

Is the inverse function of a bijective function  $f: A \rightarrow A$  unique?

Do we need to prove the above one by one?

#### Exercise 4.1

Let  $(G, *)$  be a group. Show that identity element in  $G$  is unique

Remark: The unique identity element in  $G$  is usually denoted by  $e$ .

### Definition 4.3

If a subset  $H$  of a group  $(G, *)$  is closed under  $*$  and if  $H$  with the induced operation from  $G$  is itself a group, then  $H$  is said to be a subgroup of  $G$ .

In particular, every group has a trivial subgroup i.e.

### Example 4.6

Let  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  and  $n\mathbb{Z} = \{na \in \mathbb{Z} : a \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ . Then  $n\mathbb{Z}$  is a subgroup of  $\mathbb{Z}$  (with  $+$ ).

If  $n > 1$  and let  $H = \{na + 1 \in \mathbb{Z} : a \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ , then  $H$  is not a group since there is no identity element.

### Example 4.7

$SL_n(\mathbb{R})$  is a subgroup of  $GL_n(\mathbb{R})$ .

### Proposition 4.2

A subset  $H$  of a group  $G$  is a subgroup of  $G$  if and only if

- 1)  $H$  is closed under the group operation of  $G$ ,
- 2) the identity element  $e$  of  $G$  is in  $H$ .
- 3) for all  $a$  in  $H$ ,  $a^{-1}$  is also in  $H$ .

### Exercise 4.2

Let  $P = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & -b \\ b & a \end{pmatrix} : a, b \in \mathbb{R}, a^2 + b^2 \neq 0 \right\}$

Show that  $P$  with matrix multiplication is a subgroup of  $GL_2(\mathbb{R})$ .

## Group Isomorphisms

### Definition 4.4

Let  $G, G'$  be groups.

A function  $f: G \rightarrow G'$  is said to be a group homomorphism from  $G$  to  $G'$  if

$$f(ab) = f(a)f(b) \text{ for all } a, b \in G.$$

In particular, if a bijective group homomorphism is said to be an group isomorphism.

"isomorphism = same structure"

### Example 4.8

Let  $f: GL_n(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^*$  defined by  $f(A) = \det(A)$

Then  $f(AB) = \det(AB) = \det(A) \cdot \det(B) = f(A) \cdot f(B)$ .

so  $f$  is a group homomorphism.

### Example 4.9

Let  $f: \mathbb{C}^* \rightarrow \mathbb{P}$  defined by  $f(a+bi) = \begin{pmatrix} a & -b \\ b & a \end{pmatrix}$

$$f((a+bi) \cdot (c+di)) = f((ac-bd)+(ad+bc)i) = \begin{pmatrix} ac-bd & -(ad+bc) \\ ad+bc & ac-bd \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a & -b \\ b & a \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c & -d \\ d & c \end{pmatrix} = f(a+bi) \cdot f(c+di)$$

$\therefore f$  is a group homomorphism.

Also,  $f$  is bijective (exercise), so  $f$  is a group isomorphism.

### Proposition 4.4

Let  $f: G \rightarrow G'$  be a group homomorphism

1)  $f$  sends the identity element  $e$  of  $G$  to the identity element  $e'$  of  $G'$ .

2)  $f(a^{-1}) = f(a)^{-1}$  for all  $a \in G$ .

3) If  $H$  is a subgroup of  $G$ , then the image of  $H$  under  $f$  is a subgroup of  $G'$ .

4) If  $H'$  is a subgroup of  $G'$ , then the preimage of  $H'$  under  $f$  is a subgroup of  $G$ .

### Cyclic Groups

Let  $(G, *)$  be a group and let  $a \in G$ .

We denote  $a * a$  by  $a^2$ ,  $a$  by  $a^1$ ,  $e$  by  $a^0$ ,  $a^{-1} * a^{-1}$  by  $a^{-2}$  and so on, then

### Proposition 4.5

$\langle a \rangle = \{a^n : n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$  is a subgroup of  $G$  and it is said to be the cyclic subgroup generated by  $a$ .

### Example 4.10

Let  $R_\theta = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix} \in SL_2(\mathbb{R})$

Note  $R_\theta^n = R_{n\theta}$ , so  $\langle R_\theta \rangle = \{R_{n\theta} : n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$

In particular, if  $\theta = \frac{2a\pi}{b}$  where  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  and  $\gcd(a, b) = 1$ ,  $\langle R_\theta \rangle$  has  $ab$  elements.

### Example 4.11

Recall:  $(\mathbb{Z}/15\mathbb{Z})^* = \{[1], [2], [4], [7], [8], [11], [13], [14]\}$  with multiplication is a group.

Note that  $[7]^2 = [4]$ ,  $[7]^3 = [13]$ ,  $[7]^4 = [1]$

$$\therefore \langle [7] \rangle = \{[1], [7], [4], [13]\}$$

$[1]$  is the identity element and  $[7][7]^3 = [7]^3[7] = [7]^4 = [1] \Rightarrow [7]^{-1} = [7]^3 = [13]$  and  $[13]^{-1} = [7]$

$$[7]^2[7]^2 = [7]^4 = [1] \Rightarrow [4] = [4]^{-1}$$

Caution: If the group operation of  $G$  is an addition, then we have  $a * a = a + a$ , instead of writing  $a^2$ . we write  $2a$

### Example 4.12

Recall:  $\mathbb{Z}/15\mathbb{Z} = \{[0], [1], [2], \dots, [14]\}$  with addition is a group.

$$\langle [3] \rangle = \{n[3] : n \in \mathbb{Z}\} = \{[0], [3], [6], [9], [12]\}.$$

$$\langle [4] \rangle = \{n[4] : n \in \mathbb{Z}\} = \mathbb{Z}/15\mathbb{Z} \quad (\text{Why?})$$

### Exercise 4.3

Show that  $\gcd(a, n) = 1$  if and only if  $\langle [a] \rangle = \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ .

(Hint: There exist  $s, t \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $as + nt = 1$ .

If  $0 \leq b \leq n-1$ , then  $asb + nt = b$  and so  $[b] \in \langle [a] \rangle$  (Why?)

### Definition 4.5

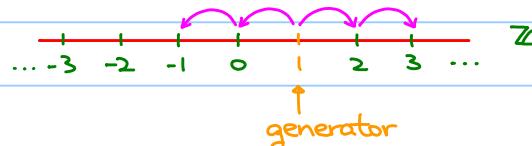
A group  $G$  is said to be a cyclic group if  $G = \langle a \rangle$  for some  $a \in G$ .

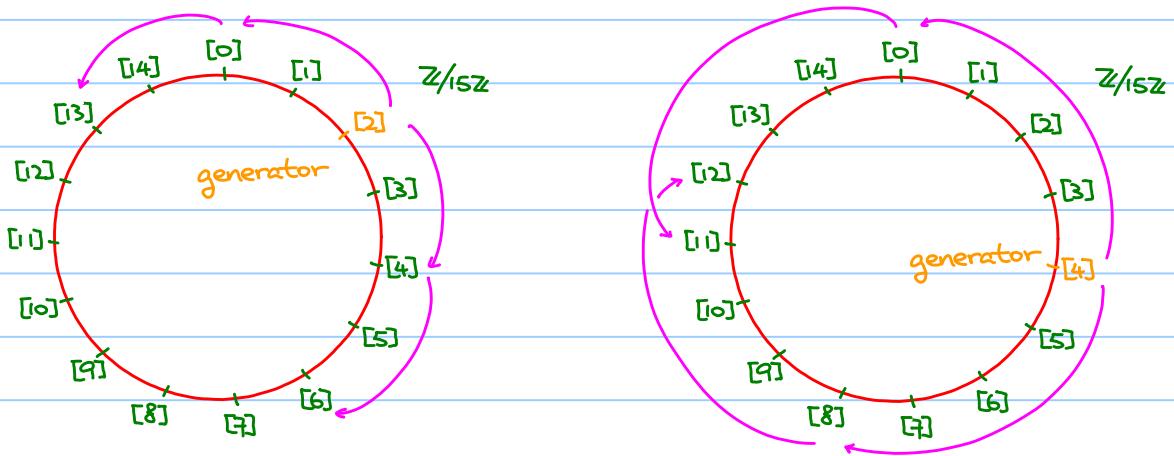
In this case,  $a$  is said to be a generator of  $G$ .

### Example 4.13

$1$  and  $-1$  are the only generator of  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

$[a]$  is a generator of  $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$  if and only if  $\gcd(a, n) = 1$





### Example 4.14

$(\mathbb{Z}/15\mathbb{Z})^*$  is not a cyclic group.

$$(\mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z})^* = \langle [2] \rangle = \langle [3] \rangle$$

(See example 3.11)

In general,  $(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^*$  is a cyclic group if and only if it has a primitive root.

### Proposition 4.5

Let  $G$  be a cyclic group.

1) If  $G$  is a finite group and  $|G|=n$ , then  $G$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$

2) If  $G$  is an infinite group, then  $G$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

(i.e. It suffices to study  $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$  and  $\mathbb{Z}$  if we would like to study cyclic groups.)

Idea of proof of (1):

Let  $G=\langle a \rangle$  and  $|G|=n$ . Define  $f: G \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$  by  $f(a^j) = [j]$  for all  $j \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

Show that  $f$  is a group isomorphism.

### Example 4.15

$(\mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z})^*$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}$ .

$$[2] \mapsto [1]$$

$$[3] \mapsto [1]$$

$$[2]^2 = [4] \mapsto [2] = 2[1]$$

$$[4] \mapsto [2]$$

$$[2]^3 = [3] \mapsto [3] = 3[1]$$

$$[2] \mapsto [3]$$

$$[2]^4 = [1] \mapsto [0] = 4[1]$$

$$[1] \mapsto [0]$$

However, there are two different isomorphisms.

## Cosets and Lagrange's Theorem

### Proposition 4.6

Let  $H$  be a subgroup of a group  $G$ . Let  $\sim_L$  and  $\sim_R$  be relation defined on  $G$  by

$a \sim_L b$  if and only if  $a^{-1}b \in H$ , and  $a \sim_R b$  if and only if  $ab^{-1} \in H$ .

Then  $\sim_R$  and  $\sim_L$  are equivalence relations on  $G$ .

$$a \sim_L b \Leftrightarrow a^{-1}b \in H \Leftrightarrow b = ah \text{ for some } h \in H$$

e	a	
h	$b = ah$	...
		↑

Idea. Elements in the equivalence class  $[a]$  are in form of  $ah$ , where  $h \in H$

### Definition 4.6

$aH = \{ah : h \in H\}$  and  $Ha = \{ha : h \in H\}$  are said to be the left and right coset of  $H$  containing  $a$  respectively (In fact,  $aH$  and  $Ha$  are just equivalence classes of  $a$  with respect to  $\sim_L$  and  $\sim_R$ .)

In particular, if  $G$  is an abelian group,  $\sim_L$  and  $\sim_R$  gives the same relation on  $G$

$$(a^{-1}b \in H \Leftrightarrow (a^{-1}b)^{-1} = b^{-1}a = ab^{-1} \in H) \text{ and } aH = Ha.$$

### Example 4.16

Let  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  and let  $n\mathbb{Z} = \{nb : b \in \mathbb{Z}\}$  be a subgroup of  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

All left coset are  $a+n\mathbb{Z} = \{a+nb : b \in \mathbb{Z}\}$  where  $a = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n-1$

Idea: If each equivalence class has the same number of elements, then

$$\# \text{ elements in } G = \# \text{ equivalence classes} \times \# \text{ elements of an equivalence class}$$

$$|G| = [G : H] \times |H| \quad (\text{The equivalence class of } e \text{ is } H.)$$

Lemma 4.1

Let  $H$  be a subgroup of a group  $G$  and let  $a \in G$ .

Then  $f: H \rightarrow aH$  defined by  $f(h) = ah$  is a bijective function.

(so  $|aH| = |H|$  for all  $a \in G$ .)

Theorem 4.1 (Lagrange's Theorem)

Let  $G$  be a finite group and let  $H$  be a subgroup of  $G$ . Then  $|H| \mid |G|$ .

Immediate consequence:

Proposition 4.7

If  $G$  is a group of order  $p$ , where  $p$  is a prime, then  $G$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$ .

proof:

Since  $|G| = p \geq 2$ , we can take  $a \in G$  such that  $a \neq e$ .

Note that  $e, a \in \langle a \rangle$  and so  $|\langle a \rangle| > 1$ .

By Lagrange's theorem,  $|\langle a \rangle| = p$  and so  $G = \langle a \rangle$  which is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$ .

Application to  $(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^*$ :

Let  $a \in \mathbb{Z}$  with  $\gcd(a, n)$ , then  $[a] \in (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^*$ .

Consider the cyclic subgroup  $\langle [a] \rangle$  of  $(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^*$ . Then we have  $|\langle [a] \rangle| \mid |(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^*| = \varphi(n)$

Therefore, the order of  $a = |\langle [a] \rangle| \mid \varphi(n)$  which proves Euler's theorem.

Exercise 4.4

Show that  $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$  has exactly one subgroup of order  $d$  dividing  $n$ , and that these are all the subgroups it has.

(Hint: If  $d \mid n$ , let  $m = \frac{n}{d}$ .

Show that  $\langle [m] \rangle$  is the only subgroup of order  $d$  in  $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ .

The last statement is guaranteed by Lagrange's theorem.)

### Example 4.17

$\mathbb{Z}/12\mathbb{Z}$  is a cyclic group and 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 12 are all divisors of 12.

Therefore, it has 6 subgroups :

subgroups of $\mathbb{Z}/12\mathbb{Z}$	isomorphic to	Number of generator(s)
$\{[0]\}$	trivial group	$\varphi(1) = 1$
$\{[0], [6]\}$	$\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$	$\varphi(2) = 1$
$\{[0], [4], [8]\}$	$\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z}$	$\varphi(3) = 2$
$\{[0], [3], [6], [9]\}$	$\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}$	$\varphi(4) = 2$
$\{[0], [2], [4], [6], [8], [10]\}$	$\mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z}$	$\varphi(6) = 2$
$\{[0], [1], [2], [3], [4], [5], [6], [7], [8], [9], [10], [11]\}$	$\mathbb{Z}/12\mathbb{Z}$	$\varphi(12) = 4$

Those marked in red are generators of the corresponding cyclic subgroups.

Observation: Each element in  $\mathbb{Z}/12\mathbb{Z}$  is a generator of exactly one subgroup.

### Proposition 4.8

$$n = \sum_{d|n} \varphi(d).$$

proof:

Claim: Each element in  $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$  is a generator of exactly one subgroup.

Let  $0 < a < n-1$ .

Note that  $\langle [a] \rangle$  is one of the subgroups of  $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$  and  $[a]$  itself is a generator.

Also  $[a]$  cannot be a generator of two distinct subgroups since their orders must be distinct.

Therefore the sum of number of generators equals to the number of elements in  $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ .

which implies  $n = \sum_{d|n} \varphi(d)$ .

### Corollary 4.2

If  $p$  and  $q$  are primes, then  $\varphi(pq) = (p-1)(q-1)$ .

proof:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{By proposition 4.8, } pq &= \sum_{d|pq} \varphi(d) = \varphi(1) + \varphi(p) + \varphi(q) + \varphi(pq) \\ &= 1 + (p-1) + (q-1) + \varphi(pq) \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore \varphi(pq) = pq - p - q + 1$$

$$= (p-1)(q-1)$$

### Corollary 4.3

If  $p$  is a prime and  $k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ , then  $\varphi(p^k) = p^k - p^{k-1}$

proof:

1) When  $k=1$ ,  $\varphi(p) = p-1$

2) Assume that  $\varphi(p^r) = p^r - p^{r-1}$  for  $r=1, 2, \dots, k$ .

Then, by proposition 4.8,

$$p^{k+1} = \sum_{d|p^{k+1}} \varphi(d) = \sum_{r=0}^{k+1} \varphi(p^r) = \varphi(p^{k+1}) + \left( \sum_{r=1}^k p^r - p^{r-1} \right) + 1 \stackrel{\varphi(1)}{=} \varphi(p^{k+1}) + p^k$$
$$\therefore \varphi(p^{k+1}) = p^{k+1} - p^k$$

∴ By mathematical induction,  $\varphi(p^k) = p^k - p^{k-1}$  for all  $k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ .

### Classification of Finitely Generated Abelian Groups

#### Proposition 4.9

Let  $(G_i, *_i)$  be groups for  $i=1, 2, \dots, n$

Let  $G = \prod_{i=1}^n G_i = \{(g_1, g_2, \dots, g_n) : g_i \in G_i\}$  and define a binary operation  $*$  on  $G$  such that  $(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) * (b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n) = (a_1 *_1 b_1, a_2 *_2 b_2, \dots, a_n *_n b_n)$ .

Then  $(G, *)$  is a group.

#### Definition 4.7

An abelian group  $G$  is said to be finitely generated if there exist finitely many  $g_1, \dots, g_n \in G$

such that every  $x \in G$  can be expressed as  $x = g_1^{m_1} g_2^{m_2} \dots g_n^{m_n}$  for some  $m_1, m_2, \dots, m_n \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

In this case,  $\{g_1, g_2, \dots, g_n\}$  is said to be a generating set.

Remark: A finite abelian group must be finitely generated.

#### Example 4.18

$(\mathbb{Z}/15\mathbb{Z})^* = \{[1], [2], [4], [7], [8], [11], [13], [14]\}$  is a finitely generated abelian group generated by  $[2]$  and  $[7]$  since

$$[2]^\circ [7]^\circ = [1], [2]^1 [7]^\circ = [2], [2]^2 [7]^\circ = [4], [2]^3 [7]^\circ = [8]$$

$$[2]^\circ [7]^{-1} = [7], [2]^1 [7]^{-1} = [14], [2]^2 [7]^{-1} = [13], [2]^3 [7]^{-1} = [11]$$

#### Example 4.19

$\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}$  is a finitely generated abelian group generated by  $(1, 0)$  and  $(0, 1)$ .

### Example 4.20

$\mathbb{Q}^\times$  is not finitely generated. (Why?)

### Proposition 4.10

Let  $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ . The group  $\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$  is cyclic and is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}/mn\mathbb{Z}$  if and only if  $m, n$  are relatively prime.

proof:

" $\Leftarrow$ " If  $m, n$  are relatively prime, then  $\text{lcm}(m, n) = mn$ .

Consider the subgroup  $\langle(1, 1)\rangle$ ,

if  $r$  is the least positive integer such that  $r(1, 1) = 0$ , then  $r = \text{lcm}(m, n) = mn$ .

Therefore,  $| \langle(1, 1)\rangle | = mn$  and  $\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z} = \langle(1, 1)\rangle$ .

" $\Rightarrow$ " Suppose that  $\text{gcd}(m, n) = d > 1$ , then  $\frac{mn}{d}$  is divisible by both  $m$  and  $n$ .

Then for any  $(r, s) \in \mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ , we have  $\frac{mn}{d}(r, s) = (0, 0)$ .

(i.e. none of them is a generator!)

### Corollary 4.4

The group  $\prod_{i=1}^n \mathbb{Z}/m_i\mathbb{Z}$  is cyclic and is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}/m_1m_2\cdots m_n\mathbb{Z}$  if and only if  $\text{gcd}(m_i, m_j) = 1$  for all  $i \neq j$ .

### Example 4.21

$72 = 8 \times 9$  and  $\text{gcd}(8, 9) = 1$ , so  $\mathbb{Z}/8\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/9\mathbb{Z}$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}/72\mathbb{Z}$  which is a cyclic group.

### Example 4.22

$\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$  is not a cyclic group as  $\text{gcd}(4, 2) = 2 > 1$ .

### Exercise 4.5

Let  $m_1, m_2, \dots, m_n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  and let  $d = \text{lcm}(m_1, m_2, \dots, m_n)$ .

Prove that  $d(g_1, g_2, \dots, g_n) = (0, 0, \dots, 0)$  for all  $(g_1, g_2, \dots, g_n) \in \prod_{i=1}^n \mathbb{Z}/m_i\mathbb{Z}$

### Theorem 4.2

Every finitely generated abelian group  $G$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}/p_1^{k_1}\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/p_2^{k_2}\mathbb{Z} \times \dots \times \mathbb{Z}/p_m^{k_m}\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}^r$  where  $p_1, \dots, p_m$  are primes (but not necessary to be distinct),  $k_1, \dots, k_m \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  and  $r \geq 0$ .

The product is unique up to rearrangement of factors.

### Example 4.23

Note that  $360 = 2^3 \times 3^2 \times 5$ , so an abelian group of order 360 is isomorphic to exactly one of the below:

- 1)  $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z}$
- 2)  $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z}$
- 3)  $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/9\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z}$
- 4)  $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/9\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z}$
- 5)  $\mathbb{Z}/8\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z}$
- 6)  $\mathbb{Z}/8\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/9\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z}$

### Example 4.24

$(\mathbb{Z}/15\mathbb{Z})^* = \{[1], [2], [4], [7], [8], [11], [13], [14]\}$  is an abelian group of order  $\varphi(15) = 8 = 2^3$

$(\mathbb{Z}/15\mathbb{Z})^*$  is isomorphic to one of the below:

$$\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{Z}/8\mathbb{Z}.$$

However, we have

$$[2]^0 [7]^0 = [1], [2]^1 [7]^0 = [2], [2]^2 [7]^0 = [4], [2]^3 [7]^0 = [8]$$

$$[2]^0 [7]^1 = [7], [2]^1 [7]^1 = [14], [2]^2 [7]^1 = [13], [2]^3 [7]^1 = [11]$$

and we can see  $f: \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow (\mathbb{Z}/15\mathbb{Z})^*$  defined by  $f(m,n) = [2^m \cdot 7^n]$

gives a group isomorphism.