

1. Show that  $\mathbb{Z}$  fails to be a group under multiplication.

**Solution.**  $0 \in \mathbb{Z}$  is not invertible, hence  $(\mathbb{Z}, \times)$  is not a group.

2. Show that  $\mathbb{Z} \setminus \{0\}$  fails to be a group under multiplication.

**Solution.**  $2 \in \mathbb{Z} \setminus \{0\}$  is not invertible, hence  $(\mathbb{Z} \setminus \{0\}, \times)$  is not a group.

3. Show that  $\mathbb{R}^2 = \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$  is a group under addition operation defined by  $(a, b) + (c, d) = (a + c, b + d)$ .

**Solution.** The binary operation defined above is clearly associative, since the addition in  $\mathbb{R}$  is associative. Element  $(0, 0) \in \mathbb{R}^2$  is the identity element under addition, since

$$\forall (a, b) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : (a, b) + (0, 0) = (a + 0, b + 0) = (a, b) .$$

Every element  $(a, b) \in \mathbb{R}^2$  has an inverse  $(-a, -b) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ . Observe that

$$(a, b) + (-a, -b) = (a - a, b - b) = (0, 0) .$$

It can be seen that  $\mathbb{R}^2$  is closed under addition. Observe that

$$\forall (a, b), (c, d) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : (a, b) + (c, d) = \underbrace{(a + c)}_{\in \mathbb{R}}, \underbrace{(b + d)}_{\in \mathbb{R}} \in \mathbb{R}^2 .$$

4. What is the order of group  $U(12)$  (the group of units)?

**Solution.** The group of units is a multiplicative group. Since  $U(12)$  is a group, every element  $a \in U(12)$  must be invertible. An element  $a$  has a multiplicative inverse modulo  $n$  iff  $\gcd(a, n) = 1$ . The function that tells us how many numbers are co-prime to a given  $n$  is the Euler's totient function  $\phi(n)$ . Hence,

$$\text{ord } U(12) = \phi(12) = \phi(4 \cdot 3) = \phi(4) \cdot \phi(3) = 4 \cdot \left(1 - \frac{1}{2}\right) \cdot (3 - 1) = 2 \cdot 2 = 4 .$$

It can be seen that there are only 4 elements, namely 1, 5, 7, 11 that are co-prime to 12.

5. Is  $\{0, 2\}$  a subgroup of  $\mathbb{Z}_4$ ?

**Solution.** Yes, the set  $H = \{0, 2\}$  is a subgroup of  $\mathbb{Z}_4$  under addition. The set  $H$  contains an identity element  $0 \in H$ . Element 0, as any identity, is the inverse of itself, and element 2 is also an inverse of itself, since  $2 + 2 = 4 \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$ . It can be seen that  $H$  is closed under addition, since

$$\begin{array}{ll} 0 + 0 = 0 \in H , & 0 + 2 = 2 \in H , \\ 2 + 0 = 2 \in H , & 2 + 2 = 0 \in H . \end{array}$$

Hence,  $H = \{0, 2\}$  is a subgroup of  $\mathbb{Z}_4$  under addition.

6. What are the subgroups of  $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$ ?

**Solution.** Let's inspect the cyclic subgroups generated by elements of

$$\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2 = \{(0, 0), (0, 1), (1, 0), (1, 1)\} .$$

First, let's list the cyclic subgroups generated by elements of  $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$ .

$$\begin{aligned} H_1 &= \langle(0, 0)\rangle = \{(0, 0)\} , \\ H_2 &= \langle(0, 1)\rangle = \{(0, 1), (0, 0)\} , \\ H_3 &= \langle(1, 0)\rangle = \{(1, 0), (0, 0)\} , \\ H_4 &= \langle(1, 1)\rangle = \{(1, 1), (0, 0)\} . \end{aligned}$$

Hence, group  $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$  contains at least subgroups  $H_1, H_2, H_3, H_4$ .

Next, we inspect 3-element subsets of  $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$ . We are interested in the ones that contain the identity  $(0, 0)$  element (otherwise it won't be a subgroup). There are 3 such subsets:

$$\begin{aligned} H_5 &= \{(0, 0), (0, 1), (1, 0)\} , \\ H_6 &= \{(0, 0), (0, 1), (1, 1)\} , \\ H_7 &= \{(0, 0), (1, 0), (1, 1)\} . \end{aligned}$$

It can be seen that  $H_5$  is not a subgroup, since it is not closed under addition:

$$(0, 1) + (1, 0) = (1, 1) \notin H_5 .$$

For the same reason,  $H_6$  is not a subgroup of  $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$ . Observe that

$$(0, 1) + (1, 1) = (1, 0) \notin H_6 .$$

The set  $H_7$  is also not closed under addition, since

$$(1, 0) + (1, 1) = (0, 1) \notin H_7 .$$

Hence, the subgroups of  $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$  are only the 4 cyclic subgroups  $H_1, H_2, H_3, H_4$  generated by elements of  $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$ .

7. Show that  $\{-1, 1, i, -i\}$  is a subgroup of  $(\mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}, \times)$ .

**Solution.** The fact that  $\{-1, 1, i, -i\}$  is a subgroup of  $(\mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}, \times)$  can be seen by inspecting Table 1 – the Cayley table for this subgroup.

Table 1: Cayley table for the subgroup  $\{-1, 1, i, -i\}$  of  $(\mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}, \times)$ .

$\times$	$-1$	$1$	$i$	$-i$
$-1$	$1$	$-1$	$-i$	$i$
$1$	$-1$	$1$	$i$	$-i$
$i$	$-i$	$i$	$-1$	$1$
$-i$	$i$	$-i$	$1$	$-1$

8. Is  $\mathbb{Z}$  a cyclic group?

**Solution.** Yes, it is. It can be seen that

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{Z} &= \{\dots, -6, -5, -4, -3, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, \dots\} , \\ \langle 1 \rangle &= \{\dots, -6, -5, -4, -3, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, \dots\} , \\ \langle -1 \rangle &= \{\dots, -6, -5, -4, -3, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, \dots\} .\end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $\mathbb{Z}$  is generated by 1 and  $-1$ , and therefore is cyclic.

9. Show that  $\mathbb{Z}_6$  is generated by both 1 and 5.

**Solution.**

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{Z}_6 &= \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5\} , \\ \langle 1 \rangle &= \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 0\} , \\ \langle 5 \rangle &= \{5, 4, 3, 2, 1, 0\} .\end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $\mathbb{Z}_6$  is generated by 1 and 5.

10. Is  $3\mathbb{Z}$  a cyclic subgroup of  $\mathbb{Z}$ ?

**Solution.** Yes, it is. It can be seen that

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{Z} &= \{\dots, -12, -9, -6, -3, 0, 3, 6, 9, 12, \dots\} , \\ \langle 3 \rangle &= \{\dots, -12, -9, -6, -3, 0, 3, 6, 9, 12, \dots\} , \\ \langle -3 \rangle &= \{\dots, -12, -9, -6, -3, 0, 3, 6, 9, 12, \dots\} .\end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $3\mathbb{Z}$  is generated by 3 and  $-3$ , and since  $3\mathbb{Z} \subset \mathbb{Z}$  it is a subgroup of  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

11. What is the order of 4 in  $\mathbb{Z}_6$ ?

**Solution.** It can be seen that element  $4 \in \mathbb{Z}_6$  generates a cyclic subgroup  $\langle 4 \rangle = \{4, 2, 0\}$  of order 3, and hence the order of 4 is 3. It can be seen that  $3 \cdot 4 = 12 \equiv 0 \pmod{6}$ , and hence 3 is the minimal integer  $m$ , such that  $4^m$  is an identity in  $\mathbb{Z}_6$ .

12. What is the order of 2 in  $\mathbb{Z}_5$ ? Does 2 generate  $\mathbb{Z}_5$ ?

**Solution.** Yes, group  $\mathbb{Z}_5$  is generated by 2. Since 2 is a generator, its order is 5. Observe that  $\langle 2 \rangle = \{2, 4, 1, 3, 0\} = \mathbb{Z}_5$ .

13. What is the order of 2 in  $U(5)$ ?

**Solution.** Element  $2 \in U(5)$  generates a cyclic subgroup  $\langle 2 \rangle = \{2, 4, 3, 1\}$  of order 4, hence the order of 2 is 4 in  $U(5)$ . It can also be seen that  $2^4 = 16 \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$ .

14. What is the order of 5 in  $U(12)$ ?

**Solution.** Element 5 generates a cyclic subgroup  $\langle 5 \rangle = \{5, 1\}$  of order 2, and so the order of 5 is 2 in  $U(12)$ .

15. What is the order of  $-i \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$ ?

**Solution.** Element  $-i$  generates a cyclic subgroup  $\langle -i \rangle = \{-i, -1, i, 1\}$  of order 4, hence the order of  $-i$  is 4 in  $\mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$ .

16. What is the group structure of  $U(9)$ ? Is  $U(9)$  a cyclic group?

**Solution.** Group  $U(9) = \{1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8\}$  contains the following cyclic subgroups:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle 1 \rangle &= \{1\} , & \langle 2 \rangle &= \{2, 4, 8, 7, 5, 1\} = U(9) , \\ \langle 4 \rangle &= \{4, 7, 1\} , & \langle 5 \rangle &= \{5, 7, 8, 4, 2, 1\} = U(9) , \\ \langle 7 \rangle &= \{7, 4, 1\} , & \langle 8 \rangle &= \{8, 1\} . \end{aligned}$$

Group  $U(9)$  is generated by 2 and 5, and hence is cyclic. The structure is the following:

- 1 element of order 1 (identity)
- 1 element of order 2
- 2 elements of order 3
- 2 elements of order 6 (generators)

17. What is the group structure of  $U(8)$ ? Is  $U(8)$  a cyclic group?

**Solution.** Group  $U(8) = \{1, 3, 5, 7\}$  contains the following cyclic subgroups:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle 1 \rangle &= \{1\} , & \langle 3 \rangle &= \{3, 1\} , \\ \langle 5 \rangle &= \{5, 1\} , & \langle 7 \rangle &= \{7, 1\} . \end{aligned}$$

Since  $U(8)$  does not have any generators, it is not cyclic. The group structure is the following:

- 1 element of order 1 (identity)
- 3 elements of order 2

18. If  $a^{24} = e$  in group  $G$ , what are possible orders of  $a$ ?

**Solution.** By definition, the order of  $a$  is the minimal integer  $n$  such that  $a^n = e \in G$ . If  $a^{24} = e$ , then 24 is a multiple of the order of  $a$ . Hence, the order of  $a$  is any divisor of  $24 : 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 12, 24$ .

19. Suppose  $G$  is a finite group with an element  $g$  with order 5, and an element  $h$  of order 7. What are possible orders of  $G$ ?

**Solution.** By the Lagrange's theorem, the order of any element must divide the order of the group. Let the order of group  $G$  be  $a$ . Then 5 and 7 must be the divisors of  $a$ . Hence, the order of the group is greater or equal to the least common multiple of 5 and 7. Hence,  $\text{ord } G \geq 35$ .

20. Show that  $U(8)$  and  $\mathbb{Z}_4$  have different group structures.

**Solution.** Group  $\mathbb{Z}_4 = \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$  contains the following cyclic subgroups:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle 0 \rangle &= \{0\} , & \langle 1 \rangle &= \{1, 2, 3, 0\} = \mathbb{Z}_4 , \\ \langle 2 \rangle &= \{2, 0\} , & \langle 3 \rangle &= \{3, 2, 1, 0\} = \mathbb{Z}_4 . \end{aligned}$$

Group  $U(8) = \{1, 3, 5, 7\}$  consists of the following cyclic subgroups:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle 1 \rangle &= \{1\} , & \langle 3 \rangle &= \{3, 1\} , \\ \langle 5 \rangle &= \{5, 1\} , & \langle 7 \rangle &= \{7, 1\} . \end{aligned}$$

Clearly, these two groups have different structure. Group  $\mathbb{Z}_4$  is cyclic, while group  $U(8)$  is not. For comparison, observe that  $U(8)$  has the same structure as  $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$ .

21. Show that  $U(5)$  and  $U(10)$  have the same group structure, but not  $U(12)$ .

**Solution.** Group  $U(5) = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$  consists of the following cyclic subgroups

$$\begin{aligned} \langle 1 \rangle &= \{1\} , & \langle 2 \rangle &= \{2, 4, 3, 1\} = U(5) , \\ \langle 3 \rangle &= \{3, 4, 2, 1\} = U(5) , & \langle 4 \rangle &= \{4, 1\} . \end{aligned}$$

This shows that group  $U(5)$  is generated by 5 (and therefore is cyclic), has 1 element of order 1, 1 element of order 2, 1 element of order 3 and 1 element of order 4.

Group  $U(10) = \{1, 3, 7, 9\}$  consists of the following cyclic subgroups

$$\begin{aligned} \langle 1 \rangle &= \{1\} , & \langle 3 \rangle &= \{3, 9, 7, 1\} = U(10) , \\ \langle 7 \rangle &= \{7, 9, 3, 1\} = U(10) , & \langle 9 \rangle &= \{9, 1\} . \end{aligned}$$

Group  $U(12) = \{1, 5, 7, 11\}$  consists of the following cyclic subgroups

$$\begin{aligned} \langle 1 \rangle &= \{1\} , & \langle 5 \rangle &= \{5, 1\} , \\ \langle 7 \rangle &= \{7, 1\} , & \langle 11 \rangle &= \{11, 1\} . \end{aligned}$$

It can be seen that indeed, groups  $U(5)$  and  $U(10)$  share the same group structure – both are cyclic groups containing 1 element of order 1 (identity), 2 elements of order 4 (generators), and 1 element of order 2.

It can be seen that the group structure of  $U(12)$  is different from that of  $U(5)$  and  $U(10)$ .  $U(12)$  is not a cyclic group. Observe that  $U(12)$  has the same structure as  $U(8)$ , and the same structure as  $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$  (task 6).

22. Do groups  $\mathbb{Z}_4$  and  $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$  have the same group structure?

**Solution.** Group  $\mathbb{Z}_4 = \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$  consists of the following cyclic subgroups

$$\begin{aligned} \langle 0 \rangle &= \{0\} , & \langle 1 \rangle &= \{1, 2, 3, 0\} = \mathbb{Z}_4 , \\ \langle 2 \rangle &= \{2, 0\} , & \langle 3 \rangle &= \{3, 2, 1, 0\} = \mathbb{Z}_4 . \end{aligned}$$

The structure of  $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2 = \{(0, 0), (0, 1), (1, 0), (1, 1)\}$  is known to us from the previous tasks (task 6, specifically). This group consists of 1 element of order 1 and 3 elements of order 2.

Clearly,  $\mathbb{Z}_4$  and  $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$  have different structure. Group  $\mathbb{Z}_4$  is cyclic, while  $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$  is not.

23. Do groups  $\mathbb{Z}_8, \mathbb{Z}_4 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$  and  $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$  have the same group structure?

**Solution.** Group  $\mathbb{Z}_8 = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7\}$  consists of the following cyclic subgroups

$$\begin{aligned} \langle 0 \rangle &= \{0\} , & \langle 1 \rangle &= \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 0\} = \mathbb{Z}_8 , \\ \langle 2 \rangle &= \{2, 4, 6, 0\} , & \langle 3 \rangle &= \{3, 6, 1, 4, 7, 2, 5, 0\} = \mathbb{Z}_8 , \\ \langle 4 \rangle &= \{4, 0\} , & \langle 5 \rangle &= \{5, 2, 7, 4, 1, 6, 3, 0\} = \mathbb{Z}_8 , \\ \langle 6 \rangle &= \{6, 4, 2, 0\} , & \langle 7 \rangle &= \{7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, 0\} = \mathbb{Z}_8 . \end{aligned}$$

Group  $\mathbb{Z}_4 \times \mathbb{Z}_2 = \{(0, 0), (0, 1), (1, 0), (1, 1), (2, 0), (2, 1), (3, 0), (3, 1)\}$  consists of the following cyclic subgroups

$$\begin{aligned} \langle (0, 0) \rangle &= \{(0, 0)\} , & \langle (0, 1) \rangle &= \{(0, 1), (0, 0)\} , \\ \langle (1, 0) \rangle &= \{(1, 0), (2, 0), (3, 0), (0, 0)\} , & \langle (1, 1) \rangle &= \{(1, 1), (2, 0), (3, 1), (0, 0)\} , \\ \langle (2, 0) \rangle &= \{(2, 0), (0, 0)\} , & \langle (2, 1) \rangle &= \{(2, 1), (0, 0)\} , \\ \langle (3, 0) \rangle &= \{(3, 0), (2, 0), (1, 0), (0, 0)\} , & \langle (3, 1) \rangle &= \{(3, 1), (2, 0), (1, 1), (0, 0)\} . \end{aligned}$$

Group  $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2 = \{(0, 0, 0), (0, 0, 1), (0, 1, 0), (0, 1, 1), (1, 0, 0), (1, 0, 1), (1, 1, 0), (1, 1, 1)\}$  consists of the following cyclic subgroups

$$\begin{aligned} \langle (0, 0, 0) \rangle &= \{(0, 0, 0)\} , & \langle (0, 0, 1) \rangle &= \{(0, 0, 1), (0, 0, 0)\} , \\ \langle (0, 1, 0) \rangle &= \{(0, 1, 0), (0, 0, 0)\} , & \langle (0, 1, 1) \rangle &= \{(0, 1, 1), (0, 0, 0)\} , \\ \langle (1, 0, 0) \rangle &= \{(1, 0, 0), (0, 0, 0)\} , & \langle (1, 0, 1) \rangle &= \{(1, 0, 1), (0, 0, 0)\} , \\ \langle (1, 1, 0) \rangle &= \{(1, 1, 0), (0, 0, 0)\} , & \langle (1, 1, 1) \rangle &= \{(1, 1, 1), (0, 0, 0)\} . \end{aligned}$$

It can be easily seen that group  $\mathbb{Z}_8$  is cyclic and has as much as 4 generators, while groups  $\mathbb{Z}_4 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$  and  $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$  are not cyclic. Group  $\mathbb{Z}_4 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$  has an element of order 4, while group  $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$  has no element of order 4. Hence, all three groups are different.