

# Part 4: Special Topics

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## 23 Sylow Theorems

### 23.1 Conjugacy Classes

**Definition** Conjugacy Class of  $a$

Let  $a$  and  $b$  be elements of a group  $G$ . We say that  $a$  and  $b$  are **conjugates** and call  $b$  a **conjugate** of  $a$  if  $axa^{-1} = b$  for some  $x$  in  $G$ . The **conjugacy class** is the set  $\text{cl}(a) = \{axa^{-1} \mid x \in G\}$ .

**Theorem 23.1** Number of Conjugates of  $a$

Let  $G$  be a finite group and let  $a$  be an element of  $G$ , then  $|\text{cl}(a)| = |G : C(a)|$ .

**Proof**  $T : G/C(a) \rightarrow \text{cl}(a)$ ,  $xC(a) \mapsto xax^{-1}$  is well-defined, one-to-one and onto.

- Similarly,  $|\text{cl}(H)| = |G : N(H)|$ .

**Corollary 1**  $|\text{cl}(a)|$  Divides  $|G|$ .

In a finite group,  $|\text{cl}(a)|$  Divides  $|G|$ .

### 23.2 The Class Equation

**Corollary 2** Class Equation

For any finite group  $G$ ,

$$|G| = \sum |G : C(a)|,$$

where the sum runs over one element  $a$  from each conjugacy class of  $G$ .

**Theorem 23.2**  $p$ -Groups Have Nontrivial Centers

Let  $G$  be a nontrivial finite group whose order is a power of a prime  $p$ , then  $Z(G)$  has more than one element.

**Proof**  $\text{cl}(a) = \{a\}$  if and only if  $a \in Z(G)$ . By culling out these elements,  $|G| = |Z(G)| + \sum |G : C(a)|$ , since  $p$  divides both  $|G|$  and  $|G : C(a)| = p^k$ , it also divides  $|Z(G)|$ .

**Corollary** Groups of Order  $p^2$  Are Abelian

If  $|G| = p^2$ , where  $p$  is prime, then  $G$  is Abelian.

**Proof**  $|Z(G)| = p$  or  $p^2$ . If  $|Z(G)| = p$ , then  $|G/Z(G)| = p$ , so that  $G/Z(G)$  is cyclic, and hence  $G$  is Abelian. (This case doesn't exist.)

## 23.3 The Sylow Theorems

**Theorem 23.3** Existence of Subgroups of Prime-Power Order (Sylow First Theorem)

Let  $G$  be a finite group and let  $p$  be a prime. If  $p^k$  divides  $|G|$ , then  $G$  has at least one subgroup of order  $p^k$ .

- The converse of Lagrange's Theorem is true for all finite Abelian groups and all finite groups of prime-power order.

**Definition** Sylow  $p$ -Subgroup

Let  $G$  be a finite group and let  $p$  be a prime. If  $p^k$  divides  $|G|$  and  $p^{k+1}$  does not divide  $|G|$ , then any subgroup of  $G$  of order  $p^k$  is called a **Sylow  $p$ -subgroup** of  $G$ .

**Corollary** Cauchy's Theorem

Let  $G$  be a finite group and let  $p$  be a prime that divides the order of  $G$ , then  $G$  has an element of order  $p$ .

**Definition** Conjugate Subgroups

Let  $H$  and  $K$  be subgroups of a group  $G$ , we say that  $H$  and  $K$  are **conjugate** in  $G$  if there is an element  $g$  in  $G$  such that  $H = gKg^{-1}$ .

Recall that

- $\text{orb}_G(i) = \{\phi(i) \mid \phi \in G\}$ , and  $|\text{orb}_G(i)|$  divides  $|G|$ .
- $N(H) = \{x \in G \mid xHx^{-1} = H\}$ .
- Conjugation is an automorphism.

**Theorem 23.4** Sylow's Second Theorem

If  $H$  is a subgroup of a finite group  $G$  and  $|H|$  is a power of a prime  $p$ , then  $H$  is contained in some Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $G$ .

**Theorem 23.5** Sylow's Third Theorem

Let  $p$  be a prime and let  $G$  be a group of order  $p^k m$ , where  $p$  does not divide  $m$ . Then the number  $n$  of Sylow  $p$ -subgroups of  $G$  is equal to 1 modulo  $p$  and divides  $m$ . Furthermore, any two Sylow  $p$ -subgroups of  $G$  are conjugate.

- Let  $K_1$  be any Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $G$  and let  $C = \{K_1, K_2, \dots, K_n\}$  be the set of all conjugates of  $K$  in  $G$ , then  $|\text{orb}_{T(K)}(K_i)| = 1$  if and only if  $i = 1$ .

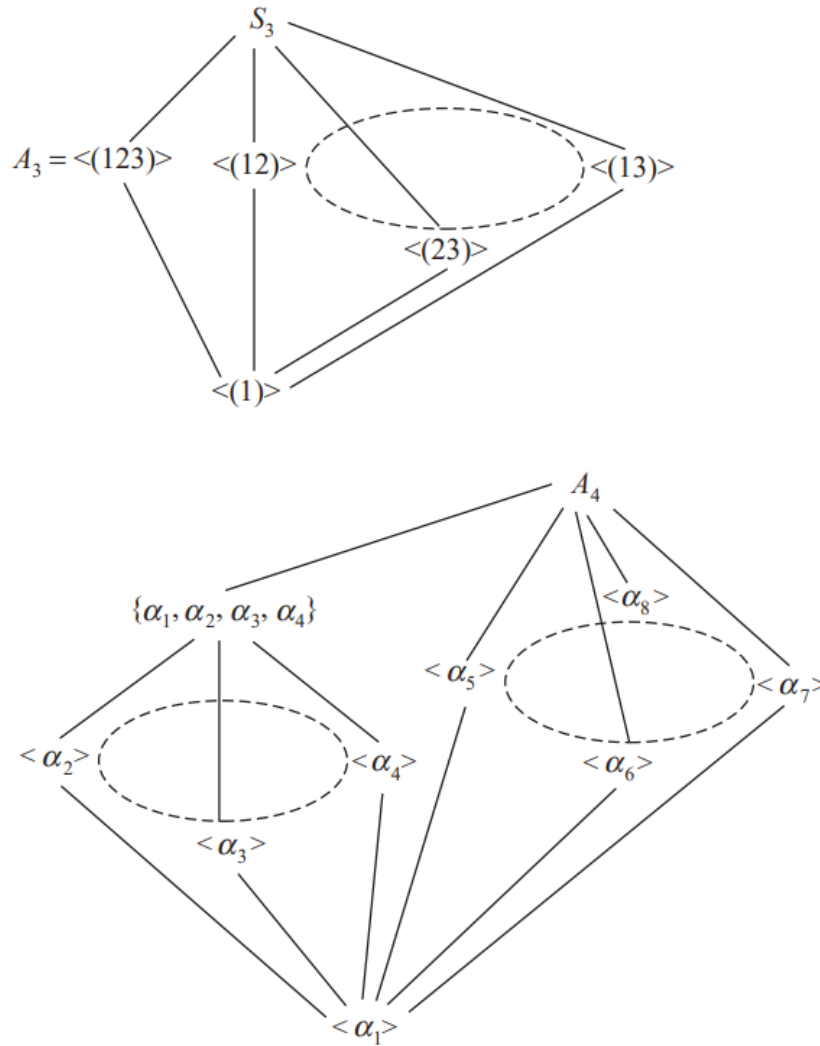
$n \equiv |C| \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ , and  $|C| = |G : N(K)|$ .

- Note that if a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup is normal, then  $n_p = |G : N(K)| = |G : G| = 1$ , it's also unique.

**Corollary** A Unique Sylow  $p$ -Subgroup Is Normal

A Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of a finite group  $G$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$  if and only if it is the only Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $G$ .

- Lattices of subgroups for  $S_4$  and  $A_4$ .



## 23.4 Applications of Sylow Theorems

**Theorem 23.6** Cyclic Groups of Order  $pq$

If  $G$  is a group of order  $pq$ , where  $p$  and  $q$  are primes,  $p < q$ , and  $p \nmid q - 1$ , then  $G$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}_{pq}$ .

**Proof** The number of Sylow  $p$ -subgroups of  $G$  is of the form  $1 + kp$  and divides  $q$ , so  $1 + kp = 1$  or  $q$ , so  $k = 0$ . Similarly, there is only one Sylow  $p$ -subgroup  $H$  of  $G$ , and only one Sylow  $q$ -subgroup  $K$  of  $G$ , all of which are normal, so  $G = HK$  and  $H \cap K = \{e\}$ , thus  $G = H \times K \approx \mathbb{Z}_p \oplus \mathbb{Z}_q \approx \mathbb{Z}_{pq}$ .

The number of groups of any order less than 2048 is given at <http://oeis.org/A000001/b000001.txt>

## 23.5 Exercises

## Sylow's Theorem ★

Let  $G$  be a finite group of order  $p^n m$ , where  $p \nmid m$ .

1. There exists at least one Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $G$ .
2. If  $P$  and  $Q$  are Sylow  $p$ -subgroups, then  $\exists g \in G, Q = gPg^{-1}$ .
3.  $n_p \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ ,  
 $n_p \mid m$ ,  
 $n_p = [G : N(P)]$ .

## Methods ★

When consider a group of order  $n$ :

- Use Sylow Third Theorem.
- The number of elements of some orders can't exceed the order of the group. (May use  $HK$  to form a group.)
- Normal ( $N(H) = G$ )
  - If there is only one Sylow  $p$ -subgroup, then it's normal.
  - If a subgroup has index 2, then it's normal.
  - Every subgroup of a cyclic normal subgroup is normal.
  - If  $H$  and  $K$  are normal, then  $N \cap M$  and  $HK$  is normal.
- If  $H$  is normal, then  $HK$  is a subgroup; if  $K$  is also normal, then  $HK = H \times K$ .
- $|HK| = |H| |K| / |H \cap K|$ .
- Consider  $N(H \cap H')$ .
- If  $p$  divides  $|G|$ , then  $G$  has an element of order  $p$ .
- Groups of order  $p^2$  are Abelian.
- $|N(H)/C(H)|$  divides  $|\text{Aut } H|$  and  $N(H)$ .
- If  $G/Z(G)$  is cyclic, then  $G$  is Abelian.

## Examples

- A group of order 72 must have a proper nontrivial normal subgroup.
- A group of order  $p^2 q$  is Abelian if and only if  $p \nmid q - 1$  and  $q \nmid p^2 - 1$ .
- If  $xyx^{-1} = x^i, |y| = 2$ , then  $x = y^{-1}x^i y = (yxy^{-1})^i = x^{i^2}$ , so  $x^{i^2-1} = e$ .
- A group of order 255 is  $\mathbb{Z}_{255}$ .
- Exercise 40 🍌: Suppose that  $G$  is a group of order 60 and  $G$  has a normal subgroup  $N$  of order 2, then
  - $G$  has normal subgroups of orders 6, 10, and 30.
  - $G$  has subgroups of orders 12 and 20.
  - $G$  has a cyclic subgroup of order 30.

Answer is in the pdf.

## Exercises

1.  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  is the only group that has exactly two conjugacy classes.
2.  $G$  is **not the union of** all conjugates of a proper subgroup  $H$ .
3.  $bab^{-1} = a^i \Rightarrow b^k ab^{-k} = a^{i^k}$ .

4. Construct a non-Abelian group of the form  $\{a^i b^j\}$  and the multiplication is defined using the relation  $ba = a^i b$ , then  $i$  must satisfy that  $|a|$  divides  $i^{|b|} - 1$  and  $|b|$  divides  $i^{|a|} - 1$ . ★
5. Let  $H$  be a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup
  1. The elements of  $N(H)$  whose orders are powers of  $p$  are those of  $H$ . ★
  2.  $H$  is the only Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $G$  contained in  $N(H)$ .
  3.  $N(N(H)) = N(H)$ .
6. For a  $p$ -group  $G$  of order  $p^n$ 
  1.  $G$  has normal subgroups of order  $p^k$  for all  $k$  between 1 and  $n$  (inclusive). ★
  2. If  $G$  has exactly one subgroup for each divisor of  $p^n$ , then  $G$  is cyclic.
  3. If  $H$  is a proper subgroup of  $G$ , then  $N(H) > H$ .
  4. If  $p$  is the smallest prime that divides  $|G|$  and  $H$  is cyclic, then  $N(H) = C(H) = G$ .
7.  $|N(H)| = |N(xHx^{-1})|$  since  $\forall n \in N(H), xnx^{-1} \in N(xHx^{-1})$  and vice versa. ★
8. Let  $H$  be a Sylow 3-subgroup of a finite group  $G$  and  $K$  be a Sylow 5-subgroup of  $G$ . If 3 divides  $|N(K)|$ , then 5 divides  $|N(H)|$ .
9. A normal  $p$ -subgroup is contained in every Sylow  $p$ -subgroup. ★

Question: 34, 52.

Confusino: 54, 63.

## 23.6 Bibliography of Ludwig Sylow

# 24 Finite Simple Groups

## 24.1 Historical Background

### Definition Simple Group

A group is **simple** if its only normal subgroups are the identity subgroup and the group itself.

- The series of simple groups  $G_0/G_1, G_1/G_2, \dots, G_{n-1}/G_n$  are called the **composition factors** of  $G = G_0$ .

Simple groups families examples

- The Abelian simple groups is  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ .
- $A_n$  is simple for all  $n \geq 5$ .
- $\text{PSL}(n, \mathbb{Z}_p) \equiv \text{SL}(n, \mathbb{Z}_p) / Z(\text{SL}(n, \mathbb{Z}_p))$  except when  $n = 2$  and  $p = 2$  or  $3$ .
- **Feit-Thompson Theorem:** A non-Abelian simple group has even order.
- The largest sporadic simple group: Monster.

## 24.2 Nonsimplicity Tests

### Theorem 24.1 Sylow Test for Nonsimplicity

Let  $n$  be a positive integer that is not prime, and let  $p$  be a prime divisor of  $n$ . If 1 is the only divisor of  $n$  that is equal to 1 modulo  $p$ , then there does not exist a simple group of order  $n$ .

**Proof**

If  $n$  is a prime-power, then a group of order  $n$  has a nontrivial center and therefore is not simple.

Else, the number of Sylow  $p$ -subgroups of a group of order  $n$  is equal to 1 modulo  $p$  and divides  $n$ . Therefore the number is 1 and hence the Sylow  $p$ -subgroup is normal.

### Theorem 24.2 2 · Odd Test

An integer of the form  $2 \cdot n$ , where  $n$  is an odd number greater than 1, is not the order of a simple group.

#### Proof

$\phi : G \rightarrow S$ ,  $g \mapsto T_g$ , where  $T_g(x) = gx$  is an isomorphism from  $G$  to its permutation group. Since  $|G| = 2n$ , there is an element  $g$  in  $G$  of order 2. Then, when  $T_g$  is written in disjoint cycle form, each cycle must have length 1 or 2. But 1-cycle (x) would mean  $x = T_g(x) = gx$  and  $g = e$ . Thus  $T_g$  consists of exactly  $n$  transpositions. Therefore  $T_g$  is an odd permutation. This means that the set of even permutation has index 2 and hence normal.

### Theorem 24.3 Generalized Cayley Theorem

Let  $G$  be a group and let  $H$  be a subgroup of  $G$ . Let  $S$  be the group of all permutations of the left cosets of  $H$  in  $G$ . Then there is a homomorphism from  $G$  into  $S$  whose kernel lies in  $H$  and contains every normal subgroup of  $G$  that is contained in  $H$ .

#### Proof

Define  $T_g(xH) = gxH$ , then  $\alpha : g \mapsto T_g$  is a homomorphism from  $G$  into  $S$ .

If  $g \in \text{Ker } \alpha$ , then  $H = T_g(X) = gH$ , thus  $g \subseteq H$ .

If  $K$  is normal and  $K \subseteq H$ , then  $kx = xk'$ ,  $T_k(xH) = kxH = xk'H = xH$  is a identity permutation, thus  $k \in \text{Ker } \alpha$ .

- The kernel itself is a normal subgroup.
- If  $|G : H| = p$ , where  $p$  is the smallest prime divisor of  $G$ , then  $H$  is normal.

### Corollary 1 Index Theorem

If  $G$  is a finite group and  $H$  is a proper subgroup of  $G$  such that  $|G|$  does not divide  $|G : H|!$ , then  $H$  contains a nontrivial normal subgroup of  $G$ . In particular,  $G$  is not simple.

#### Proof

$\text{Ker } \alpha$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$  contained in  $H$  and  $G / \text{Ker } \alpha$  is isomorphic to a subgroup of  $S$ . Thus,  $|G / \text{Ker } \alpha| = |G| / |\text{Ker } \alpha|$  divides  $|S| = |G : H|!$ , and the order of  $\text{Ker } \alpha$  must be greater than 1.

### Corollary 2 Embedding Theorem

If a finite non-Abelian simple group  $G$  has a subgroup of index  $n$ , then  $G$  is isomorphic to a subgroup of  $A_n$ .

Non-Abelian simple groups of order less than 200:

- Icosahedral (Or dodecahedron) group:  $A_5$ .

- $\text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{Z}_7) = \text{SL}(2, \mathbb{Z}_7) / Z(\text{SL}(2, \mathbb{Z}_7))$ .

- Every group is isomorphic to a subgroup of  $S_n$  for some  $n$  (Cayley's Theorem), and  $S_n$  is a subgroup of  $A_{n+2}$ , so every group is isomorphic to a subgroup of a finite simple group.

## 24.3 The Simplicity of $A_5$

## 24.4 The Fields Medal

## 24.5 The Cole Prize

## 24.6 Exercises

### Methods

- Theorems
  - Sylow's Theorems. ( $n_p = |G : N(H_p)|$ )
  - 2 · Odd Test.
  - Index Theorem. (Consider  $|N(H)|$ .)
  - Embedding Theorem. (Find impossible orders.)
  - $|N(H)/C(H)| = |\text{Inn } H|$  divides  $|\text{Aut } H|$ .
- If  $|H| = p^2$ ,  $|N(H \cap H')| \geq |HH'| = |H| |H'| / |H \cap H'|$ .
- Every group of order 30 has an element of order 15.
- If  $\gcd(|x|, |G/H|) = 1$ , then  $x \in H$ .
- Consider the subgroup  $L$  of another prime  $q$  of  $N(L_p)$ , then  $N(L) \geq N(L_p)$  and  $N(L) \geq N(L_q)$ .
- Every proper subgroup  $H$  of a  $p$ -group  $G$  is a proper subgroup of  $N(H)$ , i.e.  $N(H) > H$ .

### Exercise

1. There is no simple group of order  $pqr$ , where  $p, q$  and  $r$  are primes (need not be distinct).
2. If  $H$  is a proper normal subgroup of largest order of  $G$ , then  $G/H$  is simple.
3. If  $H$  and  $K$  are subgroups of a finite simple group  $G$  such that  $|G : H|$  and  $|G : K|$  are prime, then  $|H| = |K|$ .
4. If there is a non-trivial homomorphism from a finite group  $G$  to  $S_n$  where  $|G| > n!$ , then  $G$  is not simple.
5. A group of order  $p^n m$ , where  $m < 9$  or  $m$  is a prime, has a normal subgroup of order  $p^{n-1}$  or  $p^n$ .

Quesetion: 8, 26

## 24.7 Bibliography of Michael Aschbacher

## 24.8 Bibliography of Daniel Gorenstein

## 24.9 Bibliography of John Thompson

# 25 Generators and Relations



## 25.1 Motivation

## 25.2 Definitions and Notation

- For any set  $S = \{a, b, c, \dots\}$ , define  $S^{-1} = \{a^{-1}, b^{-1}, c^{-1}, \dots\}$ ,  
 $W(S) = \{x_1 x_2 \cdots x_k \mid x_i \in S \cup S^{-1}, k \in \mathbb{N}\}$ .
- The elements in  $W(S)$  is called **words** from  $S$ , and the word is called the **empty word**  $e$  when  $k = 0$ .
- Define a binary operation such that  $\forall x, y \in W(S), xy \in W(S)$ .
- Notice that  $aa^{-1}$  is not  $e$ ,  $(ab)^{-1}$  is not  $b^{-1}a^{-1}$ .

**Definition** Equivalence Classes of Words

For any pair of elements  $u$  and  $v$  of  $W(S)$ , we say that  $u$  is **related** to  $v$  if  $v$  can be obtained from  $u$  by a finite sequence of insertions or deletions of words of the form  $xx^{-1}$  or  $x^{-1}x$ , where  $x \in S$ .

## 25.3 Free Group

**Theorem 25.1** Equivalence Classes Form a Group

Let  $S$  be a set of distinct symbols. For any word  $u$  in  $W(S)$ , let  $\bar{u}$  denote the set of all words in  $W(S)$  equivalent to  $u$ . Then the set of all equivalence classes of elements of  $W(S)$  is a group under the operation  $\bar{u} \cdot \bar{v} = \overline{uv}$ .

**Theorem 25.2** Universal Mapping Property

Every group is a homomorphic image of a free group.

**Corollary** Universal Factor Group Property

Every group is isomorphic to a factor group of a free group.

## 25.4 Generators and Relations

**Definition** Generators and Relations

Let  $G$  be a group generated by some subset  $A = \{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n\}$  and let  $F$  be the free group on  $A$ . Let  $W = \{w_1, w_2, \dots, w_t\}$  be a subset of  $F$  and let  $N$  be the smallest normal subgroup of  $F$  containing  $W$ . We say that  $G$  is given by the generators  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$  and the relations  $w_1 = w_2 = \dots = w_t = e$  if there is an isomorphism from  $F/N$  onto  $G$  that carries  $a_i N$  to  $a_i$ .

- $G = \langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \mid w_1 = w_2 = \dots = w_t = e \rangle$ , and the RHS is called the **presentation**.
- The only nontrivial Abelian group that is free:  $\mathbb{Z} \approx \langle a \rangle$ .

**Theorem 25.3** Dyck's Theorem (1882)

Let  $G_1 = \langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \mid w_1 = w_2 = \dots = w_t = e \rangle$ , and  $G_2 = \langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \mid w_1 = w_2 = \dots = w_t = w_{t+1} = \dots = w_{t+k} = e \rangle$ , then  $G_2$  is a homomorphic image of  $G_1$ .

**Corollary** Largest Group Satisfying Defining Relations

If  $K$  is a group satisfying the defining relations of a finite group  $G$  and  $|K| \geq |G|$ , then  $K \approx G$ .

## 25.5 Classification of Groups of Order Up to 15

**Theorem 25.4** Classification of Groups of Order 8 (Cayley, 1859)

Up to isomorphism, there are only five groups of order 8:

$\mathbb{Z}_8, \mathbb{Z}_4 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2, \mathbb{Z}_2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2, D_4, Q_4$  (quaternions).

- Quaternions:  $Q_4 = \langle a, b \mid a^2 = b^2 = (ab)^2 \rangle$ .
- **Dicyclic group** of order  $4n$ :  $Q_{2n} = \langle a, b \mid a^{2n} = e, a^n = b^2, b^{-1}ab = a^{-1} \rangle$ ,  
 $Z(Q_{2n}) = \{e, x^n\}$ ,  $Q_{2n}/Z(Q_{2n}) \approx D_n$ .

## 25.6 Characterization of Dihedral Groups

**Theorem 25.5** Characterization of Dihedral Groups

Any group generated by a pair of elements of order 2 is dihedral.

- $D_n \approx \langle x, y \mid x^2 = y^n = e, xyx = y^{-1} \rangle$ .
- In  $D_\infty$ ,  $|xy^i| = 2$ ,  $|y^i| = \infty$ ,  $0 \neq i \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

## 25.7 Exercises

$$1. D_4 \approx \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 & a & b \\ 0 & 1 & c \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \mid a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}_2 \right\}.$$

## 25.8 Bibliography of Marshall Hall, Jr.

# 26 Symmetry Groups

## 26.1 Isometries

**Definition** Isometry

An **isometry** of  $n$ -dimensional space  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is a function from  $\mathbb{R}^n$  onto  $\mathbb{R}^n$  that preserves distance.

**Definition** Symmetry Group of a Figure in  $\mathbb{R}^n$

Let  $F$  be a set of points in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , then the **symmetry group** of  $F$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is the set of all isometries of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  that carry  $F$  onto itself, whose operation is function composition.

Every isometry of  $\mathbb{R}^2$  is one of four types:

- Rotation, reflection (mirror), translation, glide-reflection.

## 26.2 Classification of Finite Plane Symmetry Groups

**Theorem 26.1** Finite Symmetry Groups in the Plane

The only finite plane symmetry groups are  $\mathbb{Z}_n$  and  $D_n$ .

## 26.3 Classification of Finite Groups of Rotation in $\mathbb{R}^3$

## Theorem 26.2 Finite Groups of Rotations in $\mathbb{R}^3$

Up to isomorphism, the finite groups of rotations in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  are  $\mathbb{Z}_n, D_n, A_4, S_4$  and  $A_5$ .

## 26.4 Exercises

Confusion: 9

# 27 Symmetry and Counting

## 27.1 Motivation

## 27.2 Burnside's Theorem

**Definition** Elements Fixed by  $\phi$

For any group  $G$  of permutations on a set  $S$  and any  $\phi$  in  $G$ , we let  $\text{fix}(\phi) = \{i \in S \mid \phi(i) = i\}$ .

**Theorem 27.1** Burnside's Theorem

If  $G$  is a finite group of permutations on a set  $S$ , then the number of orbits of elements of  $S$  under  $G$  is

$$n = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{\phi \in G} |\text{fix}(\phi)|.$$

**Proof** Let  $N$  denote the number of pairs  $(\phi, i)$ ,  $\phi \in G, i \in S, \phi(i) = i$ , and count these pairs in two ways:

$$\begin{aligned} N &= \sum_{\phi \in G} |\text{fix}(\phi)| = \sum_{i \in S} |\text{stab}_G(i)| \\ &= \sum_{\text{orb}_G(s), s \in S} \left( \sum_{t \in \text{orb}_G(s)} |\text{stab}_G(t)| \right) \\ &= \sum_{\text{orb}_G(s), s \in S} |\text{orb}_G(s)| |\text{stab}_G(s)| \\ &= \sum_{\text{orb}_G(s), s \in S} |G| = n \cdot |G|. \end{aligned}$$

## 27.3 Applications

## 27.4 Group Action

e.g.  $\gamma : \text{GL}(n, \mathbb{F}) \rightarrow S := \{(a_i)_{n \times 1} \mid a_i \in \mathbb{F}\}, g \mapsto \gamma_g$ .

## 27.5 Exercises

## 27.6 Bibliography of William Burnside

# 28 Cayley Digraphs of Groups

## 28.1 Motivation

## 28.2 The Cayley Digraph of a Group

**Definition** Cayley Digraph of a Group

Let  $G$  be a finite group and let  $S$  be a set of generators for  $G$ . We define a digraph (directed graph)  $\text{Cay}(S : G)$ , called the **Cayley digraph** of  $G$  with generating set  $S$ , as follows:

1. Each element of  $G$  is a **vertex** of  $\text{Cay}(S : G)$ .
2.  $\forall x, y \in G$ , there is an **arc** from  $x$  to  $y$  if and only if  $\exists s \in S$ , s. t.  $xs = y$ .

## 28.3 Hamiltonian Circuits and Paths

**Theorem 28.1** A Necessary Condition

$\text{Cay}(\{(1, 0), (0, 1)\} : \mathbb{Z}_m \oplus \mathbb{Z}_n)$  does not have a **Hamiltonian circuit** when  $\gcd(m, n) = 1$ ,  $m, n > 1$ .

**Theorem 28.2** A Sufficient Condition

$\text{Cay}(\{(1, 0), (0, 1)\} : \mathbb{Z}_m \oplus \mathbb{Z}_n)$  has a **Hamiltonian circuit** when  $n \mid m$ .

- This Hamiltonian circuit can be denoted by  $m * [(n - 1) * (0, 1), (0, 1)]$ .

**Theorem 28.3** Abelian Groups Have Hamiltonian Paths

Let  $G$  be a finite Abelian group, and let  $S$  be any generating set for  $G$ , then  $\text{Cay}(S : G)$  has a **Hamiltonian path**.

- $(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k, s, a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k, s, \dots, a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k, s, a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k)$ .
- It can be generalized to include all **Hamiltonian groups**, all of whose subgroups are normal. (One non-Abelian example is  $Q_4$ .)
- $\forall m, n \in \mathbb{N}^+$ ,  $\text{Cay}(\{(r, 0), (f, 0), (e, 1)\} : D_n \oplus \mathbb{Z}_m)$  has a Hamiltonian circuit.

## 28.4 Some Applications

## 28.5 Exercises

Confusion: 36.

## 28.6 Bibliography of William Rowan Hamilton

## 28.7 Bibliography of Paul Erdos

# 29 Introducton to Algebraic Coding Theory

## 29.1 Motivation

- **Hamming (7, 4) Code**

Multiply each of the 4-tuples on the right by the matrix

$$G = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

## 29.2 Linear Codes

### Definition Linear Code

An  $(n, k)$  **linear code** over a finite field  $\mathbb{F}$  is a  $k$ -dimensional subspace  $V$  of the vector space  $\mathbb{F}^n = \underbrace{\mathbb{F} \oplus \mathbb{F} \oplus \cdots \oplus \mathbb{F}}_{n \text{ copies}}$  over  $\mathbb{F}$ . The members of  $V$  are called the **code words**. When  $\mathbb{F} = \mathbb{Z}_2$ , the code is called **binary**. When  $\mathbb{F} = \mathbb{Z}_3$ , the code is called **ternary**.

- In a binary linear code
  - For all digits, either all the code words are 0, or exactly half of them are 0.
  - Either every member has even weight, or exactly half of them has even weight.

### Definition Hamming Distance, Hamming Weight

The **Hamming distance** between two vectors in  $\mathbb{F}^n$  is the number of components in which they differ. The **Hamming weight** of a **vector** is the number of nonzero components of the vector. The **Hamming weight** of a **linear code** is the minimum weight of any nonzero vector in the code.

- Hamming distance:  $d(u, v)$ .
- Hamming weight:  $\text{wt}(u)$ .

### Theorem 29.1 Properties of Hamming Distance and Hamming Weight

1.  $d(u, v) \leq d(u, w) + d(w, v)$ .
2.  $d(u, v) = \text{wt}(u - v)$ .

- $d(u, v) = d(v, u)$ .
- $d(u, v) = 0 \iff u = v$ .
- $d(u, v) = d(u + w, v + w)$ .

### Theorem 29.2 Correcting Capability of a Linear Code

If the Hamming weight of a linear code is at least  $2t + 1$  ( $t \in \mathbb{Q}^+$ ), then the code can **correct** any  $t$  or fewer errors. Alternatively, the same code can **detect** any  $2t$  or fewer errors.

**Proof** 1. For a transmitted code word  $u$  and a received code word  $v$ , consider a code word other than  $u$ , then

$$2t + 1 \leq \text{wt}(w - u) = d(w, u) \leq d(w, v) + d(v, u) \leq d(w, v) + t,$$

so the code word closest to  $v$  is  $u$ .

2.  $d(u, v) \leq 2t$ , but the minimum distance between distinct code words is at least  $2t + 1$ .

- 
- The converse of Theorem 29.2 is also true.
  - We can't do both simultaneously.

- If we write the Hamming weight of a linear code in the form  $2t + s + 1$ , we can correct any  $t$  or fewer errors and detect any  $t + s$  or fewer errors. ★
- For example, for a code with Hamming weight 5, we have options as follows
  1. Detect any four errors ( $t = 0, s = 4$ ).
  2. Correct any one error and detect any two or three errors ( $t = 1, s = 2$ ).
  3. Correct any two errors ( $t = 2, s = 0$ ).
- A matrix of the following form is called the **standard generator matrix** (or **standard encoding matrix**), which produces a **systematic code**.

$$G = \left( \begin{array}{cccc|ccc} 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & a_{11} & \cdots & a_{1,n-k} \\ 0 & 1 & \cdots & 0 & a_{21} & \cdots & a_{2,n-k} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & 1 & a_{k1} & \cdots & a_{k,n-k} \end{array} \right).$$

## 29.3 Parity-Check Matrix Decoding

If there is only one error:

Suppose that  $V$  is a systematic linear code over the field  $\mathbb{F}$  given by the standard generator matrix  $G = [I_k | A]$ , then  $H = \begin{bmatrix} -A \\ I_{n-k} \end{bmatrix}$  is the **parity-check matrix** for  $V$ .

1. For any received word  $w$ , compute  $wH$ .
2. If  $wH$  is the zero vector, assume that no error was made.
3. If there is exactly one instance of a nonzero element  $s \in \mathbb{F}$  and a row  $i$  of  $H$  such that  $wH = sH_i$ , assume that the sent word was  $w - (0 \cdots s \cdots 0)$ , where  $s$  occurs in the  $i^{\text{th}}$  component.

(When the code is binary, if  $wH$  is the  $i^{\text{th}}$  row of  $H$  for exactly one  $i$ ...)

- It cannot detect any multiple errors, and we have restrictions on the parity-check matrix.

**Lemma 29.1** Orthogonality Relation

Let  $C$  be a systematic  $(n, k)$  linear code over  $\mathbb{F}$  with a standard generator matrix  $G$  and parity-check matrix  $H$ . Then, for any vector  $v$  in  $\mathbb{F}^n$ , we have  $vH = \mathbf{0} \Leftrightarrow v \in C$ .

**Proof**  $\dim(\text{Ker } H) = k$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} GH &= [I_k | A] \begin{bmatrix} -A \\ I_{n-k} \end{bmatrix} = -A + A = [0] \quad (\text{the zero matrix}) \\ vH &= (mG)H = m[0] = 0 \quad (\text{the zero vector}) \end{aligned}$$

**Theorem 29.3** Parity-Check Matrix

Parity-check matrix decoding will correct any single error if and only if the rows of the parity-check matrix are nonzero and no one row is a scalar multiple of any other row.

**Proof**  $(w + e_i)H = wH + e_iH = e_iH$ .

## 29.4 Coset Decoding

- Construct a table called a **standard array** whose words in the first column are called the **coset leaders**.

- A table of an  $(n, k)$  linear code over a field with  $q$  elements will have  $|C| = q^k$  columns and  $|V : C| = q^{n-k}$  rows.

#### Theorem 29.4 Coset Decoding Is Nearest-Neighbor Decoding

In coset decoding, a received word  $w$  is decoded as a code word  $c$  such that  $d(w, c)$  is a minimum.

**Proof** Suppose that  $v$  is the coset leader for the coset  $w + C$ , then  $w + C = v + C$ ,  $w = v + c$  for some  $c \in C$ . Now, if  $c'$  is any code word, then  $w - c' \in w + C = v + C$ ,  $\text{wt}(w - c') \geq \text{wt}(v + C) = \text{wt}(v)$ , therefore

$$d(w, c') = \text{wt}(w - c') \geq \text{wt}(v) = \text{wt}(w - c) = d(w, c).$$

#### Definition Syndrome

If an  $(n, k)$  linear code over  $\mathbb{F}$  has parity-check matrix  $H$ , then, for any vector  $u$  in  $\mathbb{F}^n$ , the vector  $uH$  is called the **syndrome** of  $u$ .

#### Theorem 29.5 Same Coset—Same Syndrome

Let  $C$  be an  $(n, k)$  linear code over  $\mathbb{F}$  with a parity-check matrix  $H$ . Then, two vectors of  $\mathbb{F}^n$  are in the same coset of  $C$  if and only if they have the same syndrome.

**Proof**  $u, v \in w + C \iff u - v \in C \iff 0 = (u - v)H = uH - vH.$

#### Steps

1. Calculate the syndrome  $wH$ .
2. Find the coset leader  $v$  such that  $wH = vH$ .
3. Assume that the vector sent was  $w - v$ .

## 29.5 Historical Note

## 29.6 Exercises

#### Methods

1. Nearest-neighbor method.
2. Parity-check matrix method.
3. Coset decoding using a standard array.
4. Coset decoding using the syndrome method.

## 29.7 Bibliography of Richard W. Hamming

## 29.8 Bibliography of Jessie MacWilliams

## 29.9 Bibliography of Vera Pless

# 30 An introduction to Galois Theory

## 30.1 Fundamental Theorem of Galois Theory

## Definitions Automorphism, Galois Group, Fixed Field of $H$

Let  $\mathbb{E}$  be an extension field of the field  $\mathbb{F}$ . An **automorphism** of  $\mathbb{E}$  is a ring isomorphism from  $\mathbb{E}$  onto  $\mathbb{E}$ . The **Galois group** of  $\mathbb{E}$  over  $\mathbb{F}$ ,  $\text{Gal}(\mathbb{E}/\mathbb{F})$ , is the set of all automorphisms of  $\mathbb{E}$  that take every element of  $\mathbb{F}$  to itself. If  $H$  is a subgroup of  $\text{Gal}(\mathbb{E}/\mathbb{F})$ , then the set

$$\mathbb{E}_H = \{x \in \mathbb{E} \mid \phi(x) = x \text{ for all } \phi \in H\}$$

is called the **fixed field** of  $H$ .

- Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be the lattice of subfields of  $\mathbb{E}$  containing  $\mathbb{F}$ , and let  $\mathcal{G}$  be the lattice of subgroups of  $\text{Gal}(\mathbb{E}/\mathbb{F})$ , then

$$\left| \begin{array}{l} g : \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathcal{G} \\ \mathbb{K} \mapsto \text{Gal}(\mathbb{E}/\mathbb{K}) \end{array} \right| \quad \left| \begin{array}{l} f : \mathcal{G} \rightarrow \mathcal{F} \\ H \mapsto \mathbb{E}_H \end{array} \right|$$

- $\mathbb{K} \subseteq \mathbb{L} \Rightarrow g(\mathbb{K}) \supseteq g(\mathbb{L})$ .
- $G \subseteq H \Rightarrow f(G) \supseteq f(H)$ .
- $\forall \mathbb{K} \in \mathcal{F}, (fg)\mathbb{K} \supseteq \mathbb{K}$ .
- $\forall G \in \mathcal{G}, (fg)G \supseteq G$ .

### Theorem 30.1 Fundamental Theorem of Galois Theory

Let  $\mathbb{F}$  be a field of characteristic 0 or a finite field. If  $\mathbb{E}$  is the splitting field over  $\mathbb{F}$  for some polynomial in  $\mathbb{F}[x]$ , then  $g : \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathcal{G}, \mathbb{K} \mapsto \text{Gal}(\mathbb{E}/\mathbb{K})$  is a one-to-one correspondence. Furthermore, for any subfield  $\mathbb{K}$  of  $\mathbb{E}$  containing  $\mathbb{F}$ ,

$$1. [\mathbb{E} : \mathbb{K}] = |\text{Gal}(\mathbb{E}/\mathbb{K})|, [\mathbb{K} : \mathbb{F}] = |\text{Gal}(\mathbb{E}/\mathbb{F})| / |\text{Gal}(\mathbb{E}/\mathbb{K})|.$$

(The index of  $\text{Gal}(\mathbb{E}/\mathbb{K})$  in  $\text{Gal}(\mathbb{E}/\mathbb{F})$  equals the degree of  $\mathbb{K}$  over  $\mathbb{F}$ .)

$$2. \text{ If } \mathbb{K} \text{ is the splitting field of some polynomial in } \mathbb{F}[x], \text{ then } \text{Gal}(\mathbb{E}/\mathbb{K}) \text{ is a normal subgroup of } \text{Gal}(\mathbb{E}/\mathbb{F}), \text{ and } \text{Gal}(\mathbb{K}/\mathbb{F}) \approx \text{Gal}(\mathbb{E}/\mathbb{F}) / \text{Gal}(\mathbb{E}/\mathbb{K}).$$

$$3. \mathbb{K} = \mathbb{E}_{\text{Gal}(\mathbb{E}/\mathbb{K})}. \text{ (The fixed field of } \text{Gal}(\mathbb{E}/\mathbb{K}) \text{ is } \mathbb{K}.)$$

$$4. \text{ If } H \text{ is a subgroup of } \text{Gal}(\mathbb{E}/\mathbb{F}), \text{ then } H = \text{Gal}(\mathbb{E}/\mathbb{E}_H).$$

(The automorphism group of  $\mathbb{E}$  fixing  $\mathbb{E}_H$  is  $H$ .)

- $\text{Gal}(\text{GF}(p^n) / \text{GF}(p)) \approx \mathbb{Z}_n$ .

**Proof** Say  $\mathbb{F} = \text{GF}(p)$ ,  $\text{GF}(p^n) = \mathbb{F}(b)$ , where  $b$  is the zero of an irreducible polynomial  $p(x) = x^n + a_{n-1}x^{n-1} + \cdots + a_1x + a_0$ ,  $a_i \in \mathbb{F}$ .

$p(b) = 0 = \phi(p(b)) = p(\phi(b))$ , so there are at most  $n$  possibilities for  $\phi(b)$ .

$\sigma : \mathbb{E} \rightarrow \mathbb{E}, a \mapsto a^p$  is an automorphism, and  $\mathbb{E}^*$  is cyclic, so  $|\sigma|$  has order  $n$ .

Thus,  $\text{Gal}(\text{GF}(p^n) / \text{GF}(p)) \approx \mathbb{Z}_n$ .

## 30.2 Solvability of Polynomials by Radicals

### Definition Solvable by Radicals

Let  $\mathbb{F}$  be a field, and let  $f(x) \in \mathbb{F}[x]$ . We say that  $f(x)$  is **solvable by radicals** over  $\mathbb{F}$  if  $f(x)$  splits in some extension  $\mathbb{F}(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)$  of  $\mathbb{F}$  and there exist positive integers  $k_1, k_2, \dots, k_n$  such that  $a_1^{k_1} \in \mathbb{F}$  and  $a_i^{k_i} \in \mathbb{F}(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{i-1})$  for  $i = 2, 3, \dots, n$ .

### Definition Solvable Group

We say that a group  $G$  is solvable if  $G$  has a series subgroups



$$\{e\} = H_0 \subset H_1 \subset H_2 \subset \cdots \subset H_k = G,$$

where for each  $0 \leq i < k$ ,  $H_i$  is normal in  $H_{i+1}$  and  $H_{i+1}/H_i$  is Abelian.

- If  $G$  is a finite solvable group, then there exist subgroups of  $G$

$$\{e\} = H_0 \subset H_1 \subset H_2 \subset \cdots \subset H_n = G$$

such that  $H_{i+1}/H_i$  has prime order.

- A subgroup of a solvable group is solvable.

### Examples

- Solvable groups: Abelian groups, dihedral groups, groups of order  $p^n$ .
- Every group of odd order is solvable. (Feit-Thompson Theorem)
- Any non-Abelian simple group is not solvable.
- $S_n$  is solvable if and only if  $n \leq 4$ .

### Theorem 30.2 Condition for $\text{Gal}(\mathbb{E}/\mathbb{F})$ to be Solvable

Let  $\mathbb{F}$  be a field of characteristic 0 and let  $a \in \mathbb{F}$ . If  $\mathbb{E}$  is the splitting field of  $x^n - a$  over  $\mathbb{F}$ , then the Galois group  $\text{Gal}(\mathbb{E}/\mathbb{F})$  is solvable.

### Theorem 30.3 Factor Group of a Solvable Group Is Solvable

A factor group of a solvable group is solvable.

### Theorem 30.4 $N$ and $G/N$ Solvable Implies $G$ is Solvable

Let  $N$  be a normal subgroup of a group  $G$ . If both  $N$  and  $G/N$  are solvable, then  $G$  is solvable.

### Theorem 30.5 Solvable by Radicals Implies Solvable Group (Galois)

Let  $\mathbb{F}$  be a field of characteristic 0 and let  $f(x) \in \mathbb{F}[x]$ . Suppose that  $f(x)$  splits in  $\mathbb{F}(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_t)$ , where  $a_1^{n_1} \in \mathbb{F}$  and  $a_i^{n_i} \in \mathbb{F}(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{i-1})$  for  $i = 2, 3, \dots, t$ . Let  $\mathbb{E}$  be the splitting field for  $f(x)$  over  $\mathbb{F}$  in  $\mathbb{F}(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_t)$ , then the Galois group  $\text{Gal}(\mathbb{E}/\mathbb{F})$  is solvable.

- The converse is true also: if  $\mathbb{E}$  is the splitting field of a polynomial  $f(x)$  over a field  $\mathbb{F}$  of characteristic 0 and  $\text{Gal}(\mathbb{E}/\mathbb{F})$  is solvable, then  $f(x)$  is solvable by radicals over  $\mathbb{F}$ .
- Every finite group is a Galois group over some field.
- Every solvable group is a Galois group over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

## 30.3 Insolubility of a Quintic

## 30.4 Exercises

1. Let  $f(x) \in \mathbb{F}[x]$  and let the zeros of  $f(x)$  be  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$ . If  $\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{F}(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)$ , then  $\text{Gal}(\mathbb{K}/\mathbb{F})$  is isomorphic to a group of the  $a_i$ 's, i.e., a subgroup of  $S_n$ .

# 31 Cyclotomic Extensions

## 31.1 Motivation

## 31.2 Cyclotomic Polynomials

- $n^{\text{th}}$  **cyclotomic extension** of  $\mathbb{Q} : \mathbb{Q}(e^{2i\pi/n})$ .
- The irreducible factors of  $x^n - 1$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$  are called the **cyclotomic polynomials**.
- $\omega^k$  where  $\gcd(n, k) = 1$  are called the **primitive  $n^{\text{th}}$  roots of unity**.

**Definition** Cyclotomic Polynomial

For any positive integer  $n$ , let  $\omega_1, \omega_2, \dots, \omega_{\phi(n)}$  denote the primitive  $n^{\text{th}}$  roots of unity. The  $n^{\text{th}}$  **cyclotomic polynomial** over  $\mathbb{Q}$  is the polynomial

$$\Phi_n(x) = (x - \omega_1)(x - \omega_2) \cdots (x - \omega_{\phi(n)}).$$

- $\deg(\Phi_n(x)) = \phi(n)$ .
- $\Phi_n(0) = 1$  ( $n > 1$ ).

**Theorem 31.1**  $x^n - 1 = \prod_{d|n} \Phi_d(x)$

For every positive integer  $n$ ,  $x^n - 1 = \prod_{d|n} \Phi_d(x)$ , where the product runs over all positive divisors  $d$  of  $n$ .

- It can be used to find the irreducible factorization of  $x^n - 1$  over  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ .

**Theorem 31.2**  $\Phi_d(x)$  Has Integer Coefficients

For every positive integer  $n$ ,  $\Phi_n(x)$  has integer coefficients.

**Theorem 31.3.**  $\Phi_d(x)$  Is Irreducible Over  $\mathbb{Z}$  (Gauss)

The cyclotomic polynomial  $\Phi_n(x)$  are irreducible over  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

**Theorem 31.4**  $\text{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}(\omega)/\mathbb{Q}) \approx U(n)$

Let  $\omega$  be a primitive  $n^{\text{th}}$  root of unity, then  $\text{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}(\omega)/\mathbb{Q}) \approx U(n)$ .

## 31.3 The Constructible Regular $n$ -gons

**Lemma**  $\mathbb{Q}(\cos(2\pi/n)) \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(\omega)$

Let  $\omega = e^{2i\pi/n}$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}^+$ , then  $\mathbb{Q}(\cos 2\pi/n) \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(\omega)$ .

**Theorem 31.5** Constructibility Criteria for a Regular  $n$

It is possible to construct the regular  $n$ -gon with a straightedge and compass if and only if  $n$  has the form  $2^k p_1 p_2 \cdots p_t$ ,  $k \geq 0$  and the  $p_i$ 's are distinct primes of the form  $2^m + 1$  (or  $2^{2^m} + 1$ ).

## 31.4 Exercises

1.  $\prod_{k=1}^n e^{2ki\pi/n} = (-1)^{n+1}$ .
2. If  $p = 2^n + 1$  ( $n \in \mathbb{N}^+$ ) is a prime, then  $p = 2^{2^k} + 1$  for some  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ .
3. If a field contains  $n^{\text{th}}$  roots of unity for  $n$  odd, then it also contains  $2n^{\text{th}}$  roots of unity.  
Furthermore,  $\Phi_{2n}(x) = \Phi_n(-x)$  ( $n > 1$ ). ★
4.  $\Phi_{p^k}(x) = \Phi_p(x^{p^{k-1}})$ . ★

5.  $p \nmid n \Rightarrow \Phi_{pn} = \Phi_n(x^p)/\Phi_n(x)$ . ★

## 31.5 Bibliography of Carl Friedrich Gauss

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## 31.6 Bibliography of Manjul Bhargava

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