

Recall:

(G, \cdot) group:

• binary operation:

$$G \times G \rightarrow G$$

- associative
- has identity
- inverse

Ex:

• Sym (any object)

• $(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}, +)$

• $n \times n$ invertible matrices
matrix mult

• (nonzero real numbers, \cdot) mult

• $(\mathbb{R}^n, +)$

Groups w/ few elements

• $|G| \leftarrow$ size of group = 1

means $G = \{1\}$

• $|G| = 2$, means $G = \{1, g\}$

	1	g
1	1	g
g	g	1

No choice here

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

• $|G| = 3$, $G = \{1, a, b\}$

all elts. of G are power of a .

	1	a	a ²
1	1	a	a ²
a	a	a	1
a ²	a ²	1	a

	1	a	b
1	1	a	b
a	a	b	1
b	b	1	a

note: $ab \neq ba \neq b$
 $\Rightarrow ab = 1$

no choice here

• $|G| = 4$, $G = \{1, a, b, c\}$

$a \neq ab \neq b \Rightarrow ab = 1 \text{ or } c$

case i)

Suppose $ab = c$ (*)

	1	a	b	c
1	1	a	b	c
a	a		c	
b	b	c		
c	c			

	1	a	b	c
1	1	a	b	c
a	a	1	c	b
b	b	c	1	a
c	c	b	a	1

	1	a	b	c
1	1	a	b	c
a	a	b	c	1
b	b	c	1	a
c	c	1	a	b

$ab = c$
 $a^2 = b$

	1	a	a ²	a ³
1	1	a	a ²	a ³
a	a	a ²	a ³	1
a ²	a ²	a ³	1	a
a ³	a ³	1	a	a ²

$KV_4 = \text{Sym}(\circ \text{I} \circ)$

Case II) $ab = 1$

	1	a	b	c
1	1	a	b	c
a	a	c	1	b
b	b	1	c	a
c	c	b	a	1

$$\begin{aligned} a &= a \\ b &= a^3 \\ c &= a^2 \end{aligned}$$

$|G| = 4$ has 2 cases
 KV_4 or cyclic group of order 4.

Defn: A group G is cyclic

if one can relabel the elements s.t
the Cayley table becomes

	1	a	a ²	...	a ⁿ
1	1	a	a ²		
a	a	a ²			
a ²	a ²	a ³	a ⁴		
...					
a ⁿ	a ⁿ				a ²ⁿ

such "a" is a
generator of G .

Note: standard ex.
of a cyclic group of
order n is $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$.

Non example: KV_4 is not cyclic

Defn: if the Cayley table of G is symmetric then
 G is abelian.

(means: $ab = ba$ for all $a, b \in G$)

this will always happen if $G = \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$

or in $(\mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}, \cdot)$

Not abelian: $\text{Sym}(\Delta)$

• $(n \times n \text{ invertibles}, \cdot)$

Defⁿ: The order of G is the # of elts

Defⁿ: the order of $g \in G$, that is the $\min\{k \in \mathbb{N} \text{ s.t.}$

If $g^k \neq 1$ for all $k > 0$

$\underbrace{g \cdot g \cdot \dots \cdot g}_{k \text{ times}} = 1\}$

we say $\text{order}_G(g) = \infty$

Ex: If $|G| = 1$

$\Rightarrow G = \{1\}$, $\text{ord}(1) = 1$

• $|G| = 2$, $G = \{1, a\}$

$\text{ord}_G(g) = 2$

• $|G| = 3 \Rightarrow \text{ord}(b) = 3 = \text{ord}(a)$

$$\bullet |G| = 4 \quad \longrightarrow \quad C_4$$

$$\text{ord}(a^3) = 4 = \text{ord}(a)$$

$$\text{ord}(a^2) = 2$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \swarrow \\
 KV_4 \quad \text{ord}(a) \\
 \quad \parallel \\
 \quad 2 \\
 \quad \parallel \\
 \quad \text{ord}(b) \\
 \quad \parallel \\
 \quad \text{ord}(c)
 \end{array}$$

An example of a group where all non-identity elements have ∞ order is $(\mathbb{Z}, +)$