

1. How many subgroups does Z_{30} have? Z_{32} ?

There is a 1-1 correspondence between subgroups of a cyclic group and divisors of its order. Thus, Z_{30} has 8 subgroups and Z_{32} has 6.

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> map(numtheory[divisors], [30, 32]);
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[[{1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 10, 15, 30}, {1, 2, 4, 8, 16, 32}]]
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2. Are there elements of order 20 in the symmetric group S_{10} ? Exhibit one or explain why there aren't any. How about elements of order 21? 23? 25? 30?

Since disjoint cycles commute, the order of a product of disjoint cycles is the l.c.m. of the orders of the cycles (= their lengths).

20: $(12345)(6789)$

21: $(1234567)(8910)$

23: None. The largest cycles have length 10.

25: None. You'd need a 25-cycle for this.

30: $(12345)(678)(910)$

3. Suppose G is a multiplicative group, $a \in G$. Prove that $a^n = e \Leftrightarrow |a|$ divides n .

\Leftarrow Suppose $|a|$ divides n . Then $n = |a|q$ for some q , so $a^n = a^{|a|q} = (a^{|a|})^q = e^q = e$ \checkmark

\Rightarrow By the division algorithm $\exists q, r$ with $n = |a|q + r$ $0 \leq r < |a|$

then $e = a^n = a^{|a|q+r} = (a^{|a|})^q a^r = e^q a^r = a^r$

If r were positive, then by definition of $|a|$ we'd have $|a| \leq r$. \checkmark Thus $r = 0$ \checkmark

4. Suppose G is a multiplicative group, $a \in G$. Prove that $a^{|G|} = e$. What conclusion can you draw about $|a|$, if $a \neq e$ and $|G|$ is prime? Explain.

By Lagrange's theorem $|a| = |\langle a \rangle|$ divides $|G|$

so by #3 $a^{|G|} = e$.

If $|G|$ is prime and $|a| \neq 1$ we must have

$|a| = |G|$. By the way, this means $G = \langle a \rangle$.

5. Prove that $H = \{1, i, -1, -i\}$ is a multiplicative subgroup of the unit circle in the complex plane. Find two nontrivial cosets of H in the multiplicative group of all nonzero complex numbers \mathbb{C}^* — one coset that is a subset of the unit circle and one not. Sketch H and the two cosets you found. How many distinct cosets does H have in \mathbb{C}^* ?

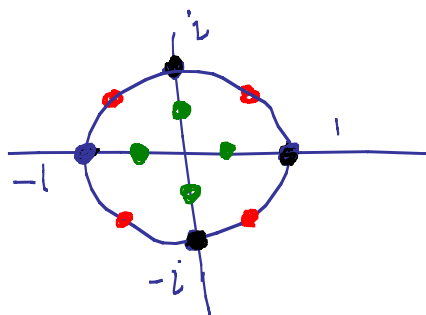
$$\text{Let } z_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + i\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \quad z_2 = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$z_1 H = \left\{ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + i\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + i\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} - i\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} - i\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \right\}$$

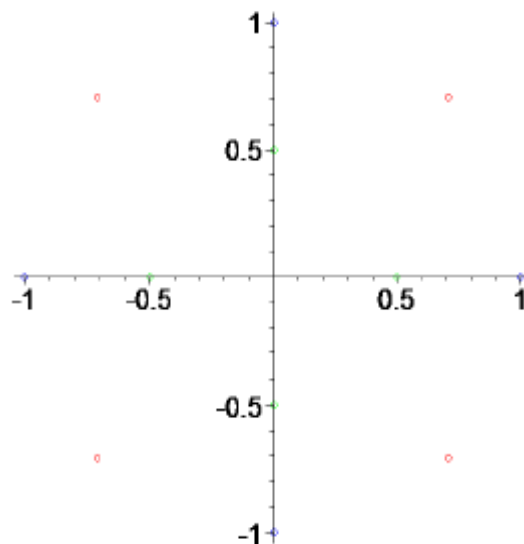
$$z_2 H = \left\{ \frac{1}{2}, i\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{2}, -i\frac{1}{2} \right\}.$$

By inspection all points in $z_1 H$ lie on the unit circle.

Sketch



H has infinitely many cosets in \mathbb{C}^*



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> pcp:=z->[Re(z),Im(z)];
                                pcp:=z->[℞(z),ℑ(z)]
> H:=[1,I,-1,-I];
                                H:=[1,I,-1,-I]
> z1:=(1+I)/sqrt(2); z2:=1/2;
                                z1:=(1/2+1/2*I)*sqrt(2)
                                z2:=1/2
> H1:=map(t->z1*t,H);
H2:=map(t->z2*t,H);
                                H1:=[(1/2+1/2*I)*sqrt(2),(-1/2+1/2*I)*sqrt(2),(-1/2-1/2*I)*sqrt(2),(1/2-1/2*I)*sqrt(2)]
                                H2:=[1/2,1/2*I,-1/2,-1/2*I]
> po:=style=point,symbol=circle,symbolsize=12:
pH:=plot(map(pcp,H),po,color=blue):
pH1:=plot(map(pcp,H1),po,color=red):
pH2:=plot(map(pcp,H2),po,color=green):
plots[display]({pH,pH1,pH2});

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