

4.4. Theorem 4.4(iii) gives a formula

$$o(x^m) = \frac{o(x)}{\gcd(m, o(x))}$$

for x in a group (written using multiplicative notation). The order of 1 in \mathbb{Z}_{30} is 30. Thus, the order of $m = m \cdot 1$ in \mathbb{Z}_{30} is $30/\gcd(30, m)$. We obtain $o(3) = 10$, $o(4) = 15$, $o(6) = 5$, $o(7) = 30$, and $o(18) = 5$.

4.5.

Using the formula from the previous problem, we have $o(x^m) = 18/\gcd(18, m)$. Thus, $o(x^2) = 9$, $o(x^3) = 6$, $o(x^4) = 9$, $o(x^5) = 18$, and $o(x^{12}) = 3$.

4.10.

(a) To check that the binary operation is well-defined, we need to check that $a \odot b = \overline{ab} \neq 0$ for all $a, b \in \{1, \dots, 6\}$. This occurs only when ab is divisible by 7. Since 7 is prime and each of 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 are not divisible by 7, ab is never divisible by 7. Thus, the operation is well-defined.

To prove associativity, we need to verify that $\overline{\overline{abc}} = \overline{\overline{abc}}$ for all $a, b, c \in G$. Note that $ab = 7k + \overline{ab}$ for some $k \in \mathbb{Z}$. Thus $abc = (7k + \overline{ab})c = 7kc + \overline{abc}$. Therefore $abc \equiv \overline{abc} \pmod{7}$. Thus $\overline{\overline{abc}} = \overline{\overline{abc}}$. Similarly, $\overline{\overline{abc}} = \overline{\overline{abc}}$.

The identity is 1 and we find all inverses explicitly:

$$1^{-1} = 1, 2^{-1} = 4, 3^{-1} = 5, 4^{-1} = 2, 5^{-1} = 3, 6^{-1} = 6.$$

(b) The group is cyclic with generator 3:

$$\{\dots, \overline{3^0}, \overline{3^1}, \overline{3^2}, \overline{3^3}, \overline{3^4}, \overline{3^5}, \dots\} = \{1, 3, 2, 6, 4, 5\}.$$

4.13.

Let x be an element of G . Since G is finite, we know that the set $\langle x \rangle = \{x^n \mid n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ is finite. Thus, by the Pigeonhole Principle, there exist some $j, k \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $x^j = x^k$. Thus $x^{j-k} = e$. We conclude that x has finite order.

4.17.

Suppose y is another generator of G . Since $G = \langle x \rangle$, this means that $y = x^m$ for some $m \in \mathbb{Z}$. Since $G = \langle y \rangle$, this means that $x = y^k$ for some $k \in \mathbb{Z}$. Thus $y = x^m = (y^k)^m = y^{km}$. Thus $km = 1$. The only integer values for k, m are -1 and 1 as desired.

4.20.

Let b be a conjugate of a . Then $b = xax^{-1}$. Suppose a has finite order n . Observe that

$$\begin{aligned}
 b^n &= (xax^{-1})^n \\
 &= \underbrace{(xax^{-1})(xax^{-1})\cdots(xax^{-1})}_{n \text{ times}} \\
 &= xa(x^{-1}x)a(x^{-1}x)a\cdots a(x^{-1}x)ax^{-1} \\
 &= xa(e)a(e)a\cdots a(e)ax^{-1} \\
 &= x \underbrace{(a\cdots a)}_{n \text{ times}} x^{-1} \\
 &= xa^n x^{-1} = xx^{-1} = e.
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus, b has finite order less than or equal to n .

We have shown that if b is a conjugate of a and a has finite order n , then $o(b) \leq o(a)$. Observe that $a = x^{-1}bx$, so a is a conjugate of b . Thus $o(a) \leq o(b)$ if b has finite order. Thus, they are either both of infinite order or they both have finite order and $o(a) = o(b)$.

4.21.

Suppose xy has finite order n . This means that $e = (xy)^n$. Multiplying on the left by y and the right by y^{-1} we obtain $yey^{-1} = y(xy)^ny^{-1}$. Thus

$$\begin{aligned}
 e &= y \underbrace{(xy)(xy)\cdots(xy)(xy)}_{n \text{ times}} y^{-1} \\
 &= y \underbrace{(xy)(xy)\cdots(xy)}_{n-1 \text{ times}} x \\
 &= \underbrace{(yx)(yx)\cdots(yx)}_{n-1 \text{ times}} yx \\
 &= (yx)^n
 \end{aligned}$$

We conclude that, if xy has finite order, then $o(yx) \leq o(xy)$. Replacing the roles of x and y , if yx has finite order, then $o(xy) \leq o(yx)$. Thus, they are either both of infinite order or they both have finite order and $o(xy) = o(yx)$.