

## Example

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1. **Every subgroup of a cyclic group is cyclic**  $\Rightarrow$  Every subgroup of  $\langle a \rangle$  has the form  $\langle a^k \rangle$  for some  $k = 0, \dots, 11$ . (We already know that  $\langle a^k \rangle$  is a subgroup for each  $k$ .)

There are **no** other subgroups of  $G$ !

The question is – are all 12 of these subgroups distinct, or do we have repetition? And if we have repetition ... how *many* subgroups are there?)

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2. **If  $|\langle a \rangle| = n$ , then the order of every subgroup of  $\langle a \rangle$  divides  $n$ .**

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1. **Every subgroup of a cyclic group is cyclic**  $\Rightarrow$  Every subgroup of  $\langle a \rangle$  is generated by a single element of  $\langle a \rangle$ . That is, every subgroup of  $\langle a \rangle$  has the form  $\langle a^k \rangle$  for some  $k = 0, \dots, 11$ .
2. **If  $|\langle a \rangle| = n$ , then the order of every subgroup of  $\langle a \rangle$  divides  $n$**   $\Rightarrow$  The order of every subgroup of  $\langle a \rangle$  divides 12, so the only *possible* subgroup orders are 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 and 12.

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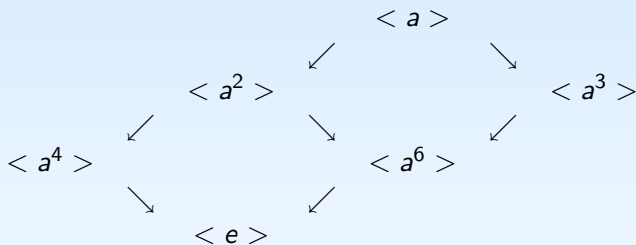
1. **Every subgroup of a cyclic group is cyclic**  $\Rightarrow$  Every subgroup of  $\langle a \rangle$  is generated by a single element of  $\langle a \rangle$ . That is, every subgroup of  $\langle a \rangle$  has the form  $\langle a^k \rangle$  for some  $k = 0, \dots, 11$ .
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3. **For each divisor  $k$  of  $n$ , there is exactly one subgroup of order  $k$ , namely  $\langle a^{n/k} \rangle$**   $\Rightarrow$  there is one subgroup each of orders 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, and 12, and they are given by  $\langle a^{12/k} \rangle$  for  $k = 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 12$ .

Thus the only subgroups of  $G = \langle a \rangle$ , where  $|G| = 12$ , are:

Order of subgroup	Subgroup
1	$\langle a^{12/1} \rangle = \langle e \rangle = \{e\}$
2	$\langle a^{12/2} \rangle = \langle a^6 \rangle = \{e, a^6\}$
3	$\langle a^{12/3} \rangle = \langle a^4 \rangle = \{e, a^4, a^8\}$
4	$\langle a^{12/4} \rangle = \langle a^3 \rangle = \{e, a^3, a^6, a^9\}$
6	$\langle a^{12/6} \rangle = \langle a^2 \rangle = \{e, a^2, a^4, a^6, a^8, a^{10}\}$
12	$\langle a^{12/12} \rangle = \langle a \rangle = G = \{e, a, a^2, a^3, \dots, a^{11}\}$



Subgroup lattice for  $\langle a \rangle$ , where  $|a| = 12$ :



## Summary of Results: Let $G$ be a group and $a \in G$ .

- ▶ **Theorem 4.1:** If  $|a| = \infty$ , then  $a^i = a^j \iff i = j$ . If  $|a| = n < \infty$ , then  $\langle a \rangle = \{e, a, a^2, \dots, a^{n-1}\}$ , and  $a^i = a^j \iff n|(i - j)$ , that is,  $i = j \pmod n$ .
- ▶ **Corollary 1:**  $|a| = |\langle a \rangle|$ .
- ▶ **Corollary 2 :** If  $|a| = n$  and if  $a^k = e$ , then  $n$  divides  $k$ .
- ▶ **Theorem 4.2 :** If  $|a| = n$  and  $k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ , then  $\langle a^k \rangle = \langle a^{\gcd(n,k)} \rangle$ , and  $|a^k| = \frac{n}{\gcd(n,k)}$ .
- ▶ **Corollary 1:** In a finite cyclic group, the order of an element divides the order of the group.
- ▶ **Corollary 2 :** Let  $|a| = n$ . Then  $\langle a^i \rangle = \langle a^j \rangle$  if and only if  $\gcd(n, i) = \gcd(n, j)$  **and**  $|a^i| = |a^j|$  if and only if  $\gcd(n, i) = \gcd(n, j)$ .
- ▶ **Corollary 3 :** Let  $|a| = n$ . Then  $\langle a \rangle = \langle a^j \rangle$  if and only if  $\gcd(n, j) = 1$  **and**  $|a| = |a^j|$  if and only if  $\gcd(n, j) = 1$ .
- ▶ **Corollary 4:** An integer  $k$  in  $\mathbb{Z}_n$  is a generator of  $\mathbb{Z}_n$  if and only if  $\gcd(n, k) = 1$ .

# In Class Work

List all the elements of order 12 in  $\mathbb{Z}_{12000000}$ . How do you know your list is complete?

## Solutions:

List all the elements of order 12 in  $\mathbb{Z}_{12000000}$ . How do you know your list is complete?

$\mathbb{Z}_{12000000} = \langle 1 \rangle$  and  $12 | 12000000 \implies$  (FToCG, Part 3)  $\exists$  a ! cyclic subgroup of order 12,

$$\langle "1^{12000000/12}" \rangle = \langle "1^{1000000}" \rangle = \langle 1000000 \rangle.$$

All elements of order 12 must be in this subgroup, so the generators of  $\langle 1000000 \rangle$  will be the only elements of order 12.

Corollary 3 to Theorem 4.2  $\implies |a^j| = |a| = n \iff \gcd(j, n) = 1$ .

In this case, that means

$$\begin{aligned} |j \cdot 1000000| = |1000000| &\iff \gcd(j, 12) = 1 \\ &\iff j \in \{1, 5, 7, 11\}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus 1000000, 5000000, 7000000, and 11000000 are the elements of order 12.