

GSI: Seewoo Lee.

1. There are **10** subgroups of $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_6$. Here is a complete list of them, in increasing order of size:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle(0, 0)\rangle &= \{(0, 0)\} \\ \langle(1, 0)\rangle &= \{(0, 0), (1, 0)\} = \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \{0\} \\ \langle(0, 3)\rangle &= \{(0, 0), (0, 3)\} = \{0\} \times \langle 3 \rangle \\ \langle(1, 3)\rangle &= \{(0, 0), (1, 3)\} \\ \langle(0, 2)\rangle &= \{(0, 0), (0, 2), (0, 4)\} = \{0\} \times \langle 2 \rangle \\ \langle(1, 0), (0, 3)\rangle &= \{(0, 0), (1, 0), (0, 3), (1, 3)\} = \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \langle 3 \rangle \\ \langle(1, 2)\rangle &= \{(0, 0), (1, 2), (0, 4), (1, 0), (0, 2), (1, 4)\} = \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \langle 2 \rangle \\ \langle(0, 1)\rangle &= \{(0, 0), (0, 1), (0, 2), (0, 3), (0, 4), (0, 5)\} = \{0\} \times \mathbb{Z}_6 \\ \langle(1, 1)\rangle &= \{(0, 0), (1, 1), (0, 2), (1, 3), (0, 4), (1, 5)\} \\ \langle(1, 0), (0, 1)\rangle &= \{(0, 0), (1, 0), (0, 1), (1, 1), (0, 2), (1, 2), (0, 3), (1, 3), (0, 4), (1, 4), (0, 5), (1, 5)\} = \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_6 \end{aligned}$$

To show that these are all the subgroups, one way is to use Lagrange's theorem. Since the order of $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_6$ is 12, the order of any subgroup must divide 12, hence the order of any subgroup must be one of 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 12. Then, we can check that there are no other subgroups of each order. For example, when $d = 2, 3, 6$, all the abelian groups of order d are cyclic, so one only needs to find an element of order d to generate a subgroup of order d . When $d = 4$, there are two abelian groups of order 4 up to isomorphism, \mathbb{Z}_4 and $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$, and you need to check both cases. Note that not all of them are of the form $H_1 \times H_2$ for some $H_1 \leq \mathbb{Z}_2$ and $H_2 \leq \mathbb{Z}_6$; $\langle(1, 3)\rangle$ and $\langle(1, 1)\rangle$ are counterexamples. (If you still don't believe me, type `AllSubgroups(DirectProduct(CyclicGroup(2), CyclicGroup(6)))`; in [this website](#) which gives you a list of length 10, not in a form you expected though.)

I find that it is not an easy problem to enumerate all the subgroups of a given finite abelian group, even if we know all of them *up to isomorphism* (FTFGAG). For the interested reader, see [here](#).

2. Here is a more detailed explanation of why the Cayley graph in #2 cannot be a Cayley graph of the quaternion group Q . There are two generators shown in the graph, one of which has order 4 (the one that goes around the square) and the other has order 2 (the one that goes across the square). Let the generators be a and b . The only element of order 2 in Q is $\begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$, so b must be that. The other six elements (besides the identity) have order 4, so a can be any of them. However, we have $a^2 = b$ for all of them, which means that $\{a, b\}$ never generates Q .

Also, one correction for the section is that there are **5** elements of D_4 of order 2: the four reflections and the 180° rotation.

3. Here is a sketch of a proof (as an exercise) that S_n is generated by two elements $(1, 2)$ and $(1, 2, \dots, n)$. One general tip for doing mathematics is to keep reducing the problem to simpler ones until you reach something you already know how to do.
- For any $a, b, c \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$, show that $(ab)(ac)(ab) = (bc)$. Deduce that any transposition can be written as a product of $(1, 2), (1, 3), \dots, (1, n)$.
 - Show that $(1, k)$ can be written as a product of $(1, 2)$ and $(1, 2, \dots, n)$ for $k = 3, 4, \dots, n$. To do this, think about the product

$$(1, 2, \dots, n)^{-m}(1, 2)(1, 2, \dots, n)^m$$

for $m \geq 1$. Then this permutation has order 2 - why? What is it?

In general, the map sending $g \in G$ to $hgh^{-1} \in G$ for some $h \in G$ is called **conjugation by h** , which is *extremely* important in group theory. You have probably seen conjugation in linear algebra as a change of basis.