

Your Name

PID

- Do not open this exam until you are told to begin. You will have 50 minutes for the exam.
- Check that you have a complete exam. There are 5 questions for a total of 30 points.
- Each question should take up roughly 10 minutes of your time. Do not spend too much time on each question.
- You are allowed to have one single sided, handwritten note sheet.
- Cheating will result in a zero and be reported to the University.
- **Show all of your work.** You should prove your answers: for example, if a problem asks “Is ..... a group?” a yes or no answer is not enough; you must justify why it is true. If you use a main result from class, be sure to clearly state the result.
- If you need more space to answer a question, continue on the back of the page, and indicate that you have done so.
- GOOD LUCK!

Question	Points	Score
1	7	
2	7	
3	6	
4	5	
5	5	
Total:	30	

1. (a) (1 point) Give the definition of an isomorphism of binary structures.

**Solution:** Let  $(S, \star)$  and  $(S', \star')$  be two binary structures. An **isomorphism** is a one-to-one and onto (or injective and surjective, or bijective) function  $\phi : S \rightarrow S'$  such that  $\phi(x \star y) = \phi(x) \star' \phi(y)$  for all  $x, y \in S$ .

- (b) (3 points) Is the function  $\phi : M_2(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  given by  $\phi(A) = \det A$  an isomorphism of the binary structures  $(M_2(\mathbb{R}), \cdot)$  and  $(\mathbb{R}, \cdot)$ ?

**Solution:** This is not an isomorphism because it is not one-to-one. The matrices  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $B = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$  have  $\det A = \det B$ , but  $A \neq B$ .

- (c) (3 points) Is the function  $\phi : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  given by  $\phi(n) = n + 1$  an isomorphism of the binary structure  $(\mathbb{Z}, +)$  with itself?

**Solution:** This is not an isomorphism because it does not satisfy the homomorphism property. Given two integers  $n$  and  $m$ ,  $\phi(n + m) = n + m + 1 \neq \phi(n) + \phi(m) = n + 1 + m + 1$ .

2. (a) (1 point) Let  $G$  be a group. Give the definition of a subgroup of  $G$ .

**Solution:** A **subgroup**  $H$  of a group  $G$  is a subset of  $G$  that

- is closed under the binary operation in  $G$ , i.e. for any  $a, b \in H$ ,  $ab \in H$ ,
- contains the identity element  $e \in G$ , i.e.  $e \in H$ , and
- for any  $a \in H$ ,  $a^{-1} \in H$ .

- (b) (3 points) Let  $S = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ a & 1 \end{bmatrix} \mid a \in \mathbb{Z} \right\}$ . Is  $S$  a subgroup of  $GL_2(\mathbb{R})$ ?

**Solution:** We need to check the subgroup conditions.

- First, we must show that  $S$  is closed under multiplication. Given two elements  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ a & 1 \end{bmatrix} \in S$  and  $B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ b & 1 \end{bmatrix} \in S$ , we must show that  $AB \in S$ . To do this, we compute  $AB = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ a+b & 1 \end{bmatrix} \in S$ .
- We must show that the identity is in  $S$ , which is clear because  $I = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ .
- Finally, we must show that if  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ a & 1 \end{bmatrix} \in S$ , then  $A^{-1} \in S$ . To do this, we compute that  $A^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -a & 1 \end{bmatrix} \in S$ .

These are all satisfied, so  $S$  is a subgroup of  $GL_2(\mathbb{R})$ .

- (c) (3 points) Let  $S = \{2^n \mid n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ . Is  $S$  a subgroup of  $(\mathbb{Q}, +)$ ?

**Solution:** This is **not** a subgroup. One solution: the identity of  $(\mathbb{Q}, +)$  is 0 and  $0 \notin S$ . Another solution: this is not closed under the binary operation in  $(\mathbb{Q}, +)$  because  $2^1 + 2^2 = 2 + 4 = 6$ , and  $6 \notin S$ . Another solution: the inverse of an element  $q \in \mathbb{Q}$  is  $-q$ , therefore the inverse of  $2^n$  is  $-2^n$  and  $-2^n \notin S$ .

3. For this question, you can use the classification of subgroups of finite cyclic subgroups from class.

- (a) (3 points) Find all subgroups of the group  $\mathbb{Z}_{10}$  and give all possible generators for each subgroup.

**Solution:** In class, we showed that subgroups of the finite cyclic group  $\mathbb{Z}_n$  correspond to the divisors of  $n$ , and two elements  $a$  and  $b$  generate the same subgroup if and only if  $\gcd(a, n) = \gcd(b, n)$ . The divisors of 10 are 1, 2, 5, 10 and the corresponding subgroups are:

- $\mathbb{Z}_{10} = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9\}$  generated by all elements such that  $\gcd(a, 10) = 1$ , so the generators are 1, 3, 7, and 9
- $\langle 2 \rangle = \{0, 2, 4, 6, 8\}$  generated by all elements such that  $\gcd(a, 10) = 2$ , so the generators are 2, 4, 6, 8
- $\langle 5 \rangle = \{0, 5\}$  and 5 is the only generator
- $\langle 0 \rangle = \{0\}$  and 0 is the only generator

- (b) (3 points) Find all subgroups of the group  $\mathbb{Z}_{11}$  and give all possible generators for each subgroup.

**Solution:** The divisors of 11 are 1 and 11 (it is prime) and the corresponding subgroups are:

- $\mathbb{Z}_{11} = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10\}$  generated by all elements such that  $\gcd(a, 11) = 1$ , but because 11 is prime, this is true for any nonzero element in  $\mathbb{Z}_{11}$ , so the generators are 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10
- $\langle 0 \rangle = \{0\}$  and 0 is the only generator

4. (a) (1 point) Give the definition of an abelian group.

**Solution:** A group  $G$  is **abelian** if its binary operation is commutative. (Alternative: a group is abelian if, for all  $a, b \in G$ ,  $ab = ba$ .)

- (b) (1 point) Give an example of an abelian group.

**Solution:** All cyclic groups are abelian, so  $\mathbb{Z}$  or  $\mathbb{Z}_n$  are examples. (There are many other examples:  $\mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{R}, \mathbb{Q}^\times, \mathbb{R}^\times, \dots$ )

- (c) (3 points) If  $H$  and  $K$  are subgroups of an abelian group  $G$ , show that

$$\{hk \mid h \in H, k \in K\}$$

is a subgroup of  $G$ . Be sure to indicate where you are using the abelian hypothesis.

**Solution:** Let us call this set  $HK$ . We need to check the subgroup conditions.

- First, we must show that  $HK$  is closed under the binary operation. This means, given  $h_1k_1 \in HK$  and  $h_2k_2 \in HK$ , we must show that  $h_1k_1h_2k_2 \in HK$ . Because  $G$  is abelian,  $h_1k_1h_2k_2 = h_1h_2k_1k_2$ , and because  $H$  and  $K$  are subgroups,  $h_1h_2 \in H$  and  $k_1k_2 \in K$ , therefore  $h_1h_2k_1k_2 \in HK$ , as desired.
- We must show that the identity  $e$  is in  $HK$ . Because  $H$  and  $K$  are subgroups, we know  $e \in H$  and  $e \in K$ . Therefore,  $e = ee \in HK$ , as desired.
- Finally, we must show that if  $hk \in HK$ , then  $(hk)^{-1} \in HK$ . We know  $(hk)^{-1} = k^{-1}h^{-1}$  and because  $G$  is abelian,  $k^{-1}h^{-1} = h^{-1}k^{-1}$ . Because  $H$  and  $K$  are subgroups,  $h^{-1} \in H$  and  $k^{-1} \in K$ , therefore  $(hk)^{-1} = h^{-1}k^{-1} \in HK$ , as desired.

Therefore,  $HK$  is a subgroup of  $G$ .

5. (a) (3 points) If  $G$  is a cyclic group with  $a$  a generator of  $G$ , and  $\phi : G \rightarrow G'$  is an isomorphism with another group  $G'$ , prove that  $G'$  is cyclic and  $\phi(a)$  is a generator of  $G'$ .

**Solution:** Because  $G$  is cyclic, there is an element  $a \in G$  such that  $G = \langle a \rangle$ . To show  $G'$  is cyclic, we must show there is an element  $b \in G'$  such that  $G' = \langle b \rangle$ . We claim that  $b = \phi(a)$ . By the homomorphism property, for any  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $\phi(a^n) = \phi(a)^n$ . To show that  $G' = \langle \phi(a) \rangle$ , we must show that any element  $z \in G'$  is of the form  $z = \phi(a)^r$  for some integer  $r$ . But,  $\phi$  is onto, so there is an element  $x \in G$  such that  $\phi(x) = z$ . Because  $G$  is cyclic,  $x = a^r$  for some  $r \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Therefore,  $z = \phi(x) = \phi(a^r) = \phi(a)^r$ , so  $G'$  is cyclic generated by  $\phi(a)$ .

- (b) (2 points) If  $\phi : \mathbb{Z}_6 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_6$  is an isomorphism of  $\mathbb{Z}_6$  with itself, what are the possible values of  $\phi(5)$ ?

**Solution:** Because  $\gcd(5, 6) = 1$ , 5 is a generator for  $\mathbb{Z}_6$ . Therefore, by part (a),  $\phi(5)$  must also be a generator for  $\mathbb{Z}_6$ . The only generators of  $\mathbb{Z}_6$  are elements such that  $\gcd(a, 6) = 1$ , so the only generators of  $\mathbb{Z}_6$  are 1 and 5. Therefore,  $\phi(5)$  must equal 1 or 5.