

A group (multiplicative) G is said to be cyclic if its all element can be generated by single element. TVB - 5

Page No. _____
Date _____

Q(10) Define cyclic group.

Soln:- A group G is said to be cyclic if there exists $a \in G$ such that the subgroup generated by a is the group itself.

In other words, $G = \{a, a^2, a^3, \dots, a^n = e\}$

If a group G contains an element a such that every element of G is of the form a^k for some integer k , we say that G is a cyclic group and that G is generated by a or a is a generator of G . denoted by symbol $G = \langle a \rangle$.

Note (1) The identity element can not be generator of group.

(ii) The generator of group can be more than one.

Ex- Prove that the set G consisting of four fourth roots of unity i.e. $G = \{1, -1, i, -i\}$ is a cyclic group.

Soln:-

We know that G is a group.

Now

if it can be shown that G forms a cyclic group with generators i and $-i$ since.

$i = i$	$(-i)^1 = -i$
$i^2 = -1$	$(-i)^2 = -1$
$i^3 = -i$	$(-i)^3 = i$
$i^4 = 1$	$(-i)^4 = 1$

It can be readily seen that 1 and -1 cannot be used as generators of G .

Ex- The group $G = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4\}$ addition modulo 5 is a cyclic group. Prove it.

$0+0=0$	$1+1=2$	$3+3=1$
$0+0+0=0$	$2+2=4$	

Theo (15) Prove that every cyclic group is abelian.

Proof:-

Let G be a cyclic group generated by a .
Let x, y be any two elements $\in G$.

Then, there exist integers r and s such that

$$x = a^r \text{ and } y = a^s$$

Now,

$$x \cdot y = a^r \cdot a^s = a^{r+s}$$

$$\text{and } y \cdot x = a^s \cdot a^r = a^{s+r} = a^{r+s}$$

$$\therefore xy = yx, \forall x, y \in G$$

Hence, G is an abelian group.

Theo (16) Prove that If a is a generator of a cyclic group G , then a^{-1} is also a generator of G .

Proof:-

Let G be a cyclic group generated by a .

Let a^r be any element of G , where r is some integer.
We write,

$$a^r = (a^{-1})^{-r}$$

Since $-r$ is also some integer.

Therefore,

G is also generated by a^{-1}

Hence, a^{-1} is also generator of G .

Theorem (18) Number of generators of a finite cyclic group:-
Number of generators of a finite cyclic group of order n is $\phi(n)$, where $\phi(n)$ is the Euler's ϕ function.

Proof:- Let

Ex ① Find ~~the~~ all the generators of the cyclic group $G = \{a, a^2, a^3, a^4, a^5, a^6 = e\}$

Soln:- Here, 1, 5 are primes to 6
Generators are a and a^5

Ex ② Find all generators of the cyclic group $G = \{a, a^2, a^3, a^4, a^5, a^6, a^7, a^8 = e\}$

Here 1, 3, 5, 7 are primes to 8
The generators are a, a^3, a^5, a^7

Ex ③ How many generators can a cyclic group of order 12 have?

Ans:- The order of $a = 12$

$$\therefore G = \{a, a^2, a^3, \dots, a^{12}\}$$

Here, 1, 5, 7, 11 are primes to 12
 $\therefore$ The generators are a, a^5, a^7, a^{11}

Subgroup of a cyclic group

Theorem (17) Every subgroup H of a cyclic group G is also cyclic. Prove it.

Proof:-

Let G is a cyclic group generated by a .
Let H be a subgroup of G .
Every element of H will be evidently some integral power of a , positive or negative.

Let m be the smallest positive integer such that $a^m \in H$.
we shall show that H is a cyclic group generated by a^m .

Let $a^k \in H$. Obviously, $k > m$.

By division algorithm, we may write

$$k = qm + r, \text{ where } 0 \leq r < m$$

Hence, $a^k = a^{qm+r} = (a^m)^q \cdot a^r$

$$\Rightarrow a^r = a^k \cdot (a^m)^{-q}$$

Since, $a^m \in H$ and $a^k \in H$, this equation implies that $a^r \in H$

But m is the smallest positive integer such that $a^m \in H$.

Since, $r < m$, we must have $r = 0$

Therefore, $k = qm$ and

Hence, every element a^k of H is of the form $(a^m)^q$ for some integer q .

This shows that H is a cyclic group generated by a^m
i.e. a^m is a generator of H .

Theorem 8 If H is a subgroup of the cyclic group G , then the order of G is a multiple of the order of H .

Theorem 9 Every proper subgroup of an infinite cyclic group is infinite.

Theorem 10 Ex - Find the proper subgroups of the cyclic group $G = \{w, w^2, w^3, w^4, w^5, w^6 = e\}$

Soln:- The order of cyclic group is 6.

The divisors of 6 are 2 and 3.

$\therefore$ The proper subgroups are $H_1 = \langle w^2 \rangle$ and $H_2 = \langle w^3 \rangle$

$$\text{i.e. } H_1 = \{w^2, w^4, w^6 = e\} \quad H_2 = \{w^3, w^6 = e\}$$

Ex - Given an example of finite ^{abelian} group which is not cyclic.

Ans:- Let G be the set of four real numbers
 $I = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$, $A = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$, $B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$, $C = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$ is an abelian group w.r.t. to multiplication but not cyclic.