

Ex We know the order of every element of a cyclic group must divide the order of the group.

Q: If  $|a| = 12$ , how many elements of order 12 are there in  $\langle a \rangle$ ?

$$\{a^0, a^1, a^2, a^3, a^4, a^5, a^6, a^7, a^8, a^9, a^{10}, a^{11}\}$$

↑ how many generators?

Recall:  $|a^k| = 12 \Leftrightarrow \gcd(12, k) = 1$  So there are 4 elts. of order 12.

Q: How many elts of order 6 are there in  $\langle a \rangle$ ?

Note:  $|a^2| = 6$

$$\{(a^2)^0, (a^2)^1, (a^2)^2, (a^2)^3, (a^2)^4, (a^2)^5\}$$

\* By FTG, this is the only subgroup order 6, and it's cyclic. So

any elt. of order 6 must be a generator of this group.

$|a^k| = 6 \Leftrightarrow \gcd(6, k) = 1$  So there are 2 elts order 6 in  $\langle a \rangle$ .

Q: How many elts of order 4 are there in  $\langle a \rangle$ ?

Note:  $|\langle a^3 \rangle| = 4$

$$\{(a^3)^0, (a^3)^1, (a^3)^2, (a^3)^3\}$$

\* By FTG, this is the only subgroup order 4, and it's cyclic. So any elt. of order 4 must be a generator of this group.

$$|(a^3)^k| = 4 \iff \gcd(4, k) = 1, \text{ So there are 2 elts order 4 in } \langle a \rangle.$$

Q: How many elts of order 3 are there in  $\langle a \rangle$ ?

Note:  $|\langle a^4 \rangle| = 3$

$$\{(a^4)^0, (a^4)^1, (a^4)^2\}$$

\* By FTG, this is the only subgroup order 3, and it's cyclic. So any elt. of order 3 must be a generator of this group.

$$|(a^4)^k| = 3 \iff \gcd(3, k) = 1, \text{ So there are 2 elts order 3 in } \langle a \rangle.$$

Q: How many elts of order 2 are there in  $\langle a \rangle$ ?

Note:  $|a^6| = 2$

$$\{(a^6)^0, (a^6)^1\}$$

\* By FTG, this is the only subgroup order 2, and it's cyclic. So any elt. of order 2 must be a generator of this group.

$$|(a^6)^k| = 2 \iff \gcd(2, k) = 1, \text{ So there is 1 elt order 2 in } \langle a \rangle.$$

Q: How many elts of order 1 are there in  $\langle a \rangle$ ?

One:  $a^0$ , the identity.

Defn The Euler phi function

$$\varphi: \{\text{pos. integers}\} \rightarrow \{\text{pos. integers}\}$$

given by

$$\varphi(1) = 1 \text{ and}$$

for  $d > 1$ ,  $\varphi(d) =$  number positive integers  $m < d$  s.t.

$$\gcd(m, d) = 1$$

Thm Sps  $G$  cyclic of order  $n$ . Sps  $d|n$ . The number of  
elts of order  $d$  in  $G$  is  $\varphi(d)$ .

Ex. Number of elements of order 5 in  $\mathbb{Z}_{30}$ ? In  $\mathbb{Z}_{25}$ ? in  $\mathbb{Z}_{17}$ ?

In  $\mathbb{Z}_{30}$ , it's  $\varphi(5) = 4$ .

In  $\mathbb{Z}_{25}$ , it's  $\varphi(5) = 4$ .

In  $\mathbb{Z}_{17}$ , it's 0 b/c  $5 \nmid 17$ .

proof: By FTCC,  $G$  has exactly one subgroup of order  $d$ , and it is cyclic. Sp.  $H = \langle b \rangle$ . Then  $b$  is an elt. order  $d$  and any other elt. of order  $d$  must also generate  $H$ , since  $H$  is the only subgroup order  $d$ .

But  $\langle b \rangle = \langle b^k \rangle \Leftrightarrow \gcd(d, k) = 1$ , so number of elements of order  $d$  is  $\phi(d)$ .