

# ANNOUNCEMENTS FEB 19

- Cameras on.
- HW 4 due Thu 3:30
- Abstracts Feb 26 : consult with me before Feb 26.
- Take home midterm Mar 4
- Fri office hours moved (requests?)  
Office hours Tue 11-12, appt.

## SAMPLE HW SOLUTION

21. Let  $H$  be the subset of  $\text{Sym}_{\mathbb{Z}}$  so that  $h \in H$  iff  $\exists$  finite  $C \subset \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$  s.t.  $h(n) = n + k$  for  $n \notin C$ .

state problem.

(a) Show that  $H$  is a subgroup of  $\text{Sym}_{\mathbb{Z}}$ .

identity: We see  $e \in \text{Sym}_{\mathbb{Z}}$  belongs to  $H$  by taking  $C = \emptyset$ ,  $k = 0$ .

inverses: Let  $h \in H$  with associated  $C, k$ . Let  $C' = C + k$ ,  $k' = -k$ .

Then  $h^{-1}$ ,  $C'$ ,  $k'$  satisfy the required

white space!

Scannable!

headings!

systematic!

conditions. Indeed:  $|C'| = |C| < \infty$  and

$$n \notin C'$$

$$\Rightarrow n - k \notin C$$

$$\Rightarrow h(n - k) = n$$

$$\Rightarrow h^{-1}(n) = n - k = n + k'$$

sequence of implications!  
(aligned)

details!

composition. Let  $h_1, h_2 \in H$  with associated  $C_1, k_1$  &  $C_2, k_2$ .

$$\text{Let } C' = (C_1 - k_2) \cup C_2, \quad k' = k_1 + k_2.$$

Then  $h_1 h_2, C', k'$  satisfy the required conditions since

parallel structure!

$$|C'| = |(C_1 - k_2) \cup C_2| \leq |C_1 - k_2| + |C_2| = |C_1| + |C_2| < \infty$$

and  $n \notin C'$

$$\Rightarrow n \notin C_2 \text{ and } n \notin C_1 - k_2$$

$$\Rightarrow n \notin C_2 \text{ and } n + k_2 \notin C_1$$

$$\Rightarrow h_1 h_2(n) = h_1(n + k_2) = n + k_1 + k_2 = n + k'$$

(b) Show that  $H$  is finitely generated.

$$\text{Let } s = (0 \ 1)$$

$$t = (\dots -1 \ 0 \ 1 \ 2 \ \dots)$$

We will show that  $s, t$  generate  $H$ .

Claim  $(i \ i+1) = t^i s t^{i-1}$  Claim!

Pf of Claim.

Editing!

Let  $h \in H$  with associated  $C, k$ .

Note  $t^{-k} h$  has associated  $C' = C - k, k' = 0$ .

So  $t^{-k} h$  can be regarded as an element of

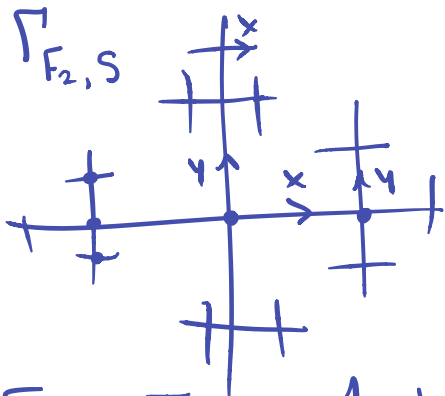
$$\text{Sym}_{C'} \subseteq \text{Sym}_Z \dots$$

# Chap 3 Groups acting on trees.

## 3.1 Free groups.

$$F_2 = \langle x, y \mid \rangle$$

$$S = \{x, y\}$$



$\text{So } F_2 \curvearrowright T_4 = \text{reg. 4 valent tree.}$

Why?

Non-backtracking

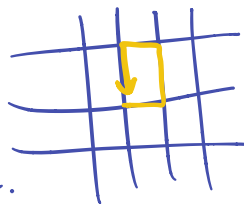
Paths in Cayley graph.

$\leftrightarrow$  <sup>reduced</sup> words in  $x, y$ .

For free group <sup>with free gen set.</sup>  $\wedge$ : no loops in Cayley graph.

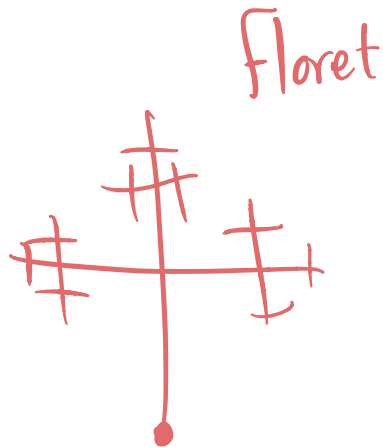
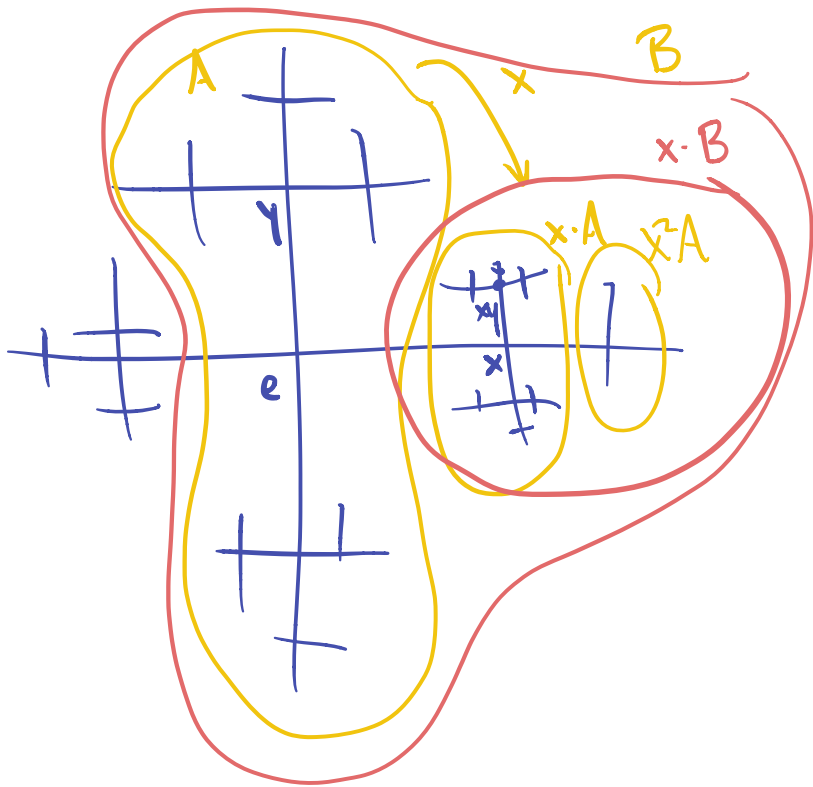
Or: relations among generators

$\leftrightarrow$  circuits in Cayley graph.



The action  $F_2 \hookrightarrow T_4$

What does  $x$  do?



floret

Goal Let  $x = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $y = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ .

Then  $x, y$  generate a subgroup of  $SL_2\mathbb{Z}$ , denoted  $\langle x, y \rangle$

Thm.  $\langle x, y \rangle \cong F_2$ .

In other words, every <sup>nonempty</sup> freely reduced word in  $x^{\pm 1}, y^{\pm 1}$  multiplies to a nontrivial matrix.

False if you replace the 2's with 1's.

Indeed...

$$\left\langle \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\rangle$$

$$= SL_2\mathbb{Z}.$$

proof: row reduction.

which is not free

because... torsion

Exercise. Free groups are torsion free.



# PING PONG LEMMA

Say  $G \curvearrowright X = \text{set}$

$$a, b \in G$$

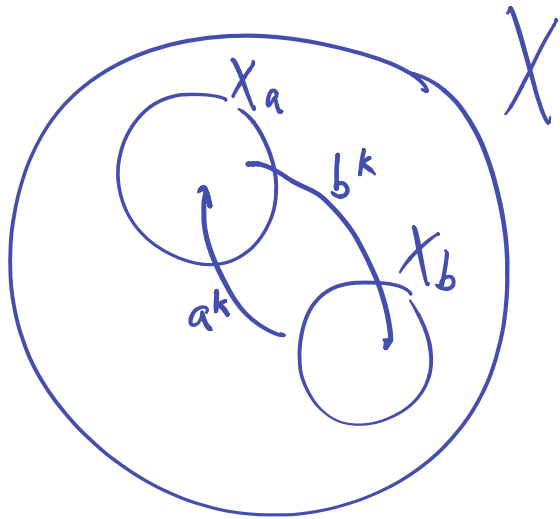
$$X_a, X_b \subseteq X$$

nonempty, disjoint

$$a^k \cdot X_b \subseteq X_a \quad \forall k \neq 0$$

$$b^k \cdot X_a \subseteq X_b \quad \forall k \neq 0$$

Then  $\langle a, b \rangle \cong F_2$ .



Pf by example

Q. Why is  $abab^2a^3 \neq \text{id}$ ?

A. For any  $x \in X_b$

$abab^2a^3 \cdot x$  in  $X_a$  hence  $\neq x$ .

# PING PONG LEMMA

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## Application 1

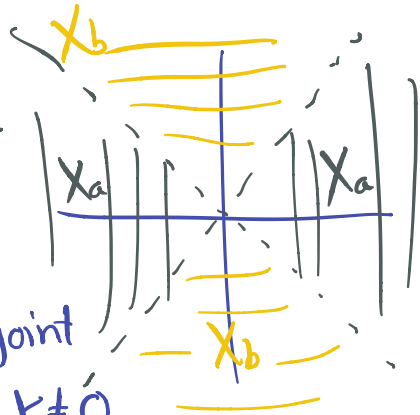
$$G = \text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z})$$

$$a = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad b = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$X = \mathbb{Z}^2$$

$$X_a = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} p \\ q \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{Z}^2 : |p| > |q| \right\}$$

$$X_b = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} p \\ q \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{Z}^2 : |q| > |p| \right\}$$



Check: If  $\begin{pmatrix} p \\ q \end{pmatrix} \in X_b$ ,  $k \neq 0$  then

$$a^k \cdot \begin{pmatrix} p \\ q \end{pmatrix} \in X_a$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -99 \\ 101 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 103 \\ 101 \end{pmatrix}$$

Check: If  $\begin{pmatrix} p \\ q \end{pmatrix} \in X_b$ ,  $k \neq 0$  then

$$a^k \cdot \begin{pmatrix} p \\ q \end{pmatrix} \in X_a$$

$$a^k \begin{pmatrix} p \\ q \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}^k \begin{pmatrix} p \\ q \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2k \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} p \\ q \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} p + 2kq \\ q \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{But } |p + 2kq| \geq |2kq| - |p|$$

$$= 2|k||q| - |p|$$

$$> 2|k||q| - |q|$$

$$> |q| \quad \square.$$

## Application 2. $\text{Homeo}(\mathbb{R})$

$$\text{Homeo}(\mathbb{R}) = \left\{ f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} : \begin{array}{l} f \text{ contin with} \\ \text{(contin.) inverse} \end{array} \right\}$$

group op:  $f \circ g$

Poll. If  $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  continuous & bij  
is  $f^{-1}$  automatically contin.

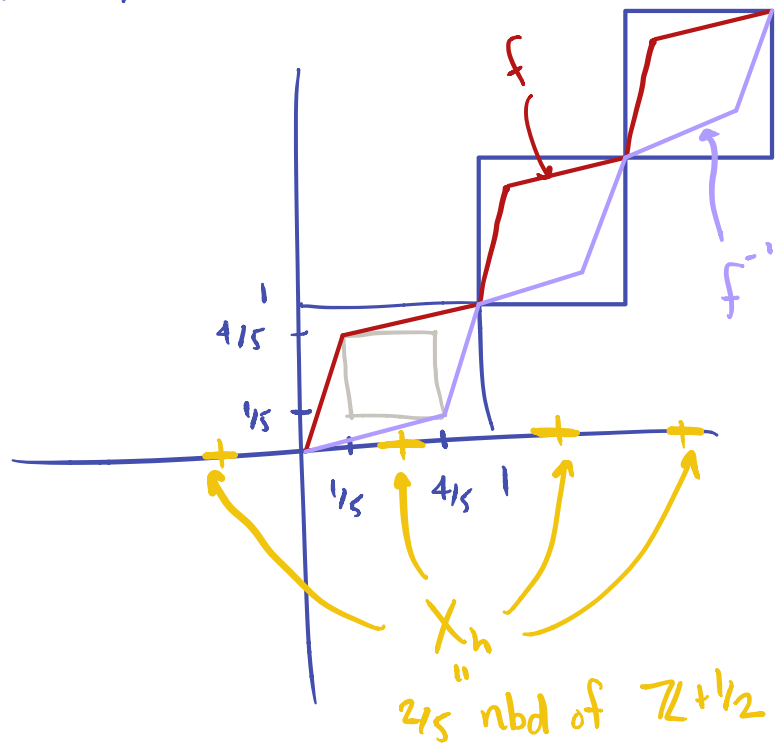
(Yes)

Invertible: horiz. & vert.  
line test.

Inverse: flip over  $y = x$ .

Goal:  $F_2 \leq \text{Homeo}(\mathbb{R})$ .

Let  $f(x)$  be:  $X_f = 2/5$  nbd of  $\mathbb{Z}$



$g(x)$  is same,  
shifted right by  $1/2$   
up by  $1/2$

$$g(x) = f(x - 1/2) + 1/2$$

Prop.  $\langle f(x), g(x) \rangle \cong F_2$

Ping pong!  $X = \mathbb{R}$

$$X_f = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} [n - 1/5, n + 1/5]$$

$$X_h = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} [n - 1/5 + 1/2, n + 1/5 + 1/2]$$

Next time:  $F_3 \leq F_2$  (and  $F_2 \leq F_3$ )  
index 2.  $\infty$  index

&  $F_\infty \leq F_2$

$\mathbb{Z} \leq \mathbb{Z}$   
index n.

