## COUNTING SYMMETRIC

## BRACELETS

Yulıya Zelenyuk

## Necklaces and Bracelets

Let $\mathbb{Z}_{n}$ be a finite cyclic group. We are coloring its vertices in $r$ colours. The total number of colorings is $\boldsymbol{r}^{n}$. Colorings are equivalent if we can get one from another by rotation.


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$$
d s(d)=\sum_{k \mid d} r^{k} \mu\left(\frac{d}{k}\right)
$$

where $\boldsymbol{\mu}(\boldsymbol{x})$ is Möbius function.

$$
\begin{aligned}
s(d) & =\frac{1}{d} \sum_{k \mid d} r^{k} \mu\left(\frac{d}{k}\right), \\
\sum_{d \mid n} s(d) & =\sum_{d \mid n} \frac{1}{d} \sum_{k \mid d} r^{k} \mu\left(\frac{d}{k}\right) .
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I. Vinogradov Elementary Number Theory, 1972. The number of $\boldsymbol{r}$-ary necklaces of length $\boldsymbol{n}$ is

$$
N_{r}(n)=\frac{1}{n} \sum_{d \mid n} \varphi(d) r^{d}
$$

where $\varphi$ is the Euler function.

## The number of $\boldsymbol{r}$-ary bracelets of length $\boldsymbol{n}$ is

$$
B_{r}(n)=\frac{1}{2} N_{r}(n)+ \begin{cases}\frac{1}{4}(r+1) r^{\frac{n}{2}} & \text { if } n \text { is even } \\ \frac{1}{2} r^{\frac{n+1}{2}} & \text { if } n \text { is odd }\end{cases}
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So,

$$
[\chi]=\{\chi g: g \in G\}
$$

is an orbit and

$$
S t(\chi)=\{g \in G: \chi g=\chi\}
$$

is a stabilizer of $\chi$.

The number of orbits ( $r$-ary necklaces) of group $G$ equals

$$
N_{r}(G)=\frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} r^{|G:\langle g\rangle|}
$$

where $\langle g\rangle$ is the subgroup generated by $g$. The number of $r$-ary bracelets of abelian group $A$ equals

$$
\begin{gathered}
B_{r}(A)=\frac{1}{2} N_{r}(A)+ \\
+\frac{1}{2|A[2]|}\left(r^{\frac{|A[2]|}{2}}+|A[2]|-1\right) r^{\frac{|A|}{2}}
\end{gathered}
$$

# Symmetry on Groups 

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x \mapsto g x^{-1} g
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## 0

$-\boldsymbol{x} \quad \boldsymbol{x}$

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$$

|  | 0 |  | $\boldsymbol{O}$ |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $-x$ | $x-g$ | $-x+g$ | $x$ |  |

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## Symmetry on Groups



In general case $x$ is symmetric to $\left(x g^{-1}\right)^{-1} g=$ $\boldsymbol{g}\left(\boldsymbol{g}^{-1} \boldsymbol{x}\right)^{-1}=\boldsymbol{g} \boldsymbol{x}^{-1} \boldsymbol{g}$ with respect to the centre $g$.

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O. Loos, Symmetric Spaces, 1969.

A coloring $\chi$ of $G$ is symmetric if there exists $g \in G$ centre of symmetry such that

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\chi\left(g x^{-1} g\right)=\chi(x)
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for all $\boldsymbol{x} \in \boldsymbol{G}$.

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Colorings equivalent to a symmetric coloring are also symmetric.
What is the number of orbits (symmetric $r$-ary necklaces) $s_{r}(G)$ and what is the number of all symmetric colorings $S_{r}(G)$ ?



## Y. Gryshio (Zelenyuk), I. Protasov Symmetric colorings of finite Abelian groups Dopov. Akad. Nauk Ukr., No. 1 (2000), 32-33.

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Y. Gryshko (Zelenyuk) Symmetric colorings of regular polygons Ars Combinatoria, 78 (2006), 277-281.

The case of finite cyclic group has a special interest because of geometric interpretation. A coloring of $\mathbb{Z}_{n}$ is symmetric if it is invariant in respect to some mirror symmetry with an axis crossing the center of polygon and one of its vertices.

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proper symmetry

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\begin{gathered}
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\text { proper symmetry } \\
x \mapsto g-x \\
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\end{gathered}
$$

## Symmetric Necklaces and Bracelets

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Theorem. For every finite Abelian group $A$, and $\boldsymbol{r} \in \mathbb{N}$.

$$
\begin{gathered}
B_{r}^{*}(A)=N_{r}^{*}(A)= \\
=\frac{\mathbf{1}}{|A[2]|}\left(r^{\frac{|A[2]|}{2}}+|A[2]|-\mathbf{1}\right) r^{\frac{|A|}{2}}
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\end{gathered}
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Ye. Zelenyuk and Yu. Zelenyuk Counting symmetric bracelets Bull. Aust. Math. Soc., 89 (2014), 431-436.

Corollary. For all $n, r \in \mathbb{N}$, the number of symmetric $r$-ary necklaces is equal to the number of symmetric $r$-ary bracelets and is equal to

$$
B_{r}^{*}(n)=N_{r}^{*}(n)= \begin{cases}\frac{1}{2}(r+1) r^{\frac{n}{2}} & \text { if } n \text { is even } \\ r^{\frac{n+1}{2}} & \text { if } n \text { is odd }\end{cases}
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There are folmulas in terms of Möbius function for counting the number of symmetric colorings and the number of symmetric necklaces of any group $G$.

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