## MAT 347 Automorphisms October 24, 2014

There are two groups whose automorphism group you fully analyzed in homework:

• Cyclic groups. Aut  $Z_n \cong (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^{\times}$ 

Let  $Z_n$  be the cyclic group of order n with multiplicative notation. For  $\overline{a} \in (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^{\times}$ , we can define  $\varphi_{\overline{a}} \in \operatorname{Aut}(Z_n)$  by  $\varphi_{\overline{a}}(x) = x^a$ .

Then the map

$$\overline{a} \in (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^{\times} \mapsto \varphi_{\overline{a}} \in \operatorname{Aut}(Z_n)$$

is an isomorphism.

• Symmetric groups. If  $n \ge 3$  and  $n \ne 6$ , then  $\operatorname{Aut}(S_n) \cong S_n$ . Every automorphism is inner (conjugation) and  $S_n$  has trivial centre.

More specifically, for every  $\sigma \in S_n$  we can define  $C_{\sigma} \in \operatorname{Aut}(S_n)$  by  $C_{\sigma}(\tau) = \sigma \tau \sigma^{-1}$ . Then the map

$$\sigma \in S_n \mapsto C_{\sigma} \in \operatorname{Aut}(S_n)$$

is an isomorphism.

Now for each of the following groups, study its automorphism group. The best possible outcome is that the automorphism group is isomorphic to a group we already know, you can describe the isomorphism, and you can fully describe each element of  $\operatorname{Aut}(G)$ . If you cannot do this, try to calculate  $|\operatorname{Aut}(G)|$  as a first step, or try to at least get a bound on  $|\operatorname{Aut}(G)|$ . A good strategy is to search for the possible images of a set of generators.

- 1.  $Z_2 \times Z_2$
- 2.  $Z_4 \times Z_3$
- 3.  $Z_4 \times Z_2$
- 4.  $D_8$
- 5.  $Q_8$
- 6.  $Z_5 \times Z_5 \times Z_5$