

## Recall:

- ▶ **Lagrange's Theorem:** If  $G$  is a finite group and  $H$  is a subgroup of  $G$ , then  $|H|$  divides  $|G|$ . Moreover, the number of distinct left (right) cosets of  $H$  in  $G$ ,  $[G : H]$ , is  $\frac{|G|}{|H|}$ .
- ▶ **Corollary 2:** In a finite group, the order of each element of the group divides the order of the group. That is,  $|a|$  divides  $|G|$  for all  $a \in G$ , when  $|G|$  is finite.
- ▶ **Corollary 3:** A group of prime order is cyclic.
- ▶ **Corollary 4:** Let  $G$  be finite and  $a \in G$ . Then  $a^{|G|} = e$ .
- ▶ **Corollary 5: Fermat's Little Theorem:** For every integer  $a$  and every prime  $p$ ,  $a^p \pmod p = a \pmod p$ .

**Theorem: Every group of order  $2p$  ( $p$  prime) is either isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}_{2p}$  or  $D_p$ .**

Step 2 of proof: If  $|a| = p$ , show every element in  $G \setminus \langle a \rangle$  has order 2.

Assume  $\exists b \in G \setminus \langle a \rangle$  such that  $|b| \neq 2$ .

$|b| \neq 1$ , since  $b \neq e$ ;  $|b| \neq 2p$ , since  $G$  isn't cyclic. Thus  $|b| = p$ .

$\langle b \rangle \neq \langle a \rangle$ , since  $b \notin \langle a \rangle$ .

Suppose  $\langle a \rangle \cap \langle b \rangle \neq \{e\}$ . Then there exist  $i, j \in \{1, 2, \dots, p-1\}$  such that  $b^i = a^j$ .

$|\langle b \rangle|$  prime  $\implies b^i$  generates  $\langle b \rangle$ , so  $\exists k \ni b = (b^i)^k = (a^j)^k \in \langle a \rangle$ .

— $\times$ —

Thus  $\langle a \rangle \cap \langle b \rangle = \{e\}$ , so  $|\langle a \rangle \cup \langle b \rangle| = p + (p-1)$ , leaving only one element unaccounted for.

Yet there are  $p$  distinct elements of the form  $ba^k$ , none of which can be in  $\langle a \rangle$  or in  $\langle b \rangle$ . — $\times$ — **Thus  $|b| = 2$ .**

**Theorem: Every group of order  $2p$  ( $p$  prime) is either isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}_{2p}$  or  $D_p$ .**

Step 3 of proof: All non-cyclic groups of order  $2p$  are isomorphic.

$\exists a \in G$  with  $|a| = p$ , and  $\exists b \in G$  with  $|b| = 2$ .

Lagrange's Theorem  $\Rightarrow \exists$  exactly  $\frac{2p}{p} = 2$  cosets of  $\langle a \rangle$  in  $G$ ; since  $b \notin \langle a \rangle$ , the two cosets are  $\langle a \rangle$  and  $b\langle a \rangle$ .

Thus:

$$G = \{e, a, a^2, \dots, a^{p-1}, b, ba, ba^2, \dots, ba^{p-1}\}.$$

$\forall i = 1, 2, \dots, p-1$ ,  $a^i b \in G$ , and obviously  $a^i b \notin \langle a \rangle$ , so  $|a^i b| = 2$ .

Thus

$$a^i b = (a^i b)^{-1} = b^{-1} a^{-i} = b a^{-i} = b a^{p-i}$$

Thus the Cayley table for any non-cyclic group of order  $2p$  is completely determined; this ends up meaning that all are isomorphic to each other.

1. If  $|G| = 91$ , show that  $G$  has an element of order 7.
2. Suppose that  $G$  is an Abelian group with an odd number of elements. Show that the product of all of the elements of  $G$  must be the identity.
3. Suppose that  $G$  is a group with more than one element, and that  $G$  has no proper non-trivial subgroups. Prove that  $|G|$  is prime. (Do not assume at the outset that  $|G|$  is finite).
4. Show that in a group  $G$  of odd order, the equation  $x^2 = a$  has a unique solution for all  $a \in G$ .

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*Hint 1: What does it mean for a number to be odd?*

3. **Suppose that  $G$  is a group with more than one element, and that  $G$  has no proper non-trivial subgroups. Prove that  $|G|$  is prime. (Do not assume at the outset that  $|G|$  is finite).**

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*Hint 3: If  $G$  is cyclic, what does it mean to have infinite order?*
- 4. Show that in a group  $G$  of odd order, the equation  $x^2 = a$  has a unique solution for all  $a \in G$ .**

## Solutions:

1. If  $|G| = 91$ , show that  $G$  has an element of order 7.

For all  $a \in G$ ,  $|a|$  divides 91  $\implies |a| = 1, 7, 13,$  or 91.

If there is an  $a \in G$  with  $|a| = 91$ , then  $a^{13}$  has order 7.

Thus if  $G$  does *not* have *any* elements of order 7, every non-identity element must have order 13. Is this possible?

Elements of order 13 come in chunks of 12: if  $|a| = 13$ , then  $|a^2|, |a^3|, \dots, |a^{12}| = 13$  also.

There can be no overlap between two cyclic subgroups of order 13.

That is, if  $b \in G, |b| = 13, b \notin \langle a \rangle$ , then  $b^k \notin \langle a \rangle \forall 1 \leq k < 13$ . For suppose  $b^k \in \langle a \rangle, b^k \neq e$ . Then  $\langle b^k \rangle \subseteq \langle a \rangle$ . But  $\langle b^k \rangle = \langle b \rangle$ .

Since 12 does not divide 90 (the number of non-identity elements), there must be some elements that are not of order 13. Thus there must be elements of order 7.

## Solutions:

2. **Suppose that  $G$  is an Abelian group with an odd number of elements. Show that the product of all of the elements of  $G$  must be the identity.**

$|G| = 2k + 1 \Rightarrow \exists$  even number of non-identity elements.

$2 \nmid |G| \Rightarrow \nexists$  element of order 2 by Corollary 2 to Lagrange's Theorem  
 $\Rightarrow$  no element is its own inverse

Let  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k$  be  $k$  distinct non-identity elements of  $G$ , none of which are inverses of each other.

$G$  Abelian  $\Rightarrow$  we can write the product of the elements of  $G$  as

$$e * a_1 * a_1^{-1} * a_2 * a_2^{-1} * \dots * a_k * a_k^{-1},$$

and this product is clearly  $e$ .

## Solutions:

3. Suppose that  $G$  is a group with more than one element, and that  $G$  has no proper non-trivial subgroups. Prove that  $|G|$  is prime. (Do not assume at the outset that  $|G|$  is finite).

$$|G| > 1 \Rightarrow a \neq e.$$

**Case 1:**  $G \neq \langle a \rangle$ .

Because  $a \neq e$ ,  $\{e\} \subset \langle a \rangle$ , and because  $a \in G$  but  $G \neq \langle a \rangle$ , we know  $\langle a \rangle \subset G$ . Thus  $\langle a \rangle$  is a proper subgroup of  $G$ . ~~—\*~~

**Case 2:**  $G = \langle a \rangle$ .

If  $|G| = \infty$ , then  $|a| = \infty$ , and so there does not exist  $i \neq j$  such that  $a^i = a^j$ . Thus  $a \notin \langle a^2 \rangle$ , and so  $\{e\} \subset \langle a^2 \rangle \subset \langle a \rangle$  ~~—\*~~.

Thus  $|G| = n < \infty$ .

If  $n$  is not prime, the FTCCG  $\Rightarrow$  there is one subgroup for each divisor. Thus  $n$  must be prime.



## Solutions:

4. **Show that in a group  $G$  of odd order, the equation  $x^2 = a$  has a unique solution for all  $a \in G$ .**

The equation  $x^2 = a$  for some  $a \in G$  would not have a unique solution if

- ▶ there exists  $g, h \in G$  such that  $g^2 = h^2$ .  
or
- ▶ there is *no*  $g \in G$  such that  $g^2 = a$

In other words, the equation  $x^2 = a$  has a unique solution for all  $a \in G \Leftrightarrow$  the mapping  $\phi : G \rightarrow G$  is one-to-one and onto.

From your last problem set, you know that  $\phi$  is an automorphism of  $G$  if there is no element of order 2 in  $G$ .

Since  $|G|$  is odd, there *is* no element of order 2, and so  $\phi$  *is* one-to-one and onto.