

Modern Algebra
Homework 5
Chapter 6a
Read Problems 6.15, 6.16
Do 6.5, 6.7, 6.8, 6.9, 6.11, 6.12, 6.13, 6.20, 6.28
Proof

Megan Bryant

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6.5

Find every subgroup for each of the following groups. Compute the order and index of each subgroup that you find

a.) V_4

$H_0 = \langle e \rangle$ is the trivial subgroup of order 1 and index 4.

$H_1 = \langle h \rangle$ is a subgroup of order 2 and index 2.

$H_2 = \langle v \rangle$ is a subgroup of order 2 and index 2.

$H_3 = \langle h, v \rangle$ is a subgroup of order 2 and index 2.

$H_4 = \langle h, v \rangle$ is the group itself of order 4 and index 1.

b.) C_5

$H_0 = \langle e \rangle$ is the trivial group of order 1 and index 5.

$H_1 = \langle a \rangle$ is the group itself of order 5 and index 1.

c.) S_3

$H_0 = \langle e \rangle$ is the trivial subgroup of order 1 and index 6.

$H_1 = \langle f \rangle$ is a subgroup of order 2 and index 3.

$H_2 = \langle fr \rangle$ is a subgroup of order 2 and index 3.

$H_3 = \langle rf \rangle$ is a subgroup of order 2 and index 3.

$H_4 = \langle r \rangle$ is a subgroup of order 3 and index 2.

$H_5 = \langle r, f \rangle$ is the group itself of order 6 and index 1.

d.) C_8

$H_0 = \langle e \rangle$ is the trivial subgroup of order 1 and index 8.

$H_1 = \langle a^4 \rangle$ is a subgroup of order 2 and index 4.

$H_2 = \langle a^2 \rangle$ is a subgroup of order 4 and index 2.

$H_3 = \langle a \rangle$ is the group itself of order 8 and index 1.

e.) D_4

$H_0 = \langle e \rangle$ is the trivial subgroup of order 1 and index 8.

$H_1 = \langle r^2 \rangle$ is a subgroup of order 2 and index 4.

$H_2 = \langle f \rangle$ is a subgroup of order 2 and index 4.

$H_3 = \langle fr \rangle$ is a subgroup of order 2 and index 4.

$H_4 = \langle r^2 f \rangle$ is a subgroup of order 2 and index 4.

$H_5 = \langle rf \rangle$ is a subgroup of order 2 and index 4.

$H_6 = \langle r \rangle$ is a subgroup of order 4 and index 2.

$H_7 = \langle r^2, f \rangle$ is a subgroup of order 4 and index 2.

$H_8 = \langle r^2, fr \rangle$ is a subgroup of order 4 and index 2.

$H_9 = \langle r, f \rangle$ is the group itself.

f.) $C_3 \times C_3$

$H_0 = \langle \langle e, e \rangle \rangle$ is the trivial subgroup of order 1 and index 9.

$H_1 = \langle \langle a, e \rangle \rangle$ is a subgroup of order 3 and index 3.

$H_2 = \langle \langle e, a \rangle \rangle$ is a subgroup of order 3 and index 3.

$H_3 = \langle \langle a, a \rangle \rangle$ is a subgroup of order 3 and index 3.

$H_4 = \langle \langle a^2, a \rangle \rangle$ is a subgroup of order 3 and index 3.

$H_5 = \langle \langle a, e \rangle, \langle e, a \rangle \rangle$ is the group itself with order 9 and index 1.

6.7

a.) If e is the identity element, then what is $\langle e \rangle$?

$\langle e \rangle$ is the trivial subgroup. It is also the cyclic group C_1 .

b.) If a is in the subgroup $\langle b, c \rangle$, then what is $\langle a, b, c \rangle$?

If a is in the subgroup, then $\langle a, b, c \rangle = \langle b, c \rangle$.

c.) If a is not in the subgroup $\langle b, c \rangle$, and that subgroup's index is 2, then

what is $\langle a, b, c \rangle$?

$\langle a, b, c \rangle$ is the partition of the subgroup.

d.) If a is not in the subgroup $\langle b, c \rangle$, and that subgroup's order is 28, then what do you know about the order of $\langle a, b, c \rangle$? $|\langle a, b, c \rangle| = n - 28$.

6.8

Consider a cyclic group C_n . If m is a number that divides n , then describe all subgroups C_n has of order m .

If m divides n and C_n is a cyclic group, then all subgroups of C_n with order m take on the form $H = \langle a^{\frac{n}{m}} \rangle$.

6.9

If a is the permutation that interchanges the numbers 1 and 2, but leaves all other numbers alone, then what is $[S_n : \langle a \rangle]$?

The index of $\langle a \rangle = \frac{|S_n|}{|\langle a \rangle|} = \frac{n!}{2}$ because the order of a permutation of the numbers (1 2) is 2 for any group S_n .

6.11

A particular special case of Lagrange's Theorem bears highlighting on its own. As we learned in Chapter 5, any element g in a group can be used to create a cyclic subgroup called the orbit of g . We write $|g|$ as shorthand for the size of that orbit (i.e., $|g| = |\langle g \rangle|$), and call it the order of g .

Explain why the order $|g|$ of any element must divide the order $|G|$ of the group.

Let $g \in G$ have finite order such that $|a| = k$. Then $|\langle g \rangle| = k$ where $\langle g \rangle$ is the smallest subgroup containing g . This implies that the order of a subgroup generated by element g is equal to the order of element g . By Lagrange's Theorem, the order of a subgroup $\langle g \rangle$ must divide the order of the group G . Since $|\langle g \rangle| = |g|$, we know that the order of any element g must also divide the order of the group.

6.12

a.) How many subgroups does G have when $|G|$ is prime?

It has 2 subgroups: the trivial group and the non-proper subgroup.

b.) What is the orbit of an element in such a group G ?

The orbit of such an element in group G will include all elements in group G .

c.) How many groups of order p are there, when p is prime?

There is only one group of order p if p is prime.

6.13

a.) What subgroup of A_4 is generated by the following two permutations?

$(1\ 2)(3\ 4)$ and $(1\ 3)(2\ 4)$

First, we know that $(1\ 2)(3\ 4)(1\ 3)(2\ 4) = (1\ 4)(2\ 3)$.

$|(1\ 4)(2\ 3)| = \text{lcm}(2, 2) = 2$. Therefore, the subgroup has order 2. There is only one subgroup of A_4 with order 2 and that is subgroup that is isomorphic to the cyclic group C_2 .

b.) What subgroup of S_4 is generated by the following two permutations?

$(1\ 2\ 3)(4)$ and $(1)(2\ 3\ 4)$

First, we know that $(1\ 2\ 3)(2\ 3\ 4) = (1\ 3)(2\ 4)$.

$|(1\ 3)(2\ 4)| = \text{lcm}(2, 2) = 2$. Therefore, the subgroup has order 2. Both subgroups of S_4 with order 2 are isomorphic to C_2 , so this subgroup the subgroup that is isomorphic to the cyclic group C_2 .

6.20

For each H and G given below, find all left cosets of H in G , then state the index $[G : H]$.

a.) $H = \langle 4 \rangle, G = C_{20}$

The left cosets are: $1 + H, 2 + H, 3 + H, H$. Index is 4.

b.) $H = \langle 6 \rangle, G = C_{15}$

The left cosets are: $1 + H, 2 + H, H$. Index is 3.

c.) $H = f, G = D_4$

The left cosets are: rH, r^2H, r^3H, H . Index is 4.

D.) $H = A_4, G = S_4$

The left cosets are: $(1\ 2)H, H$. Since the order of A_4 is $\frac{1}{2}$ the order of S_4 , the index is 2.

6.28

For each of the following questions, either find a group that answers the question in the affirmative or give a clear explanation of why the answer to the question is negative.

a.) *Is there a non-cyclic group all of whose proper subgroups are cyclic?*

Yes, the unitary group $U_8 = \{1, 3, 5, 7\}$ where the binary operation is multiplication modulo 8 is non-cyclic, but all of its proper subgroups are cyclic.

b.) *Is there a non-abelian group all of whose proper subgroups are abelian?*

Yes. An example would be the group S_3 , which is non-abelian, but its 5 proper subgroups are all Abelian.

Proof

Prove that every subgroup of a cyclic group is cyclic. (Do not assume that G is finite).

Let G denote the cyclic group generated by element a and H be any subgroup of G .

If H is the trivial subgroup $\langle e \rangle$, then H is cyclic because the trivial group is isomorphic to C_1 .

If H is the non-proper subgroup, then H is cyclic because $H = G$ and G is cyclic.

If $H \neq \langle e \rangle$ and H is not the non-proper subgroup, then $a^n \in H$ for some $n \in \mathbb{Z}$.

Let $m = \min\{\text{integers} \mid a^m \in H\}$.

Let $b \in H$ where b is arbitrary.

Since $H < G$ and G is cyclic, $b = a^n$ for some $n \in \mathbb{Z}$.

Since $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ there exists $q, r \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $n = mq + r$, where $0 \leq r < m$.

Therefore $a^n = a^{mq+r} = (a^m)^q a^r$ and $a^r = (a^m)^{-q} a^n$.

We know that since $a^m \in H$ and H is a group that the inverse $(a^m)^{-1} \in H$.

Since $a^m \in H$ and $(a^m)^{-1} \in H$ and H is a group, $a^m * (a^m)^{-1} = a^r \in H$.

However, since we let $m = \min\{\text{integers} | a^m \in H \text{ and } 0 \leq r < m\}$, we know that $r = 0$.

Therefore, we must have that $n = qm$ and $b = a^n = (a^m)^q$.

This implies that any arbitrary element $b = a^n$ of H is generated by a^m . Therefore, $H = \langle a^m \rangle$, which is cyclic.

Therefore, subgroup of a cyclic group is also cyclic.