

Modern Algebra  
Homework 6b  
Chapter 6  
Read 6.15, 6.16  
Complete 6.17, 6.18, 6.22, 6.23, 6.24, 6.29  
Proof

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September 22, 2013

**6.17**

*Consider the group  $\mathbb{Z}$ , which is a group under the operation of ordinary addition.*

*a.) If  $n$  is in  $\mathbb{Z}$ , then is  $\langle n \rangle$  a subgroup of  $\mathbb{Z}$ ? What does it contain?*

Since  $\mathbb{Z}$  is infinite, we can have subgroups of any possible order. Thus  $\langle n \rangle < \mathbb{Z}$  and  $\langle n \rangle = \mathbb{Z}$  if  $n = 1$  or  $n = -1$ .

*b.) For which  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$  is  $\langle n \rangle = \mathbb{Z}$ ?*

If  $n = 1, -1$ , then  $\langle n \rangle = \mathbb{Z}$ .

*c.) If  $n$  and  $m$  are both in  $\mathbb{Z}$ , then when is  $\langle n \rangle < \langle m \rangle$ ?*

$\langle n \rangle < \langle m \rangle$  when  $|m|$  divides  $|n|$ .

*d.) Can  $\langle n \rangle$  itself also have subgroups?*

Yes, because  $\langle n \rangle$  is a group, it has at least the trivial subgroup and the non-proper subgroup (these might be the same if  $\langle n \rangle$  is the trivial group).

*e.) What subgroup of  $\mathbb{Z}$  is generated by 2 and 5?*

The subgroup generated is  $\langle 1 \rangle = \mathbb{Z}$  since 2 and 5 are distinct primes they can be used to generate the entire group.

f.) *What subgroup of  $\mathbb{Z}$  is generated by 4 and 6?*

The subgroup generated is  $\langle 2 \rangle$  which is the even numbers, since odd numbers cannot be generated from two even numbers when addition is the binary operation.

### 6.1.8

a.) *What is the one coset of  $\langle 2 \rangle$  in  $\mathbb{Z}$ ?*

$1 + \langle 2 \rangle$  is the only coset (not including the trivial subgroup and non-proper subgroup).

b.) *How many cosets does  $\langle 3 \rangle$  have in  $\mathbb{Z}$ , and what are they?*

Not including the trivial subgroup and non-proper subgroup,  $\langle 3 \rangle$  has 2 cosets  $\in \mathbb{Z}$ . They are  $1 + \langle 3 \rangle$  and  $2 + \langle 3 \rangle$ .

c.) *Is  $\langle n \rangle$  a normal subgroup of  $\mathbb{Z}$ ?*

Yes, all subgroups of  $\mathbb{Z}$  are normal because addition is commutative.

### 6.22

a.) *Why are there no lines among any of the subgroups  $\langle f \rangle$ ,  $\langle rf \rangle$ ,  $\langle r^2f \rangle$ , and  $\langle r \rangle$  in the Hasse diagram for  $S_3$ ?*

There are no lines connecting them because they are not subgroups of each other.

b.) *What is the smallest subgroup of  $S_3$  containing both  $f$  and  $rf$ ?*

The smallest subgroup containing both  $f$  and  $rf$  is the non-proper subgroup. This is evident from the Hasse diagram, since there are no lines containing  $\langle f \rangle$  and  $\langle rf \rangle$ .

c.) *What is the smallest subgroup of  $C_5$  with more than one element in it?*

The only subgroups of  $C_5$  are the trivial and non-proper subgroups. Therefore, the smallest subgroup of  $C_5$  with more than one element is  $\langle a \rangle$ .

d.) Label each line in each of the above two Hasse diagrams with the index of the smaller subgroup in the larger. For example, you would label the lower-leftmost line in the  $S_3$  diagram with 2 because  $[\langle f \rangle : \{e\}] = 2$ .

## 6.23

Make a Hasse diagram for each of the following groups:  $V_4, C_5, S_3, C_8, D_4, C_3 \times C_3$ .

a.)  $V_4$ :

b.)  $C_5$ :

c.)  $S_3$ :

d.)  $C_8$ :

e.)  $D_4$ :

f.)  $C_3 \times C_3$ :

## 6.24

*Make a Hasse diagram for  $C_{24}$ .*

## 6.29

*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 group of order 8 with a subgroup whose cosets partition the group into two different cosets (each coset therefore containing four elements)?*

Yes, all of the groups of order 8 have subgroups of order 4 which will partition the group into two different cosets.

b.) *Is there a group of order 8 with a subgroup whose cosets partition the group into eight different cosets (each element in its own coset)?*

Yes, every group contains the trivial subgroup which has index 8, therefore each element is partitioned into its own coset.

c.) *Is there a group of order 8 with a subgroup whose cosets partition the group into just one big cluster (every element in one coset)?*

Yes, every group has the non-proper subgroup, whose cosets partition the group into a one cluster.

d.) *Is there a group of order 30 with a subgroup whose cosets partition the group into one big cluster (every element in one coset)?*

Yes, every group has the non-proper subgroup, whose cosets partition the group into a one cluster.

e.) *Is there an abelian group with a subgroup whose left and right cosets partition the group differently?*

No. Every subgroup of an abelian group is normal. Proof: If  $H$  is a subgroup of the Abelian group  $G$  and  $g \in H, h \in H$ , then  $ghg^{-1} = hgg^{-1} = he = h \in H$ .

## Proof

a.) *If  $\mathbb{H}$  is a collection of subgroups of  $G$ , then the intersection  $\bigcap_{H \in \mathbb{H}} H$  is a subgroup of  $G$ .*

All subgroups are groups, therefore  $e \in \mathbb{H}$ , where  $e$  is the identity element. Therefore,  $e \in \bigcap_{H \in \mathbb{H}} H$ .

Let  $a \in \bigcap_{H \in \mathbb{H}} H$ , then  $a \in \mathbb{H}$ . Since each subgroup in  $\mathbb{H}$  is a group,  $a^{-1} \in \mathbb{H}$ . Therefore,  $a^{-1} \in \bigcap_{H \in \mathbb{H}} H$ .

Let  $a, b \in \bigcap_{H \in \mathbb{H}} H$ , then  $a, b \in$  all subgroups of  $\mathbb{H}$ . Since the subgroups in the collection  $H$  are groups, they are closed under the group operation. Therefore  $ab \in$  all subgroups of  $\mathbb{H}$ . Thus,  $ab \in \bigcap_{H \in \mathbb{H}} H$

Therefore,  $\bigcap_{H \in \mathbb{H}} H$  is a subgroup of  $G$  if  $\mathbb{H}$  is a collection of subgroups of  $G$ .

b.) *If  $S \subset G$ , then  $\langle S \rangle$  is the intersection of all subgroups containing  $S$ . (Hint: One way is to prove that  $A = B$  is to show  $A \subset B$  and  $B \subset A$ ).*

Let  $A = \{H < G \mid S \subset H\}$ .

Since  $S \subset G$ ,  $G \in A$  and  $A \neq \emptyset$  and  $S' = \bigcap_{H \in A} H$  is well defined.

By definition, the group generated by  $S$  is the smallest subgroup which contains  $S$ . Therefore  $\langle S \rangle \in A$  and, therefore  $S' \subset \langle S \rangle$ .

Suppose  $\langle S \rangle \not\subset S'$ , then  $\langle S \rangle \cap S'$  contradicts the fact that  $\langle S \rangle$  is the smallest group which contains  $S$ .

Therefore,  $\langle S \rangle \subset S'$ .

Thus,  $\langle S \rangle \subset S'$  and  $S' \subset \langle S \rangle$  which implies  $\langle S \rangle = S' = \bigcap_{H \in A} H$ .

c.) *Prove that if  $x \in H$ , then  $xH = H$ . What is the interpretation of this statement in terms of the Cayley diagram?*

Since  $H$  is closed under the group operation  $xH \subseteq H$

Since  $x \in H$ , we have  $x^{-1} \in H$

For any  $h \in H$ , we know that  $x^{-1}h \in H$ .

Therefore,  $h = eh = (xx^{-1})h = x(x^{-1}h) \in xH$

Thus  $h \in xH$  and  $H \subseteq xH$ .

Therefore, if  $x \in H$ , then  $xH = H$ .

In terms of the Cayley diagram, this means that if you start at any node in the subgroup  $H$  and follow the actions in  $H$ , you will generate the same subgroup.

d.) *Prove that if  $b \in aH$ , then  $aH = bH$ . (Use the definition of a coset:  $aH = \{ah : h \in H\}$ )*

If  $b \in aH = \{ah : h \in H\}$ , then  $b = ah$  for some  $h \in H$ .

$$b = ah$$

$$a^{-1}b = a^{-1}ah = eh = h$$

Therefore  $h = a^{-1}b \in H$ .

Take any  $bh \in bH = \{bh : h \in H\}$

$bh = (aa^{-1})bh = a(a^{-1}b)h \in aH$  because  $(a^{-1}b)h \in H$  since both  $(a^{-1}b)$  and  $h$  are in  $H$  and  $H$  is closed under its binary operation.

Therefore  $bH \subseteq aH$ .

Take and  $ah \in aH$ .

$ah = bb^{-1}ah = b(a^{-1}b)^{-1}h \in bH$  since  $(a^{-1}b)^{-1}h \in H$  because  $H$  contains the inverse of all its elements and both  $(a^{-1}b)$  and  $h$  are in  $H$  and  $H$  is closed under its binary operation.

Therefore,  $aH \subseteq bH$ .

Thus if  $b \in aH$ , then  $aH = bH$ .