

EXAM GROUP THEORY,  
 October 28th, 2019, 8:30am-11:30am,  
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Put your name on every sheet of paper you hand in. Please provide complete arguments for each of your answers. The exam consists of 5 questions. You can score up to 7 points for each question, and you obtain 5 points for free.

In this way you will score in total between 5 and 40 points.

- (1) Consider  $\sigma = (1\ 2\ 3\ 4)(2\ 3\ 4\ 5)(3\ 4\ 5\ 6) \in S_6$ .

- ~~(a)~~ [2 points.] Is  $\sigma$  an even permutation?  
~~(b)~~ [2 points.] Find the order of  $\sigma$ .  
~~(c)~~ [3 points.] Compute  $\sigma^{28102019}$ . - odd number

- (2) Let  $n$  be a nonzero integer and suppose  $p$  is a prime number with the property  $p \mid (2n)^4 + 1$ .

- ~~(a)~~ [2 points.] Show that  $2n \pmod p$  is in  $(\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})^\times$ , and that it has order 8 in this group.  
~~(b)~~ [2 points.] Show that  $p \equiv 1 \pmod 8$ .  
~~(c)~~ [3 points.] Show that there exist infinitely many prime numbers  $\equiv 1 \pmod 8$ .

- (3) Let  $n \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$ . In  $S_{\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}}$ , the group consisting of all permutations of the set  $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ , we consider the subgroup  $G$  given by

$$G := \{f_{a,b}: x \mapsto ax + b \mid a \in (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^\times, b \in \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}\}.$$

In  $G$  we have the following two subgroups:  $H = \{f_{a,0} \in G \mid a \in (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^\times\}$ , and  $N = \{f_{1,b} \in G \mid b \in \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}\}$ .

- ~~(a)~~ [3 points.] Explain why  $N$  is a subgroup of  $G$ , and why this subgroup is a normal subgroup.  
~~(b)~~ [2 points.] Show that  $HN$  (defined as the set of all products  $f_{a,0} \circ f_{1,b}$ ) equals  $G$ .  
~~(c)~~ [2 points.] Show that  $G/N \cong (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^\times$ .

- (4) This exercise discusses subgroups  $H \subset \mathbb{Z}^2$ . Let  $a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

- ~~(a)~~ [3 points.] Take  $H := \mathbb{Z} \cdot (a, b) + \mathbb{Z} \cdot (c, d)$ . Show:  
 $\mathbb{Z}^2/H$  can be generated by a single element  $\Leftrightarrow \gcd(a, b, c, d) = 1$ .  
~~(b)~~ [2 points.] Take  $H := \mathbb{Z} \cdot (2, 2) + \mathbb{Z} \cdot (4, 12)$ . Compute the order of  $(1, 0) + H$  in  $\mathbb{Z}^2/H$ .  
~~(c)~~ [2 points.] Again, take  $H := \mathbb{Z} \cdot (2, 2) + \mathbb{Z} \cdot (4, 12)$ . Calculate the rank and the elementary divisors of  $\mathbb{Z}^2/H$ .

- (5) Let  $G$  be a finite group, with  $\#G = 2m$  for some odd integer  $m$ . Suppose  $g \in G$  is an element with  $\text{ord}(g) = 2$ .

- ~~(a)~~ [2 points.] Explain why indeed such an element  $g$  exists in  $G$ .  
~~(b)~~ [2 points.] With  $S_G$  the group of all permutations of the set  $G$ , let  $\lambda_g \in S_G$  be the permutation given by  $\lambda_g(h) = gh$  (for any  $h \in G$ ). Show that the sign of the permutation  $\lambda_g$  equals  $-1$ .  
~~(c)~~ [3 points.] Prove that  $G$  contains a subgroup of index 2.

$$[G:H] = \frac{\#G}{\#H} = 2$$

$$G \cong S_G$$

subgr. of

$$h \mapsto gh$$