

**Math 211**  
Ali Nesin  
November 2007

$G$  denotes always a group.

1. Show that a group of prime order is cyclic. (3 pts.)
2. Show that a subgroup of a cyclic group is cyclic. (4 pts.)
3. Show that for  $n$  and  $m$  prime to each other  $\mathbb{Z}/nm\mathbb{Z} \approx \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}$ . (2 pts.) Show the converse. (10 pts.)
4. Let the center  $Z(G)$  of  $G$  be defined as  $Z(G) = \{z \in G : zg = gz \text{ for all } g \in G\}$ . It is easy to show that  $Z(G) \triangleleft G$ . Show that if  $G/Z(G)$  is a cyclic group then  $G$  is abelian. (7 pts.)
5. For  $a, g \in G$  define  $\text{Inn}_g(a) = gag^{-1}$ . **5a.** Show that  $\text{Inn}_g$  is an automorphism of  $G$ . **5b.** Show that  $\text{Inn} : G \rightarrow \text{Aut}(G)$  is a homomorphism of groups whose kernel is  $Z(G)$ . **5c.** Show that  $\text{Inn}(G) \triangleleft \text{Aut}(G)$ . (2 + 4 + 4 pts.)
6. Find the group structures of  $\text{Aut}(\mathbb{Z}/12\mathbb{Z})$ ,  $\text{Aut}(\text{Sym}(3))$ ,  $\text{Aut}(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$  and  $\text{Aut}(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z})$ . (16 pts.)
7. For  $X \subseteq G$  define the **centralizer** of  $X$  to be
$$C_G(X) = \{g \in G : gx = xg \text{ for all } x \in X\}.$$
It is easy to show that  $C_G(X) \leq G$ .
  - 7a.** Show that if  $X \subseteq Y$  then  $C_G(Y) \subseteq C_G(X)$ . (1 pts.)
  - 7b.** Show that  $X \subseteq C_G(C_G(X))$ . (2 pts.)
  - 7c.** Conclude that  $C_G(C_G(C_G(X))) = C_G(X)$ . (5 pts.)
8. For an element  $a \in G$  of a group  $G$ , define the **conjugacy class** of  $a$  to be the set
$$a^G = \{g^{-1}ag : g \in G\}$$
and the **centralizer** of  $a$  to be
$$C_G(a) = \{g \in G : ga = ag\}.$$
  - 8a.** Find an example where  $C_G(a)$  is not a normal subgroup of  $G$ . (2 pts.)
  - 8b.** Show that  $|G/C_G(a)| = |a^G|$ . (4 pts.)
  - 8c.** Show that any two conjugacy classes are either equal or disjoint. (3 pts.)
  - 8d.** Conclude the **class formula**  $|G| = |Z(G)| + \sum_{\text{some } g \notin Z(G)} |G|/|C_G(Z)|$ . (5 pts.)
  - 8e.** Conclude that the center of a finite  $p$ -group is nontrivial. ( $p$  is a prime from now on). (4 pts.)
  - 8f.** Conclude from this and #4 that a group of order  $p^2$  is abelian. (2 pts.)
  - 8g.** Classify all groups of order  $p^2$ . (4 pts.)
  - 8h\*.** Find a nonabelian group of order  $p^3$ . (5 pts.)
  - 8i.** Classify all abelian groups of order  $p^3$ . (6 pts.)

**9.** Let  $H$  and  $K$  be two subgroups of  $G$ . For  $x \in G$ , the set  $HxK$  is called a **double coset** (of  $H$  and  $K$ ).

**9a.** Show that the double cosets of  $H$  and  $K$  partition  $G$ . (2 pts.)

**9b.** Show that  $|G : H| = \sum_{\text{some } g \in G} |K : K \cap H^x|$ . (**Hint:** Use part a to count the number of right cosets of  $H$  in a different way). (8 pts.)

**10a.** Let  $A_1, \dots, A_n$  be simple nonabelian groups. Find all normal subgroups of  $A_1 \times \dots \times A_n$ . (5 pts.)

**10b.** What can you say about  $\text{Aut}(A \times \dots \times A)$  in terms of  $\text{Aut}(A)$  if  $A$  is nonabelian and simple? (15 pts.)