

## Solution to Algebra I- MS- 15.pdf

- (1a) Given that  $A, B$  are subgroups of  $G$  such that  $A \subseteq N_G(B)$ . We first show that  $A \cap B \triangleleft A$ . Let  $g \in A \cap B$  and  $a \in A$  then, clearly  $aga^{-1} \in A$  and as  $A \subseteq N_G(B)$ ,  $aBa^{-1} = B$  for every  $a \in A$  one has,  $aga^{-1} \in B$  as well. Thus  $A \cap B \triangleleft A$ . Now,  $AB = \{ab \mid a \in A, b \in B\}$  is a group as  $e \in AB$ , for  $a_1b_1, a_2b_2 \in AB$ ,  $a_1b_1a_2b_2 = a_1a_2(a_2^{-1}b_1a_2)b_2 = a_1a_2b_3b_2$  where  $a_2^{-1}b_1a_2 = b_3 \in B$  and finally,  $ab(a_0b_0)^{-1} = abb_0^{-1}a_0^{-1} = aa_0^{-1}(a_0bb_0^{-1}a_0^{-1}) = aa_0^{-1}b_1 \in AB$  where  $a_0bb_0^{-1}a_0^{-1} = b_1 \in B$ . Also,  $B \triangleleft AB$  since  $abB(ab)^{-1} = abBb^{-1}a^{-1} = aBa^{-1} = B$  as  $A \subseteq N_G(B)$ . We now define  $\phi : A/A \cap B \rightarrow AB/B$  as  $\phi(aA \cap B) = aB$ . This map is well defined for if  $a_1^{-1}a_2 \in A \cap B$  then  $a_1^{-1}a_2 \in B$ . It also maps cosets to cosets, in fact, if  $a_1, a_2 \in aA \cap B$  then  $a_1^{-1}a_2 \in B$  so that  $a_1, a_2 \in aB$ . Observe that  $\phi$  is a homomorphism,  $\phi((aA \cap B)(bA \cap B)) = \phi(abA \cap B) = abB = aB bB = \phi(aA \cap B)\phi(bA \cap B)$ . It remains to show that  $\phi$  is a bijection. Suppose  $\phi(aA \cap B) = \phi(bA \cap B) \implies aB = bB \implies a^{-1}b \in B$  but  $a, b \in A$  implies  $a^{-1}b \in A$ . So,  $a^{-1}b \in A \cap B \implies aA \cap B = bA \cap B$ . This proves injection. Suppose  $gB \in AB/B$ , this implies  $g = ab$  for some  $a \in A, b \in B$  so that  $gB = abB = aB \implies gB = \phi(aA \cap B)$ . Thus,  $\phi$  is a surjection and hence an isomorphism.
- (1b)  $N \triangleleft G$  with  $|G/N| = p$  and  $H \leq G$ . Suppose  $H \not\subseteq N$ . As  $N$  is normal in  $G$ , and  $H$  is a subgroup of  $G$ , we conclude  $H \subseteq N_G(N)$ ,  $NH \leq G$  and by 1(a)  $H \cap N$  is normal in  $H$ . Now,  $p = [G : N] = [G : NH][NH : N]$ . We claim that  $[NH : N] = p$  so that  $[G : NH] = 1$  giving  $G = NH$ . Suppose  $[NH : N] = 1$ . One has in the finite order case, by the isomorphism in (1a),  $|NH| = |N||H|/|N \cap H| \implies |H| = |H \cap N|$ . This gives  $H/H \cap N$  is trivial, *i.e.*,  $H = H \cap N \subseteq N$ . This is a contradiction to our assumption  $H \not\subseteq N$ . Thus,  $G = NH$  and  $[H : H \cap N] = [NH : N] = p$ .
- (2a) Statement of Cayley's theorem: Any group  $G$  is isomorphic to a subgroup of a permutation group.  
*Proof:* Let  $G$  be a group. Let  $F$  be the set of all permutations (one-one functions) on elements of  $G$ . Then  $F$  is a group with the groups operation being function composition. Indeed, Function composition is associative and closed, the identity map being one-one belongs to  $F$ , for  $f \in F$ , if  $f(x) = y$  then the inverse of  $f$  is  $f^{-1}$  which maps  $f^{-1}(y) = x$ . Clearly,  $f^{-1} \in F$ . Thus,  $F$  is a group. Now, for any element  $g \in G$ , consider the map  $f_g(x) = gx$  for all  $x \in G$ . One has  $f_g \in F$ . Further, as  $gh \in G$ , we have  $f_{gh} \in F$  and also  $f_e \in F$  where  $e$  is the identity in  $G$ . Observe that  $f_{gh}(x) = ghx = g(hx) = g(f_h(x)) = f_g f_h(x)$ . Thus the set  $\{f_g \mid g \in G\}$  is a subset of  $F$  which is closed and so is a subgroup of  $F$ . Clearly,  $G$  is isomorphic to this subgroup.

- (2b) Let  $G$  be a finite group of order  $n$ ,  $p$  be the smallest prime dividing  $n$  and let  $N$  be a subgroup of  $G$  of index  $p$ . To show that  $N \triangleleft G$ . Now,  $G$  acts on the left coset space  $G/N$  by left multiplication,  $g \cdot aN = gaN$ . As the index is  $p$ , we get a homomorphism  $\phi$  of  $G$  into  $S_p$ , the symmetric group on  $p$  elements. The kernel  $K$  of  $\phi$  is the set of all elements of  $G$  inducing trivial action on  $G/N$  and so  $K \subset N$ . One has  $G/K$  is isomorphic to a subgroup of  $S_p$ . This implies its order is a divisor of  $p!$ . But the order of  $G/K$  also divides  $G$  and as  $p$  is the smallest prime dividing  $o(G)$ , we have  $o(G/K) = p$ . One has  $p = [G : K] = [G : N][N : K] = p[N : K] \implies [N : K] = 1$ , so that  $N = K$  is normal subgroup of  $G$ .
- (3a) We exhibit a one-to-one correspondence between  $Orb(x)$  and the left cosets of  $G_x$  in  $G$ . To the coset  $gG_x \in G/G_x$ , we associate the element  $gx \in Orb(x)$ . This association is well defined for, if  $gG_x = hG_x$  then,  $g^{-1}h \in G_x \implies g^{-1}hx = x \implies hx = gx$ . Now, suppose  $gx = hx$ , then  $g^{-1}hx = x \implies g^{-1}h \in G_x \implies gG_x = hG_x$ . Thus, the association is one-to-one. If  $h \in Orb(x)$  then,  $h = gx$  for some  $g \in G$  so that the coset  $gG_x$  gets associated to  $h$ . This proves surjection. We thus have a one-one correspondence between two finite sets which implies that they have the same cardinality.
- (3b) Let  $n$  be the number of orbits of  $G$ -action on  $X$ . By orbit stabilizer theorem the size of an orbit  $\mathcal{O}$  is given by  $|\mathcal{O}| = |G|/|G_x|$  for some  $x \in \mathcal{O}$  where  $G_x = \{g \in G \mid g \cdot x = x\}$ . This implies  $|G_x| = |G|/|\mathcal{O}|$ . Taking sum over  $x \in \mathcal{O}$ ,  $\sum_{x \in \mathcal{O}} |G_x| = |\mathcal{O}||G|/|\mathcal{O}| = |G|$ . Thus the sum over all orbits is given by  $\sum_{x \in X} |G_x| = |G|n \implies n = \sum_{x \in X} |G_x|/|G|$ . Consider the set  $G \times X := \{(g, x) \mid g \in G, x \in X\}$  and let  $G_0 := \{(g, x) \mid g \cdot x = x\} \subset G \times X$ . Then  $|G_0| = \sum_{x \in X} |G_x| = \sum_{g \in G} |X^g|$  where  $X^g = \{x \in X \mid g \cdot x = x\}$ . Thus,  $n = \sum_{g \in G} |X^g|/|G|$ .
- (4a) Statement: Let  $G$  be a finite group. The action of  $G$  on itself by conjugation partitions  $G$  into disjoint conjugacy classes. Let  $g_1, \dots, g_r$  be the representatives of the distinct conjugacy classes of  $G$  not contained in the center  $Z(G)$  of  $G$ . Then the *class equation* is given by  $|G| = |Z(G)| + \sum_{i=1}^r [G : C_G(g_i)]$  where  $C_G(g_i)$  is the centralizer of  $g_i$  in  $G$ .  
*Proof:* An element  $\{x\}$  is a conjugacy class of size 1 if and only if  $x \in Z(G)$ . Let  $Z(G) = \{e, z_1, \dots, z_m\}$  and let  $\mathcal{O}_1, \dots, \mathcal{O}_r$  be the conjugacy classes of  $G$  not contained in  $Z(G)$  having  $g_1, \dots, g_r$  as the respective representatives. Then  $\{\{e\}, \{z_1\}, \dots, \{z_m\}, H_1, \dots, H_r\}$  gives a partition of  $G$ . We thus have  $|G| = \sum_{i=1}^m 1 + \sum_{i=1}^r |H_i| = |Z(G)| + \sum_{i=1}^r [G : C_G(g_i)]$ .
- (4b) (i) We prove this using induction on  $|G| = n$ . As  $p \mid n$ , when  $|G| = n = p$ , any element of  $G$  has order  $p$ . Now suppose  $|G| = n_0 > p$  with  $p \mid n_0$  and we assume the induction hypothesis that for a group  $G$  with order  $n < n_0$  such that  $p \mid n$ ,  $G$  has an element of order  $p$ . Since  $|G| = n_0$  is not a prime,  $G$  has a nontrivial proper subgroup  $H$ . We have  $|G| = |H| \cdot [G : H]$  which implies that either  $p \mid |H|$  or  $p \mid [G : H]$ . If  $p \mid |H|$ , by induction hypothesis we are done. We show that the other possibility does not occur. The center  $Z(G)$  is a

proper subgroup of  $G$ . For each  $g \in G$ , the centralizer  $Z_G(g) = \{h \in G \mid hg = gh\}$  of  $g$  in  $G$  is a proper subgroup of  $G$  if  $g \notin Z(G)$ . If  $p \mid |Z_G(g)|$  for some  $g \notin Z(G)$ , we are done by induction hypothesis. Also, if  $p \mid |Z(G)|$ , we are done. Now, if the conjugacy classes of size greater than 1 are represented by  $g_1, \dots, g_r$ , by class equation we have  $|G| = |Z(G)| + \sum_{i=1}^r [G : Z_G(g_i)] = |Z(G)| + \sum_{i=1}^r |G|/|Z_G(g_i)|$ . The case when  $p$  does not divide any  $|Z_G(g_i)|$  results in each index  $[G : Z_G(g_i)]$  being divisible by  $p$ . Hence, the remaining term  $|Z(G)|$  will also be divisible by  $p$ . That is either  $p$  divides  $|Z(G)|$  or  $p \mid |Z_G(g_i)|$  for some  $g \notin Z(G)$ . We are done here by induction hypothesis.

- (ii)  $G$  acts on itself by self conjugation. Let  $\mathcal{O}_1, \dots, \mathcal{O}_r$  be the various distinct orbits of  $G$ . As  $G$  is a  $p$ -group, the order of each orbit is either 1 or power of  $p$ . By class equation  $|G| = \sum_{i=1}^r |\mathcal{O}_i|$ . The conjugacy classes having single elements are those of elements belonging to the center  $Z(G)$ . Now, LHS is divisible by  $p$  and so should be RHS. Thus, the number of single element conjugacy classes is a multiple of  $p$ , giving a nontrivial center.

- (5a) *Sylow's first theorem:* Let  $G$  be a finite group. If  $p$  is a prime divisor of  $|G|$  then there exists a  $p$ -Sylow subgroup of  $G$ .

*Sylow's second theorem:* Let  $G$  be a group of order  $p^n q$  where  $p$  is a prime not dividing  $q$ . If  $P$  is a  $p$ -Sylow subgroup of  $G$  and  $H$  is any subgroup of  $G$  of order a power of  $p$  then  $H \subseteq xPx^{-1}$  for some  $x \in G$ . In particular, any two  $p$ -Sylow subgroups of  $G$  are conjugates.

*Sylow's third theorem:* The number of  $p$ -Sylow subgroups of  $G$  divides  $|G|$  and is of the form  $1 + kp$  for some non-negative integer  $k$ .

- (5b) Let  $G$  be a group of order  $224 = 2^5 \cdot 7$ . The number  $n_2$  of 2-Sylow subgroups is such that  $n_2 \mid 7$  and  $n_2 \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$ . Similarly, the number  $n_7$  of 7-Sylow subgroups of  $G$  is such that  $n_7 \mid 2^5$  and  $n_7 \equiv 1 \pmod{7}$ . Thus  $n_2 = 1$  or  $7$  and  $n_7 = 1$  or  $8$ . Suppose  $G$  was simple, then  $n_7 = 8$  and  $n_2 = 7$ . Then there are  $(7-1) \cdot 8 = 48$  elements of order 7 and  $(2^5-1) \cdot 7 = 31 \cdot 7 = 217$  elements of order 2 in  $G$ . This gives us a total of 266 elements in  $G$  including identity which is a contradiction to  $|G| = 224$ . Hence,  $G$  is not simple as we must have either  $n_2 = 1$  or  $n_7 = 1$ .

- (6a) Let  $G = A_5$  then,  $|G| = 60 = 2^2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5$ . By Sylow's third theorem we have  $n_3 \mid 2^2 \cdot 5$  and  $n_3 \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$ , so that  $n_3 \in \{1, 4, 10\}$ . But  $G$  contains 20 elements of order 3 ( $5C_3$ ) which implies  $n_3 = 10$ . Let  $n_5$  be the number of 5-Sylow subgroups of  $A_5$  then,  $n_5 \mid 2^2 \cdot 3$  and  $n_5 \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$  so that  $n_5 \in \{1, 6\}$ . But  $A_5$  has 24 elements of order 5, giving  $n_5 = 6$ . Finally, let  $n_2$  be the number of 2-Sylow subgroups of  $A_5$ . Then,  $n_2 \mid 3 \cdot 5$  and  $n_2 \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$  so that  $n_2 \in \{1, 3, 5, 15\}$ . Now,  $A_5$  has 15 elements of order 5 which implies  $n_2 \in \{5, 15\}$ . If  $n_2 = 15$  and  $H$  is a 2-Sylow subgroup of  $A_5$  then, as  $A_5$  acts on the 2-Sylow subgroups by conjugation, the stabilizer  $Stab(H)$  of  $H$  has index 15 in  $A_5$ . This implies  $H = Stab(H) = N_{A_5}(H)$ . This is not true as  $(1, 2, 3) \in N_{A_5}(H) \setminus H$ . Hence,  $n_2 = 5$ .

- (6b) The 3-Sylow and 5-Sylow subgroups of  $S_5$  are contained in  $A_5$  so that  $n_3 = 10$  and  $n_5 = 6$ . A 2-Sylow subgroup of  $S_5$  has order 8. One has  $n_2 \mid 15$  and  $n_2 \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$  so that  $n_2 \in \{1, 3, 5, 15\}$  and as in the case of

$A_5$ ,  $n_2 \in \{5, 15\}$ . Permutation on the set  $\{1, 2, 3, 4\}$  gives a copy of  $D_8$  inside  $S_5$  which is a 2-Sylow subgroup of  $S_5$ . Thus all 2-Sylow subgroups are isomorphic to  $D_8$ . Now, 4 elements can be chosen in 5 distinct ways from  $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$ . Further, for each choice of 4 elements we have 3 distinct dihedral groups (cyclic permutations results in the same copy of  $D_8$  and so does orderings of the form 1,2,3,4 and 1,4,3,2). We then have  $n_2 = 5 \cdot 3 = 15$  distinct subgroups of order 8 isomorphic to  $D_8$ .

- (7a) Given two groups  $H$  and  $K$  with a group homomorphism  $\phi : H \rightarrow \text{Aut}(K)$  then, the semi-direct product of  $K$  by  $H$  is denoted  $K \rtimes_{\phi} H$  and is defined as the set  $K \times H$  together with the operation  $(k, h) \cdot (k_1, h_1) = (k\phi(h)k_1, hh_1)$  such that  $(K \times H, \cdot)$  is a group. Evidently, the group operation is very much dependent on the homomorphism  $\phi$ .
- (7b) Let  $K = \mathbb{Z}_n = \langle x \rangle$  and  $H = \mathbb{Z}_2 = \langle a \rangle$ . Consider the homomorphism  $\phi : H \rightarrow \text{Aut}(K)$  given by  $\phi(a) = \phi_a$  where  $\phi_a(x) = axa^{-1}$  for  $x \in K$ . It is easy to see that  $\phi$  is a group homomorphism and the semidirect product  $G = K \rtimes_{\phi} H$  is a group with the group operation as in (7a). We assert that  $D_{2n} \cong G$ . Let  $\{(r, m) \mid r^n = m^2 = 1, rm = mr^{-1}\}$  be the presentation of  $D_{2n}$ . Since  $K$  is a subgroup of index 2 in  $G$ , we have  $a \cdot x = axa^{-1} = x^{-1}$  for all  $a \in H, x \in K$ . Hence,  $a^2xa^{-1} = ax^{-1}$ . As  $|H| = 2$ ,  $a^2 = 1$  or  $a = a^{-1}$ , we have  $a^2xa^{-1} = xa$  and  $xa = ax^{-1}$ . Consequently, the isomorphism of  $D_{2n}$  with  $\mathbb{Z}_n \rtimes_{\phi} \mathbb{Z}_2$  is given by the mapping  $x \mapsto r$  and  $a \mapsto m$ .