

Name:

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MATH 3175

Group Theory

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**Midterm Exam**

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1. Let  $G$  be an abelian group with identity  $e$ , and let  $H$  be the set of all elements  $a \in G$  that satisfy the equation  $a^2 = e$ . Prove that  $H$  is a subgroup of  $G$ .

2. Let  $G = \langle a \rangle$  be a group generated by an element  $a$  of order 20.
- (i) Find all elements of  $G$  which generate  $G$ .

(ii) List all the elements in the subgroup  $\langle a^5 \rangle$ , together with their respective orders.

(iii) What are the generators of the subgroup  $\langle a^5 \rangle$ ?

(iv) Find an element in  $G$  that has order 4. Does this element generate  $G$ ?

**3.** Let  $G = \text{GL}(2, 2)$  be the group of all invertible  $2 \times 2$  matrices with entries in  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ , with group operation given by matrix multiplication.

(i) List all the elements of  $G$  and find their orders.

(ii) Does  $G$  contain a subgroup of order 3? Why, or why not?

(iii) Is  $G$  an abelian group? Why, or why not?

4. Let  $\mathbb{R}^+ = \{x \in \mathbb{R} : x > 0\}$  be the multiplicative group of positive real numbers. Consider the map  $f: \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  given by  $f(x) = \sqrt{x}$ .

(i) Show that  $f$  is an homomorphism.

(ii) What is the kernel of  $f$ ?

(iii) What is the image of  $f$ ? For each  $y \in \text{im}(f)$  find an  $x \in \mathbb{R}^+$  such that  $f(x) = y$ .

(iv) Show that  $f$  is an isomorphism, and find the inverse isomorphism.

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5. List *all* the homomorphisms from the cyclic group of order 4 to itself. For each such homomorphism,  $f: \mathbb{Z}_4 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_4$ , indicate what the image of  $f$  and the kernel of  $f$  are (that is, list the elements of  $\text{im}(f)$  and  $\text{ker}(f)$ ).

6. Let  $\mathbb{Z}_n^\times$  be the group of units in the ring  $\mathbb{Z}_n$ , let  $Q_8$  be the quaternion group of order 8, let  $D_n$  be the dihedral group of order  $2n$ , and let  $S_n$  be the group of permutations of  $\{1, \dots, n\}$ . Show that the following pairs of groups are *not* isomorphic. In each case, explain why.

(i)  $\mathbb{Z}_{15}^\times$  and  $\mathbb{Z}_8$ .

(ii)  $Q_8$  and  $D_4$ .

(iii)  $Q_8 \times \mathbb{Z}_3$  and  $S_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_4$ .

7. Let  $G$  be a finite group,  $H$  a subgroup of  $G$ , and  $K$  a subgroup of  $H$ .
- (i) Show that  $[G : K] = [G : H] \cdot [H : K]$ .

- (ii) Suppose  $|K| = 10$  and  $|G| = 240$ . What are the possible values for  $|H|$ ?

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8. Let  $D_3 = \langle a, b \mid a^3 = b^2 = 1, ba = a^{-1}b \rangle$  be the dihedral group of order 6.
- (i) Let  $H = \langle a \rangle$  be the cyclic subgroup generated by  $a$ . Write down all the right cosets and all the left cosets of  $H$  in  $D_3$ . Is  $H$  a normal subgroup?
- (ii) Let  $K = \langle b \rangle$  be the cyclic subgroup generated by  $b$ . Write down all the right cosets and all the left cosets of  $K$  in  $D_3$ . Is  $K$  a normal subgroup?