

ID: 1651

Math A4900

Proof portfolio draft, Round 1

October 4, 2020

Statement: Let G be a group. Prove that if $|x| \leq 2$ for all $x \in G$ then G is abelian.

Problem: 1B

No. stars: 1

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5 *use "this implies" every* *Proof.* Suppose for $x \in G$, $|x| \leq 2$, which implies $n \leq 2$ for $x^n = 1$. This implies that for all $x \in G$,
6 $x^2 = xx = 1 \implies x = x^{-1}$. This means that for $x, y \in G$, $xy = (xy)^{-1} = y^{-1}x^{-1} = yx = 1$.
7 *instead of \implies* Not only that, but since the product $xy \in G$, we can also say $(xy)^2 = xyxy = 1$. For the inverse,
8 $(xy)^{-1} = y^{-1}x^{-1} = yx = 1$ by the inverse axiom. Therefore, the group is abelian since all conditions
9 hold. *"Moreover"* \square

10 In line 5, you may want to write something like
11 "which implies the smallest $n \in \mathbb{N}$ for which
 $x^n = 1$ is $n=1$ or $n=2$." The way it is
written now implies $x^n \neq 1$ for $n > 2$, but if
 $|x|=2$, then $x^4=1$ as well.
Overall nice proof though!

	Points Possible					
complete	0	1	2	3	4	5
mathematically valid	0	1	2	3	4	5
readable/fluent	0	1	2	3	4	5
Total:	(out of 15)					

Statement: Let G be a group and let $x \in G$. If $|x| = n < \infty$, prove that the elements $1, x, x^2, \dots, x^{n-1}$ are all distinct. Deduce that $|x| = |\langle x \rangle|$

Problem: 1C

No. stars: 2

1 *Proof.* Proof. Suppose $|x| = n < \infty \implies x^n = 1$. Suppose on the contrary that the elements
 2 $e, x, x^2, \dots, x^{n-1}$ are not all distinct. Thus, there exists an $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $x^a = x^b$. Through
 3 operations, we can see that $x^a = x^b \implies x^a x^{-b} = x^b x^{-b} \implies x^{a-b} = 1$. If this is true, $a - b = n$
 4 but this is contradiction because there does not exist two integers such that $a - b = n$. The max
 5 value $(a - b)$ can be is $(n - 2)$ which does not equal n . Therefore, the elements are distinct by
 6 contradiction. If $G = \langle x \rangle$ where $|x| = n < \infty$, then G has n distinct elements including 1. Hence,
 7 $|x| = |G| = |\langle x \rangle| = n$. \square

$a, b \in \{1, 2, \dots, n-1\}$

two integers a, b
 such that
 $1 \leq a, b \leq n-1$
 and $a - b = n$

Try to write out statements rather than
 using " \implies ". Also note that we need to
 assert $a \neq b$. Otherwise $x^{a-b} = x^0 = 1$ could
 be true without having $a - b = n$.

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complete	0	1	2	3	4	5
mathematically valid	0	1	2	3	4	5
readable/fluent	0	1	2	3	4	5
Total:	(out of 15)					

Statement: Prove that if H and K are subgroups of G , then so is $H \cap K$. On the other hand, prove $H \cup K$ is a subgroup if and only if $H \subseteq K$ or $K \subseteq H$.

Problem: **2A**

No. stars: **2**

- 1 *Proof.* Suppose H and K are subgroups of G . This means $H \neq \emptyset$, $K \neq \emptyset$, $1 \in H$ and $1 \in K$.
 2 Therefore, $1 \in H \cap K \implies (H \cap K) \neq \emptyset$. If 1 is the only element in $H \cap K$, then already we can
 3 say that $H \cap K$ is a trivial subgroup of G . Since H and K are subgroups of G , we can say for all
 4 $a, b \in H$ and $x, y \in K$, $ab \in H$ and $xy \in K$. Thus, $ab \in (H \cap K)$ or $xy \in (H \cap K)$. If $z \in (H \cap K)$,
 5 then $z, z^{-1} \in H$ and K since both are subgroups, meaning $z^{-1} \in (H \cap K)$. With both subgroups
 6 closed under the same operations as G , we can conclude that $(H \cap K)$ is a subgroup of G .
 7 One the other hand, we will now prove that the subgroups $H \subseteq K$ or $K \subseteq H \implies H \cup K$ is a
 8 subgroup. Without loss of generality, assume $H \subseteq K$. This implies that $H \cup K = K$ and since K
 9 is a subgroup of G , $H \cup K$ is a subgroup of G . Now, if $H \cup K$ is a subgroup of G . *← not complete sentence*
 10 Now we need to prove $H \cup K \implies H \subseteq K$ or $K \subseteq H$ and we can do this by proving the contrapositive
 11 statement. We will prove $H \not\subseteq K$ and $K \not\subseteq H \implies H \cup K$ is not a subgroup. Suppose $x \in H$, $x \notin K$
 12 and $y \in K$, $y \notin H$. This implies that the union contains x, y . For the sake of contradiction, suppose
 13 that $H \cup K$ was a group, implying $xy \in H \cup K$. Therefore, $xy \in H$ or K . Since H is subgroup of
 14 G , $xy \in H \implies x^{-1}xy \in H \implies y \in H$, a contradiction. We arrive at a similar contradiction for
 15 K , $x \in K$. Hence, $H \cup K$ is not a subgroup of G . By proving the contrapositive statement true, we
 16 have proved that $(H \subseteq K \text{ or } K \subseteq H) \implies H \cup K$ is a subgroup. *← Nice use of contrapositive! □*

17 Lines 3-4 are not necessarily true. We could
 18 have $a, b \in H$, $x, y \in K$ such that $ab, xy \notin (H \cap K)$.

You also need to
 show that for

19 $x, y \in (H \cap K)$, we
 have $xy^{-1} \in (H \cap K)$

In Line 10, need to prove $H \cup K \leq G \implies H \subseteq K$
 or $K \subseteq H$.

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Total:	(out of 15)					

Statement: Let G be a group. Show that the map

$$\varphi : G \rightarrow G \quad \text{defined by} \quad \varphi : g \mapsto g^{-1}$$

is a homomorphism if and only if G is abelian. Now, verify that

$$\psi : D_{2n} \rightarrow D_{2n} \text{ defined by } \psi(s) = s^{-1} \text{ and } \psi(r) = r^{-1}$$

extends to a well-defined homomorphism, and explain why this does not contradict the first statement.

Problem:	2B
No. stars:	2

1 *Proof.* Suppose $\varphi : G \rightarrow G$ defined by $\varphi : g \mapsto g^{-1}$ is a homomorphism. Therefore,

2 $\varphi(gh) = \varphi(g) * \varphi(h) = g^{-1}h^{-1}$ and $\varphi(gh) = (gh)^{-1} = h^{-1}g^{-1} \implies h^{-1}g^{-1} = g^{-1}h^{-1}$. Through
 3 operations, we get that this implies that $hg = gh$. Since it's commutative, the group G is abelian.
 4 Now, suppose group G is abelian. Then $\varphi(gh) = (gh)^{-1} = h^{-1}g^{-1} = g^{-1}h^{-1} = \varphi(g)\varphi(h)$, making
 5 the map a homomorphism. Nice!

6 Now, let's verify that $\psi : D_{2n} \rightarrow D_{2n}$ defined by $\psi(s) = s^{-1}$ and $\psi(r) = r^{-1}$ extends to a well
 7 defined homomorphism.

8 Since $r^i = r^{n+i}$, $s^j = s^{-j}$, $i, j \neq 0$

9 $\psi(r^i) = r^{-i} = r^{n-i}$, $\psi(r^{n+i}) = r^{-n-i} = r^{n-i}$

10 $\psi(s^j) = s^{-j} = sj = \psi(s^{-j})$

11 $\psi(r^i s) = (r^i s)^{-1} = (sr^{-i}) = \psi(s)\psi(r^i)$

12 $\psi(sr^i) = (sr^i)^{-1} = (r^{-i}s) = \psi(r^i)\psi(s)$

13 The homomorphism does not contradict the first statement because while D_{2n} is not abelian, both
 14 $\psi(s)\psi(r^i), \psi(r^i)\psi(s) \in D_{2n}$ image from the pre-image $r^i s, sr^i \in D_{2n}$ with a one-to-one relationship.
 15 Abelian groups in the original statement satisfies this requirement since the group is commutative,
 16 but the D_{2n} mapping satisfies the well-defined homomorphism requirement due to unique non-
 17 commutative characteristic of $r^i s, sr^i$ and their inverses. □

↑

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May want to rephrase this paragraph. A bit confusing to follow

1

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readable/fluent	0	1	2	3	4	5
Total:	(out of 15)					

Statement: Let G act on a set A . Prove that the relation \sim on A defined by

$$a \sim b \quad \text{when} \quad a = g \cdot b \text{ for some } g \in G$$

is an equivalence relation.

Problem: **3B**

No. stars: **1**

1 *Proof.* To prove ^{here} ~~their~~ is an equivalence relation, we need to prove reflexivity, symmetry, and
2 transitivity.

3 For reflexivity ($a \sim a$), $a = 1 * a = a$ since $1 \in G$. $\hookrightarrow 1 * a = a$ implies ($a \sim a$)

4 For symmetry ($a \sim b \iff b \sim a$), suppose for $a, b \in A$, there exists an $g \in G$ such that $a = gb$.
5 Using group operations, since $g^{-1} \in G$, $a = gb \implies g^{-1}a = g^{-1}gb \implies b = g^{-1}a$. Hence
6 $a \sim b \iff b \sim a$. **Nice!**

7 For transitivity ($a \sim b, b \sim c \implies a \sim c$), if $a = gb, b = hc$ for some $g, h \in G$, then $a = g(hc) = (gh)c$
8 using substitution. Since $gh \in G$, then $a \sim c$. **Nice!** \square

9
10 **Nice work! Try to use fewer \implies, \iff in your proof.**

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