

**Problem 1** (4.2).

1. Let  $G$  be a finite group and  $H$  a subgroup of index  $n$ . Define  $N := \bigcap_{x \in G} xHx^{-1}$  which we know is a normal subgroup of  $G$  contained in  $H$  by a prior problem. Now let  $G/N$  act on  $G/H$  by  $gN \cdot g'H \mapsto gg'H$ . To see this is well defined let  $g'H \in G/H$ . Then

$$gN \cdot g'H = gg'NH = gg'H$$

However this action is equivalent to a homomorphism  $\varphi : G/N \rightarrow S_{|G/H|=n}$  which by the first isomorphism theorem implies that  $G/N$  is isomorphic to some subgroup of  $S_n$  and as such  $|G/N| = |G : N| \mid n!$  completing the proof.

2. Let  $G$  be a finite group where  $p$  is the smallest prime factor of  $|G| = n$ . Let  $H$  be a subgroup of  $G$  with index  $p$ . Then by problem 4.2.1 there exists a subgroup  $N \trianglelefteq G$  such that  $N \leq H$  and  $|G : N| \mid p!$ . However  $|G : N|$  cannot be less than  $p$  because if it were then with  $|G| = |N||G : N|$  we would have  $|G|$  divisible by a smaller prime. On the other hand  $|G : N|$  cannot be larger than  $p$ . If it were then  $pm \mid |G|$  where  $m$  is a product of numbers smaller than  $p$  again contradicting that  $p$  is the smallest prime that divides  $|G|$ .

Thus  $|G : N| = p$  which via Lagrange's Theorem gives us that  $|H| = |N|$ . However since  $N \leq H$  it must be the case that  $N = H$ .

Therefore  $H$  is a normal subgroup.

3. Let  $G$  be a group and  $H$  a subgroup of index 2. Then there are only two cosets for  $H$  which are  $H, gH$  for some  $g \in G \setminus H$ . However since there are only two this implies that  $gH = Hg$ . Since this holds for all cosets of  $H$  we have that  $H$  is normal.

Therefore any subgroup of index 2 is normal.

4. Let  $N$  be a normal subgroup and  $K$  a conjugacy class  $K$  with some representative  $k \in K$ . If  $K \cap N = \phi$  then we're done. Otherwise suppose that  $K \cap N \neq \phi$ . Then there is some  $\alpha \in K \cap N$ . Then  $\alpha = gkg^{-1}$  for some  $g \in G$ . This implies that  $g^{-1}\alpha g = k$  however since  $\alpha \in N$  so is  $g^{-1}\alpha g = k$ . Therefore  $k \in N$  and as such  $K \subset N$ .

**Problem 2** (4.3).

*Proof.*

□

**Problem 3** (4.4.1).

*Proof.*

□

**Problem 4** (4.4.2).

*Proof.*

□

**Problem 5** (4.4.3).

*Proof.*

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