

SOLUTIONS TO TAKE-HOME PORTION OF MIDTERM  
March 21, 2008

1. Let  $Z_{60} = \langle x \rangle$  be the cyclic group of order 60.

- (a) Compute  $\phi(60)$ , and list all generators of 60.

*Proof.* Recall that the Euler-phi function  $\phi(n)$  gives the number of positive integers  $a$  less than  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  that are relatively prime to  $n$ . Also, for prime numbers  $p$  we know that  $\phi(p^a) = p^{a-1}(p-1)$ . We also remember that  $\phi(ab) = \phi(a)\phi(b)$  if  $a$  and  $b$  are relatively prime. Now  $60 = 2^2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5$ . Then  $\phi(60) = \phi(2^2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5) = \phi(2^2)\phi(3)\phi(5) = 2^{2-1}(2-1) \cdot 3^{1-1}(3-1) \cdot 5^{1-1}(5-1) = 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 4 = 16$ . These 16 integers are  $k = 1, 7, 11, 13, 17, 19, 23, 29, 31, 37, 41, 43, 47, 49, 53, 59$ , and thus,  $\langle x^k \rangle = \langle x \rangle$  for any of these values of  $k$ .  $\square$

- (b) List all elements of  $Z_{60}$  of order 6.

*Proof.* We begin by noticing that  $|x^{10}| = 6$  in  $Z_{60}$ . We are looking for integers  $k$  such that  $\frac{60}{\gcd(60,k)} = 6$ . Therefore we need to have  $\gcd(60, k) = 10$  for  $1 \leq k \leq 60$ . The  $k$ 's that satisfy this equation are 10, 50. So the elements of order 6 in  $Z_{60}$  are  $x^{10}$  and  $x^{50}$ .  $\square$

COMMENTS: Generators are *elements* of the group  $Z_{60}$ , while  $\langle x^{11} \rangle$  is a subgroup; indeed, it is the cyclic subgroup of  $Z_{60}$  generated by the element  $x^{11}$ .

2. Prove that the subset of elements of finite order in an Abelian group forms a subgroup. This group is known as the *torsion subgroup*. Is the same thing true for non-Abelian groups?

*Proof.* Let  $G$  be an Abelian group. Let  $H = \{g \in G : g^n = e, n < \infty\}$ . We begin by noting  $e \in H$ , so  $H \neq \emptyset$ .

Suppose  $a, b \in H$ . Then there exist  $n, m < \infty$  such that  $a^n = b^m = e$ . Notice that  $nm < \infty$  and  $(ab)^{nm} = a^{nm}b^{nm}$  since  $G$  is Abelian. Since  $a^n = b^m = e$  we have  $(ab)^{nm} = e$ . Hence  $ab \in H$ .

Assume that  $a \in H$  and  $a^n = e$  for some  $n < \infty$ . Then  $(a^{-1})^n = (a^n)^{-1} = e^{-1} = e$ . Hence  $a^{-1} \in H$ .

By the two-step subgroup test  $H \leq G$ .

The same is not true for non-Abelian groups. Let  $G = GL_2(\mathbb{R})$ , the set of two-by-two matrices with non-zero determinant. Let  $H$  be defined as above. Consider  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $B = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0.5 \\ 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ . Notice that  $A^2 = B^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ . Therefore both  $A$  and  $B$  have finite order, so we have  $A, B \in H$ . However  $AB = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.5 \end{bmatrix}$ . Now notice that  $(AB)^n = \begin{bmatrix} 2^n & 0 \\ 0 & 0.5^n \end{bmatrix}$ , which clearly does not have finite order. Therefore  $AB \notin H$ , hence  $H$  is not a subgroup.  $\square$

COMMENTS: To establish the second part of this problem, namely that the result is false if the hypothesis that  $G$  be Abelian is dropped, you need to provide a counter-example. Many students pointed out where in their proof they used that  $G$  was Abelian. However, this only shows that *your* proof fails if  $G$  is non-Abelian.

3. The *exponent* of a group is the smallest positive integer  $n$  such that  $x^n = e$  for all  $x$  in the group. Prove that every finite group has exponent that divides the order of the group.

*Proof.* Let  $|G| = k$ , for  $k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ , and let  $n$  denote the exponent of  $G$ . By Lagrange's theorem, we know that

$$x^k = e, \text{ for all } x \in G.$$

It follows that the exponent  $n \leq k$ .

By the division algorithm for  $\mathbb{Z}$ , we have that there exists a quotient  $q \in \mathbb{Z}$  and a remainder  $r \in \mathbb{Z}$  so that

$$k = qn + r, \text{ for } 0 \leq r < n. \quad (1)$$

For each  $x \in G$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} e &= x^k = x^{qn+r} \\ &= x^{qn}x^r \\ &= (x^n)^q x^r \\ &= x^r \text{ since } n \text{ is the exponent of } G. \end{aligned}$$

However, since  $n$  is the least positive integer so that  $x^n = e$  for all elements in  $G$ , we find that  $r = 0$  in Equation 1. Thus,  $n \mid k = |G|$ , as needed.  $\square$

4. Prove that every group of order 77 is cyclic.

*Proof.* Let  $G$  be a group of order 77.

More on Wednesday.... For a model proof, you can look at Example 16 in Chapter 10.  $\square$

5. Let  $N$  be a normal subgroup of  $G$  and let  $H \leq G$ . ( $H$  is not necessarily normal.) Prove that  $NH$  is a subgroup of  $G$ . Give an example to show that  $NH$  might not be a subgroup of  $G$  if neither  $N$  nor  $H$  is normal.

*Proof.* Let  $NH = \{nh \mid n \in N, h \in H\}$ . We begin by noting that both  $N$  and  $H$  are subgroups and therefore non-empty. Hence  $e \in N, H$ , so  $e = e \cdot e \in NH$ . Hence  $NH \neq \emptyset$ .

Suppose  $nh \in NH$ . Then  $(nh)^{-1} = h^{-1}n^{-1} \in h^{-1}N$ . Since  $N$  is normal, left and right cosets are equal:  $h^{-1}N = Nh^{-1}$ . In particular,  $h^{-1}n^{-1} = n'h^{-1}$  for some  $n' \in N$ . Therefore,  $(nh)^{-1} = n'h^{-1} \in NH$ .

Next we assume  $n_1h_1, n_2h_2 \in NH$ . Since  $N \triangleleft G$ , we have  $h_1N = Nh_1$ . In particular, the element  $h_1n_2 = n'h_1$  for some  $n' \in N$ .

Now we see that

$$(n_1h_1)(n_2h_2) = n_1(h_1n_2)h_2 = n_1(n'h_1)h_2 = (n_1n')(h_1h_2).$$

Notice that  $n_1n' \in N$  and  $h_1h_2 \in H$ . Therefore  $(n_1h_1)(n_2h_2) = (n_1n')(h_1h_2) \in NH$ .

By the two-step subgroup test  $NH \leq G$ .

To show the statement does not hold when  $N$  and  $H$  are not normal consider  $G = S_4$  and take  $N = \{e, (12)\}$ ,  $H = \{e, (13)\}$ . Then, with a little computation, we see that

$$NH = \{e, (13), (12), (132)\},$$

and we notice that  $NH$  is not a subgroup. For example, the element  $(132)$  has no inverse in  $NH$ . Also, the product  $(13)(12) = (123) \notin NH$ . Therefore  $NH$  is not a subgroup of  $G$ .  $\square$

COMMENTS: Look carefully at the third (or second) paragraph in the proof above. Several students incorrectly asserted that  $h_1n_2 = n_2h_1$ . This would mean that the elements  $h_1$  and  $n_2$  commute, which may not be true. Since  $N \triangleleft G$ , we know that right and left cosets are equal:  $h_1N = Nh_1$ . From this you obtain, that *there exists* some  $n' \in N$  with  $h_1n_2 = n'h_1$ , but this  $n'$  may not be equal to  $n_2$ .

6. (a) Chapter 9, # 37: Let  $G$  be a finite group and let  $H$  be a normal subgroup of  $G$ . Prove that the order of an element  $gH$  in  $G/H$  must divide the order of  $g$  in  $G$ .

*Proof.* Let  $g \in G$ . Then  $|g| = n < \infty$  and by Lagrange's theorem  $n \mid |G|$ . Let  $k$  be the order of  $(gH) \in G/H$ . Notice that  $(gH)^n = g^n H$  since  $H$  is normal. But  $g^n = e$  so  $(gH)^n = eH = H$ . By Corollary 2 to Theorem 4.1 the order  $k$  of  $gH$  in  $G/H$  divides  $n$ .  $\square$

- (b) Chapter 10, # 4: Prove that the mapping given in Example 11 is a homomorphism. What is the kernel of this homomorphism?

*Proof.* Let  $\phi : S_n \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_2$  where

$$\phi(\sigma) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } \sigma \text{ is even} \\ 1 & \text{if } \sigma \text{ is odd.} \end{cases}$$

Let  $E$  denote any even permutation and  $O$  any odd permutation. We have a few cases to consider to show  $\phi$  is a homomorphism. Notice that  $EE = E$ ,  $OO = E$  and  $OE = EO = O$ . Now,

$$\begin{aligned} \phi(EE) &= \phi(E) = 0 = 0 + 0 = \phi(E) + \phi(E), \\ \phi(OO) &= \phi(E) = 0 = 1 + 1 = \phi(O) + \phi(O), \\ \phi(OE) &= \phi(O) = 1 = 0 + 1 = \phi(E) + \phi(O), \\ \phi(EO) &= \phi(O) = 1 = 1 + 0 = \phi(O) + \phi(E). \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $\phi$  is a homomorphism.

Let  $K = \{\sigma \mid \sigma \text{ is even}\}$ . Clearly if  $\sigma \in K$  we know  $\phi(\sigma) = 0$  and then we have  $\sigma \in \ker \phi$ . Therefore,  $K \subseteq \ker \phi$ . Suppose  $\sigma \in \ker \phi$ . Then  $\phi(\sigma) = 0$ . By definition of  $\phi$  we know that  $\sigma$  is even. Hence  $\sigma \in K$  and  $\ker \phi \subseteq K$ . Therefore  $\ker \phi$  is the set of all even permutations; that is,  $\ker(\phi) = A_n$ .

Since kernels of homomorphisms are normal, we comment that this proves additionally that  $\ker(\phi) = A_n \triangleleft S_n$ .  $\square$

## 7. Chapter 10

- # 6 Let  $G$  be the group of all polynomials with real coefficients under addition. For each  $f$  in  $G$  let  $\int f$  denote the antiderivative of  $f$  that passes through the point  $(0,0)$ . Show that the mapping  $f \mapsto \int f$  from  $G$  to  $G$  is a homomorphism. What is the kernel of this mapping? Is this mapping a homomorphism if  $\int f$  denotes the antiderivative that passes through  $(0,1)$ ?

*Proof.* Let  $G$  be the group of all polynomials with real coefficients under addition. Define  $\phi : G \rightarrow G$  where  $f \mapsto \int f$ . (Where  $\int f$  passes through the point  $(0,0)$ .) Let  $f(x) = a_n x^n + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \dots + a_1 x + a_0$  and  $g(x) = b_m x^m + b_{m-1} x^{m-1} + \dots + b_1 x + b_0$  be polynomials in  $G$ . Without loss of generality we assume  $n \geq m$ . Now,

$$\begin{aligned} \phi(f(x) + g(x)) &= \phi((a_n x^n + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \dots + a_1 x + a_0) \\ &\quad + (b_m x^m + b_{m-1} x^{m-1} + \dots + b_1 x + b_0)) \\ &= \phi(a_n x^n + \dots + (a_{n-m} + b_{n-m}) x^{n-m} + \dots + (a_1 + b_1) x + (a_0 + b_0)) \\ &= \int (a_n x^n + \dots + (a_{n-m} + b_{n-m}) x^{n-m} + \dots + (a_1 + b_1) x + (a_0 + b_0)) \\ &= \frac{a_n}{n+1} x^{n+1} + \dots + \frac{(a_{n-m} + b_{n-m})}{n-m+1} x^{n-m+1} + \dots + \frac{(a_1 + b_1)}{2} x^2 + (a_0 + b_0) x \\ &= \left( \frac{a_n}{n+1} x^{n+1} + \frac{a_{n-1}}{n} x^n + \dots + a_0 x \right) + \left( \frac{b_m}{m+1} x^{m+1} + \frac{b_{m-1}}{m} x^m + \dots + b_0 x \right) \\ &= \phi(f(x)) + \phi(g(x)). \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $\phi$  is a homomorphism.

Notice that the  $\ker \phi = \{f \in G \mid \phi(f) = 0\}$ . Notice that any non-zero polynomial will map to a non-zero element under  $\phi$ . Hence  $\ker \phi = \{0\}$ .

Let  $\psi$  be the mapping above where  $f \mapsto \int f$  and  $\int f$  passes through  $(0, 1)$ . Take  $f(x) = x$ . Then  $\psi(f(x)) = \int f(x) = \frac{x^2}{2} + 1$ . Notice that  $\psi(f(x) + f(x)) = \psi(2x) = x^2 + 1$ . However,  $\psi(f(x)) + \psi(f(x)) = \frac{x^2}{2} + 1 + \frac{x^2}{2} + 1 = x^2 + 2$ . Then  $\psi(f(x) + f(x)) \neq \psi(f(x)) + \psi(f(x))$ . Therefore  $\psi$  is not a homomorphism.  $\square$

- # 9 Prove that the mapping from  $G \oplus H$  to  $G$  given by  $(g, h) \rightarrow g$  is a homomorphism. What is the kernel? This mapping is called the *projection* of  $G \oplus H$  onto  $G$ .

*Proof.* Let  $\phi : G \oplus H$  by  $(g, h) \mapsto g$ . Suppose  $(g, h), (a, b) \in G \oplus H$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned}\phi((g, h) + (a, b)) &= \phi((g + a, h + b)) \\ &= g + a \\ &= \phi((g, h)) + \phi((a, b)).\end{aligned}$$

Hence  $\phi$  is a homomorphism.

Let  $K = \{(0, h) \mid h \in H\}$ . We claim that  $K = \ker \phi$ . Indeed, if  $(0, h) \in K$  then  $\phi((0, h)) = 0$ . Hence  $K \subseteq \ker \phi$ . Suppose  $(g, h) \in \ker \phi$ . Then  $\phi(g, h) = g = 0$ . Hence  $(g, h) = (0, h) \in K$ . Therefore  $\ker \phi \subseteq K$ . Together we have  $\ker \phi = \{(0, h) \mid h \in H\}$ .  $\square$

## 8. Chapter 10

- # 14 Explain why the correspondence  $x \rightarrow 3x$  from  $\mathbb{Z}_{12}$  to  $\mathbb{Z}_{10}$  is not a homomorphism.

*Proof.* Notice that  $\phi(6 + 7) = \phi(1) = 3 \bmod 10$ , since  $13 \bmod 12 \equiv 1$ . However,

$$\begin{aligned}\phi(6) + \phi(7) &= (3 \cdot 6 \bmod 10) + (3 \cdot 7 \bmod 10) \\ &= (18 \bmod 10) + (21 \bmod 10) \\ &= (8 \bmod 10) + (1 \bmod 10) \\ &= 9 \bmod 10.\end{aligned}$$

Since  $\phi(6 + 7) \neq \phi(6) + \phi(7)$ , we see that  $\phi$  is not a homomorphism.  $\square$

- # 15 Suppose that  $\phi$  is a homomorphism from  $\mathbb{Z}_{30}$  to  $\mathbb{Z}_{30}$  and  $\ker \phi = \{0, 10, 20\}$ . If  $\phi(23) = 9$  determine all elements that map to 9.

*Proof.* Recall  $\phi^{-1}(9) = \{x \in \mathbb{Z}_{30} \mid \phi(x) = 9\}$ . Using property 6 of Theorem 10.1 we know that  $\phi^{-1}(9) = 23 + \ker \phi$ . Hence the set of all elements that map to 9 are given by  $\phi^{-1}(9) = \{23, 3, 13\}$ .  $\square$

- # 16 Prove that there is no homomorphism from  $\mathbb{Z}_8 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2$  onto  $\mathbb{Z}_4 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_4$ .

*Proof.* Note that the element  $(1, 0) \in \mathbb{Z}_8 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2$  has order 8. However, given any  $(a, b) \in \mathbb{Z}_4 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_4$  we see that  $4(a, b) = (4a, 4b) \equiv (0, 0)$ . Therefore the order of  $(a, b) \leq 4$ . Since  $(a, b) \in \mathbb{Z}_4 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_4$  was arbitrary we can conclude that the maximum order of any element in  $\mathbb{Z}_4 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_4$  is 4. Hence  $\mathbb{Z}_4 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_4$  has no element of order 8. Since homomorphisms preserve orders of elements and there is not an element of order 8 in  $\mathbb{Z}_4 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_4$  we conclude that there is no homomorphism from  $\mathbb{Z}_8 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2$  to  $\mathbb{Z}_4 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_4$ .  $\square$

QUESTION: A number of students indicated that if  $\phi$  in the last problem were a homomorphism, then  $\ker(\phi)$  must be  $\langle(4, 1)\rangle$ ,  $\langle(0, 1)\rangle$ , or  $\langle(4, 0)\rangle$ , (or some variation thereof). I did not follow your reasoning here.

9. Chapter 10 # 23 Suppose  $\phi$  is a homomorphism from  $\mathbb{Z}_{36}$  to a group of order 24.

- (a) Determine all the possible homomorphic images.

*Proof.* By property 2 of Theorem 10.1, a homomorphism is completely specified by the image of 1. So, if  $1 \mapsto a$ , then  $x \mapsto xa$ . By Lagrange's Theorem and property 7 of Theorem 10.1, we need  $|a|$  to divide 36 and 24. Thus  $|a| = 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 12$ . Then possible homomorphic images are  $\text{Im}(\phi_1) \cong \mathbb{Z}_1$ ,  $\text{Im}(\phi_2) \cong \mathbb{Z}_2$ ,  $\text{Im}(\phi_3) \cong \mathbb{Z}_3$ ,  $\text{Im}(\phi_4) \cong \mathbb{Z}_4$ ,  $\text{Im}(\phi_6) \cong \mathbb{Z}_6$  and  $\text{Im}(\phi_{12}) \cong \mathbb{Z}_{12}$ .  $\square$

- (b) For each image in part a, determine the corresponding kernel of  $\phi$ .

*Proof.* By the First Isomorphism Theorem we know  $G/\ker \phi \cong \text{Im}(\phi)$ . Then for each  $\phi_i$  we have  $\mathbb{Z}_{36}/\ker(\phi_i) \cong \text{Im}(\phi_i)$ . We then see that  $\ker(\phi_1) = \mathbb{Z}_{36}$ ,  $\ker(\phi_2) = \langle 2 \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}_{18}$ ,  $\ker(\phi_3) = \langle 3 \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}_{12}$ ,  $\ker(\phi_4) = \langle 4 \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}_9$ ,  $\ker(\phi_6) = \langle 6 \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}_6$ , and  $\ker(\phi_{12}) = \langle 12 \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}_3$ .  $\square$

## 10. Chapter 10

- # 35 Prove that the mapping  $\phi : \mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  given by  $(a, b) \mapsto a - b$  is a homomorphism. What is the kernel of  $\phi$ ? Describe the set  $\phi^{-1}(3)$ , that is the set of all elements that map to 3.

*Proof.* Let  $\phi : \mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  by  $(a, b) \mapsto a - b$ . Suppose  $(a, b), (c, d) \in \mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned}\phi((a, b) + (c, d)) &= \phi((a + c, b + d)) \\ &= a + c - (b + d) \\ &= a + c - b - d \\ &= (a - b) + (c - d) \\ &= \phi(a, b) + \phi(c, d).\end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $\phi$  is a homomorphism.

Let  $K = \{(a, a) \mid (a, a) \in \mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}\}$ . We show that  $K = \ker \phi$ . Suppose  $(a, a) \in K$ . Then  $\phi(a, a) = a - a = 0$ . Hence  $(a, a) \in \ker \phi$  and  $K \subseteq \ker \phi$ . Suppose  $(a, b) \in \ker \phi$ . Then  $\phi(a, b) = a - b = 0$ . Hence  $a - b = 0$  or  $a = b$ . Then  $(a, b) = (a, a) \in K$ . Now  $\ker \phi \subseteq K$ . Therefore  $\ker \phi = K$ .

Let  $T = \phi^{-1}(3) = \{(a + 3, a) \mid a \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ . Given  $(a + 3, a) \in T$ , we see  $\phi(a + 3, a) = a + 3 - a = 3$ . Hence  $(a + 3, a) \in \ker \phi$ . Next we assume  $(a, b) \in \phi^{-1}(3)$ . Hence  $\phi(a, b) = a - b = 3$  or  $a = b + 3$ . Hence  $(a, b) = (b + 3, b)$  and  $(a, b) \in T$ . Therefore  $T = \phi^{-1}(3)$ .  $\square$

- # 38 For each pair of positive integers  $m$  and  $n$ , we can define a homomorphism from  $\mathbb{Z}$  to  $\mathbb{Z}_m \oplus \mathbb{Z}_n$  by  $x \mapsto (x \bmod m, x \bmod n)$ . What is the kernel when  $(m, n) = (3, 4)$ ? What is the kernel when  $(m, n) = (6, 4)$ ?

*Proof.* Let  $\phi : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_3 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_4$  be given by  $x \mapsto (x \bmod 3, x \bmod 4)$ .

CLAIM.  $\ker \phi = \langle 12 \rangle$ .

If  $a \in \langle 12 \rangle$  we know  $a = 12k$  for some  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Then  $\phi(a) = \phi(12k) = (12k \bmod 3, 12k \bmod 4) = (0, 0)$ . Hence  $a \in \ker \phi$ . Therefore  $\langle 12 \rangle \subseteq \ker \phi$ .

Suppose  $x \in \ker \phi$ . Then  $\phi(x) = (x \bmod 3, x \bmod 4) = (0, 0)$ , and we have both  $0 \equiv x \bmod 3$  and  $0 \equiv x \bmod 4$ . Therefore,  $x = 3 \cdot 4 \cdot k$  for some  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Hence,  $x \in \langle 12 \rangle$  and  $\ker \phi \subseteq \langle 12 \rangle$ . It follows that  $\ker \phi = \langle 12 \rangle$ , and the claim is established.

Now let  $\psi : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_6 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_4$  where  $x \mapsto (x \bmod 6, x \bmod 4)$ . Again, we claim that  $\ker \psi = \langle 12 \rangle$ . Suppose  $a \in \langle 12 \rangle$ . Then  $a = 12k$  for some  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Then  $\psi(a) = \psi(12k) = (12k \bmod 6, 12k \bmod 4) = (0, 0)$ . Assume  $x \in \ker \psi$ . Then  $\psi(x) = (x \bmod 6, x \bmod 4) = (0, 0)$ . Hence  $0 \equiv x \bmod 6$  and  $0 \equiv x \bmod 4$ . So  $x$  must be a multiple of both 6 and 4. Stated otherwise,  $x = \text{lcm}(6, 4) = 12k$ . Therefore  $\ker \psi \subseteq \langle 12 \rangle$ . We conclude  $\ker \psi = \langle 12 \rangle$ .

Notice that the general statement for  $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  is that  $\ker(\phi) = \langle \text{lcm}(m, n) \rangle$ .  $\square$

OTHER COMMENTS: If  $\phi : \mathbb{Z}_m \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_n$ , it is customary to write  $\phi(a) + \phi(b)$  using a “+”, since the operation in the group is addition.

COMMENTS ON THE IN-CLASS EXAM:

1. (a) A non-cyclic Abelian group  $A$ .  
 $\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}$ , but not  $\mathbb{Z}$ .
- (b) A group  $G$  and two elements  $a, b \in G$  with  $|a| < \infty$  and  $|b| = \infty$ .  
 $a = 0$  and  $b = 1$  in  $\mathbb{Z}$ .
- (c) A normal subgroup  $N$  of  $D_4$ .  
Several students cleverly wrote  $\{e\}$  or  $D_4$ . I should have asked for a proper normal subgroup of  $D_4$  that is not trivial. The subgroup  $\langle R_{90} \rangle \triangleleft D_4$  is one such subgroup.
- (d) A group  $G$  whose only subgroups are  $\{e\}$  and  $G$ .  
 $\mathbb{Z}_{11}$  or  $\mathbb{Z}_p$  for  $p$  prime.
- (e) Three non-isomorphic groups of order 34.  
This is impossible, since any group of order 34 must be isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}_{34}$  (in which case it is cyclic) or  $D_{17}$  (in which case it is not cyclic).
- (f) An element of order 6 in  $S_5$ .  
 $(123)(45)$  or any product of a disjoint 3-cycle and transposition.
- (g) An element of order 6 in  $A_5$ .  
There are not any. Why?

2. (3 pts.) Consider the permutation group  $S_6$ , and let  $\sigma = (123)(45)(56)(13)$ .

Give in disjoint cycle notation the element  $\sigma^{100} = [(123)(45)(56)(13)]^{100}$

First, compute  $\sigma$  as a product of *disjoint* cycles,  $\sigma = (23)(456)$ . The order of  $\sigma$  then is 6. Now noticing that  $100 \equiv 4 \pmod{6}$ , then

$$\sigma^{100} = \sigma^4 = (23)^4(456)^4, \text{ since disjoint cycles commute.}$$

Thus,  $\sigma^{100} = (456)$ .

3. Consider the quotient group  $G = 4\mathbb{Z}/24\mathbb{Z}$ .

- (a) What is the order of  $G$ ? List all elements of  $G$ .

The order is six and the elements are cosets:

$$4\mathbb{Z}/24\mathbb{Z} = \{24\mathbb{Z}, 4 + 24\mathbb{Z}, 8 + 24\mathbb{Z}, 12 + 24\mathbb{Z}, 16 + 24\mathbb{Z}, 20 + 24\mathbb{Z}\}.$$

- (b) Is  $G$  cyclic? Justify your answer by computing the order of elements in  $G$ .

Yes,  $G$  is cyclic because you can compute that  $|4 + 24\mathbb{Z}| = |20 + 24\mathbb{Z}| = 6 = |G|$ .

4. Consider the cyclic group  $C_{24}$  of order 24 generated by  $x$ ,  $C_{24} = \langle x \rangle$ .

Students did very well on this problem.

5. Fix  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  with  $n \geq 2$ . Prove that  $\text{SL}(n, \mathbb{R}) \triangleleft \text{GL}(n, \mathbb{R})$ .

Quick outline of proof: Define the determinant map from  $\text{GL}(n, \mathbb{R})$  to the multiplicative group of non-zero real numbers  $\mathbb{R}^*$ ,

$$\det : \text{GL}(n, \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^*.$$

Show that  $\det$  is a homomorphism with  $\ker(\det) = \text{SL}(n, \mathbb{R})$ . Therefore,  $\text{SL}(n, \mathbb{R}) \triangleleft \text{GL}(n, \mathbb{R})$ .

6. Prove that any group  $A$  of order 4 is Abelian. Then classify (describe up to isomorphism) all groups of order 4.

Write a solution to this problem and hand it in with your HW on Wednesday.