

SOLUTION KEY

Produced by: Kyle Dahlin

Problems:

Chap 7: 22, 26, 40, 44

Chap 8: 2, 8, 10, 54

Problem 7.22. Suppose H and K are subgroups of a group G . If $|H| = 12$ and $|K| = 35$, find $|H \cap K|$. Generalize.

Solution:

Let $a \in H \cap K$. Then $|a|$ divides $|H| = 12$ and $|K| = 35$, by Corollary 2 of Lagrange's Theorem. Hence $|a| = 1$ so that $a = e$ and $|H \cap K| = 1$. In general, if H and K are subgroups and $\gcd(|H|, |K|) = 1$, then $|H \cap K| = 1$. ■

Problem 7.26*.** Suppose that G is a group with more than one element and G has no proper, nontrivial subgroups. Prove that $|G|$ is prime. (Do not assume at the outset that G is finite.)

Solution:

Let $a \neq e$ be an element of G . Then $\langle a \rangle = G$ since otherwise $\langle a \rangle$ would be a proper subgroup. If G were not finite, then, for example, $\langle a^2 \rangle$ would be a proper subgroup. Hence G is finite. Let m be any divisor of $|a|$. Then $\langle a^m \rangle \subseteq G$, so that either $m = 1$ or $m = |a|$. Hence $|a| = |G|$ is prime. ■

Problem 7.40. Prove that a group of order 63 must have an element of order 3.

Solution:

Let G be a group with $|G| = 63$. Let $a \neq e$ be an element of G . Then $|a|$ divides 63, by Corollary 2 of Lagrange's Theorem. Hence $|a| \in \{3, 7, 9, 21, 63\}$. If $|a| = 3$, we are done. If $|a| = 63$, then $|a^{21}| = 3$. If $|a| = 21$, then $|a^7| = 3$. If $|a| = 9$, then $|a^3| = 3$.

Hence we need only deal with case that **all** 62 non-identity elements of G have order 7. By the Corollary to Theorem 4.4, the number of elements of order 7 must be a multiple of $\phi(7) = 6$. But 6 does not divide 62. Thus there must be at least one element of G with order 3, 9, 21, or 63, and we are done by our previous work. ■

Problem 7.44. Prove that every subgroup of D_n of odd order is cyclic.

Solution:

Recall that $|D_n| = 2n$. Let $H \leq D_n$ with $|H| = m$ odd. We know that elements of D_n are made up of combinations of reflections and rotations. Since any reflection has order 2 and m is odd, there can be no reflections in H . Let K be the subgroup of D_n made up of all rotations. Then $K = \langle R_{360/n} \rangle$ is cyclic. Since H must be entirely made up of rotations, $H \leq K$. Every subgroup of a cyclic group is cyclic, hence H is cyclic. ■

Problem 8.2*.** Show that $Z_2 \oplus Z_2 \oplus Z_2$ has seven subgroups of order 2.

Solution:

Each subgroup must be cyclic since 2 is prime.

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1. $\langle(1, 0, 0)\rangle$
2. $\langle(0, 1, 0)\rangle$
3. $\langle(0, 0, 1)\rangle$
4. $\langle(1, 1, 0)\rangle$
5. $\langle(1, 0, 1)\rangle$
6. $\langle(0, 1, 1)\rangle$
7. $\langle(1, 1, 1)\rangle$

Each of these have order 2 since $|(a_1, a_2, a_3)| = \text{lcm}(|a_1|, |a_2|, |a_3|)$. ■

Problem 8.8. Is $Z_3 \oplus Z_9$ isomorphic to Z_{27} ? Why?

Solution:

Since 9 and 3 are not relatively prime these are not isomorphic (by Corollary 2 to Theorem 8.2). ■

Problem 8.10*.** How many elements of order 9 does $Z_3 \oplus Z_9$ have?

Solution:

The elements of order 9 of $Z_3 \oplus Z_9$ are elements of the form (a, b) where $\text{lcm}(|a|, |b|) = 9$. Elements of Z_3 have orders of 1 or 3 and elements of Z_9 have orders of 1, 3, or 9. Hence the only way to get $\text{lcm}(|a|, |b|) = 9$ is if $|b| = 9$. There are $\phi(9) = 6$ elements of order 9 in Z_9 . Each of these elements of Z_9 can be paired with any element of Z_3 , hence there are $3 \times 6 = 18$ elements of order 9 in $Z_3 \oplus Z_9$. ■

Problem 8.54. Find an isomorphism from Z_{12} to $Z_4 \oplus Z_3$.

Solution:

Let $\phi : Z_{12} \rightarrow Z_4 \oplus Z_3$ be defined by $\phi(a) = (a \bmod 4, a \bmod 3)$. Then since

$$\begin{aligned}\phi(a + b) &= (a + b \bmod 4, a + b \bmod 3) \\ &= (a \bmod 4, a \bmod 3) + (b \bmod 4, b \bmod 3) \\ &= \phi(a) + \phi(b),\end{aligned}$$

ϕ is a homomorphism.

Suppose that $\phi(a) = \phi(b)$. Then $a \bmod 4 = b \bmod 4$ and $a \bmod 3 = b \bmod 3$, that is, $a + 4k = b + 4l$ and $a + 3i = b + 3j$ for some $i, j, k, l \in \mathbb{Z}$. Hence $a - b = 4(l - k) = 3(j - i)$. If $l = k$ or $i = j$ then $a = b$. Otherwise if $l \neq k$ and $i \neq j$, then both 4 and 3 divide $a - b$, and hence 12 divides $a - b$. But if 12 divides $a - b$, then $a = b$ in Z_{12} . Hence ϕ is one-to-one.

Since $|Z_{12}| = |Z_4 \oplus Z_3|$ is finite, ϕ being one-to-one implies that it is also onto. ■