

Let  $H$  be a subgroup of  $G$  and let  $N$  be a normal subgroup of  $G$  Then  $(HN) \cap N =$  \_\_\_\_\_

page 1009

Answer ( Please select your correct option )

$H \cup (H \cup N)$

$H \cup (H \cap N)$

$H \cup (H \cap N)$

$H \cap (H \cap N)$

$H / H \cap N$



A non-abelian group  $G$  may have \_\_\_\_\_ of some order  $d$  dividing  $|G|$ .

page 1035

Answer ( Please select your correct option )

abelian subgroup

subset

no subgroup

none of these



Question No : 8 of 11

A \_\_\_\_\_ contained in no larger  $p$ -subgroup.

page 1064

Answer ( Please select your correct option )

$p$  - subgroup



cyclic subgroups

proper subgroups

trivial subgroups

Question No : 7 of 11

Each orbit in  $G$  under conjugation by  $G$  is a \_\_\_\_\_ in  $G$ .

page 1082

Answer ( Please select your correct option )

conjugate class



subgroup

trivial group

none of these

Question No : 6 of 41

For a prime number  $p$ , every group  $G$  of order  $p^2$  is \_\_\_\_\_

page 1091

Answer ( Please select your correct option )

abelian



non-abelian

infinite

none of these

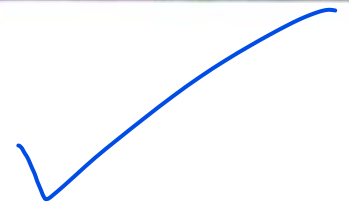
Question No : 5 of 11

If  $H$  and  $N$  are subgroups of a group  $G$ , then the their join  $H \vee N$  is the smallest subgroup of  $G$  containing both  $H$  and  $N$ .

page 1004

Answer ( Please select your correct option )

True



False

Question No : 4 of 11

Let  $G$  be a group acting on a set  $X$ , and let  $x \in X$ . Then the set  $Gx = \{ax \mid a \in G\}$

is called the orbit of  $x$  in  $G$ .

page 976

Answer (Please select your correct option)

True

False

 $\alpha$ 

Question No : 3 of 41

Sometimes a set  $X$  is used to study  $G$  via a group action of  $G$  on  $X$

page 953

Answer ( Please select your correct option )

Yes



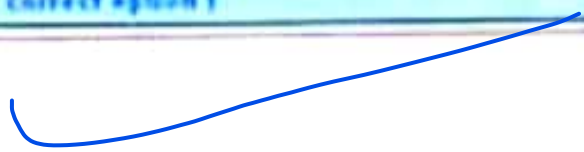
No

Generally, for any sets  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$ , we can view a map  $* A \times B \rightarrow C$  as defining a 'multiplication,' where any element  $a$  of  $A$  times any element  $b$  of  $B$  has as value some element  $c$  of  $C$ .

page 946

Answer (Please select your correct option)

True



# MTH633 Group Theory

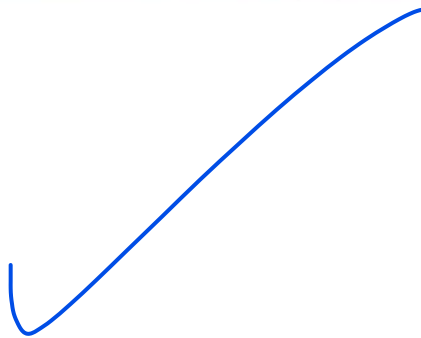
Question No : 1 of 41

$A_3$  is a normal subgroup of  $S_3$

page 919

Answer ( Please select your correct option )

Yes



No

Let the complex numbers of magnitude 1 form a subgroup  $U$  of  $C^*$ , then the cosets of  $U$  are \_\_\_\_\_

page 718

Answer ( Please select your correct option )

Parallel lines

circles with center at the origin.

Non-parallel lines

None of these



$\text{Ker}(A)$  is called the null space of  $A$  if it consists of all  $v \in \mathbb{R}^n$  such that \_\_\_\_\_

page 700

Answer ( Please select your correct option )

$Av = a$

$Av = b$

$Av = c$

$Av = 0$



Let  $\phi$  be a homomorphism function from group  $(G, *)$  to group  $(G', \cdot)$ . Then,  $(\text{Ker } \phi, *)$  is \_\_\_\_\_ subgroup of  $(G, *)$

page 675

Answer (Please select your correct option)

commutative

factor

simple

normal



If  $N$  is \_\_\_\_\_ subgroup of a group  $G$ , the left cosets of  $N$  in  $G$  are the same as the right cosets of  $N$  in  $G$ .

page 652

Answer ( Please select your correct option )

normal



proper

improper

trivial

# Group Theory

Let  $H$  be a subgroup of  $G$  and  $a$  is in  $G$ , then \_\_\_\_\_

page 564

Answer ( Please select your correct option )

$|aH| = |bH|$



$|aH| \neq |bH|$

$|aH| < |bH|$

$|aH| > |bH|$

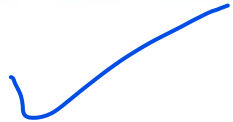
Question No : 15 of 41

$\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_3$  is cyclic group with generator -----

page 496

Answer ( Please select your correct option )

(1, 1)



(0, 0)

(1, 0)

(0, 1)

$\prod_{i=1}^n G_i$  is the \_\_\_\_\_ notation for all the group operations for  $G_1, \dots, G_n$ .

page 484

Answer (Please select your correct option)

additive

multiplicative

subtractive

division



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Question No : 13 of 41

$S_3$  is NOT the group  $D_3$  of symmetries of an equilateral triangle.

page 441

Answer ( Please select your correct option )

Yes

No



Question No : 12 of 11

Every subgroup of a cyclic group is ----- group.

page 385

Answer ( Please select your correct option )

Cyclic



Non-cyclic

Non-abelian

Finite

$\langle \mathbb{Z}, + \rangle$  is ----- of  $\langle \mathbb{R}, \cdot \rangle$

page 305

Answer ( Please select your correct option )

subgroup

not subgroup

trivial subgroup

non-trivial subgroup



## QUESTION 1

Let  $\phi: G \rightarrow G'$  be a group morphism. Then,  $\phi$  is injective if and only if  $\text{Ker } \phi = \{e\}$ .

**Proof :**

If  $\text{Ker}(\phi) = \{e\}$ , then for every  $a \in G$ , the elements mapped into  $\phi(a)$  are precisely the elements of the left coset  $a\{e\} = \{a\}$ , which shows that  $\phi$  is one to one.

Conversely, suppose  $\phi$  is one to one. Now, we know that  $\phi(e) = e'$ , the identity element of  $G'$ . Since  $\phi$  is one to one, we see that  $e$  is the only element mapped into  $e'$  by  $\phi$ , so  $\text{Ker}(\phi) = \{e\}$ .

## QUESTION 2

**A homomorphism  $h: G \rightarrow G'$  is injective if and only if  $\text{Ker } h = \{e\}$**

Proof:

Suppose  $h$  is injective, and let  $x \in \text{Ker } h$ .

Then  $h(x) = e' = h(e)$ . Hence  $x = e$ .

Conversely, suppose  $\text{Ker } h = \{e\}$ .

Then  $h(x) = h(y)$

$$\Rightarrow h(xy^{-1}) = h(x)h(y^{-1})$$

$$= h(x)h(y)^{-1} = e'$$

$$\Rightarrow xy^{-1} \in \text{Ker } h$$

$$\Rightarrow xy^{-1} = e$$

$$\Rightarrow x = y.$$

Hence,  $h$  is injective.

### QUESTION 3

Classify the group  $(\mathbb{Z}_4 \times \mathbb{Z}_2) / (\{0\} \times \mathbb{Z}_2)$  according to the fundamental theorem of finitely generated abelian groups.

#### Solution :

The projection map

$\pi_1 : \mathbb{Z}_4 \times \mathbb{Z}_2 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_4$  given by  $\pi_1(x, y) = x$  is a homomorphism of  $\mathbb{Z}_4 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$  onto  $\mathbb{Z}_4$  with kernel  $\{0\} \times \mathbb{Z}_2$ . By fundamental theorem of homomorphism, we know that the given factor group is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}_4$ .

The projection map

$\pi_1 : \mathbb{Z}_4 \times \mathbb{Z}_2 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_4$  given by

$$\pi_1(x, y) = x.$$

$$K = \text{Ker } \pi_1 = \{0\} \times \mathbb{Z}_2$$

$$= \{(0, 0), (0, 1)\}.$$

$$(1, 0) + K = \{(1, 0), (1, 1)\}$$

$$(2, 0) + K = \{(2, 0), (2, 1)\}$$

## QUESTION 4

The set of all inner automorphisms of  $G$  is a subgroup of  $\text{Aut}(G)$ .

Proof:

(1) Let  $i_a, i_b \in \text{Inn}(G)$ .

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Then } i_a(i_b(x)) &= a(i_b(x))a^{-1} = abxb^{-1}a^{-1} \\ &= abx(ab)^{-1} = i_{ab} \in \text{Inn}(G).\end{aligned}$$

Hence the conjugation by  $b$  composed by conjugation by  $a$  is conjugation by  $ab$ .

(2) The inverse of  $i_a$  is conjugation by  $a' = a^{-1}$ .

$$i_a((i_{a'})^{-1}(x)) = i_a(a'x(a')^{-1}) = aa'xa'^{-1}a^{-1} = aa'x(aa')^{-1} = x.$$

Thus  $\text{Inn}(G)$  is a subgroup.

## QUESTION 5

**A factor group of a cyclic group is cyclic.**

Proof:

Let  $G$  be cyclic with generator  $a$ , and let  $N$  be a normal subgroup of  $G$ . We claim the coset  $aN$  generates  $G/N$ . We must compute all powers of  $aN$ . But this amounts to computing, in  $G$ , all powers of the representative  $a$  and all these powers give all elements in  $G$ . Hence the powers of  $aN$  certainly give all cosets of  $N$  and  $G/N$  is cyclic.

## QUESTION 6

Here the first factor  $\mathbb{Z}_4$  of  $\mathbb{Z}_4 \times \mathbb{Z}_6$  is left alone. The  $\mathbb{Z}_6$  factor, on the other hand, is essentially collapsed by a subgroup of order 3, giving a factor group in the second factor of order 2 that must be isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ . Thus  $(\mathbb{Z}_4 \times \mathbb{Z}_6)/((0, 2))$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}_4 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$ . The trivial subgroup  $N = \{0\}$  of  $\mathbb{Z}$  is, of course, a normal subgroup. Compute  $\mathbb{Z}/\{0\}$ .

### Solution:

Since  $N = \{0\}$  has only one element, every coset of  $N$  has only one element. That is, the cosets are of the form  $\{m\}$  for  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ . There is no collapsing at all, and consequently,  $\mathbb{Z}/\{0\} \cong \mathbb{Z}$ . Each  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$  is simply renamed  $\{m\}$  in  $\mathbb{Z}/\{0\}$ .

## QUESTION 7

Let  $G = H \times K$  be the direct product of groups  $H$  and  $K$ . Then  $\bar{H} = \{(h, e) \mid h \in H\}$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$ . Also  $G/\bar{H}$  is isomorphic to  $K$  in a natural way. Similarly,  $G/\bar{K} \simeq H$  in a natural way.

### Proof

Consider the map  $\pi_2: H \times K \rightarrow K$  given by

$\pi_2(h, k) = k$ . The map  $\pi_2$  is homomorphism since

$$\pi_2(h_1 h_2, k_1 k_2) = k_1 k_2 = \pi_2(h_1, k_1) \pi_2(h_2, k_2).$$

Because  $\text{Ker}(\pi_2) = \bar{H}$ , we see that  $\bar{H}$  is a normal subgroup of  $H \times K$ . Because  $\pi_2$  is onto  $K$ , Fundamental Theorem of Homomorphism tells us that  $(H \times K)/\bar{H} \simeq K$ .

## QUESTION 8

The cyclic group  $G = \mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z}$  of congruence classes modulo 5 is simple.

### Proof

If  $H$  is a subgroup of this group, its order must be a divisor of the order of  $G$  which is 5.

Since 5 is prime, its only divisors are 1 and 5, so either  $H$  is  $G$ , or  $H$  is the trivial group.

## QUESTION 9

M is a maximal normal subgroup of G if and only if  $G/M$  is simple.

Proof :

Let  $M$  be a maximal normal subgroup of  $G$ . Consider the canonical homomorphism  $\gamma: G \rightarrow G/M$ . Now  $\gamma^{-1}$  of any nontrivial proper normal subgroup of  $G/M$  is a proper normal subgroup of  $G$  properly containing  $M$ . But  $M$  is maximal, so this can not happen. Thus  $G/M$  is simple.

Conversely, if  $N$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$  properly containing  $M$ , then  $\gamma[N]$  is normal in  $G/M$ . If also  $N \neq G$ , then  $\gamma[N] \neq G/M$  and  $\gamma[N] \neq \{M\}$ .

Thus, if  $G/M$  is simple so that no such  $\gamma[N]$  can exist, no such  $N$  can exist, and  $M$  is maximal.

## QUESTION 10

Show that  $Z(G)$  is a normal and an abelian subgroup of  $G$ .

**Solution :**

For each  $g \in G$  and  $z \in Z(G)$  we have  $gzg^{-1} = zgg^{-1} = ze = z$ , we see at once that  $Z(G)$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$ . It implies that  $gz = zg$  for  $g \in G$  and  $z \in Z(G)$ . If  $G$  is abelian, then  $Z(G) = G$ ; in this case, the center is not useful.

## QUESTION 11

Let  $G$  be a group. The set of all commutators  $aba^{-1}b^{-1}$  for  $a, b \in G$  generates a subgroup  $C$  of  $G$ .

Proof:

Let  $a, b \in G$ . Then,

$$(aba^{-1}b^{-1})(aba^{-1}b^{-1})$$

$$=aba^{-1}b^{-1}bab^{-1}a^{-1}$$

$$=e \in C$$

since  $e = eee^{-1}e^{-1}$  is a commutator.

## QUESTION 12

The Klein 4-group  $V = \{e, a, b, c\}$  is generated.

Proof:

The Klein 4-group  $V = \{e, a, b, c\}$  is generated by  $\{a, b\}$  since  $ab=c$ .

It is also generated by  $\{a, c\}$ ,  $\{b, c\}$ , and  $\{a, b, c\}$ .

If a group  $G$  is generated by a subset  $S$ , then every subset of  $G$  containing  $S$  generates  $G$ .

## QUESTION 13

The group  $\mathbb{Z}_6$  is generated.

### Proof:

The group  $\mathbb{Z}_6$  is generated by  $\{1\}$  and  $\{5\}$ . It is also generated by  $\{2,3\}$  since  $2+3=5$ , so that any subgroup containing 2 and 3 must contain 5 and must therefore be  $\mathbb{Z}_6$ . It is also generated by  $\{3,4\}$ ,  $\{2,3,4\}$ ,  $\{1,3\}$ , and  $\{3,5\}$ . But it is not generated by  $\{2, 4\}$  since  $\langle 2 \rangle = \{0, 2, 4\}$  contains 2 and 4.

## QUESTION 14

If  $N$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$ , then  $G/N$  is abelian if and only if  $C \leq N$ .

Proof :

If  $N$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$  and  $G/N$  is abelian, then

$$(a^{-1}N)(b^{-1}N) = (b^{-1}N)(a^{-1}N); \text{ that is, } aba^{-1}b^{-1}N = N,$$

so  $aba^{-1}b^{-1} \in N$ , and  $C \leq N$ .

Finally, if  $C \leq N$ , then

$$(aN)(bN) = abN$$

$$= ab(b^{-1}a^{-1}ba)N$$

$$= (abb^{-1}a^{-1})baN$$

$$= baN$$

$$= (bN)(aN).$$

## QUESTION 15

The set  $\text{Aut}(G)$  of all automorphisms of a group  $G$  is a group under composition of mappings, and  $\text{Inn}(G) \triangleleft \text{Aut}(G)$ . Moreover,  $G/Z(G) \simeq \text{Inn}(G)$ .

### Proof:

Clearly,  $\text{Aut}(G)$  is nonempty. Let  $\sigma, \tau \in \text{Aut}(G)$ . Then for all  $x, y \in G$ ,  $\sigma\tau(xy) = \sigma((\tau(x) \tau(y))) = (\sigma\tau(x))(\sigma\tau(y))$ .

Hence,  $\sigma\tau \in \text{Aut}(G)$ . Again,

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma(\sigma^{-1}(x)\sigma^{-1}(y)) &= \\ \sigma\sigma^{-1}(x)\sigma\sigma^{-1}(y) &= \\ =xy. \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $\sigma^{-1}(x)\sigma^{-1}(y) = \sigma^{-1}(xy)$ . Therefore,  $\sigma^{-1} \in \text{Aut}(G)$ . This proves that  $\text{Aut}(G)$  is a subgroup of the symmetric group  $S_G$  and, hence, is itself a group.

## QUESTION 16

Let  $G$  be a finite abelian group of order  $n$ , and let  $m$  be a positive integer relative prime to  $n$ . Then the mapping  $\sigma: x \rightarrow x^m$  is an automorphism of  $G$ .

**Solution:**

$(m, n) = 1 \Rightarrow$  there exist integers  $u$  and  $v$  such that  $mu + nv = 1 \Rightarrow$  for all  $x \in G$ ,  $x^{mu+nv} = x^{mu} x^{nv} = x^{um}$  since  $o(G)=n$ .

Now for all  $x \in G$ ,  $x = (x^u)^m$  implies that  $\sigma$  is onto. Further,

$x^m = e \Rightarrow x^{mu} = e \Rightarrow x = e$ , showing that  $\sigma$  is 1-1.

That  $\sigma$  is a homomorphism follows from the fact that  $G$  is abelian. Hence,  $\sigma$  is an automorphism of  $G$ .

### QUESTION 17

Let  $G = \langle a \mid a^n = e \rangle$  be a finite cyclic group of order  $n$ . Then the mapping  $\sigma : a \rightarrow a^m$  is an automorphism of  $G$  iff  $(m, n) = 1$ . Further, if  $(m, n) = d$ , then  $(a^m)^{n/d} = (a^n)^{m/d} = e$ . Thus, the order of  $a^m$  divides  $n/d$ ; that is,  $n \mid n/d$ . Hence,  $d = 1$ , and the solution is complete. Let  $X$  be a  $G$ -set. Then  $G_x$  is a subgroup of  $G$  for each  $x \in X$ .

#### Proof:

Let  $x \in X$  and let  $g_1, g_2 \in G_x$ . Then  $g_1 x = x$  and  $g_2 x = x$ . Consequently,  $(g_1 g_2) x = g_1 (g_2 x) = g_1 x = x$ , so  $g_1 g_2 \in G_x$ , and  $G_x$  is closed under the induced operation of  $G$ . Of course  $e x = x$ , so  $e \in G_x$ . If  $g \in G_x$ , then  $g x = x$ , so  $x = e x = (g^{-1} g) x = g^{-1} (g x) = g^{-1} x$ , and consequently  $g^{-1} \in G_x$ . Thus  $G_x$  is a subgroup of  $G$ .

## QUESTION 18

Let  $X$  be a  $G$ -set. For  $x_1, x_2 \in X$ , let  $x_1 \sim x_2$  if and only if there exists  $g \in G$  such that  $gx_1 = x_2$ . Then  $\sim$  is an equivalence relation on  $X$ .

**Proof:**

For each  $x \in X$ , we have  $ex = x$ , so  $x \sim x$  and  $\sim$  is reflexive.

Suppose  $x_1 \sim x_2$ , so  $gx_1 = x_2$  for some  $g \in G$ . Then  $g^{-1}x_2 = g^{-1}(gx_1) = (g^{-1}g)x_1 = ex_1 = x_1$ , so  $x_2 \sim x_1$ , and  $\sim$  is symmetric. Finally, if  $x_1 \sim x_2$  and  $x_2 \sim x_3$ , then  $g_1x_1 = x_2$  and  $g_2x_2 = x_3$  for some  $g_1, g_2 \in G$ . Then  $(g_2g_1)x_1 = g_2(g_1x_1) = g_2x_2 = x_3$ , so  $x_1 \sim x_3$  and  $\sim$  is transitive.

## QUESTION 19

If  $N$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$ , and if  $H$  is any subgroup of  $G$ , then

$H \vee N = HN = NH$ . Furthermore, if  $H$  is also normal in  $G$ , then  $HN$  is normal in  $G$ .

### Proof:

We show that  $HN$  is a subgroup of  $G$ , from which

$H \vee N = HN$  follows at once. Let  $h_1, h_2 \in H$  and  $n_1, n_2 \in N$ .

Since  $N$  is a normal subgroup, we have  $n_1 h_2 = h_2 n_3$  for

some  $n_3 \in N$ . Then  $(h_1 n_1)(h_2 n_2) = h_1 (n_1 h_2) n_2 = h_1 (h_2 n_3) n_2 =$

$(h_1 h_2)(n_3 n_2) \in HN$ , so  $HN$  is closed under the induced

operation in  $G$ . Clearly  $e = ee$  is in  $HN$ . For  $h \in H$  and  $n \in N$ ,

we have  $(hn)^{-1} = n^{-1} h^{-1} = h^{-1} n_4$  for some  $n_4 \in N$ , since  $N$  is a

normal subgroup. Thus  $(hn)^{-1} \in HN$ , so  $HN \leq G$ .

A similar argument shows that  $NH$  is a subgroup, so  $NH = H \vee N = HN$ .

Now suppose that  $H$  is also normal in  $G$ , and let  $h \in H$ ,  $n \in N$ , and  $g \in G$ . Then

$ghng^{-1} = (ghg^{-1})(gng^{-1}) \in HN$ , so  $HN$  is indeed normal in  $G$ .

## QUESTION 20

Let  $G$  be a group such that for some fixed integer  $n > 1$ ,  $(ab)^n = a^n b^n$  for all  $a, b \in G$ . Let  $G_n = \{a \in G \mid a^n = e\}$  and  $G^n = \{a^n \mid a \in G\}$ . Then  $G_n \triangleleft G$ ,  $G^n \triangleleft G$ , and  $G/G_n \cong G^n$ .

### Solution:

Let  $a, b \in G_n$  and  $x \in G$ . Then  $(ab^{-1})^n = a^n (b^{-1})^n = e$ , so  $ab^{-1} \in G_n$ . Also,  $(xax^{-1})^n = (xax^{-1}) \dots (xax^{-1}) = xa^n x^{-1} = e$  implies  $xax^{-1} \in G_n$ . Hence,  $G_n \triangleleft G$ .

Let  $a, b, x \in G$ . Then  $a^n (b^{-1})^n = (ab^{-1})^n \in G^n$ .

Also,  $xa^n x^{-1} = (xax^{-1}) \dots (xax^{-1}) = (xax^{-1})^n \in G^n$ . Therefore,  $G^n \triangleleft G$ .

## QUESTION 21

### Third Isomorphism Theorem

Let  $H$  and  $K$  be normal subgroups of a group  $G$  with  $K \leq H$ . Then  $G/H \cong (G/K)/(H/K)$ .

#### Proof:

Let  $\phi: G \rightarrow (G/K)/(H/K)$  be given by  $\phi(a) = (aK)(H/K)$  for  $a \in G$ . Clearly  $\phi$  is onto  $(G/K)/(H/K)$ , and for  $a, b \in G$ ,

$$\phi(ab) = [(ab)K](H/K)$$

$$= [(aK)(bK)](H/K)$$

$= [(aK)(H/K)][(bK)(H/K)] = \phi(a)\phi(b)$ , so  $\phi$  is a homomorphism.

The kernel consists of those  $x \in G$  such that  $\phi(x) = H/K$ .

These  $x$  are just the elements of  $H$ .

Then first isomorphism theorem shows that  $G/H \cong (G/K)/(H/K)$ .

## QUESTION 22

Let  $G$  be a group of order  $p^n$  and let  $X$  be a finite  $G$ -set. Then

$$|X| \equiv |X_G| \pmod{p}.$$

Proof:

Recall  $|X| = |X_G| + \sum_{i=s+1}^r |Gx_i|$ . In the notation of above Equation,

we know that

$$|Gx_i| \text{ divides } |G|.$$

Consequently  $p$  divides  $|Gx_i|$  for  $s + 1 \leq i \leq r$ . Above equation then shows that  $|X| - |X_G|$  is divisible by  $p$ , so  $|X| \equiv |X_G| \pmod{p}$ .

### QUESTION 23

Let  $H$  be a  $p$ -subgroup of a finite group  $G$ . Then

$$(N[H]:H) \equiv (G:H) \pmod{p}.$$

#### Proof:

Let  $\mathcal{L}$  be the set of left cosets of  $H$  in  $G$ , and let  $H$  act on  $\mathcal{L}$  by left translation, so that  $h(xH) = (hx)H$ . Then  $\mathcal{L}$  becomes an  $H$ -set. Note that  $|\mathcal{L}| = (G:H)$ . Let us determine  $\mathcal{L}_H$ , that is, those left cosets that are fixed under action by all elements of  $H$ . Now  $xH = h(xH)$  if and only if  $H = x^{-1}hxH$ , or if and only if  $x^{-1}hx \in H$ .

Thus  $xH = h(xH)$  for all  $h \in H$  if and only if  $x^{-1}hx$

$= x^{-1}h(x^{-1})^{-1} \in H$  for all  $h \in H$ , or if and only if  $x^{-1} \in N[H]$ , or if and only if  $x \in N[H]$ . Thus the left cosets in  $\mathcal{L}_H$  are those contained in  $N[H]$ . The number of such cosets is  $(N[H]:H)$ , so  $|\mathcal{L}_H| = (N[H]:H)$ .

Since  $H$  is a  $p$ -group, it has order a power of  $p$ . Then  $|\mathcal{L}| \equiv |\mathcal{L}_H| \pmod{p}$ , that is,  $(G:H) \equiv (N[H]:H) \pmod{p}$ .

## QUESTION 24

### Second Sylow Theorem

Let  $P_1$  and  $P_2$  be Sylow  $p$ -subgroups of a finite group  $G$ . Then  $P_1$  and  $P_2$  are conjugate subgroups of  $G$ .

#### Proof:

Here we will let one of the subgroups act on left cosets of the other. Let  $\mathcal{L}$  be the collection of left cosets of  $P_1$ , and let  $P_2$  act on  $\mathcal{L}$  by  $z(xP_1) = (zx)P_1$  for  $z \in P_2$ . Then  $\mathcal{L}$  is a  $P_2$ -set. We have  $|\mathcal{L}_{P_2}| \equiv |\mathcal{L}| \pmod{p}$ , and  $|\mathcal{L}| = (G : P_1)$  is not divisible by  $p$ , so  $|\mathcal{L}_{P_2}| \neq 0$ . Let  $xP_1 \in \mathcal{L}_{P_2}$ .

Then  $zxP_1 = xP_1$  for all  $z \in P_2$ , so  $x^{-1}zxP_1 = P_1$  for all  $z \in P_2$ .

Thus  $x^{-1}z \in P_1$  for all  $z \in P_2$ , so  $x^{-1}P_2x \leq P_1$ . Since  $|P_1| = |P_2|$ , we must have  $P_1 = x^{-1}P_2x$ , so  $P_1$  and  $P_2$  are indeed conjugate subgroups.

## QUESTION 25

The center of a finite nontrivial  $p$ -group  $G$  is nontrivial.

Proof:

We have  $|G| = c + n_{c+1} + \dots + n_r$ , where  $n_i$  is the number of elements in the  $i$ th orbit of  $G$  under conjugation by itself.

For  $G$ , each  $n_i$  divides  $|G|$  for  $c+1 \leq i \leq r$ , so  $p$  divides each  $n_i$ , and  $p$  divides  $|G|$ . Therefore  $p$  divides  $c$ . Now  $e \in Z(G)$ , so  $c \geq 1$ . Therefore  $c \geq p$ , and there exists some  $a \in Z(G)$  where  $a \neq e$ .

## QUESTION 26

For a prime number  $p$ , every group  $G$  of order  $p^2$  is abelian.

**Proof:**

If  $G$  is not cyclic, then every element except  $e$  must be of order  $p$ .

Let  $a$  be such an element. Then the cyclic subgroup  $\langle a \rangle$  of order  $p$  does not exhaust  $G$ . Also let  $b \in G$  with  $b \notin \langle a \rangle$ . Then  $\langle a \rangle \cap \langle b \rangle = \{e\}$ , since an element  $c$  in  $\langle a \rangle \cap \langle b \rangle$  with  $c \neq e$  would generate both  $\langle a \rangle$  and  $\langle b \rangle$ , giving  $\langle a \rangle = \langle b \rangle$ , contrary to construction.

From first Sylow theorem,  $\langle a \rangle$  is normal in some subgroup of order  $p^2$  of  $G$ , that is, normal in all of  $G$ . Likewise  $\langle b \rangle$  is normal in  $G$ .

Now  $\langle a \rangle \vee \langle b \rangle$  is a subgroup of  $G$  properly containing  $\langle a \rangle$  and of order dividing  $p^2$ . Hence  $\langle a \rangle \vee \langle b \rangle$  must be all of  $G$ .

Thus the hypotheses of last lemma are satisfied, and  $G$  is isomorphic to  $\langle a \rangle \times \langle b \rangle$  and therefore abelian.