

1. Let  $G$  be a finite group and  $X$  be a finite set.

Assume  $G \curvearrowright X$ . For any  $g \in G$ , let  $X^g$  be the set of fixed points of  $g$ , i.e.

$$X^g := \{x \in X \mid g \cdot x = x\}.$$

Prove that  $|G^X| = \mathbb{E}(|X^g|)$ .

( $\mathbb{E}(|X^g|)$  is the average of  $|X^g|$ , i.e.  $\frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} |X^g|$ .)

Hint. • Consider  $S = \{(g, x) \in G \times X \mid g \cdot x = x\}$ .

$$\Rightarrow |S| = \sum_{g \in G} |X^g| = \sum_{x \in X} |G_x|.$$

$$\bullet G_{g \cdot x} = g G_x g^{-1}.$$

2. Let  $G$  be a finite group and  $X$  be a finite set.

Assume  $G \curvearrowright X$  transitively and  $|X| \neq 1$ . Prove that there is  $g \in G$  with no fixed points.

Hint. • Use  $\pm$  and notice that  $X^{\text{id.}} = X$ .

3(a). Let  $G$  be a finite group and  $H \leq G$ . Prove that

$$\bigcup_{g \in G} gHg^{-1} \neq G.$$

(b) Does part (a) hold for an infinite group?

Hint. (a) There are various ways to solve this problem.

Here is one method: assume the contrary and get a contradiction using Problem 2.

(b) Think about  $G = GL_2(\mathbb{C})$  and  $H = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & c \end{bmatrix} \mid ac \neq 0 \right\}$ .

4. For any permutation  $\sigma \in S_n$ , let  $m_\sigma$  be the number of fixed points of  $\sigma$ , i.e.

$$m_\sigma := \left| \left\{ 1 \leq i \leq n \mid \sigma(i) = i \right\} \right|.$$

Prove that  $\sum_{\sigma \in S_n} m_\sigma = n!$

5.  $M, N \triangleleft G$  and  $M \cap N = \{1_G\} \Rightarrow \forall m \in M, n \in N, mn = nm$ .

6. Let  $G$  be a finite group. Let  $p$  be the smallest prime factor of  $G$ . Assume  $H \leq G$  and  $[G:H] = p$ .

Prove that  $H \triangleleft G$ .

Hint. Let  $N$  be the core of  $H$ . Then as we showed in class we have  $G/N \hookrightarrow S_p$ . Now use the assumption to deduce  $|G/N| = p$ .

7. Let  $G$  be a group,  $H \leq G$ ,  $N \triangleleft G$ .

(a) Assume  $|H| < \infty$ ,  $[G:N] < \infty$  and  $(|H|, [G:N]) = 1$ .

Prove that  $H \leq N$ .

(b) Assume  $|N| < \infty$ ,  $[G:H] < \infty$  and  $(|N|, [G:H]) = 1$ .

Prove that  $N \leq H$ .

8. Let  $G$  be a finite non-abelian simple group.

Assume  $\exists H \leq G$ ,  $[G:H] = n$ . Then

$$G \hookrightarrow A_n.$$