

Math 103A W23 HW 6

11. Suggested answer:

11. What are the possible cycle structures of elements in  $A_5$ ? What about  $A_6$ ?

The possible cycle structures of elements in  $A_5$  (represented as disjoint cycles of decreasing size) are

(5 - cycle)  
(3 - cycle)  
(2 - cycle)(2 - cycle)  
(id)

The possible cycle structures of elements in  $A_6$  (represented as disjoint cycles of decreasing size) are

(5 - cycle)  
(4 - cycle)(2 - cycle)  
(3 - cycle)(3 - cycle)  
(3 - cycle)  
(2 - cycle)(2 - cycle)  
(id)

37c. **Suggested answer:**

(c)

**Proposition 5.** *The order of  $r^k \in D_n$  is  $n/\gcd(k, n)$*

*Proof.* Suppose  $r^k \in D_n$ .

We are given that  $r$  has order  $n$  and thus that  $\langle r \rangle$  is a cyclic group with order  $n$  generated by  $r$ .

Therefore, Theorem 4.13 give us that the order of  $r^k$  is  $n/\gcd(k, n)$ .  $\square$

**common mistakes:**

Many people neglected to give justification for the differing group structures.

12. Suggested answer:

12.

**Proposition 8.** *If  $ghg^{-1} \in H$  for all  $g \in G$  and  $h \in H$ , then right cosets are identical to left cosets. That is, that  $gH = Hg$  for all  $g \in G$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose  $ghg^{-1} \in H$  for all  $g \in G$  and  $h \in H$ .

Suppose  $g \in G$ .

Suppose  $j \in gH$ .

Then, we have that  $j = gh$  for some  $h \in H$ .

Equivalently, then, we have that  $j = ghg^{-1}g$  as  $g^{-1}g = e$ .

From above, we have that  $ghg^{-1} \in H$ .

Letting  $h' = ghg^{-1}$ , we have that  $j = h'g$  and  $h' \in H$ .

Therefore, we have shown that  $j \in Hg$  and thus that  $gH \subset Hg$ .

Now, suppose that  $j \in Hg$ .

That is, that  $j = hg$  for some  $h \in H$ .

Then, we may say that  $j = gg^{-1}hg$  as  $gg^{-1} = e$ .

As  $ghg^{-1} \in H$  for all  $g \in G$ , it follows that  $g^{-1}hg = g^{-1}h(g^{-1})^{-1} \in H$  as  $g^{-1} \in G$  by definition of  $G$  being a group.

Thus, if we let  $h' = g^{-1}hg$  we have that  $j = gh'$  and  $h' \in H$  and thus that  $j \in gH$ .

Then, we have shown that  $Hg \subset gH$ .

Therefore, as we have shown that  $gH \subset Hg$  and  $Hg \subset gH$ , we have shown that  $gH = Hg$ .  $\square$

13. Suggested answer:

**Proposition 9.** *In the proof of Theorem 6.8, if  $\phi : \mathcal{L}_H \rightarrow \mathcal{R}_H$  is defined by  $\phi(gH) = Hg$ , the proof fails because  $\phi$  is not a well-defined mapping.*

*Proof.* It suffices to show there exist some subgroup  $H$  of  $G$  and  $g_1, g_2 \in G$  such that  $g_1H = g_2H$  but  $Hg_1 \neq Hg_2$ .

Let  $G = S_3$  and  $H$  be the subgroup  $\{(1), (12)\}$ .

Then, we may observe that  $(23)H = \{(23), (132)\} = (132)H$ .

However, we also may observe that  $H(23) = \{(23), (123)\}$  but  $H(132) = \{(132), (13)\}$  and thus  $H(23) \neq H(132)$ .

Therefore, the map  $\phi$  is not well-defined. □