

1. (a) Let  $n > 1$ . What is the definition of an *even permutation* in  $S_n$ ? (Use the definition you learned in class)
  - (b) For each permutation of  $S_6$  below (written in cycle notation), draw a heart around it if it's an even permutation.  
(1 2) (1 2 3) (1 2 3)(4 5) (1 2 3)(4 5 6) (1 2 3 4) (1 2)(3 4) (1 2)(3 4)(5 6) (1 2 3 4)(5 6)
  - (c) Let  $n > 1$ . Let  $A_n$  denote the set of even permutations in  $S_n$ .  
Circle the correct statement, and cross out the false statement:  
The left coset  $(1 2)A_n$  is equal to  $A_n$  /  
The left coset  $(1 2)A_n$  is not equal to  $A_n$ .  
Prove the correct statement.
  - (d) List all permutations in  $A_3$  and  $S_3$ .
  - (e) Pick a minimal generating set for  $A_3$ , and a minimal generating set for  $S_3$ . Hint: You have two choices for  $A_3$  and 9 choices for  $S_3$ .
  - (f) (i) Draw a Cayley diagram for these minimal generating sets - make sure to label each node with the corresponding permutations. If you have more than one generator, distinguish the different arrows by label or color/dashes. (ii) Write down the group presentations for these Cayley diagram.
  - (g) If  $G$  is a finite group, the *index*  $[G : H]$  of a subgroup  $H \leq G$  is [give a definition, not a theorem!] ...
  - (h) What is the index  $[S_n : A_n]$  of the subgroup  $A_n \leq S_n$ ? Justify this - you can use theorems you have seen in class (without reproving it here).
  - (i) Let  $G = \langle (1 2 3 4 5 6 7) \rangle$ , the group generated by the permutation  $(1 2 3 4 5 6 7)$ , written in cycle notation. Prove that the only subgroups of  $G$  are the trivial group  $\{()\}$  and  $G$  itself.
2. For each statement below, determine if it is true or false. Prove your answer.
    - (a) If  $G$  is a non-abelian group, it must have a proper subgroup which is non-abelian.
    - (b) If the order of a group  $G$  is infinite (that is, if there are infinitely many elements in  $G$ ), then the order of every  $x \in G$  is also infinite. Recall that the order of  $x$  is the size of its orbit  $\langle x \rangle$ .
    - (c) There exists a dihedral group which is not abelian.

3. For each part below, compute the orbit of the element in the group. Your answer should be a list of elements from the group that ends with the identity.
- (a) The element  $r^2$  in the group  $D_{10}$
  - (b) The element 12 in the group  $C_{42} = \mathbb{Z}/42$
4. Recall that  $\mathbb{Z}$  is a group under the operation of ordinary addition.
- (a) Create a Cayley diagram for it.
  - (b) Is it abelian?
  - (c) Give a minimal generating set consisting of more than one element.
5. (a) Find a group (of order larger than 1) such that there is only one solution to the equation  $x^2 = e$ , that is, the solution  $x = e$ , or explain why no such group exists.
- (b) Find a group that has exactly two solutions to the equation  $x^2 = e$ , or explain why no such group exists.
  - (c) Find a group that has more than two solutions to the equation  $x^2 = e$ , or explain why no such group exists.
  - (d) There are two non-isomorphic groups of order 6. What are their names? Specify which, if any, are abelian.
6. Answer the following questions about permutations and the symmetric group.
- (a) Write  $(1\ 2\ 3\ 4)$  as a product of *transpositions* (i.e., 2-cycles).
  - (b) What is the *inverse* of the element  $(1\ 3\ 2\ 6)(4\ 5)$  in  $S_6$ ?
  - (c) The *order* of an element  $g \in G$  is defined to be ...
  - (d) What is the order of the element  $(1\ 2\ 3\ 6)(4\ 5\ 7)$  in  $S_7$ ?
  - (e) Find an element of order 20 in  $S_9$ .