

**Read:** Saracino, §3 – 5.

- **Suggestion:** Work (or think about) the following problems. Problems marked with a \* have answers given at the back of the book.
  - §3: 1\*, 7
  - §4 : 1\*, 4\*, 10\*
  - §5 : 1\*, 4\*, 12\*

**Note:** some of these problems concern material that we may not cover in class until early next week.

1. Suppose that  $G$  is a nonempty set and  $*$  is an associative binary operation on  $G$ . Assume that both the left cancellation law and the right cancellation law hold for  $(G, *)$  (statements (i) and (ii) from Theorem 3.6).
  - (a) Give an example to show that  $(G, *)$  need not be a group (try to tinker around for awhile, but ask me for a hint if you get stuck).
  - (b) Prove that if  $G$  is assumed to be *finite*, then  $(G, *)$  must be a group.
2. Consider the binary operation  $a * b = a + b - 2$  on  $\mathbb{Z}$ .
  - (a) Prove that  $(\mathbb{Z}, *)$  is a group.
  - (b) Is  $(\mathbb{Z}, *)$  a *cyclic* group? If so, give a generator.
3. In the group  $(\mathbb{Z}_{42}, \oplus)$ , find the orders of the elements 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7.
4. Let  $G = \langle x \rangle$  be a cyclic group of order 24. List all elements of  $G$  that have order 3.
5. Let  $G$  be a group, and  $a \in G$ . Call a second element  $b \in G$  *conjugate to  $a$*  if there exists an element  $x \in G$  such that  $b = xax^{-1}$ . Show that if  $b$  is conjugate to  $a$ , then  $b$  has the same order as  $a$ .
6. Suppose that  $G$  is an abelian group, and  $x, y \in G$  are elements of finite order. Prove that if  $(o(x), o(y)) = 1$ , then  $o(xy) = o(x)o(y)$ .
7. Suppose that  $G$  is an abelian group with exactly 91 elements. Suppose that  $G$  has an element of order 7, and also an element of order 13. Prove that  $G$  is cyclic. (You may use the result of the exercise 6 in your argument even if you have not solved it yet).

*Comment:* We will prove later that if  $p$  is a prime number dividing the number of elements in a finite group  $G$ , then  $G$  necessarily has an element of order  $p$ . So the exercise above implies that all abelian groups with 91 elements are cyclic.

**Update (9/17):** because I didn't cover as much as intended this morning, you may turn in these last three problems with next week's problem set if you wish. I still recommend trying to finish them this week, but I want to make sure you have at least two days to think about them.

8. List all subgroups of the group  $(\mathbb{Z}_{42}, \oplus)$ .
9. Find all subgroups of  $Q_8$  (the group of unit quaternions).
10. Suppose that  $H$  is a nonempty subset of a group  $G$ , and that for all  $x, y \in H$ , the element  $xy^{-1}$  is in  $H$ . Prove that  $H$  is a subgroup of  $G$ .