

ASSIGNMENT 4

DUE: OCT 27, 2011

(I) (15 points)

- a) Show that the order of the product of two disjoint cycles of lengths m and n is $\text{lcm}(m,n)$ where lcm =least common multiple.
- b) What is the order of the product of k -disjoint cycles of length (m_1, \dots, m_k) .
- c) How will you find the order of a given permutation in S_n ?

(2)(10 points)

Let G be a finite group of order pq , where $p > q$ are primes.

- a) Show that G has a subgroup of order p and a subgroup of order q .
- b) Given two primes p, q such that q divides $p - 1$, show that there exists a non-abelian group of order pq .

(3)(10 points)

- a) Given $\alpha = (1, 2)(3, 4)$ in S_6 and $\beta = (5, 6)(1, 3)$, show that α and β are conjugate. Find an element of S_6 that conjugates them.
- b) Are $(1, 2)(4, 5)$ and $(2, 1, 4, 5)$ conjugate in S_6 ? Justify your answer.

(4)(15 points)

- a) Can S_4 have conjugacy classes of sizes 1, 3, 6, 6, 8? What about 2, 4, 8, 5, 5?
- b) In S_7 , express $(1, 2)(1, 2, 3)(1, 2)$ as a product of disjoint cycles and write its cycle type.
- c) Prove that $(1, 2, \dots, n)^{-1} = (n, n - 1, n - 2, \dots, 2, 1)$.