

**Topics to be covered in the midterm on October 20.**

- (1) Congruences of integers; the greatest common divisor; Euclid's algorithm; the theorem that states that if  $(a, b) = d$ , then there exist integers  $m, n$ , such that  $am + bn = d$ , and some of its consequences (such as, if  $(a, b) = 1$ , and  $a \mid c$ ,  $b \mid c$ , then  $ab \mid c$ ).
- (2) Chinese remainder theorem.
- (3) Definitions of a group and subgroup. Composition tables. The theorem that  $H$  is a subgroup iff  $xy^{-1} \in H$  for all  $x, y \in H$ . The fact that, for a fixed element  $g \in G$ , the map  $f_g : G \rightarrow G$  defined by  $f_g(x) = g \circ x$  is bijective.
- (4) You should be comfortable with the following examples of groups:
  - (a)  $\mathbb{Z}$
  - (b)  $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ ;
  - (c)  $(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^*$ ;
  - (d)  $(\mathbb{R}, +)$  (the group of real numbers with addition as the group operation).
  - (e)  $\mathbb{R}^*$  (the group of nonzero real numbers with multiplication as the group operation).
  - (f) Klein group (it is the group of order four that is not isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}$ . We have defined it by writing down its composition table, but now we know that it is actually isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ ).
  - (g) The group  $D_3$  of isometries of the triangle (which is isomorphic to the group  $S_3$  of permutations of three elements).
  - (h) You need to know the definition of the group  $\text{GL}_n(\mathbb{R})$ .
  - (i) If  $V$  is a vector space, then  $V$  can be thought of as a group with respect to addition of vectors.
  - (j) The group  $S^1$  of complex numbers of absolute value 1 (the unit circle in the complex plane), with (complex) multiplication as the operation. You need to know which groups on this list are commutative.
- (5) The notion of homomorphism of groups. Examples of homomorphisms (use the groups on the list above to make examples of homomorphisms).
- (6) The notion of isomorphism. The fact that a bijective homomorphism is an isomorphism. Examples of isomorphic groups.
- (7) If  $H$  is a subgroup of  $G$ , the notion of left and right cosets of  $H$ . You need to know at least one example of a subgroup such that the left and right cosets are not the same. The criterion that allows to check if two elements belong to the same coset of  $H$ .
- (8) Lagrange's theorem:  $|G| = |H||G/H|$ .
- (9) The notion of the order of an element  $g \in G$ .
- (10) The application of Lagrange's theorem to number theory: Euler's theorem.
- (11) The definition of a normal subgroup. You should know a few examples of subgroups that are normal, and a couple of examples of subgroups that are not normal.
- (12) The notion of the quotient group. You need to understand why the subgroup  $H$  has to be normal in order for the set of cosets  $G/H$  to be a group.
- (13) The definition of a kernel of a homomorphism, and the fact that  $\text{Ker}(f)$  is always a normal subgroup.

- (14) The Isomorphism theorem: if  $f : G \rightarrow H$  is a homomorphism, then the group  $f(G)$  is isomorphic to the quotient group  $G/\text{Ker}(f)$ .
- (15) Some examples of application of the Isomorphism theorem.
- (16) The definition of the centre  $Z(G)$  of a group  $G$  (it appeared in homework), and the fact that  $Z(G)$  is a normal subgroup. Examples of groups with large centre, and with small centre.
- (17) The notion of a product of groups.
- (18) Chinese remainder theorem as a statement about isomorphism of the groups  $\mathbb{Z}/M\mathbb{Z}$  and  $\mathbb{Z}/m_1\mathbb{Z} \times \cdots \times \mathbb{Z}/m_n\mathbb{Z}$ , where  $(m_i, m_j) = 1$ , and  $M = m_1 m_2 \dots m_n$ .