

No. 32. Let  $G$  be a group, let  $H$  be a subgroup, and let  $a$  and  $b$  be elements of  $G$  such that  $aH = bH$ . Then it follows that  $HA^{-1} = Hb^{-1}$ . Indeed, if  $aH = bH$ , then  $a$  and  $b$  lie in the same left coset, so  $b = ah$  for some  $h \in H$ . Hence  $b^{-1} = (ah)^{-1} = h^{-1}a^{-1}$ . Since  $H$  is a subgroup,  $h^{-1} \in H$ , so  $Hb^{-1} = Ha^{-1}$ .

No. 39. Let  $H$  be a subgroup of index 2 in  $G$ . Then  $H$  is normal. Indeed, the set of left cosets is a partition of  $G$ , containing exactly two elements, each a subset of  $G$ . One of these subsets is  $H$  and hence the other must be  $G \setminus H$ , the complement of  $H$ . The same applies to the set of right cosets. Thus the left and right cosets are the same.

No. 40. Let  $G$  be a group of order  $n$  and let  $g$  be an element of  $G$ . Then  $g^n = e$ . Indeed, by the theorem of Lagrange, the order of the cyclic subgroup  $\langle g \rangle$  generated by  $g$ , call it  $m$ , divides  $n$ . But  $m$  is also the smallest positive integer such that  $g^m = e$ . If  $n = md$ , it follows that  $g^n = g^{md} = e$ .

No. 35. Let  $G$  be a group and  $H$  a subgroup. The problem is to show that the number of left cosets of  $H$  is the same as the number of right cosets. Let  $G/H$  denote the set of left cosets of  $G$  and let  $H \setminus G$  denote the set of right cosets of  $G$ . We will construct a bijective mapping  $\phi$  from  $G/H$  to  $H \setminus G$ . Namely, if  $C$  is a left coset, then we claim that  $C^{-1} := \{c^{-1} : c \in C\}$  is a right coset. Indeed, if  $g \in C$ , then  $C = \{gh : h \in H\}$ , so  $C^{-1} = \{(gh)^{-1} = h^{-1}g^{-1} : h \in H\} = \{hg^{-1} : h \in H\} = Hg^{-1}$ . The same argument shows that if  $C$  is a right coset, then  $C^{-1}$  is a left coset, so we also get a map  $\psi: H \setminus G \rightarrow G/H$ . Evidently  $\phi \circ \psi = \text{id}$  and  $\psi \circ \phi = \text{id}$ , so both maps are bijective.

No. 46. Let  $G$  be a cyclic group of order  $n$ . For each element  $g$  of  $G$ , let  $\text{ord } g$  denote the order of  $g$ , that is the smallest positive number  $m$  such that  $g^m = e$ , or, equivalently, the number of elements in the cyclic subgroup  $\langle g \rangle$  generated by  $g$ . Let  $G_d$  be the subset of  $G$  consisting of those elements of order  $d$ . This is empty if  $d$  does not divide  $n$ , and is not empty otherwise. Thus the set of all  $G_d$  such that  $d|n$  forms a partition of  $G$  into disjoint sets. Consequently, the number of elements in  $G$  is the sum of the numbers of elements in each  $G_d$ :  $|G| = \sum_{d|n} |G_d|$ . Now for each divisor  $d$  of  $n$ , by exercise 45, there is a unique subgroup  $H_d$  of order  $d$ , and furthermore  $H_d$  is cyclic and is the set of all elements such that  $g^d = e$ . Thus  $G_d \subseteq H_d$ , and in fact an element of  $H_d$  belongs to  $G_d$  if and only if it generates  $H_d$ . Since  $H_d$  is cyclic of order  $d$ , it is isomorphic to  $\mathbf{Z}_d$ , and has exactly  $\phi(d)$  generators.

Thus  $|G_d| = \phi(d)$ . Returning to our formula, we find that

$$n = |G| = \sum_{d|n} |G_d| = \sum_{d|n} \phi(d).$$

No. 47. In fact we can easily prove a stronger form of the result, which is very useful.

**Theorem** Let  $G$  be a finite group of order  $n$ . Then the following conditions are equivalent.

1. For every natural number  $m$  dividing  $n$ , the number of elements  $g$  of  $G$  such that  $g^m = e$  is less than or equal to  $m$ .
2. For every natural number  $m$  dividing  $n$ ,  $G$  has at most one (cyclic) subgroup of order  $m$ .
3. For every natural number  $m$  dividing  $n$ ,  $G$  has at most most  $\phi(m)$  elements of exact order  $m$ .
4.  $G$  is cyclic.

Proof: (1) implies (2). If  $H$  is a subgroup of order  $m$ , then every element  $h$  of  $H$  satisfies  $h^m = e$ , and of course  $H$  has  $m$  elements. If there were two such groups, there would consequently be more than  $m$  elements of  $G$  such that  $g^m = e$ .

(2) implies (3). If  $g$  has exact order  $m$ , it generates a cyclic subgroup  $H$  of order  $m$ , and this  $H$  has exactly  $\phi(m)$  generators. Hence if there were more than  $\phi(m)$  such elements, not all could generate  $H$ , and hence we would find another (cyclic) subgroup of order  $m$ .

(3) implies (4). Let  $\psi(m)$  denote the number of elements of  $G$  which have exact order  $m$ . Since every element of  $G$  has some order dividing  $n$ , we get that  $n = \sum_{m|n} \psi(m)$ . On the other hand, we know that  $n = \sum_{m|n} \phi(m)$ . By assumption,  $0 \leq \psi(m) \leq \phi(m)$  for all  $m$ . These equations together imply that  $\psi(m) = \phi(m)$  for all  $m$ . In particular,  $\psi(n) = \phi(n) \neq 0$ . This implies that  $G$  contains an element of exact order  $n$ , hence is cyclic.

(4) implies (1). We did this a while ago.