

**Math 421 Problem Set**  
**September 1, 2022**

1. Look back at the multiplication table you made for  $(\mathbb{Z}/12\mathbb{Z})^\times$  on the last problem set. Calculate the order of each element.
2. Let  $G$  be a group and  $x \in G$ .
  - (a) Show that  $|x| = |x^{-1}|$ .
  - (b) If  $x$  has finite order  $n$ , show that the elements  $1, x, x^2, \dots, x^{n-1}$  are all distinct.
  - (c) If  $x$  has infinite order, show that the elements  $x^n, n \in \mathbb{Z}$  are all distinct.
3. Let  $G$  be a group.
  - (a) For  $x \in G$ , show that  $\{x^n \mid n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$  is a subgroup of  $G$ . This is called the ***cyclic subgroup*** of  $G$  generated by  $x$ .
  - (b) Find all the cyclic subgroups of  $D_8$ .
  - (c) A group  $G$  is ***cyclic*** if  $G$  is a cyclic subgroup of itself; i.e. if  $G = \{x^n \mid n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$  for some  $x \in G$ . Check that  $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$  and  $\mathbb{Z}$  are cyclic.
  - (d) Is  $(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^\times$  always cyclic?