

DUE Wed. Jan. 16, 2008.

All problems for this assignment are practice problems. They are for the most part matters we have covered in class, and are meant as a review for the test.

**Practice Problems: Don't hand these problems in.**

I. Let  $G$  be a group and let  $x, g$  be elements of  $G$ , and let  $H$  be a subgroup of  $G$ . Prove that  $C_G(gxg^{-1}) = gC_G(x)g^{-1}$  and  $N_G(gHg^{-1}) = gN_G(H)g^{-1}$ .

II. Let  $G$  be a group and let  $H$  be a subgroup of  $G$ . Let  $S$  be the set of left cosets of  $H$  in  $G$ . Let  $\phi : G \rightarrow \text{Perm}(S)$  be defined by  $\phi(g)(aH) = gaH$  (i.e  $\phi$  is the homomorphism giving the action of  $G$  on the left cosets by translation.) Prove that the kernel of  $\phi$  is  $\bigcap aHa^{-1}$ , the intersection over all  $a$  in  $G$ . Conclude that this intersection is a normal subgroup of  $G$  and  $G/\bigcap aHa^{-1}$  is isomorphic to a subgroup of  $S_n$  (symmetric group), where  $n$  is the number of elements in  $S$ .

III. Prove that there is no simple group of order 48.

IV. Let  $G = GL_2(3)$ , and let  $x = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ . Let  $H$  be the normalizer of  $\langle x \rangle$  in  $G$ . Describe  $H$  and  $\bigcap aHa^{-1}$ , the intersection over all  $a$  in  $G$ . Use this to prove that  $PGL_2(3)$  is isomorphic to  $S_4$ .

V. A Russian woman claims to have clairvoyant powers. She was shown pictures of 7 different people with 7 different illnesses, and asked to match each person with his or her illness. She matched 5 correctly. What is the probability that she would get exactly this number correctly if she were guessing randomly?