

Problem 6.33. Find the order of the given element in the quotient group. You may assume that we are taking the quotient by a normal subgroup.

(a) $s\langle r \rangle \in D_4/\langle r \rangle$

(b) $j\langle -1 \rangle \in Q_8/\langle -1 \rangle$

(c) $5 + \langle 4 \rangle \in \mathbb{Z}_{12}/\langle 4 \rangle$

(d) $(2, 1) + \langle (1, 1) \rangle \in (\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_6)/\langle (1, 1) \rangle$

(e) $(1, 3) + \langle (0, 2) \rangle \in (\mathbb{Z}_4 \times \mathbb{Z}_8)/\langle (0, 2) \rangle$

Note: The order of gH in G/H is the smallest positive exponent s.t. $(gH)^k = H$ (recall that H is the identity in G/H). This is equivalent to the smallest positive exponent k s.t. $g^k \in H$.

(a) Note that $\langle r \rangle = \{e, r, r^2, r^3\}$. Since $s \notin \langle r \rangle$ yet $s^2 = e \in \langle r \rangle$, $|\langle r \rangle| = 2$.

(b) Note that $\langle -1 \rangle = \{1, -1\}$. Since $j \notin \langle -1 \rangle$ yet $j^2 = -1 \in \langle -1 \rangle$, $|\langle -1 \rangle| = 2$.

(c) Note that $\langle 4 \rangle = \{0, 4, 8\}$. Since $5 \notin \langle 4 \rangle$, $5+5 = 10 \notin \langle 4 \rangle$, $5+5+5 = 15 \notin \langle 4 \rangle$, yet $5+5+5+5 = 20 \in \langle 4 \rangle$, $|\langle 4 \rangle| = 4$.

(d) Note that

$$\langle (1,1) \rangle = \{ (0,0), (1,1), (2,2), (0,3), (1,4), (2,5) \}.$$

Since $(2,1) \notin \langle (1,1) \rangle$,

$$(2,1) + (2,1) = (1,2) \notin \langle (1,1) \rangle$$

$$(2,1) + (2,1) + (2,1) = (0,3) \in \langle (1,1) \rangle,$$

$$|(2,1) + \langle (1,1) \rangle| = 3.$$

(e) Note that

$$\langle (0,2) \rangle = \{ (0,0), (0,2), (0,4), (0,6) \}.$$

Since

$$(1,3) \notin \langle (0,2) \rangle,$$

$$(1,3) + (1,3) = (2,6) \notin \langle (0,2) \rangle,$$

$$(1,3) + (1,3) + (1,3) = (3,1) \notin \langle (0,2) \rangle,$$

$$(1,3) + (1,3) + (1,3) + (1,3) = (0,4) \in \langle (0,2) \rangle,$$

$$|(1,3) + \langle (0,2) \rangle| = 4.$$