

## MAIN TOPICS FOR EXAM 1

- (1) Fundamental definitions
  - (a) Group
  - (b) Subgroup
  - (c) Homomorphism (Iso/auto-morphism)
  - (d) Normal subgroup and conjugation
  - (e) Examples:  $S_n$ ,  $D_n$ ,  $C_n$ , matrix groups, etc
- (2) Fundamental lemmas
  - (a) Uniqueness of identity and inverse
  - (b) Cancellation
  - (c) Characterizations of normal subgroup
- (3) Fundamental theorems
  - (a) Lagrange's Theorem
  - (b) Isomorphism Theorem
  - (c) Correspondence Theorem
  - (d) 2nd Isomorphism Theorem
  - (e) Diamond Theorem
- (4) Group actions
  - (a) Definition
  - (b) Examples: conjugation, permutations, automorphisms, right multiplication
  - (c) Characterization: a map into  $\text{Sym } X$
  - (d) Stabilizers and kernels – faithful actions
  - (e) Orbits – transitive actions
  - (f) “Isomorphism Theorem” for actions:  $\mathcal{O} \leftrightarrow \{Hg\}$
  - (g) Finite Counting Principle
  - (h) Stabilizers of interesting actions:  $Z(G)$ ,  $C_G(x)$ ,  $N_G(H)$ , etc.
- (5) Applications of group actions
  - (a) Cayley's Theorem
  - (b) Product counting  $|HK| = |H| \cdot |K|/|H \cap K|$
  - (c) Finding normal subgroups
  - (d) Counting conjugacy classes of elements/subgroups
  - (e) automorphisms and inner automorphisms
- (6) Some nice results
  - (a)  $p$ -groups have non-trivial center
  - (b) Cauchy's theorem
    - (a) and (b) come from using the Finite Counting Principle mod  $p$
- (7) The symmetric group
  - (a) cycle notation and the disjoint cycle decomposition
  - (b) conjugacy in  $S_n$  – “change of basis”
- (8) Homework results
  - (a) commutator subgroup and abelian quotients