

Group Members: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Definition: Normal Subgroup**

A subgroup  $H$  of a group  $G$  is called a *normal* subgroup if  $aH = Ha$  for all  $a \in G$ . We denote this by  $H \triangleleft G$ .

Equivalently,  $H \triangleleft G$  when the left cosets of  $H$  in  $G$  are *exactly the same* as the right cosets of  $H$  in  $G$ .

**Theorem 9.1: Normal Subgroup Test**

A subgroup  $H$  of  $G$  is normal in  $G$  iff  $xHx^{-1} \subseteq H$  for all  $x \in G$ .

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- (1) Let  $G = D_4$  and let  $\langle R_{90} \rangle$  be the group of rotations of  $G$ .  
(a) Write out the elements of  $R_{90}\langle R_{90} \rangle R_{90}^{-1}$ . Do you get  $\langle R_{90} \rangle$  back?  
(b) Write out the elements of  $V\langle R_{90} \rangle V^{-1}$ . Do you get  $\langle R_{90} \rangle$  back?  
(c) Write down the left cosets of  $\langle R_{90} \rangle$  in  $G$ .  
(d) Write out the right cosets of  $\langle R_{90} \rangle$  in  $G$ .  
(e) Inspect the Cayley Table of  $D_4$  on p.33. What group do you get if you view each coset as a single element? This means combining/collapsing columns and rows according to coset membership.

- (2) Let  $G = \mathbb{Z}_8$  and let  $H = \{0, 4\}$  be a subgroup of  $G$ .  
(a) Write down the left cosets of  $H$  in  $G$ .  
(b) Write down the right cosets of  $H$  in  $G$ .  
(c) Alternatively, what does the fact that  $G$  is Abelian tell you about whether  $H \triangleleft G$ ?  
(d) Write the Cayley Table of  $G$  except with columns and rows grouped by coset of  $H$  in  $G$ . What group do you get if you view each coset as a single element?

(3) Refer to p.105 for this question about  $A_4$ , the rotations of the tetrahedron. Let  $G = A_4$ , and let  $H = \{\alpha_1, \alpha_5, \alpha_9\}$ . (Note that Table 5.1 is currently organized by the left cosets of  $\{\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3, \alpha_4\}$  in  $G$ .)

- (a) Write down the left cosets of  $H$  in  $G$ .
- (b) Write down the right cosets of  $H$  in  $G$ .
- (c) Reorder the Cayley table of  $A_4$  by grouping elements by left coset of  $H$  in  $G$ .
- (d) Is  $H \triangleleft G$ ? Why or why not?

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**Definition: Factor Group**

Let  $G$  be a group and let  $H$  be a normal subgroup of  $G$ . The set

$$G/H := \{aH \mid a \in G\}$$

is a group under the operation  $(aH)(bH) = abH$ . (This group is revealed by grouping the elements Cayley table of  $G$  by the cosets of a normal subgroup  $H$  of  $G$ .)

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(4) Recall that  $2\mathbb{Z} = \{\dots, -4, -2, 0, 2, 4, \dots\}$ .

- (a) Why is  $2\mathbb{Z} \triangleleft \mathbb{Z}$ ?
- (b) What are the cosets of  $2\mathbb{Z}$  in  $\mathbb{Z}$ ?
- (c) Write the Cayley table for  $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ .

(5) Let  $G = \mathbb{Z}_4 \oplus U(4)$ ,  $H = \langle(2, 3)\rangle$ , and  $K = \langle(2, 1)\rangle$ .

- (a) Is  $H \approx K$ ?
- (b) Write the cosets and Cayley table for  $G/H$ .
- (c) Write the cosets and Cayley table for  $G/K$ .
- (d) Is  $G/H \approx G/K$ ? (Expected, or a surprise?)