Math 302: Abstract Algebra Problems 37-41 Solutions

37. The subgroup of order 8 in  $\mathbb{Z}_{24}$  is generated by  $\frac{24}{8} = 3$ . An element  $3k \in \langle 3 \rangle$  is a generator of  $\langle 3 \rangle$  if and only if gcd(8,k) = 1. Thus, k can be 1, 3, 5, or 7, so the generators are 3, 9, 15, and 21.

By the exact same reasoning, if |a| = 24, the subgroup of order 8 in  $\langle a \rangle$  is generated by  $a^{\frac{24}{8}} = a^3$ . An element  $(a^3)^k$  is a generator of  $\langle a^3 \rangle$  if and only if gcd(8, k) = 1. Thus k can be 1, 3, 5, or 7, so the generators are  $a^3$ ,  $a^9$ ,  $a^{15}$ , and  $a^{21}$ .

- 38. By the FTCG, there is exactly one subgroup of  $\mathbb{Z}_{20}$  for each divisor of 20. There are six divisors of 20, so there are six subgroups. Each subgroup can be generated by a divisor of 20 (recalling that we are working modulo 20, so the trivial subgroup would be generated by 0 rather than 20).
- 39. The subgroup of order 8 in  $\mathbb{Z}_{8000000}$  is generated by 1000000. Since this is the only subgroup of order 8, any other element of order 8 must generate this subgroup. An element 1000000k in this subgroup is a generator of the subgroup if and only if gcd(8, k) =1. Thus, the generators are 1000000, 3000000, 5000000, and 7000000.

By the same reasoning, if |a| = 8000000, then  $|a \frac{8000000}{8}| = 8$ . Any other element of order 8 in  $\langle a \rangle$  must generate  $\langle a^{1000000} \rangle$ . An element  $(a^{1000000})^k$  is a generator of  $\langle a^{1000000} \rangle$  if an only if gcd(8,k) = 1. Thus the elements of order 8 in  $\langle a \rangle$  are  $a^{1000000}$ ,  $a^{3000000}$ ,  $a^{5000000}$ , and  $a^{7000000}$ .



(Here, there should be lines connecting

- $\langle 1 \rangle \langle 2 \rangle, \, \langle 1 \rangle \langle 3 \rangle,$
- $\langle 2 \rangle \langle 6 \rangle, \, \langle 3 \rangle \langle 6 \rangle,$
- $\langle 2 \rangle \langle 4 \rangle$ , and
- $\langle 4 \rangle \langle 0 \rangle, \langle 6 \rangle \langle 0 \rangle.)$
- 41. Let  $s = \operatorname{lcm}(m, n)$ . The subgroup  $\langle m \rangle \cap \langle n \rangle$  is generated by s. Indeed, suppose that some integer t is an element of  $\langle m \rangle \cap \langle n \rangle$ . Then t = pm and t = qn for some integers p and q. But from our first homework set, we know that t must be a multiple of s. Thus  $t \in \langle s \rangle$  and  $\langle m \rangle \cap \langle n \rangle \subset \langle s \rangle$ .

On other hand suppose that ks is a generic element of  $\langle s \rangle$ . Then since s is a multiple of m and n, ks = kam and ks = kbn for some integers a, b. But that means that ks is an element of both  $\langle m \rangle$  and  $\langle n \rangle$  so  $ks \in \langle m \rangle \cap \langle n \rangle$ , so  $\langle s \rangle \subset \langle m \rangle \cap \langle n \rangle$ .

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