

MAJOR FACTS ABOUT COSETS

THEOREM 1. (Properties of Cosets) Let G be a group, H its subgroup, and $a, b \in G$. **Then**

- a. $a \in aH$;
- b. $aH = H$ **if and only if** $a \in H$;
- c. $aH = bH$ **or** $aH \cap bH = \emptyset$;
- d. $aH = bH$ **if and only if** $a^{-1}b \in H$;
- e. $|aH| = |bH|$;
- f. $aH = Ha$ **if and only if** $H = aHa^{-1}$;
- g. aH is a subgroup of G **if and only if** $a \in H$.

THEOREM 2. (Lagrange's Theorem) Let G be a finite group and H its subgroup. **Then** $|H|$ divides $|G|$. **Moreover,** the number of distinct left (or right) cosets of H in G is $|G|/|H|$.

COROLLARY 2.1. $|G:H| = |G|/|H|$, where $|G:H|$ is the index of H in G .

COROLLARY 2.2. $|a|$ divides $|G|$ for all $a \in G$.

COROLLARY 2.3. A group of prime order is cyclic.

COROLLARY 2.4. $a^{|G|} = e$ for all $a \in G$.

COROLLARY 2.5. (Fermat's Little Theorem)

$a^p \equiv a \pmod{p}$ for every integer a and every prime p .

THEOREM 3. (Classification of Groups of order $2p$) Let $p > 2$ be a prime number and G be a group of order $2p$. **Then** either $G \approx \mathbb{Z}_{2p}$ or $G \approx D_p$.