

**Proof** Let  $G$  be a finite group and  $H$  be a subgroup of  $G$  of order  $o(H)$ .

Pick  $a \in G$ . Let  $\{h_1, h_2, \dots, h_{o(H)}\}$  be the elements of  $H$ . It follows that

$$Ha = \{h_1a, h_2a, \dots, h_{o(H)}a\}.$$

Hence  $Ha$  contains at most  $o(H)$  elements. To show that  $Ha$  in fact contains  $o(H)$  elements, it is necessary to show that all the elements in the set  $\{h_1a, h_2a, \dots, h_{o(H)}a\}$  are distinct.

Indeed, suppose that  $h_i a = h_j a$  for some  $i, j \in \{1, 2, \dots, o(H)\}$ . By the Cancellation Law 1.9 in  $G$  it follows that  $h_i = h_j$ , i.e. that  $i = j$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 3.17.** *The right cosets of a subgroup  $H$  of order  $o(H)$  of a finite group  $G$  of order  $o(G)$  partition  $G$  into  $\frac{o(G)}{o(H)}$  subsets, each containing  $o(H)$  elements.*

**Proof** Let  $G$  be a finite group of order  $o(G)$  and  $H$  be a subgroup of  $G$  of order  $o(H)$ .

Suppose that there are  $k$  distinct right cosets of  $H$ . By Lemma 3.16, each of these right cosets contains  $o(H)$  elements. Further, since they are mutually disjoint by Proposition 3.12, the union of these right cosets contains  $ko(H)$  elements. Since the right cosets partition  $G$  by Proposition 3.12, their union is the set of elements in  $G$ . Hence  $ko(H) = o(G)$ , giving that  $k = \frac{o(G)}{o(H)}$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 3.18** (Lagrange's Theorem). *For any subgroup  $H$  of a finite group  $G$  the order of  $H$ ,  $o(H)$ , divides the order of  $G$ ,  $o(G)$ .*

**Corollary 3.19.** *Any group  $G$  of prime order  $o(G) = p$  has only two subgroups:  $\mathbf{1}$  and  $G$  itself.*

**Example 3.20.** Consider the group  $S_3$  of permutations of degree 3. Since  $o(S_3) = 3! = 2 \times 3$ , any subgroup of  $S_3$  must contain 1, 2, 3 or 6 elements. Indeed, the subgroups of  $S_3$  are:

$$\text{order 1 } \mathbf{1} = \left( \begin{array}{ccc} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \end{array} \right);$$

$$\text{order 2 } \left\{ \left( \begin{array}{ccc} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \end{array} \right), \left( \begin{array}{ccc} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 3 & 2 & 1 \end{array} \right) \right\}, \left\{ \left( \begin{array}{ccc} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \end{array} \right), \left( \begin{array}{ccc} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 1 & 3 \end{array} \right) \right\}, \\ \left\{ \left( \begin{array}{ccc} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \end{array} \right), \left( \begin{array}{ccc} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 3 & 2 \end{array} \right) \right\};$$

$$\text{order 3 } \left\{ \left( \begin{array}{ccc} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \end{array} \right), \left( \begin{array}{ccc} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 3 & 1 \end{array} \right), \left( \begin{array}{ccc} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 \end{array} \right) \right\};$$

$$\text{order 6 } S_3 = \left\{ \left( \begin{array}{ccc} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \end{array} \right), \left( \begin{array}{ccc} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 3 & 2 \end{array} \right), \left( \begin{array}{ccc} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 1 & 3 \end{array} \right), \left( \begin{array}{ccc} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 3 & 1 \end{array} \right), \left( \begin{array}{ccc} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 \end{array} \right), \right. \\ \left. \left( \begin{array}{ccc} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 3 & 2 & 1 \end{array} \right) \right\}.$$