

5. Let A be a set, B be a subset of A , and b be an element of B . Is

$$G = \{\sigma \in \text{Sym}(A) \mid \sigma(b) \in B\}$$

always a subgroup of S_A ? If your answer is yes, then PROVE the statement. If your answer is no, then give a COUNTEREXAMPLE.

G is Not always a group. For example take $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$
 $B = \{1, 2\}$ and $b = 1$

I see that $\sigma = (123) \in G$ because $\sigma(1) = 2 \in B$

But $\sigma \circ \sigma \notin G$ (so G is not closed) because

$$\sigma \circ \sigma = (132) \text{ and } \sigma \circ \sigma(1) = 3 \notin B$$

6. Let H be a subgroup of the finite group G . Let $x \in G$, and let $[x] = \{y \in G \mid xy^{-1} \in H\}$. Prove that H and $[x]$ have the same number of elements.

Notice that $y \in [x] \iff xy^{-1} = h$ for some $h \in H \iff y = h^{-1}x$

I create a function from H to $[x]$ which is one-to-one and onto, namely $f: H \rightarrow [x]$ is given by $f(h) = h^{-1}x$. We see that

note $f(h)$ really is in $[x]$. We see that every element of $[x]$ is equal to $f(h)$ for some $h \in H$. We see that f is one-to-one (if h_1 and h_2 are different, then $h_1^{-1}x$ and $h_2^{-1}x$ are different.)

We conclude that H and $[x]$ have the same number of elements.