

# SYLOW'S THEOREM

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## DEFINITION

Let  $G$  be a group and let  $p$  be a prime.

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- ② If  $|G| = p^\alpha m$  where  $p$  is prime and  $p \nmid m$ , then a subgroup of order  $p^\alpha$  is called a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $G$ .

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- ③ The set of Sylow  $p$ -subgroups of  $G$  will be denoted  $\text{Syl}_p(G)$  and the number of Sylow  $p$ -subgroups of  $G$  will be denoted  $n_p(G)$ .

## THEOREM (SYLOW'S THEOREM)

Let  $G$  be a group of order  $p^\alpha m$  where  $p$  is prime and  $p \nmid m$ .

- ①  $\text{Syl}_p(G) \neq \emptyset$ .
- ② If  $P$  is a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $G$  and  $Q$  is any  $p$ -subgroup of  $G$ , then  $\exists g \in G$  such that  $Q \leq gPg^{-1}$ . In particular, any two Sylow  $p$ -subgroups are conjugate in  $G$ .
- ③ We have that  $n_p \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ . Also,  $n_p = [G : N_G(P)]$  for any Sylow  $p$ -subgroup  $P$ . Thus  $n_p | m$ .

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## COROLLARY

*Let  $P \in \text{Syl}_p(G)$ . Then the following are equivalent.*

- 1**  *$P$  is the unique Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $G$  (-i.e.  $n_p = 1$ )*
- 2**  *$P \trianglelefteq G$ .*
- 3**  *$P \text{ char } G$ .*
- 4** *If  $X \subseteq G$  has the property that  $x \in X \Rightarrow |x| = p^m$  for some  $m$ , then  $\langle X \rangle$  is a  $p$ -group.*

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## PROPOSITION

*If  $G$  is a simple group of order 60, then  $G \cong A_5$ .*