

ASSIGNMENT 4

DUE SEPTEMBER 24 AT 5:00PM

Ok, it's book report time! Choose a proof that we are going over in class groups (Niven, Zagier, or Mantel) and write a one page (approximately) critique of it as a written proof. You may pick the same proof you are reading in class or a different one or you may pick 2 or 3 of them to compare and contrast.

Things to consider when writing your critique: Was the proof clear? Do you understand every detail or just the bigger points? How could the writer have done a better job convincing you that the proof is correct? What skill level is the writer assuming the reader has? What about their use of notation - was it too clunky or not enough or just right? Even if you understand the individual steps of the proof do you understand the proof overall in your gut? Did the writer ever indicate the motivation behind the proof or what ideas they were thinking about when they solved the problem?

The three proofs can be found in the materials section of the course website under Week 2. As always, you must submit your work in \LaTeX .