

Rutgers University: Algebra Written Qualifying Exam

August 2006: Day 2 Problem 3 Solution

Exercise. Prove that there is no simple group of order 148.

Solution.

Let G be a group of order 148. We want to show that there is a normal subgroup of G that is *not* $\{e\}$ or G .

$$148 = 2^2 \cdot 37$$

By the third Sylow theorem,

$$n_{37} \equiv 1 \pmod{37} \quad \text{and} \quad n_{37} \mid 4 \quad \implies \quad n_{37} = 1$$

The number of 37–Sylow subgroups is $n_{37} = 1$, so the 37–Sylow subgroup is a normal subgroup of G by the Second Sylow Theorem.

Thus, G is not simple.