

Exercises 4

③ $(\mathbb{R}^+, *)$, $a * b = \sqrt{ab}$

No. Associativity fails.

Let $a=1, b=1, c=4$

Then $(1 * 1) * c = \sqrt{\sqrt{1 \cdot 1} \cdot 4} = \sqrt{4} = 2$

but $1 * (1 * c) = \sqrt{1 \cdot \sqrt{1 \cdot 4}} = \sqrt{1 \cdot 2} = \sqrt{2}$, and $2 \neq \sqrt{2}$.

⑤ $(\mathbb{R}^+, *)$, $a * b = a/b$

No, associativity fails. $(a * b) * c = (a/b)/c = \frac{a}{bc}$, but $a * (b * c) = a/(b/c) = \frac{ac}{b}$.

⑨ $S =$ all real #'s except -1 .

$a * b = a + b + ab$.

(a) We first show $*$ maps $S \times S$ into S . It is clear that $a + b + ab \in \mathbb{R}$.

Suppose that $a + b + ab = -1$. Then

$$a(1+b) = -1-b, \text{ so } a = \frac{-1-b}{1+b} = -\frac{1+b}{1+b} = -1 \notin S.$$

We need to show $*$ is a function.

We first show it is well-defined. Let $a_1, a_2, b_1, b_2 \in S$

If $a_1 = a_2$ & $b_1 = b_2$, then $a_1 * b_1 = a_1 + b_1 + a_1 b_1 = a_2 + b_2 + a_2 b_2 = a_2 * b_2$.

As $*$ is defined on every pair $(a, b) \in S \times S$, $*$ is a function

(b) 1. $*$ is associative

$$(a * b) * c = a * b + c + (a * b) \cdot c = a + b + ab + c + (a + b + ab) \cdot c =$$

$$= a + b + c + ab + ac + bc + abc$$

$$a * (b * c) = a + b * c + a \cdot (b * c) = a + b + c + bc + a(b + c + bc)$$

$$= a + b + c + bc + ab + ac + abc.$$

These are equal.

2. Identity elt is 0 : for all $a \in S$, $a * 0 = a + 0 + a \cdot 0 = a$. We showed in class we only need to check one side.

3. For each $a \in S$, the inverse of a is $-\frac{a}{1+a}$, which is a real # because $a \neq -1$.

Moreover, if $-\frac{a}{1+a} = -1$, then $\frac{a}{1+a} = 1$, so $a = 1 + a$, which is not possible.

Thus $-\frac{a}{1+a} \in S$.

$$a * \left(-\frac{a}{1+a}\right) = a + \frac{-a}{1+a} + \frac{-a^2}{1+a} = \frac{a+a^2}{1+a} + \frac{-a}{1+a} + \frac{-a^2}{1+a} = 0, \text{ as desired.}$$

Therefore, $(S, *)$ is a group.

(c) $2 * x * 3 = 7$ $2^{-1} = -\frac{2}{3}$, $3^{-1} = -\frac{3}{4}$

$$x = 2^{-1} * 7 * 3^{-1} = -\frac{2}{3} * 7 * -\frac{3}{4}$$

$$= \left(-\frac{2}{3} + 7 + -\frac{2}{3} \cdot 7\right) * -\frac{3}{4}$$

$$= -\frac{2}{3} + 7 + -\frac{2}{3} \cdot 7 + -\frac{3}{4} + \left(-\frac{2}{3} + 7 + -\frac{2}{3} \cdot 7\right) \cdot \left(-\frac{3}{4}\right)$$

⑳ For every $a \in G$ with $a * a^{-1} \neq e$, we have $a \neq a^{-1}$. Pairing up each such elt with its inverse gives an even number of elements. Adding the identity gives an odd number of elements. Since G has an even number of elements, this cannot be all of the elements. Therefore, there must be some $b \in G$ with $b * b = e$.

③① Since $ex = e$, every group has at least one idempotent element. If $x \in G$ and $x * x = x$, then $x * x = x * e$, so by left cancellation we have $x = e$. Therefore there is exactly one idempotent elt.

③② Let $a, b \in G$. Then
 $(a * b) * (a * b) = e$,
 so, $a * ((a * b) * (a * b)) = a$
 $(a * a) * (b * (a * b)) = a$
 $e * (b * (a * b)) = a$
 $b * (a * b) = a$.
 Then, $b * (b * (a * b)) = b * a$
 $(b * b) * (a * b) = b * a$
 $e * (a * b) = b * a$
 $a * b = b * a$.
 Therefore G is abelian.

③③ $(a * b)' = a' * b' \Leftrightarrow a * b = b * a$
 (\Leftarrow) : $(a * b)' = b' * a' = a' * b'$.

(\Rightarrow) : If $(a * b)' = a' * b'$, then since inverses are unique, $a' * b' = b' * a'$. Since then $(b * a)' = b' * a'$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} a' * b' &= b' * a' \\ (a * b)' &= (b * a)', \\ \text{so } (a * b) * (a * b)' &= (a * b) * (b * a)' \\ e &= (a * b) * (b * a)', \\ \text{Then } e * (b * a) &= (a * b) * (b * a)' * (b * a) \\ b * a &= (a * b) * e \\ b * a &= a * b. \end{aligned}$$

③④ Suppose $a * b * c = e$.
 Then $b * c = a^{-1}$, so $b * c * a = a^{-1} * a = e$.

Additional exercises:

1. Let G be a group, and suppose $e, e' \in G$ are both identity elements. Then for every $g \in G$, $ge = ge'$. By the left cancellation law, $e = e'$.

2. (a) ϕ_g is injective: Let $h_1, h_2 \in G$ be s.t.

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_g(h_1) &= \phi_g(h_2). \\ \text{Then, } gh_1g^{-1} &= gh_2g^{-1} && \text{by def. of } \phi_g \\ h_1g^{-1} &= h_2g^{-1} && \text{by left cancellation} \\ h_1 &= h_2 && \text{by right cancellation } \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

ϕ_g is surjective: Let $h \in G$. Then $g^{-1}hg \in G$, and $\phi_g(g^{-1}hg) = g(g^{-1}hg)g^{-1} = (gg^{-1})h(gg^{-1}) = h \checkmark$

(b) Let $a, b \in G$.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then } \phi_g(ab) &= g a b g^{-1} \\ &= g a e b g^{-1} \\ &= g a (g^{-1}g) b g^{-1} \\ &= (g a g^{-1})(g b g^{-1}) \\ &= \phi_g(a) \phi_g(b). \end{aligned}$$

3. $\mathbb{Z}_n^\times = \{\bar{a} \in \mathbb{Z}_n \mid \exists \bar{c} \in \mathbb{Z}_n \text{ s.t. } \bar{a} \cdot \bar{c} = \bar{1}\}$

Recall that $\bar{a} \cdot \bar{b} = \overline{ab}$, by definition, where ab is multiplication in \mathbb{Z} .

• \cdot is associative: Let $\bar{a}, \bar{b}, \bar{c} \in \mathbb{Z}_n^\times$. Then $(\bar{a} \cdot \bar{b}) \cdot \bar{c} = \overline{ab} \cdot \bar{c} = \overline{(ab)c} = \overline{a(bc)} = \bar{a} \cdot \overline{bc} = \bar{a} \cdot (\bar{b} \cdot \bar{c})$.

(b/c multiplication of integers is associative.)

• \mathbb{Z}_n^\times is closed under \cdot : Let $\bar{a}, \bar{b} \in \mathbb{Z}_n^\times$. Then $\exists \bar{c}, \bar{d} \in \mathbb{Z}_n$ s.t. $\bar{a} \cdot \bar{c} = \bar{1}$ & $\bar{b} \cdot \bar{d} = \bar{1}$. Consider $\bar{d} \cdot \bar{c} \in \mathbb{Z}_n$. Then $(\bar{a} \cdot \bar{b}) \cdot (\bar{d} \cdot \bar{c}) = (\bar{a} \cdot (\bar{b} \cdot \bar{d})) \cdot \bar{c} = (\bar{a} \cdot \bar{1}) \cdot \bar{c} = \bar{a} \cdot \bar{c} = \bar{1}$, so $\bar{a} \cdot \bar{b} \in \mathbb{Z}_n^\times$.

• Identity: $\bar{1} \in \mathbb{Z}_n^\times$ (b/c $\bar{1} \cdot \bar{1} = \overline{1 \cdot 1} = \bar{1}$). We will show $\bar{1}$ is the identity elt. Let $\bar{a} \in \mathbb{Z}_n^\times$. Then $\bar{1} \cdot \bar{a} = \overline{1 \cdot a} = \bar{a} = \overline{a \cdot 1} = \bar{a} \cdot \bar{1}$, as desired.

• Inverses: First note that \cdot is commutative: $\forall \bar{a}, \bar{b} \in \mathbb{Z}_n^\times$, $\bar{a} \cdot \bar{b} = \overline{ab} = \overline{ba} = \bar{b} \cdot \bar{a}$. Let $\bar{a} \in \mathbb{Z}_n^\times$. Then by definition, $\exists \bar{c} \in \mathbb{Z}_n$ s.t. $\bar{a} \cdot \bar{c} = \bar{1}$, & since \cdot is commutative $\bar{c} \cdot \bar{a} = \bar{1}$, as well. Thus $\bar{c} \in \mathbb{Z}_n^\times$, & is the inverse of \bar{a} .

Therefore, $(\mathbb{Z}_n^\times, \cdot)$ is a group.