

Algebraic Structures

If there exists a system such that it consists of a non-empty set and one or more operations on that set, then that system is called an algebraic system. It is generally denoted by $(A, op_1, op_2, \dots, op_n)$, where A is a non-empty set and op_1, op_2, \dots, op_n are operations on A .

An algebraic system is also called an algebraic structure because the operations on the set A define a structure on the elements of A .

N-ARY OPERATION

A function $f: A \times A \times \dots \times A \rightarrow A$ is called an n -ary operation.

$$\begin{aligned} f: A \times A &\rightarrow A \\ f: (a, b) &= ab \\ f(a, b) &= ab \end{aligned}$$

BINARY OPERATION

Consider a non-empty set A and a function f such that $f: A \times A \rightarrow A$ is called a binary operation on A . If $*$ is a binary operation on A , then it may be written as $a * b$.

A binary operation can be denoted by any of the symbols $+, -, *, \oplus, \Delta, \square, \vee, \wedge$ etc.

The value of the binary operation is denoted by placing the operator between the two operands.

e.g., (i) The operation of addition is a binary operation on the set of natural numbers.

(ii) The operation of subtraction is a binary operation on set of integers. But, the operation of subtraction is not a binary operation on the set of natural numbers because the subtraction of two natural numbers may or may not be a natural number.

(iii) The operation of multiplication is a binary operation on the set of natural numbers, set of integers and set of complex numbers.

(iv) The operation of set union is a binary operation on the set of subsets of a universal set. Similarly, the operation of set intersection is a binary operation on the set of subsets of universal set.

TABLES OF OPERATION

Consider a non empty finite set $A = \{a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots, a_n\}$. A binary operation $*$ on A can be described by means of table as shown in Fig. 1.

a_1	a_2	a_3		a_n
$a_1 * a_1$				
	$a_2 * a_2$			
		$a_3 * a_3$		
				$a_n * a_n$

Fig. 1.

If empty in the j th row and k th column represent the element $a_j * a_k$.

Example 1. Consider the set $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$ and a binary operation $*$ on the set A defined by
 $a * b = 2a + 2b$.

present operation $*$ as a table on A .

i. The table of the operation is shown in Fig. 2.

*	1	2	3
1	4	6	8
2	6	8	10
3	8	10	12

Fig. 2.

PROPERTIES OF BINARY OPERATIONS

There are many properties of the binary operations which are as follows :

Closure Property. Consider a non-empty set A and a binary operation $*$ on A . Then under the operation $*$, if $a * b \in A$, where a and b are elements of A .
operation of addition on the set of integers is a closed operation.

Example 2. Consider the set $A = \{-1, 0, 1\}$. Determine whether A is closed under (i) multiplication.

(i) The sum of the elements is $(-1) + (-1) = -2$ and $1 + 1 = 2$ does not belong to A .
 \therefore not closed under addition.

The multiplication of every two elements of the set are

$$\begin{array}{lll} -1 * 0 = 0; & -1 * 1 = -1; & -1 * -1 = 1 \\ 0 * -1 = 0; & 0 * 1 = 0; & 0 * 0 = 0 \\ 1 * -1 = -1; & 1 * 0 = 0; & 1 * 1 = 1 \end{array}$$

\therefore each multiplication belongs to A hence A is closed under multiplication.

Example 3. Consider the set $A = \{1, 3, 5, 7, 9, \dots\}$, the set of odd +ve integers. Determine
is closed under (i) addition (ii) multiplication.

(i) The set A is not closed under addition because the addition of two odd numbers
an even number which does not belong to A .

SEMIGROUP

Let us consider, an algebraic system $(A, *)$, where $*$ is a binary operation on A . Then, the system $(A, *)$ is said to be a semi-group if it satisfies the following properties :

1. The operation $*$ is a closed operation on set A .
2. The operation $*$ is an associative operation.

Example 8. Consider an algebraic system $(A, *)$, where $A = \{1, 3, 5, 7, 9, \dots\}$, the set of all positive odd integers and $*$ is a binary operation means multiplication. Determine whether $(A, *)$ is a semi-group.

Sol. Closure property. The operation $*$ is a closed operation because multiplication of two +ve odd integers is a +ve odd number.

Associative property. The operation $*$ is an associative operation on set A . Since for every $a, b, c \in A$, we have

$$(a * b) * c = a * (b * c)$$

Hence, the algebraic system $(A, *)$ is a semigroup.

Example 9. Consider the algebraic system $((0, 1), *)$, where $*$ is a multiplication operation. Determine whether $((0, 1), *)$ is a semigroup.

Sol. Closure property. The operation $*$ is a closed one on the given set since

$$0 * 0 = 0; 0 * 1 = 0; 1 * 0 = 0; 1 * 1 = 1.$$

Associative property. The operation $*$ is associative since we have

$$(a * b) * c = a * (b * c) \quad \forall a, b, c$$

Since, the algebraic system is closed and associative. Hence, it is a semi-group.

Example 10. Let $(A, *)$ be semi-group. Show that for a, b, c in A , if $a * c = c * a$ and $b * c = c * b$, then $(a * b) * c = c * (a * b)$.

Sol. Take L.H.S., we have

$$\begin{aligned} (a * b) * c &\Rightarrow a * (b * c) && [\because * \text{ is associative} \\ &\Rightarrow a * (c * b) && [\because b * c = c * b \\ &\Rightarrow (a * c) * b && [\because * \text{ is associative} \\ &\Rightarrow (c * a) * b && [\because a * c = c * a \\ &\Rightarrow c * (a * b) && [\because * \text{ is associative} \end{aligned}$$

Which is equal to R.H.S.

Hence, $(a * b) * c = c * (a * b)$.

SUBSEMIGROUP

Consider a semigroup $(A, *)$ and let $B \subseteq A$. Then the system $(B, *)$ is called a subsemigroup if the set B is closed under the operation $*$.

e.g., Consider a semigroup $(N, +)$, where N is the set of all natural numbers and $+$ is an addition operation. The algebraic system $(E, +)$ is a subsemigroup of $(N, +)$, where E is a set of +ve even integers.

Consider a nonempty set $\Lambda = \{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n\}$.
 Λ^* is the set of all finite sequences of elements of Λ , i.e., Λ^* consists of all words formed from the alphabet of Λ .
 If α, β and γ are any elements of Λ^* , then $\alpha \cdot (\beta \cdot \gamma) = (\alpha \cdot \beta) \cdot \gamma$.
 Here, \cdot is a concatenation operation, which is an associative operation as shown above.
 Thus (Λ^*, \cdot) is a semigroup. This semigroup (Λ^*, \cdot) is called the free semigroup generated by Λ .

PRODUCT OF SEMIGROUP

Theorem. If $(S_1, *)$ and $(S_2, *)$ are semigroups, then $(S_1 \times S_2, *)$ is a semigroup, where $*$ is defined by $(s_1', s_2') * (s_1'', s_2'') = (s_1' * s_1'', s_2' * s_2'')$.

Proof. The semigroup $S_1 \times S_2$ is closed under the operation $*$.

Associativity of $*$. Let $a, b, c \in S_1 \times S_2$

$$\begin{aligned} a * (b * c) &= (a_1, a_2) * ((b_1, b_2) * (c_1, c_2)) \\ &= (a_1, a_2) * (b_1 *_1 c_1, b_2 *_2 c_2) \\ &= (a_1 *_1 (b_1 *_1 c_1), a_2 *_2 (b_2 *_2 c_2)) \\ &= ((a_1 *_1 b_1) *_1 c_1, (a_2 *_2 b_2) *_2 c_2) \\ &= (a_1 *_1 b_1, a_2 *_2 b_2) * (c_1, c_2) \\ &= ((a_1, a_2) * (b_1, b_2)) * (c_1, c_2) \\ &= (a * b) * c. \end{aligned}$$

Hence $*$ is closed and associative. Hence $S_1 \times S_2$ is a semigroup.

CongruENCE RELATION

An equivalence relation R on the semigroup $(S, *)$ is called a congruence relation if

$$aRa' \text{ and } bRb'$$

$$(a * b)R(a' * b')$$

Example 11. Let $(I, +)$ be a semigroup and R is an equivalence relation on I defined by aRb iff $a \equiv b \pmod{3}$.

i. If a and b yield the same remainder when divided by 3, then we have 3 divides

$$\overline{(a - b)}.$$

Now, if $a \equiv b \pmod{3}$ and $c \equiv d \pmod{3}$ then 3 divides $a - b$ and 3 divides $c - d$.

Thus, we can write $a - b = 3m$... (i)

$$c - d = 3n \quad \dots \text{(ii)}$$

where m and n are same integer of I .

Adding eqns. (i) and (ii), we have

$$(a - b) + (c - d) = 3m + 3n \quad \text{or} \quad (a + c) - (b + d) = 3(m + n)$$

$$a + c = b + d \pmod{3}$$

Thus, the relation is a congruence relation.

Example 12. Consider the set $A = \{a, b\}$. Let (A^*, \cdot) is the semigroup generated by A , also let R is a relation on A defined by $\alpha R \beta$ iff α and β have the same number of a 's.

Show whether the relation R is a congruence on (A^*, \cdot) .

Sol. First of all we will show that R is an equivalence relation. So, for that we will check reflexive, symmetric and transitive properties of the relation R .

Reflexive. $\alpha R \alpha$ for any $\alpha \in A^*$ since α has same number of a 's as itself. Thus, R is reflexive.

Symmetric. If α and β have same number of a 's, then $\alpha R \beta$ or we can say $\beta R \alpha$. Thus, R is symmetric.

Transitive. If $\alpha R \beta$, it means α and β have same number of a 's. If $\beta R \gamma$, it means β and γ have same number of a 's. It implies α and γ have same number of a 's i.e., $\alpha R \gamma$. Thus, R is transitive.

Hence, R is an equivalence relation.

To show that R is a congruence relation, let us assume that $\alpha R \alpha_1$ and $\beta R \beta_1$. It means α and α_1 have same number of a 's and β and β_1 have same number of a 's. We know that the number of a 's in α . β is the sum of number of a 's in α and the number of a 's in β .

From the above discussion, we can say that the number of a 's in $\alpha \cdot \beta$ is same as in $\alpha_1 \cdot \beta_1$.

Hence $(\alpha \cdot \beta) R (\alpha_1 \cdot \beta_1)$

which shows that R is a congruence relation.

Example 13. Consider the semigroup $(I, +)$, where $+$ is an addition operation. Let $f(x) = x^2 - 2x - 3$ and also let R is a relation on I defined by aRb iff $f(a) = f(b)$.

Show whether R is a congruence relation.

Sol. It can be easily shown that the relation R is an equivalence relation on the set I .

To check whether R is congruence relation or not, we will try to find two pair of numbers aRb and cRd but $(a+b) R (c+d)$ if possible. Then we will say R is not a congruence relation.

Thus, we have

$$2 R 0 \quad \text{i.e.,} \quad f(2) = f(0) = -3$$

$$\text{and} \quad -2 R 4 \quad \text{i.e.,} \quad f(-2) = f(4) = 5$$

$$\text{But } (2 + (-2)) R (0 + 4) \quad \text{i.e.,} \quad 0 R 4$$

$$\text{As } f(0) = -3 \text{ and } f(4) = 5$$

Hence, R is not a congruence relation.

MONOID.

Let us consider an algebraic system (A, o) , where o is a binary operation on A . Then the system (A, o) is said to be a monoid if it satisfies the following properties.

(i) The operation o is a closed operation on set A .

(ii) The operation o is an associative operation.

(iii) There exists an identity element w.r.t. the operation o .

Example 14. Consider an algebraic system $(N, +)$, where the set $N = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, \dots\}$ is the set of natural numbers and $+$ is an addition operation. Determine whether $(N, +)$ is a monoid.

Sol. Closure property. The operation $+$ is closed since sum of two natural numbers is a natural number.

Associative property. The operation $+$ is an associative property since we have
 $(a + b) + c = a + (b + c) \forall a, b, c \in N$.

Identity. There exists an identity element in set N w.r.t. the operation $+$. The element 0 is the identity element w.r.t. the operation $+$. Since, the operation $+$ is a closed, associative and has an identity. Hence, the algebraic system $(N, +)$ is a monoid.

MONOID

Let us consider a monoid (M, o) , also let $S \subseteq M$. Then (S, o) is called a submonoid of M if and only if it satisfies the following properties.

i) S is closed under the operation o .

ii) There exists an identity element $e \in S$.

Let us consider, a monoid $(M, *)$, where $*$ is a binary operation and M is a set of all integers.

M_1 is a submonoid of $(M, *)$, where M_1 is defined as

$$M_1 = \{a^i \mid i \text{ is from } 0 \text{ to } n, \text{ a positive integer and } a \in M\}.$$

Let us consider an algebraic system $(G, *)$, where $*$ is a binary operation on G . Then the $(G, *)$ is said to be a group if it satisfies following properties.

i) The operation $*$ is a closed operation.

ii) The operation $*$ is an associative operation.

iii) There exists an identity element w.r.t. the operation $*$.

iv) For every $a \in G$, there exists an element $a^{-1} \in G$ such that

$$a^{-1} * a = a * a^{-1} = e$$

Let us consider an algebraic system $(I, +)$, where I is the set of all integers and $+$ is an addition operation, up. The element 0 is the identity element w.r.t. the operation $+$. The inverse of every $a \in I$ is $-a \in I$.

Example 15. Determine whether the algebraic system $(Q, +)$ is a group where Q is the set of rational numbers and $+$ is an addition operation.

Sol. Closure property. The set Q is closed under operation $+$, since the addition of two rational numbers is a rational number.

Associative Property. The operation $+$ is associative, since $(a + b) + c = a + (b + c) \forall a, b, c \in Q$.

Q.

Identity. The element 0 is the identity element. Hence $a + 0 = 0 + a = a \forall a \in Q$.

Inverse. The inverse of every element $a \in Q$ is $-a \in Q$. Hence the inverse of every element exists.

Since, the algebraic system $(Q, +)$ satisfy all the properties of a group, hence $(Q, +)$ is a group.

Example 16. Consider an algebraic system $(Q, *)$, where Q is the set of rational numbers and $*$ is a binary operation defined by

$$a * b = a + b - ab \forall a, b \in Q.$$

Determine whether $(Q, *)$ is a group.

Sol. Closure property. Since the element $a, b \in Q$ for every $a, b \in Q$, hence, the set Q is closed under the operation $*$.

Associative property. Let us assume $a, b, c \in Q$, then we have

$$\begin{aligned} (a * b) * c &= (a * b - ab) * c \\ &= (a * b - ab) + c = (a * b - ab)c \\ &= a * b - ab + c = ac - bc + abc \\ &= a * b + c - ab = ac - bc + abc \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Similarly, } a * (b * c) = a * b + c - ab = ac - bc + abc.$$

$$\text{Therefore, } (a * b) * c = a * (b * c)$$

$*$ is associative.

Identity. Let e is an identity element. Then we have $a * e = a \forall a \in Q$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{or } a + e - ae &= a \quad \text{or } e - ae = 0 \\ e(1 - a) &= 0 \quad \text{or } e = 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Similarly, } e * a = a \forall a \in Q$$

$$\text{Therefore, for } e = 0, \text{ we have } a * e = e * a = a$$

Thus 0 is the identity element.

Inverse. Let us assume an element $a \in Q$. Let a^{-1} is an inverse of a , where $a^{-1} \in Q$. Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} a * a^{-1} &= 0 \\ \text{or } a + a^{-1} - aa^{-1} &= 0 \\ \text{or } a^{-1}(1 - a) &= -a \quad \text{or } a^{-1} = \frac{a}{a - 1} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Now, } \frac{a}{a - 1} \in Q, \text{ if } a \neq \frac{1}{a}$$

Therefore, every element has inverse such that $a \neq 1$.

Since, the algebraic system $(Q, *)$ satisfy all the properties of a group. Hence, $(Q, *)$ is a group.

Theorem II. Show that the identity element in a group is unique.

Proof. Let us assume that there exists two identity elements of G i.e., e and e' .

Since, $e \in G$ and e' is an identity.

We have $e'e = ee' = e$

Also, $e' \in G$ and e is an identity. We have $e'e = ee' = e'$

$$\therefore e = e'$$

Hence, identity in a group is unique.

Theorem III. Show that inverse of an element a in the group is unique.

Proof. Let us assume that $a \in G$ be an element. Also, assume that a_1^{-1} and a_2^{-1} be two inverse elements of a .

Then we have

$$a_1^{-1}a = aa_1^{-1} = e \quad \text{and} \quad a_2^{-1}a = aa_2^{-1} = e$$

Now,

$$a_1^{-1} = a_1^{-1}e = a_1^{-1}(aa_2^{-1}) = (a_1^{-1}a)a_2^{-1} = ea_2^{-1} = a_2^{-1}$$

Thus, the inverse of an element is unique.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Now, } b &= b * e = b * (a * a^{-1}) \\ &= (b * a) * a^{-1} \\ &= e * a^{-1} \\ &= a^{-1} \\ \therefore b &= c \end{aligned}$$

Theorem IV. Show that $(a^{-1})^{-1} = a$ for all $a \in G$, where G is a group and a^{-1} is an inverse of a .

Proof. Given that a^{-1} is an inverse of a . Then, we have

$$aa^{-1} = a^{-1}a = e$$

which implies that a is also an inverse of a^{-1} . Therefore $(a^{-1})^{-1} = a$.

Theorem V. Show that $(ab)^{-1} = b^{-1}a^{-1}$ for all $a, b \in G$.

Proof. We have to prove that ab is inverse of $b^{-1}a^{-1}$.

$$(ab)(b^{-1}a^{-1}) = (b^{-1}a^{-1})(ab) = e$$

∴ take L.H.S.

$$\begin{aligned}(ab)(b^{-1}a^{-1}) &= [(ab)b^{-1}]a^{-1} = [a(bb^{-1})]a^{-1} \\ &= (ae)a^{-1} = aa^{-1} = e\end{aligned}$$

Similarly, the R.H.S. i.e., $(b^{-1}a^{-1})(ab) = e$

Hence proved.

Theorem VI. Prove the left cancellation law i.e., $ab = ac \Rightarrow b = c \forall a, b, c \in G$.

Proof. Consider that $ab = ac$.

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Then, we have } b &= eb = (a^{-1}a)b = a^{-1}(ab) = a^{-1}(ac) && [\because ab = ac] \\ &= (a^{-1}a)c = ec = c\end{aligned}$$

Hence, $ab = ac \Rightarrow b = c$.

Theorem VII. Prove the right cancellation law i.e., $ba = ca \Rightarrow b = c \forall a, b, c \in G$.

Proof. Consider that $ba = ca$.

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Then, we have } b &= be = b(aa^{-1}) = (ba)a^{-1} = (ca)a^{-1} && [\because ba = ca] \\ &= c(aa^{-1}) = ce = c\end{aligned}$$

Hence, $ba = ca \Rightarrow b = c$.

6(6)

AND INFINITE GROUP

group $(G, *)$ is called a finite group if G is a finite set.

group $(G, *)$ is called an infinite group if G is an infinite set.

or example : The group $(I, +)$ is an infinite group as the set I of integers is an infinite set.

or example : The group $G = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7\}$ under multiplication modulo 8 is a finite group as the set G is a finite set.

ORDER OF GROUP

The order of the group G is the number of elements in the group G . It is denoted by $|G|$.

A group of order 1 has only the identity element i.e., $(\{e\}, *)$.

A group of order 2 has two elements i.e., one identity element and one some other element.

For example : Let $(\{e, x\}, *)$ be a group of order 2. The table of operation is shown in

*		e	x
e		e	x
x		x	e

Fig. 3.

The group of order 3 has three elements i.e., one identity element and two other elements.

For example : Let $(\{e, x, y\}, *)$ be a group of order 3. The table of operation is shown in (Fig. 4).

*	e	x	y
e	e	x	y
x	x	y	e
y	y	e	x

Fig. 4.

For example : Consider an algebraic system $(\{0, 1\}, +)$ where the operation + is defined as shown in (Fig. 5).

+	0	1
0	0	1
1	1	0

Fig. 5.

The system $(\{0, 1\}, +)$ is a group. In this 0 is identity element and every element is its own inverse.

SUBGROUP

Let us consider a group $(G, *)$. Also, let $S \subseteq G$; then $(S, *)$ is called a subgroup if it satisfies following conditions :

(i) The operation * is closed operation on S.

(ii) The operation * is an associative operation.

(iii) As e is an identity element belonged to G. It must belong to the set S i.e., The identity element of $(G, *)$ must belong to $(S, *)$.

(iv) For every element $a \in S$, a^{-1} also belongs to S.

e.g., Let $(G, +)$ be a group, where G is a set of all integers and (+) is an addition operation. Then $(H, +)$ is a subgroup of the group G, where $H = \{2K \mid K \in G\}$, the set of all even integer.

e.g., Let G be a group. Then the two subgroups of G are G and $G_1 = \{e\}$ is the identity element.

Example 17. Let $(I, +)$ be a group, where I is the set of all integers and (+) is an addition operation. Determine whether the following subsets of G are subgroups of G.

(a) The set G_1 of all odd integers. (b) The set G_2 of all positive integers.

Sol. (a) The set G_1 of all odd integers is not a subgroup of G. It does not satisfy the closure property, since addition of two odd integers is always even.

(b) **Closure property.** The set G_2 is closed under the operation $+$, since addition of two integers is always even.

Associative property. The operation $+$ is associative since $(a + b) + c = a + (b + c)$ for all $a, b, c \in G_2$.

Identity. The element 0 is the identity element. Hence, $0 \in G_2$.

Inverse. The inverse of every element $a \in G_2$ is $-a \notin G_2$. Hence, the inverse of every element does not exist.

Since the system $(G_2, +)$ does not satisfy all the conditions of a subgroup. Hence, $(G_2, +)$ is not a subgroup of $(\mathbb{I}, +)$.

ABELIAN GROUP

Let us consider, an algebraic system $(G, *)$, where $*$ is a binary operation on G . Then the system $(G, *)$ is said to be an abelian group if it satisfies all the properties of the group plus an additional following property :

(i) The operation $*$ is commutative i.e.,

$$a * b = b * a \quad \forall a, b \in G$$

Consider an algebraic system $(\mathbb{I}, +)$, where \mathbb{I} is the set of all integers and $+$ is an addition operation. The system $(\mathbb{I}, +)$ is an abelian group because it satisfies all the properties of a group and the operation $+$ is commutative for every $a, b \in \mathbb{I}$.

Example 18. Consider an algebraic system $(G, *)$, where G is the set of all non-zero real numbers and $*$ is a binary operation defined by

$$a * b = \frac{ab}{4}.$$

Show that $(G, *)$ is an abelian group.

Sol. Closure property. The set G is closed under the operation $*$. Since, $a * b = \frac{ab}{4}$ is a real number. Hence, belongs to G .

Associative property. The operation $*$ is associative. Let $a, b, c \in G$, then we have

$$(a * b) * c = \left(\frac{ab}{4}\right) * c = \frac{(ab)c}{16} = \frac{abc}{16}.$$

$$\text{Similarly, } a * (b * c) = a * \left(\frac{bc}{4}\right) = \frac{a(bc)}{16} = \frac{abc}{16}.$$

Identity. To find the identity element, let us assume that e is a +ve real number. Then $a * e = a$, where $a \in G$.

$$\frac{ea}{4} = a \quad \text{or} \quad e = 4$$

Similarly, $a * e = a$

$$\frac{ae}{4} = a \quad \text{or} \quad e = 4.$$

Thus, the identity element in G is 4.

Inverse. Let us assume that $a \in G$. If $a^{-1} \in Q$ is an inverse of a , then $a * a^{-1} = 4$

$$\text{Therefore, } \frac{aa^{-1}}{4} = 4 \quad \text{or} \quad a^{-1} = \frac{16}{a}$$

Similarly, $a^{-1} * a = 4$

$$\text{Therefore, } \frac{a^{-1}a}{4} = 4 \text{ or } a^{-1} = \frac{16}{a}.$$

Thus, the inverse of element a in G is $\frac{16}{a}$.

Commutative. The operation $*$ on G is commutative.

$$\text{Since, } a * b = \frac{ab}{4} = b * a.$$

Thus, the algebraic system $(G, *)$ is closed, associative, identity element, inverse and commutative. Hence, the system $(G, *)$ is an abelian group.

✓ PRODUCT OF GROUPS

Theorem. Prove that if $(G_1, *_1)$ and $(G_2, *_2)$ are groups, then $G = G_1 \times G_2$ i.e., $(G, *)$ is a group with operation defined by $(a_1, b_1) * (a_2, b_2) = (a_1 *_1 a_2, b_1 *_2 b_2)$.

Proof. To prove that $G_1 \times G_2$ is a group, we have to show that $G_1 \times G_2$ has the associative property, has an identity and also exists inverse of every element.

Associativity. Let $a, b, c \in G_1 \times G_2$, then

$$\begin{aligned} a * (b * c) &= (a_1, a_2) * ((b_1, b_2) * (c_1, c_2)) \\ &= (a_1, a_2) * (b_1 *_1 c_1, b_2 *_2 c_2) \\ &= (a_1 *_1 (b_1 *_1 c_1), a_2 *_2 (b_2 *_2 c_2)) \\ &= ((a_1 *_1 b_1) *_1 c_1, ((a_2 *_2 b_2) *_2 c_2)) \\ &= (a_1 *_1 b_1, a_2 *_2 b_2) * (c_1, c_2) \\ &= ((a_1, a_2) * (b_1, b_2)) * (c_1, c_2) = (a * b) * c. \end{aligned}$$

Identity. Let e_1 and e_2 are identities for G_1 and G_2 respectively. Then, the identity for $G_1 \times G_2$ is $e = (e_1, e_2)$. Assume same $a \in G_1 \times G_2$.

$$\text{Then } a * e = (a_1, a_2) * (e_1, e_2)$$

$$= (a_1 *_1 e_1, a_2 *_2 e_2) = (a_1, a_2) = a$$

Similarly, we have $e * a = a$.

Inverse. To determine the inverse of an element in $G_1 \times G_2$, we will determine it componentwise i.e.,

$$a^{-1} = (a_1, a_2)^{-1} = (a_1^{-1}, a_2^{-1}).$$

Now to verify that this is the exact inverse, we will compute $a * a^{-1}$ and $a^{-1} * a$.

$$\text{Now } a * a^{-1} = (a_1, a_2) * (a_1^{-1}, a_2^{-1})$$

$$= (a_1 *_1 a_1^{-1}, a_2 *_2 a_2^{-1}) = (e_1, e_2) = e$$

Similarly, we have $a^{-1} * a = e$.

Thus, $(G_1 \times G_2, *)$ is a group.

In general, if G_1, G_2, \dots, G_n are groups, then $G = G_1 \times G_2 \times \dots \times G_n$ is also a group.

COSETS

Consider an algebraic system $(G, *)$, where $*$ is a binary operation. Now, if $(G, *)$ is a group and let a be an element of G and $H \subseteq G$, then the LEFT COSET $a * H$ of H is the set of elements such that

$$a * H = \{a * h \mid h \in H\}.$$

RIGHT COSET $H * a$ of H is the set of elements such that
 $H * a = \{h * a \mid h \in H\}.$

subset H is itself a left and right coset since $e * H = H * e = H$.

Example 19. Let us consider a group $(G, *)$, where G is a set having elements $\{0, 1\}$ and operation. Also, let $H = \{1\}$ is a subgroup of G . Determine all the left cosets of H

i. There is only 2 left cosets i.e.,

$$1 * H = H = \{1\}$$

$$0 * H = \{0\}.$$

Example 20. Let $(I, +)$ is a group, where I is the set of all integers and $+$ is an addition and let $H = \{\dots, -4, -2, 0, 2, 4, 6, 8, \dots\}$ be the subgroup consisting of multiples of 2. determine all the left cosets of H in I .

i. There are two distinct left cosets of H in I .

$$0 + H = \{\dots, -6, -4, -2, 0, 2, 4, 6, \dots\} = H$$

$$1 + H = \{\dots, -5, -3, -1, 1, 3, 5, 7, \dots\}$$

There is no other distinct left coset because any other left coset coincides with the cosets above.

1. SUBGROUP

Consider a group $(G, *)$ and subgroup $(H, *)$ of the group, then the $(H, *)$ is called a sub-group if for any $a \in G$, we have

$$aH = Ha.$$

The meaning of the above definition is that if H is a normal sub-group, then both the left cosets of H in G are equal.

Theorem VIII. Show that every sub-group H of an abelian group G is normal.

Proof. Let us assume any element $a \in H$

Also, assume any element $b \in G$

then we have $b^{-1}ab = ab^{-1}b = ae \Rightarrow b^{-1}b = e$

We know that $a \in H = a \Rightarrow ae = a$

Hence, H is a normal sub-group.

2. MORPHISMS

Let $(G_1, *)$ and $(G_2, 0)$ be two algebraic systems, where $*$ and 0 both are binary operations. Then, the mapping $f: G_1 \rightarrow G_2$ is said to be homomorphism from $(G_1, *)$ to $(G_2, 0)$ such that for every $a, b \in G$, we have

$$f(a * b) = f(a) \cdot f(b).$$

ISOMORPHISM

Let $(G_1, *)$ and (G_2, \square) be two algebraic systems, where * and \square both are binary operations. The systems $(G_1, *)$ and (G_2, \square) are said to be isomorphic if there exists an isomorphic mapping $f: G_1 \rightarrow G_2$.

When two algebraic systems are isomorphic, the system are structurally equivalent and one can be obtained from another by simply renaming the elements and the operation.

Example 21. Let $(A_1, *)$ and (A_2, \square) be the two algebraic systems as shown in (Fig. 6).

Determine whether the two algebraic systems are isomorphic.

*	a	b	c	\square	1	w	w^2
a	a	b	c	1	1	w	w^2
b	b	c	a	w	w	w^2	1
c	c	a	b	w^2	w^2	1	w

Fig. 6.

Sol. The two algebraic systems $(A_1, *)$ and (A_2, \square) are isomorphic and (A_2, \square) is an isomorphic image of A_1 , such that

$$f(a) = 1,$$

$$f(b) = w,$$

$$f(c) = w^2.$$

AUTOMORPHISM

Let $(G_1, *)$ and (G_2, \square) be two algebraic systems, where * and \square both are binary operations on G_1 and G_2 respectively. Then an isomorphism from $(G_1, *)$ to (G_2, \square) is called an automorphism if $G_1 = G_2$.

RINGS

An algebraic system $(R, +, \cdot)$ where R is a set with two arbitrary binary operations + and \cdot , is called a ring if it satisfies following conditions

(i) $(R, +)$ is an abelian group.

(ii) (R, \cdot) is a semigroup.

(iii) The multiplication operation \cdot , is distributive over the addition operation + i.e.,

$$a(b+c) = ab + ac \text{ and } (b+c)a = ba + ca \text{ for all } a, b, c \in R.$$

For example : Consider M be the set of all matrices of the type $\begin{bmatrix} c & d \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ over integers under matrix addition and matrix multiplication. Thus M form a ring.

For example : The set $Z_9 = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8\}$ under the operation addition and multiplication modulo 9 forms a ring.

TYPES OF RINGS

1. Commutative Rings. A ring $(R, +, \cdot)$ is called a commutative ring if it holds the commutative law under the operation of multiplication i.e.,

$$a \cdot b = b \cdot a, \text{ for every } a, b \in R$$

for example: Consider a set E of all even integers under the operation of addition and multiplication. The set E forms a commutative ring.

2. Ring with Unity. A ring $(R, +, \cdot)$ is called a ring with unity, if it has a multiplicative identity i.e.,

$$a \cdot e = e \cdot a = a \text{ for every } a \in R$$

for example: Consider a set M of all 2×2 matrices over integers under matrix multiplication and matrix addition. The set M forms a ring with unity $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$.

3. Ring with Zero Divisions. If $a \cdot b = 0$, where a and b are any two non-zero elements in the ring $(R, +, \cdot)$, then a and b are called divisions of zero and the ring $(R, +, \cdot)$ is called a ring with zero division.

4. Ring without Zero Division. An algebraic system $(R, +, \cdot)$ where R is a set with two binary operations + and \cdot , is called a ring without divisors of zero if for every $a, b \in R$,

$$a \cdot b \neq 0 \Rightarrow a \neq 0 \text{ and } b \neq 0.$$

RINGS

A subset A of a ring $(R, +, \cdot)$ is called a subring of R, if it satisfies following conditions.

(i) $(A, +)$ is a subgroup of the group $(R, +)$

(ii) A is closed under the multiplication operation i.e., $a \cdot b \in A$, for every $a, b \in A$.

For example: The ring $(I, +, \cdot)$ of integers is a subring of ring $(R, +, \cdot)$ of real numbers.

Points to be Noted

(i) If R is any ring then $\{0\}$ and R are subrings of R.

(ii) Sum of two subrings may not be a subring.

(iii) Intersection of subrings is a subring.

For example. Consider the ring M of 2×2 matrices of integers under matrix addition

matrix multiplication. Now, S, the set of all matrices of the type $\begin{bmatrix} x & 0 \\ y & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ where x, y are integers is a subring of M.

Theorem IX. Show that $(-a)(-b) = ab$ is a ring R.

Proof. We have $(-a)(-b) = -[a(-b)] = -(-ab) = ab$

Hence proved.

Theorem X. Show that $a(b - c) = ab - ac$ is a ring R.

Proof. We have $a(b - c) = a[b + (-c)] = ab + a(-c) = ab - ac$

Hence proved.

Theorem XI. Show that $a \cdot 0 = 0 \cdot a = 0$ for all $a \in R$, where R is a ring.

Proof. We have $a \cdot 0 = a \cdot (0 + 0)$

$$\Rightarrow a \cdot 0 = a \cdot 0 + a \cdot 0$$

$$\Rightarrow a \cdot 0 + 0 = a \cdot 0 + a \cdot 0 \Rightarrow 0 = a \cdot 0$$

[Using left cancellation law]

Hence proved.

Theorem XII. Show that $a(-b) = (-a)b = -ab$ for all $a, b \in R$, where R is a ring.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Proof. We know that } a \cdot 0 &= 0 &\Rightarrow a(-b+b) &= 0 \\ \Rightarrow a(-b) + ab &= 0 &\Rightarrow a(-b) &= -ab \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, we have $(-a)b = -ab$. Hence proved.

INTEGRAL DOMAIN

Let us consider, an algebraic system $(D, +, *)$ where $+$ and $*$ are two binary operations. The algebraic system $(D, +, *)$ is called an integral domain if it satisfies the following conditions.

1. $(D, +)$ is an abelian group.

2. The operation $*$ is commutative. Also, if we have $z \neq 0$ and $z * x = z * y$; then we have $x = y$. Hence 0 is the additive identity.

3. The operation $*$ is distributive over the operation $+$.

Example 22. Let us consider an algebraic system $(I, +, *)$ where I is the set of all integers and $+$ and $*$ are the operations of addition and multiplication respectively. Determine whether $(I, +, *)$ is an integral domain.

Sol. The algebraic system $(I, +)$ is an abelian group. Here, the identity element is 0 and inverse of every element a is $-a$.

The group $*$ is commutative.

Also, for every non-zero integer z , we have

$$z * x = z * y \Rightarrow x = y$$

Also, the operation $*$ is distributive over $+$. Since, the system $(I, +, *)$ satisfies all the conditions of integral domain. Hence, $(I, +, *)$ is an integral domain.

FIELD

An algebraic system $(F, +, \bullet)$, where F is a set with two arbitrary binary operations $+$ and \bullet , is called a field if it satisfies the following conditions

(i) $(F, +)$ is an abelian group.

(ii) Every non-zero element has a multiplicative inverse.

(iii) The operation \bullet is distributive over the operation $+$.

e.g., The algebraic system $(R, +, \bullet)$ is a field, where R is the set of all real numbers.

Points to Remember

- * Every field is a ring.

- * Every field is an integral domain but every integral domain is not a field.

- * Every finite integral domain is a field.

e.g., The set of rational numbers with addition and multiplication is not a field because the multiplicative inverse of elements do not exist.

SOLVED PROBLEMS

Problem 1. Let $(S, *)$ be a commutative semigroup. Show that if $x * x = x$ and $y * y = y$.

$$(x * y) * (x * y) = x * y.$$

Sol. Take L.H.S. $(x * y) * (x * y)$

$$(x * y) * (y * x) \quad [\because (S, *) \text{ is a commutative semigroup}]$$

$$x * y * y * x \Rightarrow x * y * x \quad [\because y * y = y]$$

$$x * x * y \quad [\because \text{Commutative semigroup}]$$

$$x * y \quad [\because x * x = x]$$

$$(x * y) * (x * y) = x * y.$$

Problem 2. Let $((x, y), .)$ be a semigroup where $x . x = y$ show that

$$(ii) y . y = y.$$

Sol. (i) To show that $x . y = y . x$
 We know that $x . x . x = x . x . x \Rightarrow x . y = y . x$ $[\because x . x = y]$
 Hence proved.

(ii) To show that $y . y = y$
 We know that the set (x, y) is closed under the operation. Therefore, we have two options

Let
 Now assume $x . y = x, x . y = y$

$$x . y = x \quad [\because . \text{ is associative}]$$

$$y . y = (y . (x)) . x = (y . x) . x \quad [\because x . y = y . x]$$

$$= (x . y) . x \quad [\because x . y = x]$$

$$= x . x \quad [\because x . x = y]$$

$$= y$$

Let
 Now assume $x . y = y$

$$y . y = (x . x) . y \quad [\because x . x = y]$$

$$= x . (x . y) \quad [\because . \text{ is associative}]$$

$$= x . y \quad [\because x . y = y]$$

$$= y$$

Hence proved.

Problem 3. Let $(A, *)$ be a semigroup. Further more, for every a and b in A , if $a \neq b$ then $a * a \neq b * b$.

i) Show that for every a in A

$$a * a = a$$

ii) Show that for every a, b in A

$$a * b * a = a$$

iii) Show that for every a, b, c in A

$$a * b * c = a * c.$$

Sol. (a) We know that A is a semigroup.

$$(a * b) * c = a * (b * c)$$

Now putting $b = a$ and $c = a$, we have
 $(a * a) * a = a * (a * a)$

Since Λ is not commutative semigroup.

Hence $a * a = a$...(i)

(b) Let us assume that $b \in \Lambda$, then we have
 $b * b = b$

Multiplying both sides by a , we get

$$a * b * b = a * b \quad \text{or} \quad (a * b) * b = a * b \quad [\because * \text{ is associative}]$$

Hence,

$$a * b = a \quad [\because * \text{ is associative}]$$

So,

$$a * b * a = (a * b) * a$$

$$= a * a$$

$$= a$$

$$(c) \text{ We know that } a * b * c = (a * b) * c$$

$$= a * c$$

$[\because a * b = a \text{ from (ii)}]$

$[\because a * a = a \text{ from (i)}]$

$[\because a * a = a \text{ from (ii)}]$

$[\because a * b = a \text{ from (i)}]$

$[\because a * b = a \text{ from (ii)}]$

Problem 4. Let $(Z, *)$ be an algebraic structure, where Z is the set of integers and the operation $*$ is defined by $n * m = \max(n, m)$. Determine whether $(Z, *)$ is a monoid or a group or an abelian group.

Sol. Closure Property

We know that $n * m = \max(n, m) \in Z$,
 $\forall n, m \in Z$

Hence $*$ is closed.

Associative property. Let us assume $a, b, c \in Z$.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then, we have } a * (b * c) &= a * \max(b, c) = \max(a, \max(b, c)) \\ &= \max(a, b, c) \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, $(a * b) * c = \max(a, b, c)$

Hence $*$ is associative.

Identity. Let e be the identity element. Then $\max(a, e) = a$

Hence, the minimum element is the identity element.

Inverse. The inverse of any element does not exist. Since, the inverse does not exist hence $(Z, *)$ is not a group or abelian group but a monoid as it satisfies the properties closure, associative and identity.

Problem 5. Let $S = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7\}$ and multiplication modulo 8, that is

$$x \otimes y = (xy) \text{ Mod } 8$$

(i) Prove that $(\{0, 1\}, \otimes)$ is not a group.

(ii) Write three distinct groups (G, \otimes) where $G \subset S$ and G has 2 elements.

Sol. (i) (a) Closure property. The set $\{0, 1\}$ is closed under the operation \otimes , as shown in table of operation (Fig. 7).

\otimes	0	1
0	0	0
1	0	1

Fig. 7.

Associative property. The operation \otimes is associative. Let $a, b, c \in G$, then we have
 $(a \otimes b) \otimes c = a \otimes (b \otimes c)$ e.g., $(0 \otimes 1) \otimes 1 = (0) \otimes 1 = 0$
 $0 \otimes (1 \otimes 1) = 0 \otimes 1 = 0$.

Partly,
Identity. The element 1 is the identity element as for every
 $a \in \{0, 1\}$

$$e \otimes a = a.$$

Inverse. There must exist an inverse of every element $a \in \{0, 1\}$, such that
 $a \otimes a^{-1} = e$

The inverse of element 0 does not exist.
Therefore, since the inverse of every element $a \in \{0, 1\}$ does not exist. Hence $(\{0, 1\}, \otimes)$ is

the three distinct groups (G, \otimes) , where $G \subset S$ and G has 2 elements is as follows
(a) $(\{1, 5\}, \otimes)$ (b) $(\{1, 5\}, \otimes)$ (c) $(\{1, 7\}, \otimes)$.

Problem 6. Determine whether a semigroup with more than one idempotent element is a group.

Let $(A, *)$ be a semigroup with two idempotent elements a and b . Then we have

$$\begin{array}{ll} a * a = a & \dots(a) \\ b * b = b & \dots(b) \quad a \neq b. \end{array}$$

assume that A is a group with identity element e .

$$a * e = a \quad \text{and} \quad b * e = b$$

From (a) and (b), we have $a * a = a * e$ and $b * b = b * e$

By law of left cancellation, we get $a = e = b$

contradiction to $a \neq b$.

∴ $(A, *)$ can not be group.

Problem 7. Let G_1 and G_2 be subgroups of a group G

how that $G_1 \cap G_2$ is also a subgroup of G .

; $G_1 \cup G_2$ always a subgroup of G ?

(i) Let G_1 and G_2 be two subgroups of G . Then we have

$$G_1 \cap G_2 \neq \emptyset \quad [\because \text{Identity element } \circ \text{ is common to both } G_1 \text{ and } G_2]$$

how that $G_1 \cap G_2$ is a subgroup, we shall have to prove that

$$a \in G_1 \cap G_2 \text{ and } b \in G_1 \cap G_2 \Rightarrow a, b \in G_1 \cap G_2.$$

Let us assume

$$a \in G_1 \cap G_2 \Rightarrow a \in G_1 \text{ and } a \in G_2$$

$$b \in G_1 \cap G_2 \Rightarrow b \in G_1 \text{ and } b \in G_2.$$

We know that G_1 and G_2 are subgroups.

∴ before, $a \in G_1$ and $b \in G_1 \Rightarrow ab^{-1} \in G_1 \dots(i)$

$$a \in G_2 \text{ and } b \in G_2 \Rightarrow ab^{-1} \in G_2 \dots(ii)$$

∴ From (i) and (ii), we have $ab^{-1} \in G_1 \cap G_2$

∴ we have

$$a \in G_1 \cap G_2 \text{ and } b \in G_1 \cap G_2 \Rightarrow ab^{-1} \in G_1 \cap G_2.$$

∴ $G_1 \cap G_2$ is a subgroup of G .

(ii) It is not always necessary that $G_1 \cup G_2$ is a subgroup of G .

Problem 8. Let (G, o) be a group. Show that (G, o) is an Abelian group if and only if $(a \circ b)^2 = a^2 \circ b^2$ for all a and b in G .

Sol. We know that

$$(a \circ b)^2 = (a \circ b) \circ (a \circ b) = a \circ (b \circ a) \circ b$$

Now let us assume G is an Abelian group

$$= a \circ (a \circ b) \circ b = (a \circ a) \circ (b \circ b)$$

Hence,

$$(a \circ b)^2 = a^2 \circ b^2 \quad \forall a, b \in G$$

Thus, the group G is Abelian if and only if

$$(a \circ b)^2 = a^2 \circ b^2 \quad \forall a, b \in G.$$

$\because o$ is associative

Problem 9. Let $G = (I, +)$ be a group, where I is the set of integers and $+$ is an addition operation, also let $G_1 = \{ \dots, -14, -7, 0, 7, 14, 21, \dots \}$ be a subgroup consisting of the multiples of 7. Determine the cosets of G_1 in I .

Sol. The set I has 7 different cosets (left or right) of G_1 , which are as shown below.

$$0 + H = \{ \dots, -14, -7, 0, 7, 14, 21, \dots \}$$

$$1 + H = \{ \dots, -13, -6, 1, 8, 15, 22, \dots \}$$

$$2 + H = \{ \dots, -12, -5, 2, 9, 16, 23, \dots \}$$

$$3 + H = \{ \dots, -11, -4, 3, 10, 17, 24, \dots \}$$

$$4 + H = \{ \dots, -10, -3, 4, 11, 18, 25, \dots \}$$

$$5 + H = \{ \dots, -9, -2, 5, 12, 19, 26, \dots \}$$

$$6 + H = \{ \dots, -8, -1, 6, 13, 20, 27, \dots \}$$

All other cosets coincides with any one of the cosets shown above, hence we will not count them.

Problem 10. Consider $G = \{1, 5, 7, 11, 13, 17\}$ under multiplication modulo 18.

(i) Construct the multiplication table of G .

(ii) Find $5^{-1}, 7^{-1}$ and 17^{-1} .

(iii) Find the order and group generated by

(a) 5 (b) 13.

(iv) Is G cyclic?

Sol. (i) We can find $x * y$ in G by finding the remainder when the product xy is divided by 18. The table of multiplication modulo 18 is shown in (Fig. 8).

*	1	5	7	11	13	17
1	1	5	7	11	13	17
5	5	7	17	1	11	13
7	7	17	13	5	1	11
11	11	1	5	13	17	7
13	13	11	1	17	7	5
17	17	13	11	7	5	1

Fig. 8.

We know that a^{-1} is the inverse of a in G . The element 1 is the identity element of G .

Hence, (a)

$$aa^{-1} = a^{-1}a = e$$

$$aa^{-1} = 1$$

$$5^{-1} = 11$$

$$[\because 5 \cdot 11 = 11 \cdot 5 = 1]$$

$$7^{-1} = 13$$

$$[\because 7 \cdot 13 = 13 \cdot 7 = 1]$$

$$17^{-1} = 17$$

$$[\because 17 \cdot 17 = 17 \cdot 17 = 1]$$

(b) We have $5^1 = 5, 5^2 = 7, 5^3 = 17$;

thus, the order of the group $|5| = 3$ and the group generated by $5 = \{5, 7, 17\}$.

(c) Again we have $13^1 = 13, 13^2 = 7, 13^3 = 1$;

thus, the order of the group $|13| = 3$ and group generated by $13 = \{1, 7, 13\}$.

(d) G is not cyclic since $G \neq$ any of the subgroups generated by 5 and 13.

Problem 11. Let G be a finite group and H be a subgroup of G . For $a \in G$, define $aH = \{ah : h \in H\}$

(a) Show that $|aH| = |H|$.

(b) Show that for every pair of elements, $a, b \in G$ either $aH = bH$ or aH and bH are disjoint.

(c) Use the above to argue that the order of H must divide the order of G .

Sol. (a) To show that $|aH| = |H|$

Let $H = \{h_1, h_2, h_3, \dots, h_n\}$ be the n elements of H .

Then $aH = \{ah_1, ah_2, ah_3, \dots, ah_n\}$

But we know that $ah_i = ah_j$ or $h_i = h_j$

Hence, the n elements in aH are disjoint.

Therefore, $|aH| = |H|$.

(b) Let us assume that $(a * H) \cap (b * H)$ is non empty

Also, let $c \in (a * H) \cap (b * H)$

Then, we have $c \in a * H \Rightarrow a * H = c * H$

Also, $c \in b * H \Rightarrow b * H = c * H$

Therefore, $a * H = b * H$.

Since the cosets form a partition of G . Hence $aH = bH$ or aH and bH are disjoint.

(c) Since we know that H is a subgroup of G . Let us assume, that the subgroup H has K elements and let there are b distinct left cosets. From the (b) above, we have seen that the partition the group G and from the (a) above, we have seen that each coset has K elements.

Therefore, the group G must contain K_p elements. Thus, it implies that the order of H divides the order of G .

This is also called the Lagrange's theorem.

Problem 12. Show that if $G = G_1 \times G_2 \times \dots \times G_n$ is a group and $(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) \in G$,

$$(i) (a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)^{-1} = (a_1^{-1}, a_2^{-1}, \dots, a_n^{-1})$$

$$(ii) (a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)^m = (a_1^m, a_2^m, \dots, a_n^m).$$

Sol. (i) Let $a \in G$ and also $a^{-1} \in G$. Also assume that

$$a = (a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots, a_n) \text{ and } a^{-1} = (a_1^{-1}, a_2^{-1}, a_3^{-1}, \dots, a_n^{-1})$$

Now

$$\begin{aligned} a * a^{-1} &= (a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots, a_n) * (a_1^{-1}, a_2^{-1}, a_3^{-1}, \dots, a_n^{-1}) \\ &= (a_1 * a_1^{-1}, a_2 * a_2^{-1}, \dots, a_n * a_n^{-1}) = (e_1, e_2, e_3, \dots, e_n) \end{aligned}$$

Here e_i is the identity of group G_i .

Since, a^{-1} is the inverse of a . So we can write $(a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots, a_n)^{-1} = (a_1^{-1}, a_2^{-1}, \dots, a_n^{-1})$.

(ii) We can prove this by the method of induction. Let us assume that $n = 2$ i.e.,

$$\begin{aligned} (a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots, a_n)^2 &= (a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots, a_n)(a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots, a_n) \\ &= (a_1 a_1, a_2 a_2, a_3 a_3, \dots, a_n a_n) = (a_1^2, a_2^2, a_3^2, \dots, a_n^2) \end{aligned}$$

Thus, the result is true for $n = 2$.

Let us assume that it is true for $n = m - 1$ i.e.,

$$(a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots, a_n)^{m-1} = (a_1^{m-1}, a_2^{m-1}, a_3^{m-1}, \dots, a_n^{m-1})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Now } (a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots, a_n)^m &= (a_1^{m-1}, a_2^{m-1}, a_3^{m-1}, \dots, a_n^{m-1})(a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots, a_n) \\ &= (a_1^m, a_2^m, a_3^m, \dots, a_n^m) \end{aligned}$$

Thus, it is true for $n = m$.

Problem 13. Show that if $G = G_1 \times G_2 \times G_3 \times \dots \times G_n$ is a group and $(a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots, a_n) \in G$, then

(i) The identity of G is (e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n) , where e_i is the identity of corresponding G_i .

(ii) The group G is an abelian group iff each of groups G_1, G_2, \dots, G_n is abelian.

Sol. (i) Let $e = (e_1, e_2, e_3, \dots, e_n)$ is the identity for $G_1 \times G_2 \times G_3 \times \dots \times G_n$, where e_i is the identity for G_i .

Now let us assume that $a \in G_1 \times G_2 \times G_3 \times \dots \times G_n$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then we have } a * e &= (a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots, a_n) * (e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n) \\ &= (a_1 * e_1, a_2 * e_2, a_3 * e_3, \dots, a_n * e_n) \\ &= (a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) \quad [\because a_i * e_i = a_i] \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, we can show that $e * a = a$.

Hence, e is the identity of G .

(ii) Let $a, b \in G$. Then, we have

$a = (a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots, a_n)$ and $b = (b_1, b_2, b_3, \dots, b_n)$ belongs to

$G_1 \times G_2 \times G_3 \times \dots \times G_n$, where a_i, b_i belongs to the corresponding G_i .

Now $a * b = (a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots, a_n) * (b_1, b_2, b_3, \dots, b_n)$

$$= (a_1 * b_1, a_2 * b_2, a_3 * b_3, \dots, a_n * b_n)$$

Also $b * a = (b_1, b_2, b_3, \dots, b_n) * (a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots, a_n)$

$$= (b_1 * a_1, b_2 * a_2, b_3 * a_3, \dots, b_n * a_n)$$

A group G is an abelian group iff $a * b = b * a$.

Thus, iff $a_i * b_i = b_i * a_i$ for each G_i i.e., the group G is an abelian group if each of the groups $G_1, G_2, G_3, \dots, G_n$ is abelian.

Problem 14. Consider a ring $(R, +, *)$ defined by $a * a = a$.

Determine whether the ring is commutative or not.

Sol. We have given the ring $(R, +, *)$ satisfying the following properties

(i) $(R, +)$ is an abelian group.

(ii) $R, *$ is a semigroup.

(iii) The operation * distributes over +.

Also we have, $a * a = a \quad \forall a \text{ in } (R, +, *)$.

To prove that the ring $(R, +, *)$ is commutative. We have to prove that there exists an identity element and $(R, *)$ is a commutative monoid.

Let us assume $a, b \in R$

$$\text{Also, let } c = a + b$$

Since, + is a closed operation, hence $c \in R$.

$$\text{Then, we have } c * c = c * (a + b)$$

We know that, the operation * distributes over +.

$$\text{So, } c * c = (a + b) * (a + b) = a * a + a * b + b * a + b * b$$

$$\text{So, } c = a + b + a * b + b * a$$

$$[\because a * a = a]$$

$$c = c + (a * b + b * a)$$

Therefore, $a * b + b * a = e$ is an identity for operation + also $a * b$ is inverse of $b * a$

Again, let us assume $a + a = b$

$$a * (a + a) = a * b$$

$$a * a + a * a = a * b$$

$$a + a = a * b$$

Similarly, $(a + a) * a = b * a$

$$a * a + a * a = b * a$$

$$a + a = b * a$$

...(ii)

From (i) and (ii), we have

$$a * b = b * a$$

Hence, the operation * is commutative. Since, $(R, *)$ is a commutative monoid. Therefore, $(R, +, *)$ is a commutative ring.