

## Section 4 Groups, p45 #8,19,23,25,31,35

8. We can also consider multiplication  $\cdot_n$  modulo  $n$  in  $\mathbb{Z}_n$ . For example,  $5 \cdot_7 6 = 2$ . The set  $\{1, 3, 5, 7\}$  with multiplication  $\cdot_8$  modulo 8 is a group. Give the table for this group.

Cayley Table:

$\cdot_8$	1	3	5	7
1	1	3	5	7
3	3	1	7	5
5	5	7	1	3
7	7	5	3	1

In Exercise 11 through 18, determine whether the given set of matrices under the specified operation or multiplication, is a group.

19. Let  $S$  be the set of all real numbers except  $-1$ . Define  $*$  on  $S$  by

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

Complete the following:

- a. Show that  $*$  give a binary operation on  $S$ .

A binary operation is closed and uniquely defined.

*Proof.* i. Closed: Consider if  $a * b = -1$ .

$$\begin{aligned} a * b &= -1 \\ a + b + ab &= -1 \\ b(1 + a) &= -(1 + a) \\ b(1 + a) + (1 + a) &= 0 \\ (b + 1)(a + 1) &= 0 \\ b &= -1 \text{ or } a = -1 \end{aligned}$$

Since we are only considering  $a, b \in S$ .

- ii. Uniquely defined:

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

Since addition  $+$  and multiplication  $\cdot$  are uniquely defined, the result of  $a + b + ab$ , which consists of addition and multiplication, will always yield with a single result. Thus  $*$  is uniquely defined.

Since  $*$  is uniquely defined and closed, thus it is a binary operation on  $S$ .  $\square$

- b. Show that  $\langle S, * \rangle$  is a group

A group is closed, associative, has an identity, and has an inverse for every element.

*Proof.* i. Associative: Consider  $a, b \in S$ .

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

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

Thus  $*$  is associative for  $S$ .

ii. Identity: Consider  $e = 0$

$$\begin{aligned} a * e &= a + 0 + a0 = a \\ e * a &= 0 + a + 0a = a \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $S$  has an identity element under  $*$ .

iii. Inverse: Consider  $a * a' = e$ .

$$\begin{aligned} a * a' &= e \\ a + a' + aa' &= 0 \\ a' + aa' &= -a \\ a'(1 + a) &= -a \\ a' &= \frac{-a}{1 + a} \end{aligned}$$

Since  $S$  does not include  $-1$ , this will always be a defined value, thus every element has an inverse.

Since  $\langle S, * \rangle$  is closed, associative, has an identity, and has an inverse for every element, it is a group.  $\square$

c. Find the solution of the equation  $2 * x * 3 = 7$  in  $S$

We can use the properties of the group to help us solve this.

$$\begin{aligned} 2 * x * 3 &= 7 \\ 2 + x + 3 + 2x + 6 + 3x + 6x &= 7 \\ 11 + 12x &= 7 \\ 12x &= -4 \\ x &= -\frac{1}{3} \end{aligned}$$

Concepts

- 23.** The following "definitions" of a group are taken verbatim, including spelling and punctuation, from papers of students who write a bit too quickly and carelessly.

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Criticize them.

- a.** [Refer to book]

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answer  
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- b.** [Refer to book]

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answer  
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- c.** [Refer to book]

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answer  
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- d.** [Refer to book]

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answer  
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- **25.** Mark each of the following.

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True or False:

- a.** A group may have more than one identity element.

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false  
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- b.** Any two groups of three elements are isomorphic.

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true, because there is only one kind of group with three elements.  
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- c.** In a group, each linear equation has a solution.

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true, since a group is closed.  
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- d.** The proper attitude toward a definition is to memorize it so that you can reproduce it word for word as in the text.

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neither, whatever works best for the individual.  
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- e.** Any definition a person gives for a group is correct provided that everything that is a group by that person's definition is also a group by the definition in the text.

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false, it could be that something from the text is a group but not by the person's definition.  
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- f.** Any definition a person gives for a group is correct provided he or she can show that everything that satisfies the definition satisfies the one in the text and conversely.

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 true  
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- g. Every finite group of at most three elements is abelian.

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 true, since the corresponding single, dual, and triple element groups are all commutative.  
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- h. An equation of the form  $a * x = c$  always has a unique solution in a group.

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 true.  
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- i. The empty set can be considered a group

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 false, there is no identity element  
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- j. Every group is a binary algebraic structure

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 true, because a group requires a binary operation on a closed set.  
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### Theory

31. If  $*$  is a binary operation on a set  $S$ , an element  $x$  of  $S$  is an **idempotent for  $*$**  if  $x * x = x$ . Prove that a group has exactly one idempotent element. (You may use any theorems proved so far in the text.)

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 Claim: The only idempotent element for a group is the identity element.

*Proof.* Consider  $e * e$ :

$$e * e = e$$

Thus  $e$  is idempotent. Consider if any other element were idempotent, meaning  $a * a = a$  for some  $a \neq e$ .

$$a * a = a$$

$$a * a = a * e$$

$$a = e$$

$\mathfrak{G}_2$

left cancellation law

However, this contradicts our assertion that  $a \neq e$ . Thus the only idempotent element in any group is the identity element.  $\square$

- 35. Show that if  $(a * b)^2 = a^2 * b^2$  for  $a$  and  $b$  in a group  $G$ , then  $a * b = b * a$ . See Exercise 33 for the meaning of  $a^2$ .

$$a^n = \underbrace{a * a * \cdots * a}_n$$

*Proof.* Let  $(a * b)^2 = a^2 * b^2$  for group  $G$ .

$$\begin{aligned}(a * b)^2 &= a^2 * b^2 \\(a * b) * (a * b) &= (a * a) * (b * b) && \text{by definition} \\a * (b * a) * b &= a * (a * b) * b && \mathfrak{G}_1 \\b * a &= a * b && \text{left, right cancellation laws}\end{aligned}$$

Thus  $b * a = a * b$ . □

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