

# MATH 335 Lecutre 9

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**Definition 1.** : A group  $G$  is a non empty set with a binary operation  $G \times G \rightarrow G$   $(a, b) \in G^2 \mapsto ab$  A binary operation must satisfy the three following properties:

1. Associativity:

$$a(bc) = (ab)c \quad \forall a, b, c \in G$$

The purpose of this property is to give access to statements such as  $abc$  without concern for ordering in operation composition

2. The existence of the identity element  $e$  in  $G$

Such that:

$$ae = ea = a \quad \forall a, e \in G$$

3. For all elements in  $G$  there exists an inverse under the binary operation such that :

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

## Common Examples:

Let  $G = \{\mathbb{Z}, +\}$  This group has an identity element, inverse and Associativity over addition.

Let  $G = \{\mathbb{R}/\{0\}, \cdot\}$ : Associativity over multiplication, identity over 1, inverse would be the reciprocal of any element in  $G$  A new important Group

Let  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  Recall the equivalence relation on  $\mathbb{Z}$  defined by:

$$a \sim b \rightarrow n | a - b$$

or rather:

$$a \equiv b \pmod{n}$$

The set of equivalence classes of this equivalence relation is denoted as:  $\mathbb{Z}_n$

$$\mathbb{Z}_n = \{[0], [1], [2], [3], \dots, [n-1]\}$$

$$|\mathbb{Z}_n| = n$$

We define the following binary operation on  $\mathbb{Z}_n$ : We call this operation addition modulo  $n$ :

$$[a] \circ [b] := [(a + b) \pmod{n}]$$

with addition we then say:

$$[a \bmod n] + [b \bmod n] := [(a + b) \bmod n]$$

**Definition 2.** Well defined: Does it depend on the names of the objects being related.

Proof of well definition of operation of equivalence class addition:

Suppose:

$$[a] = [a^*], [b] = [b^*]$$

We wish to show that :

$$[a] + [b] = [a^*] + [b^*]$$

$$[a] = [a^*] \rightarrow a - a^* = n \cdot k, [b] = [b^*] \rightarrow b - b^* = n \cdot l$$

$$[a] + [b] = [a^*] + [b^*]$$

$$[a + b] = [a^* + b^*]$$

We need to show now that:

$$n | a + b - a^* - b^*$$

$$n | [a + b] - [a^* + b^*]$$

$$n | a - a^* + b - b^*$$

$$n | n(k) + n(l), k, l \in \mathbb{Z}$$

$$n | n(k + l)$$

We now prove this is a group

1.

$$[a] + ([b] + [c]) = ([a] + [b]) + [c]$$

$$[a] + ([b + c]) = ([a + b]) + [c]$$

$$[a + (b + c)] = [(a + b) + c]$$

$$[a + b + c] = [a + b + c]$$

2. Identity element  $[0]$

3. Inverse :  $[n-a] \sim [-a]$

So we have proven that  $\mathbb{Z}_n$  under addition is a group.

**Definition 3.** A group  $G$  is called abelian or "commutative" if the binary operation on the group does not depend on the order of the operands. This is to say:

$$ab = ba \quad \forall a, b \in G$$