

## Group Theory Assignment 1:

# A binary operation or law of composition on a

Set  $G$  is a function  $G \times G \rightarrow G$  that assigns to each pair  $(a, b) \in G \times G$  a unique element  $a \circ b$  or  $ab$  in  $G$ , called the composition of  $a$  and  $b$ .

# A group  $(G, \circ)$  is a set  $G$  together with a law of composition  $(a, b) \mapsto a \circ b$  that satisfies the following axioms: associativity, existence of identity element, and existence of inverse element.

1a.  $S = \mathbb{R}, a * b = \frac{a}{a^2 + b^2}$

Let  $a = b = 0, a * b = 0 * 0 = \frac{0}{0+0} = \frac{0}{0} \notin \mathbb{R}$

$\therefore *$  is not a binary operation on  $S$ .

1b.  $S = \mathbb{R}, a * b = a$

As long as  $a \in S = \mathbb{R}, *$  is a binary operation.

1c.  $S = \{1, 6, 3, 2, 18\} = \{1, 2, 3, 6, 18\}, a * b = ab$

Let  $a = 2, b = 6, a * b = 2 * 6 = 12 \notin S$ :

$\therefore *$  is not a binary operation on  $S$ .

1d.  $S = \{1, -2, 3, 2, -4\}, a * b = |b|$

Let  $a = 1, b = -4, a * b = 1 * -4 = |-4| = 4 \notin S$ .

$\therefore *$  is not a binary operation on  $S$ .