algebra note

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Preface

These abstract algebra notes primarily focus on self-study, with a writing style that deliberately maintains low information density and includes some redundancy for clarity.

My first encounter with abstract algebra was through an English textbook, which was heavily focused on theorem proofs. Progress was slow, and I struggled to see practical applications. After spending considerable time with this approach, I sought Chinese resources for potentially better learning methods. On Bilibili, I discovered Maki's abstract algebra lectures and accompanying notes, which provided an excellent introduction to the subject. However, the content still had some gaps. Later, after finding a recommended algebra book, "Methods of Algebra" by Professor Li Wenwei, I began compiling these notes based on that foundation to aid my future studies. The "Methods of Algebra" book is difficult, we math level maybe on the freshman level, so we find the "Algebra Note" by the Professor Li Wenwei, which is more suitable for us.

Contents

Chapter 1   Introduction

1.1 What is Algebra?

In light of this, classical algebra can be understood as the art of solving equations by:
- Replacing specific numbers with variables
- Using operations such as transposition of terms

This traditional approach forms the foundation of algebraic manipulation and equation solving.

Theorem 1.1 (Fundamental Theorem of Algebra)

Let $f = X^n + a_{n-1}X^{n-1} + \cdots + a_0$ be a polynomial in X with complex coefficients, where $n \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 1}$. Then there exist $x_1, \ldots, x_n \in \mathbb{C}$ such that:

$$f = \prod_{k=1}^{n}(X - x_k)$$

These $x_1, \ldots, x_n$ are precisely the complex roots of f (counting multiplicity); they are unique up to reordering.

$\heartsuit$

Now let us further explain the previously raised question: What is algebra?

- **What is an equation?**

  An expression obtained through a finite number of basic operations: addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division (with non-zero denominators).

- **What are numbers?**

  At minimum, this includes common number systems like $\mathbb{Q}$, $\mathbb{R}$, and $\mathbb{C}$. All these systems support four basic operations, though division requires non-zero denominators. Note that $\mathbb{Z}$ is not included in this list, as division is not freely applicable in $\mathbb{Z}$.

- **What is the art of solving?**

  This involves:
  - Determining whether equations have solutions
  - Finding exact solutions when possible
  - Developing efficient algorithms, Providing methods for approximating solutions

Chapter 2 Sets mappings and relationships

2.1 Set Theory

Remark Element of Set also one of Set.

> **Axiom 2.1 (Axiom of Extensionality)**
>
> *If two sets have the same elements, then they are equal.*
> $$A = B \iff (A \subset B) \wedge (B \subset A)$$

> **Axiom 2.2 (Axiom of Pairing)**
>
> *For any elements x and y, there exists a set $\{x, y\}$ whose elements are exactly x and y.*

> **Axiom 2.3 (Axiom Schema of Separation)**
>
> *Let $\mathcal{P}$ be a property of sets, and let $\mathcal{P}(u)$ denote that set u satisfies property $\mathcal{P}$. Then for any set X, there exists a set Y such that:*
> $$Y = \{u \in X : \mathcal{P}(u)\}$$

> **Axiom 2.4 (Axiom of Union)**
>
> *For any set X, there exists its union set $\bigcup X$ defined as:*
> $$\bigcup X := \{u : \exists v \in X, u \in v\}$$

> **Axiom 2.5 (Axiom of Power Set)**
>
> *For any set X, there exists its power set $P(X)$ defined as:*
> $$P(X) := \{u : u \subset X\}$$

> **Axiom 2.6 (Axiom of Infinity)**
>
> *There exists an infinite set. More precisely, there exists a set X such that:*
> 1. *$\emptyset \in X$*
> 2. *If $y \in X$, then $y \cup \{y\} \in X$*

> **Axiom 2.7 (Axiom Schema of Replacement)**
>
> *Let $\mathcal{F}$ be a function with domain set X. Then there exists a set $\mathcal{F}(X)$ defined as:*
> $$\mathcal{F}(X) = \{\mathcal{F}(x) : x \in X\}$$

Remark The Replacement Axiom and the Separation Axiom Schema are to construct new sets from existing sets. Different is the Replacement can equal size of the set, but the Separation is a subset numbers of the set.

> **Definition 2.1 (Cartesian Product)**
>
> *For any two sets A and B, their Cartesian product $A \times B$ (also called simply the product) consists of all ordered pairs (a, b) where $a \in A$ and $b \in B$. In other words:*
> $$A \times B := \{(a, b) : a \in A, b \in B\}$$

> **Axiom 2.8 (Axiom of Regularity)**
>
> *Every non-empty set contains an element which is minimal with respect to the membership relation $\in$.*

> **Axiom 2.9 (Axiom of Choice)**
>
> *Let X be a set of non-empty sets. Then there exists a function $g : X \to \bigcup X$ (called a choice function) such that:*
> $$\forall x \in X, g(x) \in x$$

Example 2.1 Symmetric Difference The symmetric difference of sets X and Y is defined as $X \triangle Y :=$ $(X \setminus Y) \cup (Y \setminus X)$. Let's verify that $X \triangle Y = (X \cup Y) \setminus (X \cap Y)$.

Proof Let z be an arbitrary element. Then:

$$
\begin{aligned}
z \in X \triangle Y &\iff z \in (X \setminus Y) \cup (Y \setminus X) \\
&\iff z \in X \setminus Y \text{ or } z \in Y \setminus X \\
&\iff (z \in X \text{ and } z \notin Y) \text{ or } (z \in Y \text{ and } z \notin X) \\
&\iff z \in X \cup Y \text{ and } z \notin X \cap Y \\
&\iff z \in (X \cup Y) \setminus (X \cap Y)
\end{aligned}
$$

Therefore, $X \triangle Y = (X \cup Y) \setminus (X \cap Y)$. $\qquad\square$

2.2 Mappings

> **Definition 2.2 (Mapping)**
>
> *Let A and B be sets. A mapping from A to B is written as $f : A \to B$ or $A \xrightarrow{f} B$.*
> *In set-theoretic language, we understand a mapping $f : A \to B$ as a subset of $A \times B$, denoted Γ_f, satisfying the following condition: for each $a \in A$, the set*
> $$\{b \in B : (a, b) \in \Gamma_f\}$$
> *is a singleton, whose unique element is denoted $f(a)$ and called the image of a under f.*

> **Definition 2.3 (Left and Right Inverses)**
>
> *Consider a pair of mappings $A \xrightarrow{f} B \xrightarrow{g} A$. If $g \circ f = id_A$, then:*
> - *We call g the left inverse of f*
> - *We call f the right inverse of g*
>
> *A mapping with a left inverse (or right inverse) is called left invertible (or right invertible).*

Example 2.2 Composition of Invertible Maps Let us show that the composition of two left (or right) invertible mappings is again left (or right) invertible.

Proof Let $f : A \to B$ and $f' : B \to C$ be left invertible mappings. Then:
- Let g be left inverse of f, so $g \circ f = \mathrm{id}_A$, Let g' be left inverse of f', so $g' \circ f' = \mathrm{id}_B$
- Then for composition $f' \circ f$:
$$(g \circ g') \circ (f' \circ f) = g \circ (g' \circ f') \circ f = g \circ f = \mathrm{id}_A$$
- Therefore $g \circ g'$ is a left inverse of $f' \circ f$

The proof for right invertible mappings is similar. □

Proposition 2.1

For a mapping $f : A \to B$ where A is non-empty, the following are equivalent:

(i) f is injective

(ii) f has a left inverse

(iii) f satisfies the left cancellation law

Similarly, where A is non-empty, the following are equivalent:

(i)' f is surjective

(ii)' f has a right inverse

(iii)' f satisfies the right cancellation law

♠

Proof   First, we prove the equivalence for injective properties:

(i) $\implies$ (ii): Assume f is injective. $\forall b \in \text{Im}(f)$, $\exists a \in A$, $f(a) = b$. Define $g : B \to A$ by $g(b) = a$ if $b \in \text{Im}(f)$, and arbitrary otherwise. Then $g \circ f = \text{id}_A$, so g is left inverse.

(ii) $\implies$ (iii): Assume $g \circ f = \text{id}_A$. If $fg_1 = fg_2$, then $g(fg_1) = g(fg_2) \iff (gf)g_1 = (gf)g_2 \iff g_1 = g_2$

(iii) $\implies$ (i): Assume left cancellation, $fg_1 = fg_2 \implies g_1 = g_2$, if $\forall a_1, a_2 \in A, f(a_1) = f(a_2)$, then $f(a_1) = f(a_2) \implies a_1 = a_2$.

the proof for surjective properties is similar. □

Definition 2.4 (Invertible Mapping)

A mapping f is called invertible if it is both left and right invertible. In this case, there exists a unique mapping $f^{-1} : B \to A$ such that:

$$f^{-1} \circ f = id_A \quad \text{and} \quad f \circ f^{-1} = id_B$$

This mapping f^{-1} is called the inverse of f.

♣

Proposition 2.2

Let $f : A \to B$ be an invertible mapping. Then:

1. $f^{-1} : B \to A$ is also invertible, and $(f^{-1})^{-1} = f$

2. If $g : B \to C$ is also invertible, then the composition $g \circ f : A \to C$ is invertible, and
$$(g \circ f)^{-1} = f^{-1} \circ g^{-1}$$

♠

Proof

1. Since $f \circ f^{-1} = \text{id}_B$ and $f^{-1} \circ f = \text{id}_A$, f is both left and right inverse of f^{-1}, so $(f^{-1})^{-1} = f$

2. For composition:
$$(f^{-1} \circ g^{-1}) \circ (g \circ f) = f^{-1} \circ (g^{-1} \circ g) \circ f = f^{-1} \circ f = \text{id}_A$$

Similarly, $(g \circ f) \circ (f^{-1} \circ g^{-1}) = \text{id}_C$

□

Proposition 2.3

A mapping f is bijective if and only if it is invertible, in which case its inverse mapping is precisely the previously defined f^{-1}.

♠

Proof There are easy to prove by the proposition 2.1

($\implies$) If f is bijective: Being injective implies f has a left inverse, Being surjective implies f has a right inverse, Therefore f is invertible.

($\impliedby$) If f is invertible: Having left inverse implies f is injective, Having right inverse implies f is surjective, Therefore f is bijective. □

Definition 2.5 (Preimage)

For a mapping $f : A \to B$ and $b \in B$, we denote:
$$f^{-1}(b) := f^{-1}(\{b\}) = \{a \in A : f(a) = b\}$$

♣

Remark Note that this notation $f^{-1}(b)$ represents the preimage of b under f, which exists even when f is not invertible.

2.3 Product of Sets & Disjoint Union

Definition 2.6 (Generalized Cartesian Product)

Using the language of mappings, we define:
$$\prod_{i \in I} A_i := \{f : I \to \bigcup_{i \in I} A_i \mid \forall i \in I, f(i) \in A_i\}$$
Henceforth, we may write $f(i)$ as a_i, so elements of $\prod_{i \in I} A_i$ can be reasonably denoted as $(a_i)_{i \in I}$.
For any $i \in I$, there is a mapping $p_i : \prod_{j \in I} A_j \to A_i$ defined by $p_i((a_j)_{j \in I}) = a_i$, called the i-th projection.

♣

Remark For easy to understand, The $\prod_{i \in I} A_i$ as the three domain space, the $(a_i)_{i \in I}$ as the one point in the three domain space, the p_i as the projection from the three domain space to the one point.

Definition 2.7 (Disjoint Union and Partition)

Let set A be the union of a family of subsets $(A_i)_{i \in I}$, and suppose these subsets are pairwise disjoint, that is:
$$\forall i, j \in I, i \neq j \implies A_i \cap A_j = \emptyset$$

In this case, we say A is the disjoint union of $(A_i)_{i \in I}$, or $(A_i)_{i \in I}$ is a partition of A, written as:
$$A = \coprod_{i \in I} A_i$$

♣

2.4 Structure of Order

Definition 2.8 (Binary Relation)

A binary relation between sets A and B is any subset of $A \times B$. Let $R \subset A \times B$ be a binary relation. Then for all $a \in A$ and $b \in B$, we use the notation:
$$aRb \text{ to represent } (a, b) \in R$$

For convenience, when $A = B$, we call this a binary relation on A.

♣

Definition 2.9 (Order Relations)

Let $\preceq$ be a binary relation on set A. We call $\preceq$ a preorder and $(A, \preceq)$ a preordered set when:

- *Reflexivity: For all $a \in A$, $a \preceq a$*
- *Transitivity: For all $a, b, c \in A$, if $a \preceq b$ and $b \preceq c$, then $a \preceq c$*

If it also satisfies:

- *Antisymmetry: For all $a, b \in A$, if $a \preceq b$ and $b \preceq a$, then $a = b$*

then $\preceq$ is called a partial order and $(A, \preceq)$ is called a partially ordered set.

A partially ordered set $(A, \preceq)$ is called a totally ordered set or chain if any two elements $a, b \in A$ are comparable, that is, either $a \preceq b$ or $b \preceq a$ holds. ♣

Definition 2.10 (Order-Preserving Maps)

Let $f : A \to B$ be a mapping between preordered sets. Then:

- *f is called order-preserving if:*

$$a \preceq a' \implies f(a) \preceq f(a') \text{ for all } a, a' \in A$$

- *f is called strictly order-preserving if:*

$$a \preceq a' \iff f(a) \preceq f(a') \text{ for all } a, a' \in A$$
♣

Definition 2.11 (Maximal, Minimal Elements and Bounds)

Let $(A, \preceq)$ be a partially ordered set.

- *An element $a_{\max} \in A$ is called a maximal element of A if: there exists no $a \in A$ such that $a \succ a_{\max}$*
- *An element $a_{\min} \in A$ is called a minimal element of A if: there exists no $a \in A$ such that $a \prec a_{\min}$*

Furthermore, let A' be a subset of A.

- *An element $a \in A$ is called an upper bound of A' in A if: for all $a' \in A'$, $a' \preceq a$*
- *An element $a \in A$ is called a lower bound of A' in A if: for all $a' \in A'$, $a' \succeq a$*
♣

Remark we can use the tree structure to understand the maximal, minimal elements and bounds. the partial order like the link between the nodes, the maximal, minimal elements like the root nodes and leaf nodes.

Definition 2.12 (Well-Ordered Set)

A totally ordered set $(A, \preceq)$ is called a well-ordered set if every non-empty subset $S \subseteq A$ has a minimal element. ♣

2.5 Equivalence Relations and Quotient Sets

Definition 2.13 (Equivalence Relation)

A binary relation $\sim$ on set A is called an equivalence relation if it satisfies:

- *Reflexivity: For all $a \in A$, $a \sim a$*
- *Symmetry: For all $a, b \in A$, if $a \sim b$ then $b \sim a$*
- *Transitivity: For all $a, b, c \in A$, if $a \sim b$ and $b \sim c$ then $a \sim c$*
♣

> **Definition 2.14 (Equivalence Class)**
>
> *Let $\sim$ be an equivalence relation on set A. A non-empty subset $C \subset A$ is called an equivalence class if:*
> - *Elements in C are mutually equivalent: for all $x, y \in C$, $x \sim y$*
> - *C is closed under $\sim$: for all $x \in C$ and $y \in A$, if $x \sim y$ then $y \in C$*
>
> *If C is an equivalence class and $a \in C$, then a is called a representative element of C.* ♣

> **Proposition 2.4 (Partition by Equivalence Classes)**
>
> *Let $\sim$ be an equivalence relation on set A. Then A is the disjoint union of all its equivalence classes.* ♠

Proof Let $\{C_i\}_{i \in I}$ be the collection of all equivalence classes of A.

1. First, $A = \bigcup_{i \in I} C_i$ since every element belongs to its equivalence class
2. For any distinct equivalence classes C_i and C_j: If $x \in C_i \cap C_j$ and $x \neq \emptyset$, then $C_i = C_j$, this is a contradiction, so $C_i \cap C_j = \emptyset$.
3. Therefore, $A = \coprod_{i \in I} C_i$

□

> **Definition 2.15 (Quotient Set)**
>
> *Let $\sim$ be an equivalence relation on a non-empty set A. The quotient set is defined as the following subset of the power set $\mathcal{P}(A)$:*
> $$A/\sim := \{C \subset A : C \text{ is an equivalence class with respect to } \sim\}$$
> *The quotient set comes with a quotient map $q : A \to A/\sim$ that maps each $a \in A$ to its unique equivalence class.* ♣

Remark here the find the quotient set, we can use the boolean function symmetric for the equivalence relation, then we only travel the quotient set, which can reduce the travel space.

> **Proposition 2.5 (Universal Property of Quotient Maps)**
>
> *Let $\sim$ be an equivalence relation on set A and $q : A \to A/\sim$ be the corresponding quotient map. If a mapping $f : A \to B$ satisfies:*
> $$a \sim a' \implies f(a) = f(a')$$
> *then there exists a unique mapping $\bar{f} : (A/\sim) \to B$ such that:*
> $$\bar{f} \circ q = f$$ ♠

Proof First, $\bar{f}$ is well-defined: for any $c \in A/\sim$. Then:
$$\bar{f}(c) := f(a), a = q^{-1}(c)$$
The proof of uniqueness: Assume $\bar{f}$ and $\bar{f}'$, then $\bar{f} \circ q = \bar{f}' \circ q$, the q is surjective, so $\bar{f} = \bar{f}'$. □

> **Proposition 2.6**
>
> *For any mapping $f : A \to B$, define an equivalence relation $\sim_f$ on A by:*
> $$a \sim_f a' \iff f(a) = f(a')$$
> *Then by Proposition 2.5, there exists a bijection:*
> $$\bar{f} : (A/\sim_f) \xrightarrow{1:1} im(f)$$ ♠

Proof Let $q : A \to A/\sim_f$ be the quotient map. By the universal property:

1. Well-defined: If $[a] = [a']$, then $a \sim_f a'$, so $f(a) = f(a')$
2. Injective: If $\bar{f}([a]) = \bar{f}([a'])$, then $f(a) = f(a')$, so $a \sim_f a'$, thus $[a] = [a']$
3. Surjective: For any $b \in \text{im}(f)$, there exists $a \in A$ with $f(a) = b$, so $\bar{f}([a]) = b$

Therefore, $\bar{f}$ is a bijection between $A/\sim_f$ and $\text{im}(f)$. $\square$

2.6 positive integer to rational number

Definition 2.16 (Integers as Quotient Set)

The set of integers $\mathbb{Z}$ is defined as the quotient set of $\mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^2$ under $\sim$. We temporarily denote the equivalence class containing (m, n) in $\mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^2$ as $[m, n]$. ♣

Remark the $\sim$ relation is defined as $(m, n) \sim (m', n') \iff m + n' = m' + n \iff m - n = m' - n'$.

Definition 2.17 (Operations on Integer Equivalence Classes)

For any elements $[m, n]$ and $[r, s]$ in $\mathbb{Z}$, define:

$$[m, n] + [r, s] := [m + r, n + s]$$
$$[m, n] \cdot [r, s] := [mr + ns, nr + ms]$$

By convention, multiplication $x \cdot y$ is often written simply as xy. ♣

Definition 2.18 (Total Order on Integers)

Define a total order $\leq$ on $\mathbb{Z}$ by:

$$x \leq y \iff y - x \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$$ ♣

Definition 2.19 (Rational Numbers)

Define the set of rational numbers $\mathbb{Q}$ as the quotient set of $\mathbb{Z} \times (\mathbb{Z} \setminus \{0\})$ under the equivalence relation:

$$(r, s) \sim (r', s') \iff rs' = r's$$

We temporarily denote the equivalence class containing (r, s) as $[r, s]$. Through the mapping $x \mapsto [x, 1]$, we view $\mathbb{Z}$ as a subset of $\mathbb{Q}$. ♣

Definition 2.20 (Total Order and Absolute Value on $\mathbb{Q}$)

Define a total order on $\mathbb{Q}$ by:

$$[r, s] \geq 0 \iff rs \geq 0$$
$$x \geq y \iff x - y \geq 0$$

For any $x \in \mathbb{Q}$, its absolute value $|x|$ is defined as:

$$|x| = \begin{cases} x & \text{if } x \geq 0 \\ -x & \text{if } x < 0 \end{cases}$$ ♣

Proposition 2.7

Let $\mathbb{Q}^\times := \mathbb{Q} \setminus \{0\}$. For any $x \in \mathbb{Q}^\times$, there exists a unique $x^{-1} \in \mathbb{Q}^\times$ such that $xx^{-1} = 1$. ♠

Proof For $x = [r, s] \in \mathbb{Q}^\times$, define $x^{-1} = [s, r]$ when $r > 0$ and $x^{-1} = [-s, -r]$ when $r < 0$. Then $xx^{-1} = 1$ and the uniqueness, here have the x', x'', then $x'x = 1 = x''x$, the x have the right inverse, so $x' = x''$. $\qquad\square$

2.7 arithmetical

Definition 2.21 (Integer Multiples and Divisibility)

For any $x \in \mathbb{Z}$, define:

$$x\mathbb{Z} := \{xd : d \in \mathbb{Z}\}$$

which consists of all multiples of x.

For $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$:

- *We say x divides y, written $x \mid y$, if $y \in x\mathbb{Z}$*
- *Otherwise, we write $x \nmid y$*
- *When $x \mid y$, we call x a factor or divisor of y*

♣

Proposition 2.8 (Division Algorithm)

For any integers $a, d \in \mathbb{Z}$ where $d \neq 0$, there exist unique integers $q, r \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that:

$$a = dq + r$$
$$0 \le r < |d|$$

♠

Proof **Existence:** $\forall a, b, \exists q \in \mathbb{Z}$, let exist $r = a - dq$ (here can use the modular equivalence relation), and $0 \le r < |d|$.

Uniqueness: Suppose $a = dq_1 + r_1 = dq_2 + r_2$ with $0 \le r_1, r_2 < |d|$

- Then $d(q_1 - q_2) = r_2 - r_1$
- $|r_2 - r_1| < |d|$
- Therefore $q_1 = q_2$ and $r_1 = r_2$

$\qquad\square$

Lemma 2.1 (Generator of Integer Ideals)

Let I be a non-empty subset of $\mathbb{Z}$ satisfying:

1. *If $x, y \in I$, then $x + y \in I$*
2. *If $a \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $x \in I$, then $ax \in I$*

Then there exists a unique $g \in \mathbb{Z}_{\ge 0}$ such that $I = g\mathbb{Z}$.

♡

Proof If $I = \{0\}$, take $g = 0$. Otherwise, let g be the smallest positive element in I.

For any $x \in I$, by division algorithm:

$$x = gq + r \text{ where } 0 \le r < g$$

Then $r = x - gq \in I$ by properties of I. By minimality of g, we must have $r = 0$. Therefore $x \in g\mathbb{Z}$, so $I \subseteq g\mathbb{Z}$.

Since $g \in I$, we have $g\mathbb{Z} \subseteq I$. Thus $I = g\mathbb{Z}$.

Uniqueness follows from the fact that g must be the smallest positive element in I. $\qquad\square$

> **Definition 2.22 (Greatest Common Divisor)**
>
> *For any integers $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$, the greatest common divisor of a and b, denoted $\gcd(a, b)$, is the unique positive integer d such that:*
> - *$d \mid a$ and $d \mid b$*
> - *For any $d' \in \mathbb{Z}$, if $d' \mid a$ and $d' \mid b$, then $d' \mid d$* ♣

> **Proposition 2.9 (Bézout's Identity)**
>
> *For integers $x_1, \ldots, x_n$:*
> $$\mathbb{Z}x_1 + \cdots + \mathbb{Z}x_n = \gcd(x_1, \ldots, x_n)\mathbb{Z}$$
>
> *Consequently, $x_1, \ldots, x_n$ are coprime if and only if there exist $a_1, \ldots, a_n \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that:*
> $$a_1 x_1 + \cdots + a_n x_n = 1$$ ♠

Proof   We proceed by induction on n.

For $n = 2$: Let $d = \gcd(x_1, x_2)$. By Euclidean algorithm, there exist $a_1, a_2 \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that:
$$d = a_1 x_1 + a_2 x_2 \in \mathbb{Z}x_1 + \mathbb{Z}x_2$$

Therefore $d\mathbb{Z} \subseteq \mathbb{Z}x_1 + \mathbb{Z}x_2$.

Conversely, since $d|x_1$ and $d|x_2$, we have $\mathbb{Z}x_1 + \mathbb{Z}x_2 \subseteq d\mathbb{Z}$.

For $n > 2$: Let $g = \gcd(x_1, \ldots, x_{n-1})$. By induction:
$$\mathbb{Z}x_1 + \cdots + \mathbb{Z}x_{n-1} = g\mathbb{Z}$$

Then:
$$\mathbb{Z}x_1 + \cdots + \mathbb{Z}x_n = g\mathbb{Z} + \mathbb{Z}x_n = \gcd(g, x_n)\mathbb{Z} = \gcd(x_1, \ldots, x_n)\mathbb{Z}$$

The corollary follows directly since $\gcd(x_1, \ldots, x_n) = 1$ if and only if they are coprime. □

> **Definition 2.23 (Prime Numbers)**
>
> *Let $p \in \mathbb{Z} \setminus \{0, \pm 1\}$. We say p is a prime element if its only divisors are ± 1 and $\pm p$. A positive prime element is called a prime number.* ♣

> **Proposition 2.10 (Euclid's Lemma)**
>
> *Let p be a prime element. If $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $p \mid ab$, then either $p \mid a$ or $p \mid b$.* ♠

Proof   If $p \nmid a$, then $\gcd(p, a) = 1$ since p is prime. By proposition 2.9, there exist $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that:
$$px + ay = 1$$

Multiply both sides by b:
$$pbx + aby = b$$

Since $p \mid ab$, $pbx + aby \in p\mathbb{Z}$, so $p \mid b$. □

> **Theorem 2.1 (Fundamental Theorem of Arithmetic)**
>
> *Every non-zero integer $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ has a prime factorization:*
> $$n = \pm p_1^{a_1} \cdots p_r^{a_r}$$
> *where $r \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$ (with the convention that the right side equals ± 1 when $r = 0$), $p_1, \ldots, p_r$ are distinct*

prime numbers, $a_1, \ldots, a_r \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 1}$, and this factorization is unique up to ordering.

Proof **Existence:** By induction on $|n|$
- Base case: When $|n| = 1$, take $r = 0$
- For $|n| > 1$: Let p be the smallest prime divisor of n
- Then $n = pm$ where $|m| < |n|$
- By induction, m has prime factorization
- Combine p with m's factorization

  Uniqueness: Suppose we have two factorizations:
$$p_1^{a_1} \cdots p_r^{a_r} = q_1^{b_1} \cdots q_s^{b_s}$$
- By proposition 2.10, p_1 divides some q_i
- Since both are prime, $p_1 = q_i$
- Cancel and continue by induction
- Therefore $r = s$ and factorizations are same up to ordering

$\square$

Remark For a prime number p, we use the notation $p^a \parallel n$ to indicate that $p^a | n$ but $p^{a+1} \nmid n$ (i.e., p^a is the exact power of p dividing n).

Corollary 2.1

Consider integers $n = \pm \prod_{i=1}^{r} p_i^{a_i}$ and $m = \pm \prod_{i=1}^{r} p_i^{b_i}$, where $p_1, \ldots, p_r$ are distinct primes and $a_i, b_i \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$. Then:
$$\gcd(n, m) = \prod_{i=1}^{r} p_i^{\min\{a_i, b_i\}}, \quad lcm(n, m) = \prod_{i=1}^{r} p_i^{\max\{a_i, b_i\}}$$
Similar results hold for GCD and LCM of any number of positive integers.

♡

Theorem 2.2 (Euclid)

There are infinitely many prime numbers.

♡

Proof Let $p_1, \ldots, p_n$ be any finite collection of primes. Consider $N = p_1 \cdots p_n + 1$. Any prime factor p of N must be different from all p_i (since dividing N by any p_i leaves remainder 1). Therefore, no finite collection can contain all primes. $\square$

2.8 Congruence Relation

Definition 2.24 (Congruence Relation)

Let $N \in \mathbb{Z}$. Two integers $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ are called congruent modulo N if $N \mid (a - b)$. This relation is written as:
$$a \equiv b \pmod{N}$$

♣

> **Definition 2.25 (Congruence Classes)**
>
> *For a fixed $N \in \mathbb{Z}$, we denote the quotient set of $\mathbb{Z}$ under the equivalence relation modulo N (Definition 2.5.4) as $\mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z}$, or abbreviated as $\mathbb{Z}/N$. The equivalence classes are called congruence classes modulo N.* ♣

> **Proposition 2.11 (Multiplicative Inverses Modulo N)**
>
> *Let $N \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 1}$. For any $x \in \mathbb{Z}$:*
> $$(\exists y \in \mathbb{Z}, xy \equiv 1 \pmod{N}) \iff \gcd(N, x) = 1$$ ♠

Proof ($\implies$) If $xy \equiv 1 \pmod{N}$, then $xy = kN + 1$ for some $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ Therefore $xy - kN = 1$, showing $\gcd(N, x) = 1$ by properties 2.9.

($\impliedby$) If $\gcd(N, x) = 1$, then by properties 2.9: $\exists y, k \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $xy + kN = 1$ Therefore $xy \equiv 1 \pmod{N}$ □

> **Theorem 2.3 (Fermat's Little Theorem)**
>
> *Let p be a prime number. Then for all $x \in \mathbb{Z}$:*
> $$\gcd(p, x) = 1 \implies x^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$$
> *Consequently, for all $x \in \mathbb{Z}$:*
> $$x^p \equiv x \pmod{p}$$ ♡

Proof Consider the sequence $x, 2x, \ldots, (p-1)x \pmod{p}$. When $\gcd(p, x) = 1$, then by proposition 2.11, $\exists y, xy \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$, then $xy, 2xy, \ldots, (p-1)xy \pmod{p}$, these are all distinct and nonzero modulo p, thus they also mean for the $x, 2x, \ldots, (p-1)x \pmod{p}$. Their product is congruent to $(p-1)! \cdot x^{p-1}$. Therefore $(p-1)! \cdot x^{p-1} \equiv (p-1)! \pmod{p}$. Since $\gcd(p, (p-1)!) = 1$, we can cancel to get $x^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$. □

> **Definition 2.26 (Euler's Totient Function)**
>
> *For $n \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 1}$, define $\varphi(n)$ as the number of positive integers not exceeding n that are coprime to n.* ♣

2.9 radix

> **Definition 2.27 (Equipotent Sets)**
>
> *Two sets A and B are called equipotent (or have the same cardinality) if there exists a bijection $f : A \xrightarrow{1:1} B$. We denote this as $|A| = |B|$.* ♣

> **Definition 2.28 (Cardinality Comparison)**
>
> *For sets A and B, if there exists an injection $f : A \hookrightarrow B$, we write $|A| \leq |B|$. We write $|A| < |B|$ when $|A| \leq |B|$ but $|A| \neq |B|$.* ♣

> **Proposition 2.12 (Pigeonhole Principle)**
>
> *Let A and B be finite sets with the same cardinality. Then any injection (or surjection) $f : A \to B$ is automatically a bijection.* ♠

Proposition 2.13 (Characterization of Infinite Sets)

A set A is infinite if and only if there exists an injection $\mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0} \hookrightarrow A$.

♠

Proof ($\Longrightarrow$) If A is infinite, by axiom of choice we can construct an injection.

($\Longleftarrow$) If such injection exists, then $|A| \geq |\mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}|$, so A must be infinite. □

Definition 2.29 (Countable Sets)

Let $\aleph_0 := |\mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}|$. A set A is called countable (or enumerable) if $|A| = \aleph_0$. A set A is called at most countable if $|A| \leq \aleph_0$, meaning A is either finite or countable.

♣

Proposition 2.14

The union and product of finitely many countable sets are countable. That is, if $A_1, \ldots, A_n$ are countable sets, then:

1. *$\bigcup_{i=1}^{n} A_i$ is countable*
2. *$\prod_{i=1}^{n} A_i$ is countable*

♠

Proof For union: Let $f_i : \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0} \to A_i$ be bijections. Define $f : \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0} \to \bigcup_{i=1}^{n} A_i$ by:

$$f(k) = f_i(m) \text{ where } k = in + m, 0 \leq m < n$$

This is surjective as each element appears in some A_i.

For product: Let $g_i : \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0} \to A_i$ be bijections. Use Cantor's pairing function to construct bijection:

$$g : \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0} \to \prod_{i=1}^{n} A_i$$

given by $g(k) = (g_1(k_1), \ldots, g_n(k_n))$ where k_i are obtained from k by repeated pairing. □

Theorem 2.4 (Cantor's Theorem)

For any set A:

$$2^{|A|} = |\mathcal{P}(A)| > |A|$$

where $\mathcal{P}(A)$ is the power set of A.

♡

Proof First show $|\mathcal{P}(A)| \geq 2^{|A|}$ by constructing characteristic function. Then prove $|\mathcal{P}(A)| > |A|$ by diagonal argument: Assume $f : A \to \mathcal{P}(A)$ is surjective. Consider $B = \{x \in A : x \notin f(x)\}$. Then $B \in \mathcal{P}(A)$ but $B \neq f(a)$ for any $a \in A$. □

Chapter 3 Group Theory

3.1 Monoid Group

> **Definition 3.1 (monoid)**
>
> *We say that $(S, *)$ is a monoid if the binary operation satisfies the associative law and has an identity element. That is,*
> $$\forall x, y, z \in S, \quad x * (y * z) = (x * y) * z$$
> *and*
> $$\exists e \in S, \forall x \in S, \quad e * x = x * e = x$$

> **Definition 3.2 (commutative monoid)**
>
> *We say that $(S, *)$ is a commutative monoid if it is a monoid and the operation satisfies the commutative law. That is,*
> $$\forall x, y \in S, \quad x * y = y * x$$

> **Proposition 3.1 (unique of identity element)**
>
> *Let $(S, \cdot)$ be a monoid. Then the identity element is unique.*

Proof Suppose that e and e' are both identity elements of S. Then
$$e = e \cdot e' = e'$$
so $e = e'$. □

> **Proposition 3.2 (expand of associative law)**
>
> *Let $x_1, \ldots, x_n, y_1, \ldots, y_m \in S$. Then*
> $$x_1 \cdot x_2 \cdot \ldots \cdot x_n \cdot y_1 \cdot y_2 \cdot \ldots \cdot y_m = (x_1 \cdot x_2 \cdot \ldots \cdot x_n) \cdot (y_1 \cdot y_2 \cdot \ldots \cdot y_m)$$

Proof We prove this by induction on n.

Base Case ($n = 1$): When $n = 1$, the statement simplifies to:
$$x_1 \cdot y_1 \cdot y_2 \cdot \ldots \cdot y_m = x_1 \cdot (y_1 \cdot y_2 \cdot \ldots \cdot y_m)$$
This is clearly true by the associative property of multiplication.

Inductive Step: Assume the statement holds for $n = k$, that is:
$$x_1 \cdot x_2 \cdot \ldots \cdot x_k \cdot y_1 \cdot y_2 \cdot \ldots \cdot y_m = (x_1 \cdot x_2 \cdot \ldots \cdot x_k) \cdot (y_1 \cdot y_2 \cdot \ldots \cdot y_m)$$
We need to show that the statement holds for $n = k + 1$. Consider:
$$x_1 \cdot x_2 \cdot \ldots \cdot x_k \cdot x_{k+1} \cdot y_1 \cdot y_2 \cdot \ldots \cdot y_m$$
By the associative property, we can regroup the terms as:
$$(x_1 \cdot x_2 \cdot \ldots \cdot x_k) \cdot (x_{k+1} \cdot y_1 \cdot y_2 \cdot \ldots \cdot y_m)$$
Using the inductive hypothesis on the first k terms, we have:
$$(x_1 \cdot x_2 \cdot \ldots \cdot x_k) \cdot x_{k+1} \cdot (y_1 \cdot y_2 \cdot \ldots \cdot y_m) = (x_1 \cdot x_2 \cdot \ldots \cdot x_k \cdot x_{k+1}) \cdot (y_1 \cdot y_2 \cdot \ldots \cdot y_m)$$

Thus, the statement holds for $n = k + 1$.

$\square$

Proposition 3.3

Let $x \in S$ and $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$. Then
$$x^{m+n} = x^m \cdot x^n$$

♠

Proof We will prove this in three steps:

 Step 1: First, recall from Proposition 3.2 that for any elements in S:
$$x_1 \cdot x_2 \cdot \ldots \cdot x_n \cdot y_1 \cdot y_2 \cdot \ldots \cdot y_m = (x_1 \cdot x_2 \cdot \ldots \cdot x_n) \cdot (y_1 \cdot y_2 \cdot \ldots \cdot y_m)$$

 Step 2: Now, consider the special case where all elements are equal to x:

- Let $x_1 = x_2 = \ldots = x_m = x$
- Let $y_1 = y_2 = \ldots = y_n = x$

 Step 3: By definition of exponentiation in a monoid:
$$x^{m+n} = \underbrace{x \cdot x \cdot \ldots \cdot x}_{m+n \text{ times}}$$
$$= (\underbrace{x \cdot x \cdot \ldots \cdot x}_{m \text{ times}}) \cdot (\underbrace{x \cdot x \cdot \ldots \cdot x}_{n \text{ times}})$$
$$= x^m \cdot x^n$$

 Therefore, we have proved that $x^{m+n} = x^m \cdot x^n$ for all $x \in S$ and $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$. $\square$

Definition 3.3 (Submonoid)

Let $(S, \cdot)$ be a monoid. If $T \subset S$, we say that $(T, \cdot)$ is a submonoid of $(S, \cdot)$ if:

1. *The identity element $e \in T$*
2. *T is closed under multiplication, that is:*
$$\forall x, y \in T, \quad x \cdot y \in T$$

♣

Proposition 3.4

If $(T, \cdot)$ is a submonoid of $(S, \cdot)$, then $(T, \cdot)$ is a monoid.

♠

Proof We need to verify two properties:

1. The operation is associative in T:
 Since $T \subset S$ and $\cdot$ is associative in S, it is also associative in T.
2. T has an identity element:
 By definition of submonoid, the identity element $e \in T$.

Therefore, $(T, \cdot)$ satisfies all properties of a monoid. $\square$

Definition 3.4 (Monoid Homomorphism)

Let $(S, \cdot)$ and $(T, *)$ be monoids, and let $f : S \to T$ be a mapping. We say f is a monoid homomorphism if f preserves multiplication and maps the identity element to the identity element. That is:

1. *For all $x, y \in S$:*
$$f(x \cdot y) = f(x) * f(y)$$

> *2. For the identity elements $e \in S$ and $e' \in T$:*
> $$f(e) = e'$$
> ♣

Remark While a homomorphism preserves operations, an isomorphism represents complete structural equivalence. An isomorphism is first a **bijective mapping**, meaning it establishes a one-to-one correspondence between elements - essentially "relabeling" elements uniquely. Beyond being bijective, an isomorphism preserves operations under this relabeling, implying that the only difference between two structures (like monoids) is their labeling.

Example 3.1 Different Types of Monoid Maps Let's examine several maps between monoids:

1. **A homomorphism that is not an isomorphism:** Consider $f : (\mathbb{Z}, +) \to (\mathbb{Z}, +)$ defined by $f(n) = 2n$
   - Preserves operation: $f(a + b) = 2(a + b) = 2a + 2b = f(a) + f(b)$
   - Is injective: $f(a) = f(b) \implies 2a = 2b \implies a = b$
   - Not surjective: odd numbers are not in the image
   - Therefore: homomorphism but not isomorphism

2. **Non-isomorphic homomorphism:** Consider $h : (\mathbb{Z}, +) \to (\mathbb{Z}_2, +)$ defined by $h(n) = n \bmod 2$
   - Preserves operation: $h(a + b) = (a + b) \bmod 2 = (a \bmod 2 + b \bmod 2) \bmod 2 = h(a) + h(b)$
   - Not injective: $h(0) = h(2) = 0$
   - Surjective: image is all of $\mathbb{Z}_2$
   - Therefore: homomorphism but not isomorphism

> **Definition 3.5 (Generated Submonoid)**
>
> *Let $(S, \cdot)$ be a monoid and $A \subset S$ be a subset. The submonoid generated by A, denoted by $\langle A \rangle$, is defined as the intersection of all submonoids of S containing A. That is:*
> $$\langle A \rangle = \bigcap \{T \subset S : T \supset A, \ T \text{ is a submonoid}\}$$
> ♣

> **Proposition 3.5**
>
> *Let $(S, \cdot)$ be a monoid and $A \subset S$ be a subset. Then $\langle A \rangle$ is also a submonoid. Therefore, it is the smallest submonoid containing A.*
> ♠

Proof We will prove this in two steps:

Step 1: Show $\langle A \rangle$ contains the identity element

Let $\{T_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in I}$ be the collection of all submonoids containing A, Each T_α contains the identity e (by definition of submonoid), Therefore $e \in \bigcap_{\alpha \in I} T_\alpha = \langle A \rangle$

Step 2: Show closure under multiplication

Let $x, y \in \langle A \rangle = \bigcap_{\alpha \in I} T_\alpha$, Then $x, y \in T_\alpha$ for all $\alpha \in I$ Since each T_α is a submonoid, $x \cdot y \in T_\alpha$ for all $\alpha \in I$, Therefore $x \cdot y \in \bigcap_{\alpha \in I} T_\alpha = \langle A \rangle$.

□

> **Definition 3.6 (Monoid Isomorphism)**
>
> *Let $(S, \cdot)$ and $(T, *)$ be monoids, and let $f : S \to T$ be a mapping. We say f is a monoid isomorphism if f is bijective and a homomorphism. That is:*
>
> *1. f is bijective (one-to-one and onto)*

2. *For all $x, y \in S$:*
$$f(x \cdot y) = f(x) * f(y)$$

3. *For the identity elements $e \in S$ and $e' \in T$:*
$$f(e) = e'$$

♣

Proposition 3.6

If $f : (S, \cdot) \to (T, *)$ is a monoid isomorphism, then $f^{-1} : T \to S$ is a monoid homomorphism. Therefore, f^{-1} is also a monoid isomorphism.

♠

Proof Since f is an isomorphism, f^{-1} exists and is bijective. We need to show:

1. f^{-1} preserves operation:
$$\begin{aligned}
f^{-1}(a * b) &= f^{-1}(f(f^{-1}(a)) * f(f^{-1}(b))) \\
&= f^{-1}(f(f^{-1}(a) \cdot f^{-1}(b))) \\
&= f^{-1}(a) \cdot f^{-1}(b)
\end{aligned}$$

2. f^{-1} preserves identity:
$$f^{-1}(e') = e \text{ where } e' \text{ and } e \text{ are identity elements}$$

Therefore, f^{-1} is both a homomorphism and bijective, making it an isomorphism. □

3.2 Group

Definition 3.7 (Invertible Element)

Let $(S, \cdot)$ be a monoid and $x \in S$. We say x is invertible if and only if
$$\exists y \in S, x \cdot y = y \cdot x = e$$
where y is called the inverse of x, denoted as x^{-1}.

♣

Proposition 3.7 (Uniqueness of Inverse)

Let $(S, \cdot)$ be a monoid. If $x \in S$ is invertible, then its inverse is unique. That is, if $y, y' \in S$ are both inverses of x, then $y = y'$.

♠

Proof Let y and y' be inverses of x. Then:
$$\begin{aligned}
y &= y \cdot e \\
&= y \cdot (x \cdot y') \\
&= (y \cdot x) \cdot y' \\
&= e \cdot y' \\
&= y'
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the inverse is unique. □

Definition 3.8 (Group)

Let $(G, \cdot)$ be a monoid. We say it is a group if every element in G is invertible.

Equivalently, if $\cdot$ is a binary operation on G, we say $(G, \cdot)$ is a group, or G forms a group under $\cdot$, when this operation satisfies:

1. *Associativity: For all $x, y, z \in G$*

$$x \cdot (y \cdot z) = (x \cdot y) \cdot z$$

2. *Identity element: There exists $e \in G$ such that for all $x \in G$*

$$x \cdot e = e \cdot x = x$$

3. *Inverse elements: For each $x \in G$, there exists $y \in G$ such that*

$$x \cdot y = y \cdot x = e$$

♣

Proposition 3.8

Let $(G, \cdot)$ be a group and $x \in G$. Then $(x^{-1})^{-1} = x$.

♠

Proof Let $y = x^{-1}$. Then:

$$y \cdot x = x \cdot y = e$$

This shows that x is the inverse of $y = x^{-1}$. Therefore, $(x^{-1})^{-1} = x$. □

Proposition 3.9 (Inverse of Product)

Let $(G, \cdot)$ be a group and $x, y \in G$. Then $(x \cdot y)^{-1} = y^{-1} \cdot x^{-1}$.

♠

Proof We will show that $y^{-1} \cdot x^{-1}$ is the inverse of $x \cdot y$:

$$\begin{aligned}
(x \cdot y)(y^{-1} \cdot x^{-1}) &= x \cdot (y \cdot y^{-1}) \cdot x^{-1} \\
&= x \cdot e \cdot x^{-1} \\
&= x \cdot x^{-1} \\
&= e
\end{aligned}$$

Similarly, $(y^{-1} \cdot x^{-1})(x \cdot y) = e$. Therefore, $(x \cdot y)^{-1} = y^{-1} \cdot x^{-1}$. □

Definition 3.9 (Abelian Group)

Let $(G, \cdot)$ be a group. We say it is an abelian group, or commutative group, if the operation satisfies the commutative law:

$$\forall x, y \in G, \quad x \cdot y = y \cdot x$$

♣

Lemma 3.1

Let $(S, \cdot)$ be a monoid and let G be the subset of all invertible elements in S. Then $(G, \cdot)$ is a group.

♡

Proof We need to verify three group axioms:

1. Closure: If $x, y \in G$, then $x \cdot y \in G$ (as product of invertible elements is invertible)
2. Identity: $e \in G$ (as e is invertible)
3. Inverse: If $x \in G$, then $x^{-1} \in G$ (by definition of invertible elements)

Associativity is inherited from S. Therefore, $(G, \cdot)$ is a group. □

Definition 3.10 (General Linear Group)

The group of $n \times n$ invertible real matrices under matrix multiplication is called the general linear group of degree n over the real numbers, denoted as $(GL(n, \mathbb{R}), \cdot)$. Since a matrix is invertible if and only if its determinant is nonzero:
$$GL(n, \mathbb{R}) = \{A \in M(n, \mathbb{R}) : \det(A) \neq 0\}$$

♣

Definition 3.11 (Special Linear Group)

The special linear group of degree n over the real numbers is the group of $n \times n$ real matrices with determinant exactly 1 under matrix multiplication, denoted as $(SL(n, \mathbb{R}), \cdot)$. That is:
$$SL(n, \mathbb{R}) = \{A \in M(n, \mathbb{R}) : \det(A) = 1\}$$

♣

Definition 3.12 (Subgroup)

Let $(G, \cdot)$ be a group and $H \subset G$. We say H is a subgroup of G, denoted as $H < G$, if it contains the identity element and is closed under multiplication and inverse operations. That is:

1. $\forall x, y \in H, \quad x \cdot y \in H$ (closure under multiplication)

2. $\forall x \in H, \quad x^{-1} \in H$ (closure under inverse)

3. $e \in H$ (contains identity)

♣

Proposition 3.10

Let $(G, \cdot)$ be a group. If H is a subgroup of G, then $(H, \cdot)$ is also a group.

♠

Proof Since H is a subgroup:

1. Associativity: Inherited from G
2. Identity: $e \in H$ by definition of subgroup
3. Inverse: For all $x \in H$, $x^{-1} \in H$ by definition of subgroup
4. Closure: For all $x, y \in H$, $x \cdot y \in H$ by definition of subgroup

Therefore, $(H, \cdot)$ satisfies all group axioms. □

Proposition 3.11

For convenience, we can combine the first two conditions of a subgroup definition 3.12 into one, reducing to two conditions:

1. $\forall x, y \in H, \quad x \cdot y^{-1} \in H$

2. $e \in H$

These conditions are equivalent to the original subgroup definition.

♠

Proof

$(\Rightarrow) \forall y \in H, y^{-1} \in H$, then the closure under multiplication, $\forall x, y, y^{-1} \in H, x \cdot y^{-1} \in H$

$(\Leftarrow) \forall x, y \in H, x \cdot y^{-1} \in H$, let $x = e$, then have $\forall y \in H, y^{-1} \in H$; so $\forall x, y^{-1} \in H, x \cdot (y^{-1})^{-1} \in H$, then $x \cdot y \in H$. □

Proposition 3.12

$(SL(n, \mathbb{R}), \cdot)$ is a group.

♠

Proof We verify the group axioms:

1. Closure: If $A, B \in SL(n, \mathbb{R})$, then $\det(AB) = \det(A)\det(B) = 1 \cdot 1 = 1$, so $AB \in SL(n, \mathbb{R})$
2. Identity: The identity matrix $I_n \in SL(n, \mathbb{R})$ since $\det(I_n) = 1$
3. Inverse: If $A \in SL(n, \mathbb{R})$, then $\det(A^{-1}) = \frac{1}{\det(A)} = 1$, so $A^{-1} \in SL(n, \mathbb{R})$
4. Associativity: Inherited from matrix multiplication

Therefore, $(SL(n, \mathbb{R}), \cdot)$ is a group. $\qquad\square$

Definition 3.13 (Group Homomorphism)

Let $(G, \cdot)$ and $(G', *)$ be groups, and let $f : G \to G'$ be a mapping. We say f is a group homomorphism if it preserves the operation, that is:

$$\forall x, y \in G, \quad f(x \cdot y) = f(x) * f(y)$$

♣

Proposition 3.13

Let $f : (G, \cdot) \to (G', *)$ be a group homomorphism. Then:
1. *$f(e) = e'$ (preserves identity)*
2. *$f(x^{-1}) = f(x)^{-1}$ (preserves inverses)*

♠

Proof

1. For identity element:

$$f(e) * f(e) = f(e \cdot e) = f(e) \quad \text{left multiply by } f(e)^{-1}$$
$$\therefore f(e) = e'$$

2. For inverse elements:

$$f(x) * f(x^{-1}) = f(x \cdot x^{-1}) = f(e) = e' \quad \text{left multiply by } f(x)^{-1}$$
$$\therefore f(x^{-1}) = f(x)^{-1}$$

$\qquad\square$