

Definition 5.6 A group is a set G with operation $*$: $G \times G \rightarrow G$.

(G1)

(G2)

(G3)

(G4)

We normally use multiplicative notation for $*$: xy ; $e=1$; x^{-1} , x^k

Sometimes (if G is abelian, i.e. (G5) $x*y = y*x \forall x, y$) then we can use additive notation: $x+y$, $e=0$, $(-x)$, kx .

Examples: (1) $\mathbb{R}^* = \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}$ under x ; $e=1$, x^{-1}

$\mathbb{F}^* = \mathbb{F} \setminus \{0\}$ for any field \mathbb{F} .

(2) $(\mathbb{Z}, +)$: $e=0$, $(-x)$ (inverse of x). also $(\mathbb{R}, +)$, $(\mathbb{C}, +)$, ..., $(\mathbb{F}, +)$

(\mathbb{Z}, \times) not a group: (G4) fails: $2^{-1} \notin \mathbb{Z}$.

(3) $\mathbb{Z}_n = \{0, 1, 2, 3, \dots, n-1\}$ (the ring of integers mod n).

Then \mathbb{Z}_n is a group under $+$: (G1) $\forall x, y \in \mathbb{Z}_n$ $x+y \in \mathbb{Z}_n$ ($n-1+2=1 \pmod n$)

(G2) ✓

(G3) $e=0$ (G4) ✓, e.g. $(-2) = n-2 \in \mathbb{Z}_n$.

Note: (\mathbb{Z}_n, \times) is not a group as $0^{-1} \notin \mathbb{Z}_n$. Denote $\mathbb{Z}_n^* = \{\text{all invertible elements in } \mathbb{Z}_n\}$.

e.g. $\mathbb{Z}_9^* = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8\}$

\parallel
all $m \in \mathbb{Z}_n$ s.t. m, n are coprime

Then \mathbb{Z}_n^* is group under x : $e=1$, $x^{-1} \in \mathbb{Z}_n^* \forall x$ (also can use Cayley Table to check (G1) and (G4))

$\mathbb{Z}_p^* = \{1, 2, 3, 5, 7, \dots, p-1\}$

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\mathbb{Z}_n^* is especially nice if $n=p$ prime

Then $\mathbb{Z}_p^* = \{1, 2, 3, \dots, p-1\} = \mathbb{Z}_p \setminus \{0\}$

Note: examples (1)-(3) are all abelian groups (commutative)

(4) Let $M_{n \times m}(F) = \{\text{all } n \times m \text{ matrices over field } F\}$ is abelian group under $+$: $e = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

denote $GL_n(F) = \{\text{all invert } n \times n \text{ matrices over } F\}$

Then $GL_n(F)$ is a group under \times : $(AB)^{-1} = B^{-1}A^{-1}$, $e = I_n = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ (Not abelian if $n \geq 2$)

(5) The symmetric group $S_n = \{\text{all bijections } X \rightarrow X\}$

(G1) $f \circ g$ is a bijection if f, g are bijections $X = \{1, 2, 3, \dots, n-1\}$.

(G2) Composition of maps is associative

(G3) $e = I_X$ (identity map)

(G4) $(\text{bijection})^{-1}$ is a bijection

(6) The group $D_3 = \{\text{all symmetries of equilateral } \triangle\} = \{\triangle \xrightarrow{\text{rot}} = \text{rot}(120^\circ) = \text{rot}(\frac{2\pi}{3}); e = I = \text{rot}(0^\circ); \text{rot}(240^\circ) = \triangle \uparrow, \triangle \cdot, \triangle \neg\}$ 6 elements

In general, every symmetry group of a shape X , $\text{sym}(X)$ is a group under \circ :

(G1) $\text{sym } 1 \circ \text{sym } 2$ must be a symmetry

(G2) \circ is associative.

(G3) $e = \text{Id.}$ is a symmetry.



(G4) $(\text{sym})^{-1}$ is symmetric.

(7) More generally, $D_n = \{\text{all symmetries of a regular } n\text{-gon}\}$

has $2n$ elements: $\text{rot}(0^\circ) = e, \text{rot}(\frac{2\pi}{n}), \text{rot}(\frac{2\pi \cdot 2}{n}), \dots, \text{rot}(\frac{2\pi(n-1)}{n})$

n rotations:   ...

n reflections:  n odd

n even:  ;  n is total

$$\text{so } |D_n| = 2n.$$

D_n is the dihedral group of degree n .

Proposition 5.13: Let G be a group. Then (1) The identity e is unique.

(2) The inverse x^{-1} is unique $\forall x \in G$.

Proof: (1) suppose e, e' are identities in G .

$$\text{then } e = e' \text{ and } e' = e \text{ by (G.3)} \Rightarrow e' = e$$

(2) if y and y' are inverses of x ,

$$\text{then } y = y \cdot e = y(x \cdot y') = (y \cdot x)y' = e \cdot y' = y'$$