

# Abstract Algebra: Homework #1

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Note: for the scope of this document, let  $\ni$  denote “such that”.

## 1 Chapter 3: Exercise A1

Suppose  $*$  is defined on  $\mathbb{R}$  as  $a * b = a + b + k$  for any  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$  for some  $k \in \mathbb{R}$ .

**Theorem 1.**  $\langle \mathbb{R}, * \rangle$  is a group.

*Proof.* Let  $a, b$ , and  $c$  be some arbitrary real numbers. Because  $a * b = a + b + k \in \mathbb{R}$ , we have that the real numbers are closed under  $*$ . Then, observe that  $a * (b * c) = a * (b + c + k) = a + (b + c + k) + k = (a + b + k) + c + k = (a + b + k) * c = (a * b) * c$ , so  $*$  is associative. We also have  $a * -k = a + (-k) + k = -k + a + k = -k * a = a$ , so  $-k$  is the identity for the real numbers under  $*$ . Finally, consider the quantity  $-(2k + a)$ . Since we have  $a * -(2k + a) = a + (-2k) + (-a) + k = -(2k + a) * a = -k$ , that quantity is the inverse of any  $a$ . Since  $*$  is closed under the real numbers and  $*$  is associative and  $-k$  is the identity of  $*$  under the real numbers and any real number  $a$  has an inverse under  $*$  of  $-(2k + a)$ ,  $\langle \mathbb{R}, * \rangle$  is a group.  $\square$

## 2 Chapter 3: Exercise A3

Suppose  $*$  is defined on  $\mathbb{R}$  as  $a * b = a + b + ab$  for any  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ .

**Theorem 2.**  $\langle \mathbb{R}, * \rangle$  is a group.

*Proof.* Let  $a, b$ , and  $c$  be some arbitrary real numbers. Because  $a * b = a + b + ab \in \mathbb{R}$ , we have that the real numbers are closed under  $*$ . Then, observe that

$a*(b*c) = a*(b+c+bc) = a+b+c+ab+ac+bc+abc = (a+b+ab)*c = (a*b)*c$ , so  $*$  is associative. We also have  $a*0 = a + (0) + 0a = 0*a = a$ , so 0 is the identity for the real numbers under  $*$ . Finally, consider the quantity  $\frac{-a}{1+a}$ . Since we have  $a*\frac{-a}{1+a} = a + \frac{-a}{1+a} + \frac{-a^2}{1+a} = \frac{-a}{1+a} * a = \frac{a^2+a}{1+a} + \frac{-a}{1+a} + \frac{-a^2}{1+a} = 0$ , that quantity is the inverse of any  $a$ . Since  $*$  is closed under the real numbers and  $*$  is associative and 0 is the identity of  $*$  under the real numbers and any real number  $a$  has an inverse under  $*$  of  $\frac{-a}{1+a}$ ,  $\langle \mathbb{R}, * \rangle$  is a group.  $\square$

### 3 Chapter 3: Exercise B1

Suppose  $*$  is defined on  $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$  as  $(a, b) * (c, d) = (ad + bc, bd)$  for any  $(a, b), (c, d) \in \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$ .

**Theorem 3.**  $\langle \mathbb{R}, * \rangle$  is a group.

*Proof.* Let  $(a, b), (c, d), (e, f) \in \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$ . Consider that  $(a, b) * (c, d) = (ad + bc, bd) \in \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$  since  $ad + bc \in \mathbb{R} \wedge bd \in \mathbb{R}$ . Then,  $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$  is closed under  $*$ . Now observe the following equivalence:  $((a, b) * (c, d)) * (e, f) = (ad + bc, bd) * (e, f) = (adf + bcf + bde, bdf) = (a, b) * (cf + de, df) = (a, b) * ((c, d) * (e, f))$ . Since  $(a, b) * (0, 1) = (1a + 0b, 1b) = (a, b) = (0b + 1a, 1b) = (0, 1) * (a, b)$ , we have that  $(0, 1)$  is the identity of the real numbers under  $*$ . Because we have  $(a, b) * (\frac{-a}{b^2}, \frac{1}{b}) = (\frac{a}{b} + \frac{-a}{b}, b \cdot \frac{1}{b}) = (0, 1) = (\frac{-a}{b} + \frac{a}{b}, \frac{1}{b}) = (\frac{-a}{b^2}, \frac{1}{b}) * (a, b)$ , that pair  $(\frac{-a}{b^2}, \frac{1}{b})$  is the inverse of any real  $a$  under  $*$ . Then, since  $*$  is a closed associative operation on the real numbers with an identity and an inverse for any element of the real numbers, we have that  $\langle \mathbb{R}, * \rangle$  is a group.  $\square$

### 4 Chapter 3: Exercise D

Suppose  $*$  is defined as an operation on the set  $A = \{I, V, H, D\}$  as follows in table 1:

Then, we have by table 1 that  $*$  is a closed operation on  $A$ . Given that  $*$  is associative, that  $I$  is an identity for  $*$  by table 1, and that any  $a \in A$  has the inverse  $a \in a$  by table 1, we conclude that  $\langle A, * \rangle$  is a group.

Furthermore, since we have that  $*$  is commutative by table 1,  $\langle A, * \rangle$  is an Abelian group.

| $*$ | $I$ | $V$ | $H$ | $D$ |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| $I$ | $I$ | $V$ | $H$ | $D$ |
| $V$ | $V$ | $I$ | $D$ | $H$ |
| $H$ | $H$ | $D$ | $I$ | $V$ |
| $D$ | $D$ | $H$ | $V$ | $I$ |

Table 1: Operation table for  $*$  on  $A$

## 5 Chapter 3: Exercise E

Suppose some set  $A$  is defined as follows in equation 1:

$$A = \{I, M_1, M_2, M_3, M_4, M_5, M_6, M_7\} \quad (1)$$

The, suppose the binary operation  $*$  is defined on  $A$  as follows in table 2:

| $*$   | $I$   | $M_1$ | $M_2$ | $M_3$ | $M_4$ | $M_5$ | $M_6$ | $M_7$ |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| $I$   | $I$   | $M_1$ | $M_2$ | $M_3$ | $M_4$ | $M_5$ | $M_6$ | $M_7$ |
| $M_1$ | $M_1$ | $I$   | $M_3$ | $M_2$ | $M_5$ | $M_4$ | $M_7$ | $M_6$ |
| $M_2$ | $M_2$ | $M_3$ | $I$   | $M_1$ | $M_6$ | $M_7$ | $M_4$ | $M_5$ |
| $M_3$ | $M_3$ | $M_2$ | $M_1$ | $I$   | $M_7$ | $M_6$ | $M_5$ | $M_4$ |
| $M_4$ | $M_4$ | $M_6$ | $M_5$ | $M_7$ | $I$   | $M_1$ | $M_2$ | $M_3$ |
| $M_5$ | $M_5$ | $M_4$ | $M_7$ | $M_6$ | $M_1$ | $M_3$ | $I$   | $M_2$ |
| $M_6$ | $M_6$ | $M_7$ | $M_4$ | $M_5$ | $M_2$ | $I$   | $M_3$ | $M_1$ |
| $M_7$ | $M_7$ | $M_6$ | $M_5$ | $M_4$ | $M_3$ | $M_1$ | $M_2$ | $I$   |

Table 2: Operation table for  $*$  on  $A$

**TODO: fix this table**

## 6 A counterexample

Let  $*$  be an operation defined on the set  $G = \{x \in \mathbb{Z} \ni x \neq -1\}$  defines as  $x * y = x + y + xy$ .

**Theorem 4.**  $\langle G, * \rangle$  is not a group.

*Proof.* Assume for the sake of contradiction that  $G$  has an identity element and call it  $e$ . Then, we must have for any  $a \in G$  that  $a * e = a = a + e + ae \implies$

$e = -ae \implies a = -1$ . However,  $-1 \notin G$  and so we reach a contradiction, therefore our assumption must be wrong and there does not in fact exist an identity in  $G$  under  $*$ . Then, since a group must have an identity element and  $G$  has no identity element,  $G$  is not a group.  $\square$

## 7 $2 \times 2$ invertible matrices

Let  $G = \{A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{2 \times 2} \ni \exists A^{-1} \in \mathbb{R}^{2 \times 2} \ni AA^{-1} = A^{-1}A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}\}$   
Let  $*$  be defined as standard matrix multiplication.

**Theorem 5.**  $\langle G, * \rangle$  is a group.

*Proof.* Define the following three matrices  $A, B, C \in \mathbb{R}^{2 \times 2}$  as follows:

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ a_3 & a_4 \end{bmatrix} B = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 & b_2 \\ b_3 & b_4 \end{bmatrix} C = \begin{bmatrix} c_1 & c_2 \\ c_3 & c_4 \end{bmatrix} \quad (2)$$

Furthermore, suppose that matrices  $A$  and  $B$  are nonsingular, i.e.  $A, B \in G$

The following equation defines a relationship between these matrices  $C = A * B$  and the subsequent equation makes an observation about related determinants.

$$C = AB = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ a_3 & a_4 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} b_1 & b_2 \\ b_3 & b_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a_1b_1 + a_2b_3 & a_1b_2 + a_2b_4 \\ a_3b_1 + a_4b_3 & a_3b_2 + a_4b_4 \end{bmatrix} \quad (3)$$

$$\det(C) = \det(AB) = \det(A) \cdot \det(B) \neq 0 \quad (4)$$

Then, since  $C$  has real entries as demonstrated in equation 3 and since it is nonsingular as demonstrated by the nonzero determinant in equation 4, we conclude that  $C \in G$  and that  $G$  is closed under  $*$ .

From this point on,  $A, B$  and  $C$  refer to nonsingular  $2$  by  $2$  matrices with arbitrary entries and no specific relationship to each other.

Consider the following arithmetic:

$$A * B = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ a_3 & a_4 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} b_1 & b_2 \\ b_3 & b_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a_1b_1 + a_2b_3 & a_1b_2 + a_2b_4 \\ a_3b_1 + a_4b_3 & a_3b_2 + a_4b_4 \end{bmatrix} \quad (5)$$

$$B * C = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 & b_2 \\ b_3 & b_4 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} c_1 & c_2 \\ c_3 & c_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} b_1c_1 + b_2c_3 & b_1c_2 + b_2c_4 \\ b_3c_1 + b_4c_3 & b_3c_2 + b_4c_4 \end{bmatrix} \quad (6)$$

$$A * (B * C) = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ a_3 & a_4 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} b_1c_1 + b_2c_3 & b_1c_2 + b_2c_4 \\ b_3c_1 + b_4c_3 & b_3c_2 + b_4c_4 \end{bmatrix} \quad (7)$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} a_1b_1c_1 + a_1b_2c_3 + a_2b_3c_1 + a_2b_4c_3 & a_1b_1c_2 + a_1b_2c_4 + a_2b_3c_2 + a_2b_4c_4 \\ a_3b_1c_1 + a_3b_2c_3 + a_4b_3c_1 + a_4b_4c_3 & a_3b_1c_2 + a_3b_2c_4 + a_4b_3c_2 + a_4b_4c_4 \end{bmatrix} \quad (8)$$

$$(A * B) * C = \begin{bmatrix} a_1b_1 + a_2b_3 & a_1b_2 + a_2b_4 \\ a_3b_1 + a_4b_3 & a_3b_2 + a_4b_4 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} c_1 & c_2 \\ c_3 & c_4 \end{bmatrix} \quad (9)$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} a_1b_1c_1 + a_1b_2c_3 + a_2b_3c_1 + a_2b_4c_3 & a_1b_1c_2 + a_1b_2c_4 + a_2b_3c_2 + a_2b_4c_4 \\ a_3b_1c_1 + a_3b_2c_3 + a_4b_3c_1 + a_4b_4c_3 & a_3b_1c_2 + a_3b_2c_4 + a_4b_3c_2 + a_4b_4c_4 \end{bmatrix} \quad (10)$$

By equations 7 and 9, we have that  $G$  is associative under  $*$ .

Consider the following:

$$A * I = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ a_3 & a_4 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ a_3 & a_4 \end{bmatrix} = A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ a_3 & a_4 \end{bmatrix} = I * A \quad (11)$$

Then,  $I = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$  is the identity element of  $G$ .

Let us write  $A^{-1}$  to mean  $\frac{1}{a_1a_4 - a_2a_3} \begin{bmatrix} a_4 & -a_2 \\ -a_3 & a_1 \end{bmatrix}$  Consider one last set of equations:

$$A * A^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ a_3 & a_4 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \frac{1}{a_1a_4 - a_2a_3} \begin{bmatrix} a_4 & -a_2 \\ -a_3 & a_1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{a_1a_4 - a_2a_3}{a_1a_4 - a_2a_3} & \frac{a_2a_4 - a_2a_4}{a_1a_4 - a_2a_3} \\ \frac{-a_1a_3 + a_1a_3}{a_1a_4 - a_2a_3} & \frac{-a_2a_3 + a_1a_4}{a_1a_4 - a_2a_3} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = I \quad (12)$$

$$A^{-1} * A = \frac{1}{a_1a_4 - a_2a_3} \begin{bmatrix} a_4 & -a_2 \\ -a_3 & a_1 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ a_3 & a_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{a_1a_4 - a_2a_3}{a_1a_4 - a_2a_3} & \frac{a_2a_4 - a_2a_4}{a_1a_4 - a_2a_3} \\ \frac{-a_1a_3 + a_1a_3}{a_1a_4 - a_2a_3} & \frac{-a_2a_3 + a_1a_4}{a_1a_4 - a_2a_3} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = I \quad (13)$$

Then, any element  $a \in G$  has an inverse  $\frac{1}{a_1a_4 - a_2a_3} \begin{bmatrix} a_4 & -a_2 \\ -a_3 & a_1 \end{bmatrix} \in G$ .

Because  $G$  is closed under  $*$ , is associative, has an identity element, and has an inverse for each element,  $\langle G, * \rangle$  is a group.  $\square$

**Theorem 6.**  $\langle G, * \rangle$  is not an Abelian group.

*Proof.* Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ . Notice that  $AB = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$  while  $BA = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ . Then, we have some  $A, B \in G$  where  $AB \neq BA$ . We conclude that  $G$  is not commutative under  $*$  and by definition  $G$  is not an Abelian group.  $\square$

## 8 A subset of nonsingular $2 \times 2$ matrices

Let  $G$  be defined as follows:

$$G = \left\{ A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{2 \times 2} \ni \exists A^{-1} \in \mathbb{R}^{2 \times 2} \ni AA^{-1} = A^{-1}A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \right. \\ \left. \wedge a + c = 1 \wedge b + d = 1 \right\}$$

Let  $*$  be defined on  $G$  as standard matrix multiplication.

**Theorem 7.**  $\langle G, * \rangle$  is a group.

*Proof.* Let the definitions in equation 2 hold and suppose  $C = AB$  as described by equation 3. We have the following equations by taking the sum of the columns of  $C$  from equation 3:

$$a_1 + a_3 = a_2 + a_4 = b_1 + b_3 + b_2 + b_4 = 1 \quad (14)$$

$$a_1b_1 + a_2b_3 + a_3b_1 + a_4b_3 = b_1(a_1 + a_3) + b_3(a_2 + a_4) = b_1 + b_3 = 1 \quad (15)$$

$$a_1b_2 + a_2b_4 + a_3b_2 + a_4b_4 = b_2(a_1 + a_3) + b_4(a_2 + a_4) = b_2 + b_4 = 1 \quad (16)$$

Since the columns of  $C$  sum to 1, we have that  $C \in G$  and in general that  $G$  is closed under  $*$ .

Now, suppose  $A, B$  and  $C$  are defined with generic real entries as described by equation 2.

By equations 7 and 9, we have that  $G$  is associative under  $*$ , since those equations hold for our current definition of  $G$ .

By the same reasoning demonstrated in equation 11, we have that  $I = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$  is the identity for  $G$ .

By the same reasoning demonstrated in equations 12 and 13, we have that  $\frac{1}{a_1 a_4 - a_2 a_3} \begin{bmatrix} a_4 & -a_2 \\ -a_3 & a_1 \end{bmatrix}$  is the inverse of any  $A = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ a_3 & a_4 \end{bmatrix} \in G$ .

Then, since  $G$  is closed under  $*$ , since  $G$  is associative under  $*$ , since  $G$  has an identity element and since every element of  $G$  has an inverse, we conclude that  $\langle G, * \rangle$  is a group.

□