

Group: A group is an ordered pair

$(G, *)$, where G is a set and $*$ is a binary operation on G satisfying the following axioms:

(i) $(a * b) * c = a * (b * c)$ for all $a, b, c \in G$
[Associative]

(ii) there exists an element e in G such that
for all $a \in G$,
 $a * e = e * a = a$
[identity element]

(iii) for each $a \in G$, there is an element $a^{-1} \in G$.
such that
 $a * a^{-1} = a^{-1} * a = e$
[inverse of a]

In short; $(G, *)$ with

- (i) $*$ being associative
- (ii) existence of identity element
- (iii) inverse for every element in G

When $*$ is clear from the context; we shall

simply say "Group G "

Question: Can a group $(G, *)$ be empty set (G)?

Examples of Groups:

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} (\mathbb{Z}, +) \\ (\mathbb{R}, +) \\ (\mathbb{C}, +) \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} e = ? \\ a^{-1} = \end{array}$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} (\mathbb{Q} - \{0\}, \times) \\ (\mathbb{R} - \{0\}, \times) \\ (\mathbb{C} - \{0\}, \times) \\ (\mathbb{Q}^+, \times) \\ (\mathbb{R}^+, \times) \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} e = \\ a^{-1} = \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} (\mathbb{Z} - \{0\}, \times) \\ (G = \{1, i, -1, -i\}, *) \end{array}$$

Suppose V is a finite dimensional vector space over \mathbb{R} ;
say, $V = \mathbb{R}^n$

$$(\mathbb{R}^n, +) \quad \begin{array}{l} e = \\ a^{-1} = \end{array}$$

$$(GL_2(\mathbb{R}), \times), \quad \begin{array}{l} e = \\ a^{-1} = \end{array}$$

Recall : $(GL_2(\mathbb{R}), *)$

\uparrow
the set of 2×2 matrices, with non-zero determinant.

$A, B \in GL_2(\mathbb{R})$, then

$A * B$ is also in $GL_2(\mathbb{R})$
 \uparrow
usual multiplication

$$e = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Given $A = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$, we know $A^{-1} = \frac{1}{ad-bc} \begin{pmatrix} d & -b \\ -c & a \end{pmatrix}$

Definition $\rightarrow (G, *)$ is a group, then

- How to check !! \rightarrow
- \checkmark (i) $*$ (associative)
 - \checkmark (ii) existence of identity element (e)
 - \checkmark (iii) existence of inverse for every element in G .

\uparrow
May be we can directly verify

$$(A * B) * C = A * (B * C)$$

for any $A, B, C \in GL_2(\mathbb{R})$.

\rightarrow This is doable but involves too much computation.

$$A \cdot (B \cdot C) = (A \cdot B) \cdot C$$

from where matrices come from?

Matrix \longleftrightarrow Linear Algebra

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \dim V = n & \dim W = m \\ T: V & \longrightarrow & W \\ & \nwarrow A & \end{array}$$

there is a matrix of linear transform
w.r.t. bases of V & W .

Theorem.

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Linear Transformation} \\ \text{from } V \text{ to } W \end{array} \right\} \xrightarrow[\text{correspondence}]{1-1} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Set of all} \\ m \times n \\ \text{matrices} \end{array} \right\}$$

$$V \xrightarrow{T_1} W \xrightarrow{T_2} X \xrightarrow{T_3} Y$$

$$T_3 \circ (T_2 \circ T_1) = (T_3 \circ T_2) \circ T_1$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} X \xrightarrow{f} Y \xrightarrow{g} Z \xrightarrow{h} W \end{array} \right.$$

$$h \circ (g \circ f) = (h \circ g) \circ f \quad \underline{\underline{10+2}}$$

Is this true ?

YES

$$\text{---} x \text{---} \rightarrow x \text{---}$$

More generally, consider $(GL_n(\mathbb{R}), \overset{\text{Multiplication}}{*})$

$$n=1; \quad GL_1(\mathbb{R}) = \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}.$$

$n=2$; we saw previous case

Let $n > 2$.

$$e = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & 1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ is identity element.}$$

Given $A \in GL_n(\mathbb{R})$,

by definition, A is invertible, hence

A^{-1} exists for every A .

Now we come to associativity condition:

$$(A * B) * C = A * (B * C) \text{ for all } A, B, C \in GL_n(\mathbb{R}).$$

When n is large; this verification is too complicated (computational).

Question. Can we think of different way to approach?

How to think of matrices !!

Recall that matrix corresponds to a (linear) function $T: \mathbb{R}^n \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$

Moreover, matrix multiplication corresponds to composition of such functions

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & A & & B & \\ \mathbb{R}^n & \xrightarrow{T_1} & \mathbb{R}^n & \xrightarrow{T_2} & \mathbb{R}^n \\ & \searrow & & \nearrow & \\ & T_2 \circ T_1 & \longrightarrow & & A \cdot B \end{array}$$

If we want to check $A * B = B * A$;

$$\mathbb{R}^n \xrightarrow{T_1} \mathbb{R}^n \xrightarrow{T_2} \mathbb{R}^n$$

$T_2 \circ T_1$

$$\mathbb{R}^n \xrightarrow{T_2} \mathbb{R}^n \xrightarrow{T_1} \mathbb{R}^n$$

$T_1 \circ T_2$

we are asking whether $T_2 \circ T_1 = T_1 \circ T_2$?

Note : If $A \in GL_n(\mathbb{R})$, then corresponding (linear) function or transformation is an isomorphism.

Question. Can we use the concept of isomorphism?

Now; $(A * B) * C = A * (B * C)$

$$T_1 : \mathbb{R}^n \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \rightsquigarrow A$$

$$T_2 : \mathbb{R}^n \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \rightsquigarrow B$$

$$T_3 : \mathbb{R}^n \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \rightsquigarrow C$$

$$T_3 \circ (T_2 \circ T_1) \stackrel{?}{=} (T_3 \circ T_2) \circ T_1$$

Lemma: Let $\left. \begin{array}{l} f : X \rightarrow Y \\ g : Y \rightarrow Z \\ h : Z \rightarrow W \end{array} \right\}$ surjective maps.

Then $h \circ (g \circ f) = (h \circ g) \circ f$

Proof. Note that

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} h \circ (g \circ f) \\ (h \circ g) \circ f \end{array} \right\} : X \longrightarrow W$$

Take any element $x \in X$,

$$\begin{aligned} h \circ (g \circ f)(x) &= h((g \circ f)(x)) \\ &= h(g(f(x))) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Now, } ((h \circ g) \circ f)(x) &= (h \circ g)(f(x)) \\ &= h(g(f(x))) \end{aligned}$$

This completes the proof.

Symmetries of an equilateral triangle.

If we rotate the triangle through 120° , denote this by " R ".

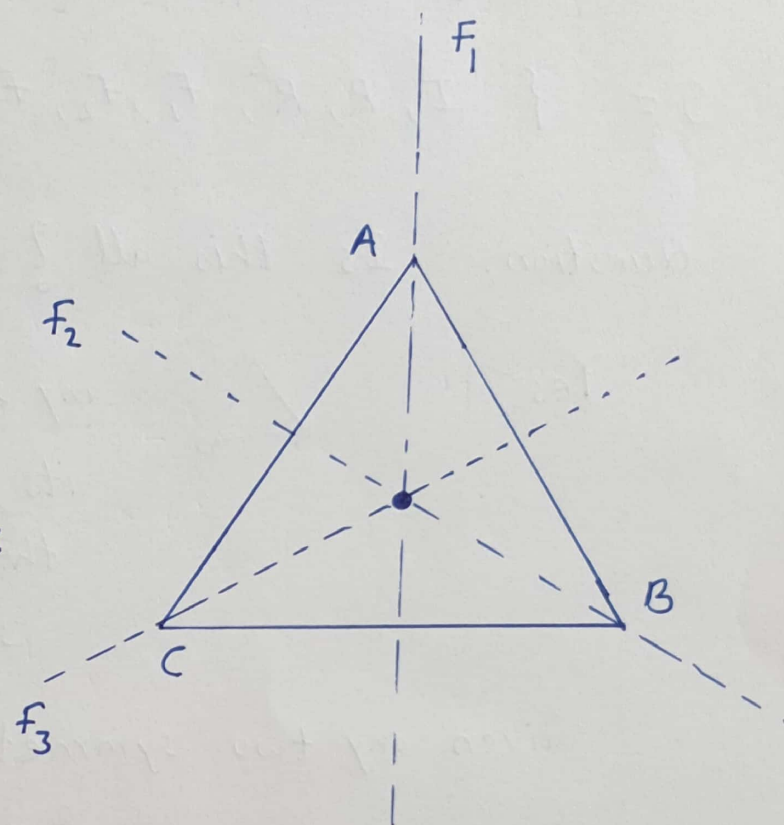
Set: clockwise rotation as positive direction.

→ rotation by 240°

(It's like R^2 ,
think of R^2 as the
effect of applying R twice)

→ R^3 (then we are back
where we started).

→ So, there is a trivial
symmetry (say, I).



Now; if we rotate by 120° anticlockwise
(may be represented by R^{-1})

$$\text{So; } R^{-1} = R^2.$$

Till Now, we have $\left\{ R, R^2, R^3 \right\}$
 $\quad \quad \quad \parallel \quad \parallel$
 $\quad \quad \quad R^{-1} \quad I$

The other set of symmetries comes from flips.

With respect to line F_1 , flip the triangle (call it F)

clearly $F^2 = I$ (flipping twice does nothing)

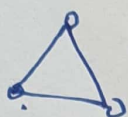
There are two other axes to flip about, corresponding to the fact that there are three corners.

The set of symmetries we have created so far is

$$S = \{ I, R, R^2, F_1, F_2, F_3 \}$$

Question. Is this all?

Yes;



any symmetry is determined by its action on the vertices of the triangle.

$$3! = 6.$$

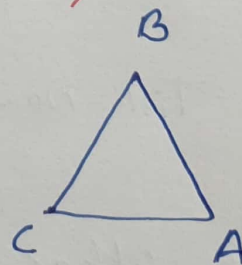
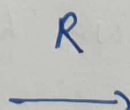
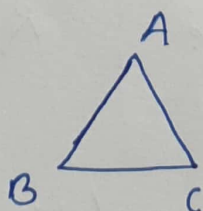
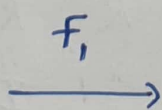
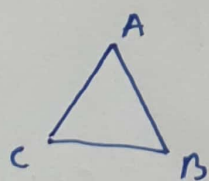
Given any two symmetry in S , how to see

$$R F_1 \text{ or } R^2 F_2 ?$$

1st we need to adopt the convention that $R F$

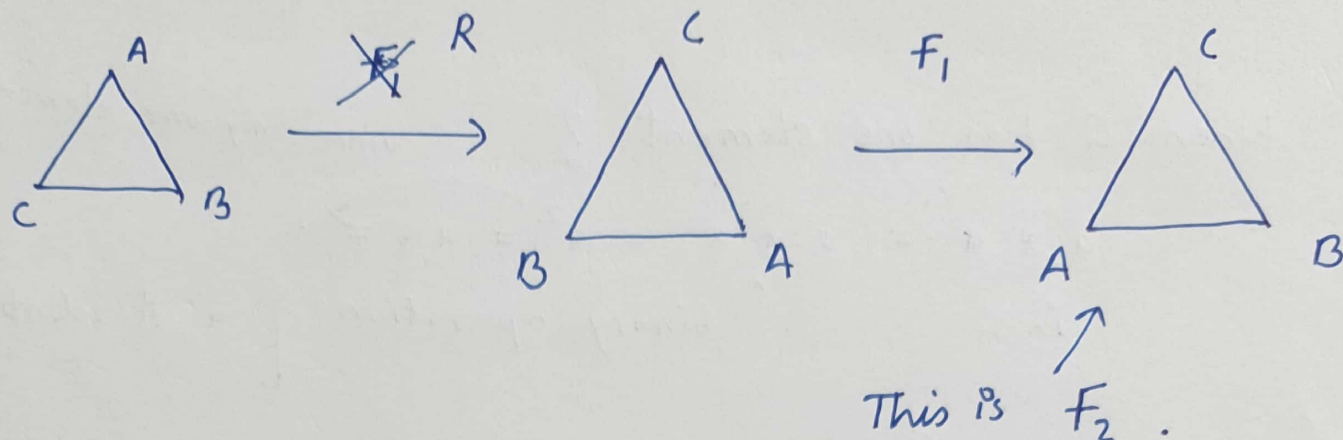
means first apply F and then R .

Can you identify $R F_1$? (F_3)



we get this by F_3 .

Can you identify F, R ?



Observe that

$$R F_1 \neq F_1 R$$

$$\parallel$$

$$F_3$$

$$\parallel$$

$$F_2$$

Think of (algebraic) structure

$$(G, *)$$

the set of symmetries, \rightarrow operation on a set
(how to multiply)
in formal sense.

↪ Identity symmetry (I)

- this symmetry does nothing

$I * ()$ or $() * I$ remains unchanged

↪ Given any symmetry, there is an inverse symmetry

(e.g. R then R^{-1})

↳ Associativity !! (check this)

$(G, *)$

Question. Can this G be empty set?

↓
When G has one element? Since only one element

$$a \underset{\text{in } G}{\underbrace{*}} a = a \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{binary operation}}}{\underbrace{*}} a = a^2 = a a \Rightarrow a \quad [a \text{ is identity}]$$

Associativity ✓

Question When $G = \{a, b\}$, and define $*$ by

$$a * a = a \quad a * b = b$$

$$b * a = b \quad b * b = a$$

Is $(G, *)$ a group?

Definition. $(G, *)$ is Abelian (commutative) if $a * b = b * a$ for every $a, b \in G$.

Example. Let $M_{m,n}(\mathbb{C})$ denote $m \times n$ matrices, with entries in \mathbb{C} .

$+$ is addition of matrices.

claim: $(M_{m,n}(\mathbb{C}), +)$ is a Group.

- 0 : zero matrix as identity
- $-A$; inverse of matrix A
- Associative [check entry by entry]

SUBGROUPS

Discussion. Recall the inclusion of groups

$$(\mathbb{Z}, +) \subsetneq (\mathbb{Q}, +) \subsetneq (\mathbb{R}, +) \subsetneq (\mathbb{C}, +)$$

Each subset is a group, and the group laws are obviously compatible.

$$m, n \in \mathbb{Z},$$

$m+n$; we can think of m, n as
rationals, reals or complex.

Definition. Let G be a group and let H be a subset of G . We say that H is a subgroup of G

if the restriction to H of the rule $*$ (of multiplication) and inverse makes H into a group.

Remarks:

→ Suppose G is $(\mathbb{Z}, +)$.

(1)

Let $H :=$ set of odd integers $\subseteq \mathbb{Z}$.

Now, $x, y \in H$, then $x+y \notin H$.

$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} + \text{ is not a binary } \text{even} \text{ operation of} \\ \text{arbitrary subset} \end{array} \right.$

(2) Inverse of H need not be an element of H .

$$\begin{array}{c} (\mathbb{Z}^+, +) \subseteq (\mathbb{Z}, +) \\ \uparrow \\ \{1, 2, 3, \dots\} \end{array}$$

Take $x \in \mathbb{Z}^+$, then $x \in \mathbb{Z}$

So, $-x$ is inverse

but $-x \notin \mathbb{Z}^+$.

Example. $(2\mathbb{Z}, +) \subsetneq (\mathbb{Z}, +)$

\uparrow
Subgroup?

In General, say given

$$(H, *) \subseteq (G, *)$$

How to check $(H, *)$ is a subgroup?

Definition. Let G be a group and let S be subset of G . We say that ⁽ⁱ⁾ S is closed under multiplication if whenever a and b are in S , then their product of a and b is in S .
(*)

→ (ii) S is closed under taking inverses, if whenever a is in S , then the inverse of a is in S .

Proposition. Let H be a non-empty subset of G .

{ Then H is a subgroup of G if and only if
 H is closed under multiplication and taking inverse.

{ Furthermore, the identity element of H is the
identity element of G ,
inverse of an element of H is equal to the
inverse element in G

Example.

$$\text{Clearly } (\mathbb{Z}, +) \subseteq (\mathbb{Z}, +)$$

Subgroup

Proof of Proposition.

\Rightarrow H is a subgroup, then H is closed under
multiplication and taking inverses (by definition)

\Leftarrow Suppose that H is closed under multiplication
and taking inverses.

(We will check axioms of a group)

1st note that associativity holds
$$\underbrace{a * \underbrace{(b * c)}_{\in H}}_{\in H} = \underbrace{(a * b) * c}_{\in H} \text{ for all } \underbrace{a, b, c}_{\in G} \in H$$

 \uparrow
 ?
 (why)

"identity" We have to show that H contains an identity element.

Since $H \neq \emptyset$, pick some $a \in H$.

Given, H is closed under taking inverses, this implies $a^{-1} \in H$.

But
$$\underbrace{a a^{-1}}_{\substack{\in H \\ \text{(hypothesis)}}} = \underline{\underline{e \in H}}$$

This e acts as an identity element in H as it is identity element in G .

"inverse"

Suppose that $h \in H$.

Then $h^{-1} \in H$ (hypothesis)

closed under taking inverses.

This h^{-1} is in fact inverse of h in H as it is the inverse in G .

□

Examples of subgroup.

(i) $M_{m,n}(\mathbb{Z}) \subset M_{m,n}(\mathbb{Q}) \subset M_{m,n}(\mathbb{R}) \subset M_{m,n}(\mathbb{C})$

(ii) $GL_n(\mathbb{Q}) \subset GL_n(\mathbb{R}) \subset GL_n(\mathbb{C})$