

Midterms: Sept 18, Oct 10, Nov 20. Final: Dec 13.

Defn. a group G is a set & a binary operation $G \times G \rightarrow G$
 $(a,b) \mapsto ab$ and $e \in G$ satisfying

- i) associative: $(ab)c = a(bc) \quad \forall a,b,c \in G$ group operation / multiplication
 ii) unit: $ea = ae = a \quad \forall a \in G$ unit / neutral / identity
 iii) inverse: $\forall a \in G, \exists a^{-1}$ s.t. $aa^{-1} = a^{-1}a = e$

Ex: i) $G = \mathbb{Z}$, operation is $+$, $e = 0$, inverse^{of a} is $-a$

ii) $G = (0, \infty)$ operation is \times , $e = 1$, inverse of a is $\frac{1}{a}$

Non-ex: $G = \mathbb{R}_{>0}$, $a * b = a^b$. $(a^b)^c \neq a^{(b^c)}$

$G = \mathbb{Z}_{20}$, $a * b = a + b$ no inverse!

Defn: G is said to be abelian if $a * b = b * a \quad \forall a, b \in G$.

ex of non-abelian group: $G = GL_2(\mathbb{R}) = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} : a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{R}, ad - bc \neq 0 \right\}$. operation is matrix multiplication.

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, AB = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, BA = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}, e = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}^{-1} = \frac{1}{ad-bc} \begin{bmatrix} d & -b \\ -c & a \end{bmatrix}$$

Examples: "Symmetries of a structure." "Remark: Symmetries are always associative"

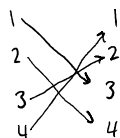
eg: "Structure" = finite set $\{1, \dots, n\}$, "symmetries" = bijections/permutations $X \xrightarrow{\sigma} X$

associativity is guaranteed since composition of maps is automatic.

identity: $e(i) = i \quad \forall i = 1, \dots, n$. this group is called S_n - Symmetry group on n symbols

Various ways of writing permutations:

$n=4$

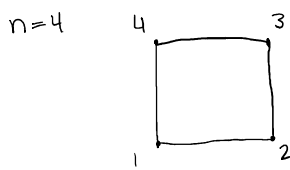


$$\begin{matrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 3 & 4 & 2 & 1 \end{matrix} \in S_4$$

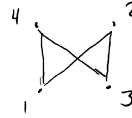
cyclic notation: $(1324) \in S_4$

Multiplying: $(123)(34) = (1234)$

eg: $n \geq 3$, define D_{2n} = group of symmetries of an n -gon. "Structure" = edges



$D_8 \not\cong (23)$



Definition: $|G|$ = cardinality of G / order of group.

$\sigma \in D_8$. $\sigma(1) \in \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$. ^{n options} suppose $\sigma(1) = 3$. then $\sigma(2) \in \{2, 4\}$ ^{2 options}

so $|D_{2n}| = 2n$. ^{dihedral group.}

Examples: "generators & relations"

eg: free group on 2 letters (Paradoxical!). 2 symbols α, β . Group is any word in these letters

$F_2 \ni w = \alpha \beta^{-3} \alpha^2$, etc. $\alpha^{m_1} \beta^{m_2} \alpha^{m_3} \dots$ exponents integers

also \emptyset = empty word.

$*$ = Concatenation. rule: $\alpha^k \alpha^l = \alpha^{k+l}$, $\alpha^0 = \emptyset$. (same w/ β).

eg: $w_1 = \alpha^{-1} \beta \alpha^7$ $w_2 = \alpha^{-3} \beta^{-1}$. $w_1 w_2 = \alpha^{-1} \beta \alpha^4 \beta^{-1}$, $w_2 w_1 = \alpha^{-3} \beta^{-1} \alpha^{-1} \beta \alpha^7$

inverse: $(\alpha \beta \alpha^3 \beta^{-1})^{-1} = \beta \alpha^{-3} \beta^{-1} \alpha^{-1}$.