

Algebraic Structures

Unit 2

Algebraic Structure

A non-empty set **G** equipped with one or more binary operations is said to be an **algebraic structure**. Suppose $*$ is a binary operation on **G**. Then **(G, *)** is an **algebraic structure**. **(N,*)**, **(1, +)**, **(1, -)** are all the **algebraic structure**. Here, **(R, +, .)** is an **algebraic structure** equipped with two operations.

Binary operation on a set

- $N = \{1, 2, 3, 4, \dots, \infty\}$ = Set of all natural numbers.
- $Z = \{0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \pm 4, \dots, \pm\}$ = Set of all integers.
- Q = Set of all rational numbers.
- R = Set of all real numbers
- **Binary Operation:** Suppose G is a non-empty set. The $G \times G = \{(a, b) : a \in G, b \in G\}$. If $f : G \times G \rightarrow G$ then f is called a binary operation on a set G . The image of the ordered pair (a, b) under the function f is denoted by afb .
- A binary operation on a set G is sometimes also said to be the binary composition in the set G . If $*$ is a binary composition in G then, $a * b \in G, a, b \in G$. Therefore G is closed with respect to the composition denoted by $*$.

Binary operation on a set

Example:

- An addition is a binary operation on the set **N** of natural number. The sum of two natural number is also a natural number. Therefore, **N** is a natural number with respect to addition i.e. **a+b**.
- Subtraction is not a binary operation on **N**. We have **4 - 7 = -3** not belong to **N** whereas **4 belongs to N**. thus, **N** is not closed with respect to subtraction, but subtraction is a binary operation on the set of an integer.

Properties of an algebraic structure

- **Commutative:** Let $*$ be a binary operation on a set A .
The operation $*$ is said to be commutative in A if
 $a * b = b * a$ for all a, b in A
- **Associativity:** Let $*$ be a binary operation on a set A .
The operation $*$ is said to be associative in A if
 $(a * b) * c = a * (b * c)$ for all a, b, c in A
- **Identity:** For an algebraic system $(A, *)$, an element ' e ' in A is said to be an identity element of A if
 $a * e = e * a = a$ for all $a \in A$.
- **Note:** For an algebraic system $(A, *)$, the identity element, if exists, is unique.
- **Inverse:** Let $(A, *)$ be an algebraic system with identity ' e '. Let a be an element in A . An element b is said to be inverse of a if
 $a * b = b * a = e$

Cancellation laws

An operation $*$ on a set \mathbf{S} is said to satisfy the left cancellation law if, $\mathbf{a} * \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{a} * \mathbf{c}$ **implies** $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{c}$ and is said to satisfy the right cancellation law if, $\mathbf{b} * \mathbf{a} = \mathbf{c} * \mathbf{a}$ **implies** $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{c}$

Semi Group

- **Semi Group:** An algebraic system $(A, *)$ is said to be a semi group if
 1. $*$ is closed operation on A .
 2. $*$ is an associative operation, for all a, b, c in A .
- Ex. $(\mathbf{N}, +)$ is a semi group.
- Ex. $(\mathbf{N}, .)$ is a semi group.
- Ex. $(\mathbf{N}, -)$ is not a semi group.

addition is an associative operation on \mathbf{N} . similarly, the algebraic structure $(\mathbf{N}, .)$ $(\mathbf{I}, +)$ and $(\mathbf{R}, +)$ are also semigroup

Monoid

- A group which shows property of an identity element with respect to the operation $*$ is called a monoid. In other words, we can say that an algebraic system $(\mathbf{M}, *)$ is called a monoid if $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z} \in \mathbf{M}$.
- $(\mathbf{x} * \mathbf{y}) * \mathbf{z} = \mathbf{x} * (\mathbf{y} * \mathbf{z})$
- And there exists an elements $\mathbf{e} \in \mathbf{M}$ such that for any $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbf{M}$
- $\mathbf{e} * \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x} * \mathbf{e} = \mathbf{x}$ where \mathbf{e} is called identity element.
- i. **Closure property**
 - The operation $+$ is closed since the sum of two natural number is a natural number.
- ii. **Associative property**
 - The operation $+$ is an associative property since we have $(\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b}) + \mathbf{c} = \mathbf{a} + (\mathbf{b} + \mathbf{c})$ $\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c} \in \mathbf{I}$.
- iii. **Identity**
 - There exist an identity element in a set \mathbf{I} with respect to the operation $+$. The element 0 is an identity element with respect to the operation since the operation $+$ is a closed, associative and there exists an identity. Since the operation $+$ is a closed associative and there exists an identity. Hence the algebraic system $(\mathbf{I}, +)$ is a **monoid**.

Example

- Ex. Show that the set 'N' is a monoid with respect to multiplication.
- Solution: Here, $N = \{1, 2, 3, 4, \dots\}$
 1. Closure property: We know that product of two natural numbers is again a natural number.
i.e., $a.b = b.a$ for all $a, b \in N$
 \therefore Multiplication is a closed operation.
 2. Associativity: Multiplication of natural numbers is associative.
i.e., $(a.b).c = a.(b.c)$ for all $a, b, c \in N$
 3. Identity: We have, $1 \in N$ such that
 $a.1 = 1.a = a$ for all $a \in N$.
 \therefore Identity element exists, and 1 is the identity element.Hence, N is a monoid with respect to multiplication.

Subsemigroup & submonoid

Subsemigroup : Let $(S, *)$ be a semigroup and let T be a subset of S . If T is closed under operation $*$, then $(T, *)$ is called a subsemigroup of $(S, *)$.

Ex: $(\mathbb{N}, +)$ is semigroup and T is set of multiples of positive integer m then $(T, +)$ is a sub semigroup.

Submonoid : Let $(S, *)$ be a monoid with identity e , and let T be a non- empty subset of S . If T is closed under the operation $*$ and $e \in T$, then $(T, *)$ is called a submonoid of $(S, *)$.

Group

- An algebraic system $(G, *)$ is said to be a group if the following conditions are satisfied.

1. Closure property: $*$ is a closed operation.

For all $a, b \in G \Rightarrow a, b \in G$

2. Associativity: $*$ is an associative operation.

$(a, b).c = a.(b.c)$ $a, b, c \in G$.

3. Existence of identity :

There exists a unique element in G . Such that $e.a = a = a.e$ for every $a \in G$.

4. Existence of inverse: For each $a \in G$, there exists an element $a^{-1} \in G$ such that $a.a^{-1} = e = a^{-1}.a$ the element a^{-1} is called the inverse of a .

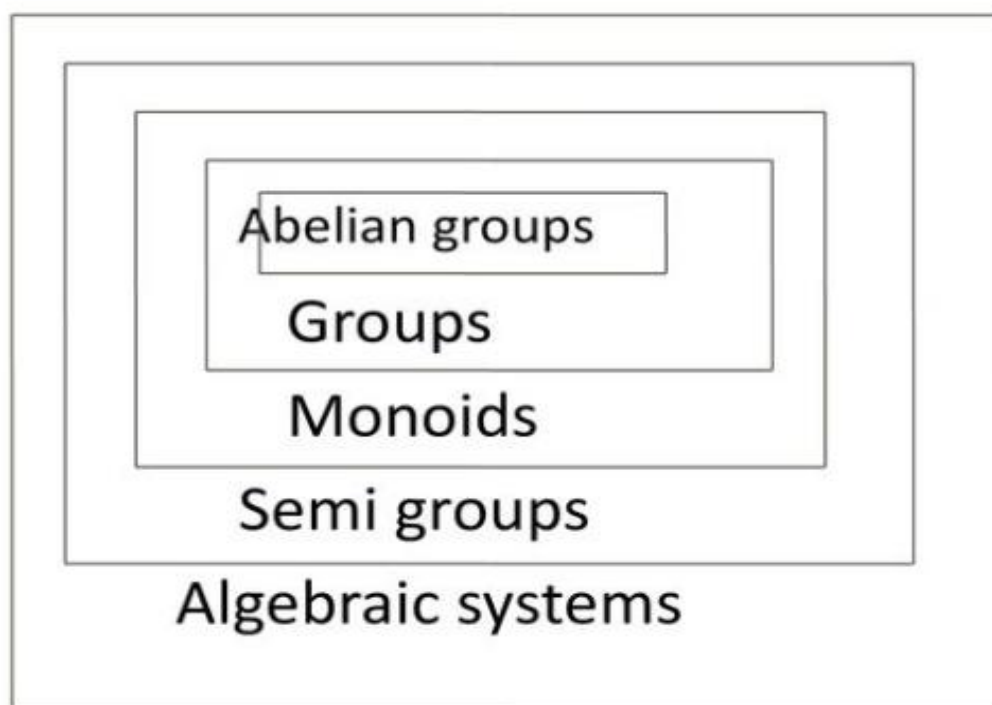
Abelian Group or Commutative Group

A group G is said to be abelian or commutative if in addition to the above four postulates the following postulate is also satisfied.

5. Commutativity

$a.b = b.a$ for every $a, b \in G$.

Algebraic systems



Properties

- In a Group $(G, *)$ the following properties hold good

1. Identity element is unique.

2. Inverse of an element is unique.

3. Cancellation laws hold good

$$a * b = a * c \Rightarrow b = c \quad (\text{left cancellation law})$$

$$a * c = b * c \Rightarrow a = b \quad (\text{Right cancellation law})$$

4. $(a * b)^{-1} = b^{-1} * a^{-1}$

- In a group, the identity element is its own inverse.

- **Order of a group**: The number of elements in a group is called order of the group.

- **Finite group**: If the order of a group G is finite, then G is called a finite group.

Example 1.

Ex. Show that, the set of all integers is a group with respect to addition.

■ Solution: Let Z = set of all integers.

Let a, b, c are any three elements of Z .

1. Closure property : We know that, Sum of two integers is again an integer.

i.e., $a + b \in Z$ for all $a, b \in Z$

2. Associativity: We know that addition of integers is associative.

i.e., $(a+b)+c = a+(b+c)$ for all $a, b, c \in Z$.

3. Identity : We have $0 \in Z$ and $a + 0 = a$ for all $a \in Z$.

\therefore Identity element exists, and '0' is the identity element.

4. Inverse: To each $a \in Z$, we have $-a \in Z$ such that

$$a + (-a) = 0$$

Each element in Z has an inverse.

- 5. Commutativity: We know that addition of integers is commutative.
i.e., $a + b = b + a$ for all $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$.
Hence, $(\mathbb{Z}, +)$ is an abelian group.

Example 2

Ex. Show that set of all non zero real numbers is a group with respect to multiplication .

■ Solution: Let R^* = set of all non zero real numbers.

Let a, b, c are any three elements of R^* .

1. Closure property : We know that, product of two nonzero real numbers is again a nonzero real number .

i.e., $a \cdot b \in R^*$ for all $a, b \in R^*$.

2. Associativity: We know that multiplication of real numbers is associative.

i.e., $(a \cdot b) \cdot c = a \cdot (b \cdot c)$ for all $a, b, c \in R^*$.

3. Identity: We have $1 \in R^*$ and $a \cdot 1 = a$ for all $a \in R^*$.

\therefore Identity element exists, and '1' is the identity element.

4. Inverse: To each $a \in R^*$, we have $1/a \in R^*$ such that

$a \cdot (1/a) = 1$ i.e., Each element in R^* has an inverse.

- 5.Commutativity: We know that multiplication of real numbers is commutative.

i.e., $a \cdot b = b \cdot a$ for all $a, b \in \mathbb{R}^*$.

Hence, (\mathbb{R}^*, \cdot) is an abelian group.

- Ex: Show that set of all real numbers 'R' is not a group with respect to multiplication.

- Solution: We have $0 \in \mathbb{R}$.

The multiplicative inverse of 0 does not exist.

Hence. \mathbb{R} is not a group.

Example 3

- Ex. Show that the set of all strings 'S' is a monoid under the operation 'concatenation of strings'.

Is S a group w.r.t the above operation? Justify your answer.

- Solution: Let us denote the operation 'concatenation of strings' by $+$.

Let s_1, s_2, s_3 are three arbitrary strings in S.

Closure property: Concatenation of two strings is again a string.

$$\text{i.e., } s_1 + s_2 \in S$$

Associativity: Concatenation of strings is associative.

$$(s_1 + s_2) + s_3 = s_1 + (s_2 + s_3)$$

- Identity: We have null string , $\lambda \in S$ such that $s_1 + \lambda = S$.
- $\therefore S$ is a monoid.
- Note: S is not a group, because the inverse of a non empty string does not exist under concatenation of strings.

Example 4

- Ex. Let $(Z, *)$ be an algebraic structure, where Z is the set of integers and the operation $*$ is defined by $n * m = \text{maximum of } (n, m)$. Show that $(Z, *)$ is a semi group.
Is $(Z, *)$ a monoid ?. Justify your answer.

- Solution: Let a, b and c are any three integers.

Closure property: Now, $a * b = \text{maximum of } (a, b) \in Z$ for all $a, b \in Z$

Associativity : $(a * b) * c = \text{maximum of } \{a, b, c\} = a * (b * c)$

$\therefore (Z, *)$ is a semi group.

Identity : There is no integer x such that

$$a * x = \text{maximum of } (a, x) = a \quad \text{for all } a \in Z$$

\therefore Identity element does not exist. Hence, $(Z, *)$ is not a monoid.

Example 5

- Ex. Let S be a finite set, and let $F(S)$ be the collection of all functions $f: S \rightarrow S$ under the operation of composition of functions, then show that $F(S)$ is a monoid.

Is S a group w.r.t the above operation? Justify your answer.

- Solution:

Let f_1, f_2, f_3 are three arbitrary functions on S .

Closure property: Composition of two functions on S is again a function on S .

$$\text{i.e., } f_1 \circ f_2 \in F(S)$$

Associativity: Composition of functions is associative.

$$\text{i.e., } (f_1 \circ f_2) \circ f_3 = f_1 \circ (f_2 \circ f_3)$$

- Identity: We have identity function $I : S \rightarrow S$
such that $f_1 \circ I = f_1$.
 $\therefore F(S)$ is a monoid.
- Note: $F(S)$ is not a group, because the inverse of a non bijective function on S does not exist.

Example 6

- Ex. In a group $(G, *)$, Prove that $(a * b)^{-1} = b^{-1} * a^{-1}$ for all $a, b \in G$.
- Proof :
- Consider,
- $(a * b) * (b^{-1} * a^{-1})$
- $= (a * (b * b^{-1}) * a^{-1})$ (By associative property).
- $= (a * e * a^{-1})$ (By inverse property)
- $= (a * a^{-1})$ (Since, e is identity)
- $= e$ (By inverse property)
- Similarly, we can show that
- $(b^{-1} * a^{-1}) * (a * b) = e$
- Hence, $(a * b)^{-1} = b^{-1} * a^{-1}$.

Ex. If $(G, *)$ is a group and $a \in G$ such that $a * a = a$,
then show that $a = e$, where e is identity element in G .

- Proof: Given that, $a * a = a$
- $\Rightarrow a * a = a * e$ (Since, e is identity in G)
- $\Rightarrow a = e$ (By left cancellation law)
- Hence, the result follows.

Cyclic Group

- Cyclic Group is a group which can be generated by one of its elements. That is, for some a in G ,

$G = \{a^n \mid n \text{ is an element of } \mathbb{Z}\}$ Or, in addition notation,

$G = \{na \mid n \text{ is an element of } \mathbb{Z}\}$

The single element a is called a generator of G and as the cyclic group is generated by a single element, so the cyclic group is also called **monogenic**.

1. The set of integers \mathbb{Z} under ordinary addition is cyclic. Both 1 and -1 are generators.

(Recall that, when the operation is addition, $1n$ is interpreted as

$$\underbrace{1 + 1 + \cdots + 1}_{n \text{ terms}}$$

when n is positive

and as

$$\underbrace{(-1) + (-1) + \cdots + (-1)}_{|n| \text{ terms}}$$

when n is negative.)

The set $\mathbb{Z}_n = \{0, 1, \dots, n-1\}$ for $n \geq 1$ is a cyclic group under addition modulo n . Again, 1 and $-1 \equiv n-1$ are generators.

Unlike \mathbb{Z} , which has only two generators, \mathbb{Z}_n may have many generators (depending on which n we are given).

Subgroup

Definition : A non empty sub set H of a group $(G, *)$ is a sub group of G , if $(H, *)$ is a group.

Note: For any group $\{G, *\}$, $\{e, *\}$ and $(G, *)$ are **trivial sub groups**:
Group which contains a single element.

Example. $G = \{1, -1, i, -i\}$ is a group w.r.t multiplication.

$H_1 = \{1, -1\}$ is a subgroup of G .

$H_2 = \{1\}$ is a trivial subgroup of G .

Ex. $(\mathbb{Z}, +)$ and $(\mathbb{Q}, +)$ are sub groups of the group $(\mathbb{R}, +)$.

- Theorem: A non empty sub set H of a group $(G, *)$ is a sub group of G iff

i) $a * b \in H \quad \forall \quad a, b \in H$

ii) $a^{-1} \in H \quad \forall \quad a \in H$

Theorem-Subgroup

- Theorem: A necessary and sufficient condition for a non empty subset H of a group $(G, *)$ to be a sub group is that
 $a \in H, b \in H \Rightarrow a * b^{-1} \in H$.
- Proof: Case1: Let $(G, *)$ be a group and H is a subgroup of G
Let $a, b \in H \Rightarrow b^{-1} \in H$ (since H is is a group)
 $\Rightarrow a * b^{-1} \in H$. (By closure property in H)
- Case2: Let H be a non empty set of a group $(G, *)$.
Let $a * b^{-1} \in H \quad \forall a, b \in H$
- Now, $a * a^{-1} \in H$ (Taking $b = a$)
 $\Rightarrow e \in H$ i.e., identity exists in H .
- Now, $e \in H, a \in H \Rightarrow e * a^{-1} \in H$
 $\Rightarrow a^{-1} \in H$

- \therefore Each element of H has inverse in H .

Further, $a \in H, b \in H \Rightarrow a \in H, b^{-1} \in H$

$\Rightarrow a * (b^{-1})^{-1} \in H.$

$\Rightarrow a * b \in H.$

$\therefore H$ is closed w.r.t $*$.

- Finally, Let $a, b, c \in H$

$\Rightarrow a, b, c \in G$ (since $H \subseteq G$)

$\Rightarrow (a * b) * c = a * (b * c)$

$\therefore *$ is associative in H

- Hence, H is a subgroup of G .