

TOPIC: ALGEBRA

SUBTOPIC: GROUP 1

OBJECTIVES

By the end of this subtopic learners should be able to;

- Define binary operation.
- Define closure, commutation, association and distribution of a binary operation.
- Identify the identity and inverse element of a binary operation.

Binary operation

- Binary means composed of two parts.
- Binary is a rule for combining two values to create a new value.
- Binary operation on a set is a calculation involving two elements of a set to produce another element of the set.
- A binary operation on set P is a function $*$ such that $r * q = y$ where r, q and y are elements of set P .
- The notion $(P;*)$ be used to indicate that set P has a binary operation.
- The symbol $*$ can be used to represent a law of binary composition.
- Basic binary operations are $\times$; $\div$; $+$; $-$.
- A binary operation on a finite set can be displayed on a **Cayley table or Latin square** which shows how operations are to be performed.

Example

A binary operation $*$ is defined on set $P = \{a_1; a_2; a_3; a_4\}$.

- a) Construct the Cayley table to show all possible outcomes using a binary operation $*$.
- b) Use the table to find $a_3 * a_2$.

Solution

a) $P = \{a_1; a_2; a_3; a_4\}$

*	a_1	a_2	a_3	a_4
a_1	a_4	a_3	a_2	a_1
a_2	a_3	a_1	a_4	a_2
a_3	a_2	a_4	a_1	a_3
a_4	a_1	a_2	a_4	a_2

To read the table;

- Read the first value from the left hand column and the second value from the top row.
- The answer is the intersection point.

b) $a_3 * a_2 = a_4$

Properties of binary operation

a) Closure

- A set P is closed under binary operation $*$ if , for every pair of elements r and q are elements of set P and $r * q$ is also an element of set P .
- For every ordered pair (r, q) for all $r, q \in P$ and the element $r * q$ is the element of set P , the operation $*$ is said to be closed binary operation on P .

Examples

1) Determine whether the set of natural numbers ($\mathbb{N}$) is closed under addition.

Solution

$$\mathbb{N} = \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$$

$(\mathbb{N}; *)$ ----- replace $*$ by addition sign.

$$(\mathbb{N}; +)$$

Using the notion $r * q = y \quad \forall r, q, y \in \mathbb{N}$

Let $r = 1, q = 2$

Then $r * q = r + q$

$$= 1 + 2$$

$$= 3$$

$$3 \in \mathbb{N}$$

$\therefore$ The set of natural numbers is closed under addition.

2) Determine whether the set of positive integers is closed under division.

Solution

$$\mathbb{Z}^+ = \{1; 2; 3; 4 \dots\}$$

$(\mathbb{Z}^+; *)$ ----- replace $*$ by $\div$.

$$(\mathbb{Z}^+; \div)$$

Using $r * q = y \quad \forall r, q, y \in \mathbb{Z}^+$

Let $r = 3, q = 5$

$$r * q = r \div q$$

$$= 3 \div 5$$

$$= \frac{3}{5}$$

$$\frac{3}{5} \notin \mathbb{Z}^+$$

$\therefore$ The set of all positive numbers is not closed under division.

Modular Arithmetic

- Modular arithmetic is a set of remainders or residues obtained after the division of two positive integers.
- The set of integers modulo n , often denoted as $\mathbb{Z}_n$ where n is a positive integer.
- Given that x and y are none zero integers, then

$$\frac{x}{n} = q + R \text{ where } q \text{ is the quotient and } R \text{ is a remainder.}$$

The focus is on the remainder after dividing x by n .

$$\therefore x \bmod n = R$$

In general:

If $\frac{x}{n} = q + R$, then

$$x = nq + R$$

$$\therefore x \bmod n = R \text{ for } 0 \leq R < n$$

Examples

1) Find the value of following.

- a) $3 \times 5 \pmod{4}$
- b) $30 + 4 \pmod{8}$
- c) $23 \times 4 \pmod{11}$

Solution

- a) $3 \times 5 = 15$
 $15 = 4(3) + 3$
 $\therefore 15 \bmod 4 = 3$
- b) $30 + 4 = 34$
 $34 = 8(4) + 2$
 $\therefore 34 \bmod 8 = 2$
- c) $23 \times 4 = 92$
 $92 = 11(8) + 4$
 $\therefore 92 \bmod 11 = 4$

2) Evaluate $(2 + 5) \times 11 \pmod{17}$.

Solution

$$(4 + 5) \times 11 = 9 \times 11$$
$$99 = 17(5) + 14$$
$$\therefore 99 \bmod 17 = 14$$

Example

1) Determine whether the given $*$ is closed on set R .

- a) $R = \{1; 2; 3; 4; 5\}$, addition (mod 6)
- b) $R = \{1; 2; 3; 4\}$, multiplication (mod 5)
- c) $R = \{1; 5; 6; 18; 21\}$, $a * b = ab, \forall a, b \in R$

Solution

a) $(R_6; +) = \{1; 2; 3; 4; 5\}$

$\therefore *$ is closed on set $\mathbb{Z}$.

b) $(R_5; \times) = \{1; 2; 3; 4\}$

$\therefore *$ is closed on set R

c) $R = \{1; 5; 6; 18; 21\}$

Using the system $a * b = ab$ to check for closure.

Let $a = 6, b = 18$

$$a * b = ab$$

$$6 * 18 = (6)(18)$$

$$= 108$$

$$108 \notin R$$

$\therefore *$ is not closed on set R .

b) Commutativity

- A binary operation $*$ on set P is said to be commutative if;

$$r * q = q * r, \quad \forall r, q \in P.$$

- The order of the pair does not affect the result.

Examples

1) Determine whether the multiplication is commutative on a set of integers.

Solution

$$\mathbb{Z} = \{\dots - 2; -1; 0; 1; 2 \dots\}$$

$$(\mathbb{Z}; \times)$$

For commutativity $r * q = q * r, \forall r, q \in \mathbb{Z}$

Let $r = -2, q = 1$

Considering LHS

$$\begin{aligned} r * q &= (-2) \times 1 \\ &= -2 \end{aligned}$$

Considering RHS

$$\begin{aligned} q * r &= 1 \times (-2) \\ &= -2 \end{aligned}$$

LHS = RHS

$\therefore$ Multiplication is commutative on a set of integers.

2) Which of the following sets are commutative on the given law of binary operation.

- a) Integers; addition
- b) Natural numbers ; division

Solution

a) $\mathbb{N} = \{\dots - 2; -1; 0; 1; 2; 3; 4; \dots\}$

$(\mathbb{N}; *)$ ----- substitute + for * .

$(\mathbb{N}; +)$

For commutativity $r * q = q * r \forall r, q \in \mathbb{N}$

Let $r = 2, q = 3$

LHS = $r * q$

$$\begin{aligned} r * q &= r + q \\ &= 2 + 3 \\ &= 5 \end{aligned}$$

RHS = $q * r$

$$\begin{aligned} q * r &= q + r \\ &= 3 + 2 \\ &= 5 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{LHS} = \text{RHS}$$

$\therefore$ Addition is commutative on a set of integers.

$$\text{b) } \mathbb{N} = \{1; 2; 3 \dots\}$$

$(\mathbb{N}; *)$ ----- replace $*$ by $\div$.

$$(\mathbb{N}; \div)$$

For commutativity $r * q = q * r, \forall r, q \in \mathbb{Z}$

$$\text{Let } r = 1, q = 2$$

$$\text{LHS} = r * q$$

$$r * q = r \div q$$

$$= (1) \div (2)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\text{RHS} = q * r$$

$$q * r = q \div r$$

$$= (2) \div (1)$$

$$= 2$$

$$\text{LHS} \neq \text{RHS}$$

$\therefore$ Division is not commutative on a set of natural numbers.

3) Let $*$ be a binary operation on $\mathbb{N}$ is defined by $x * y = x + 2y - 1 \forall x, y \in \mathbb{N}$

a) Prove that the operation is binary.

b) Determine whether the operation is commutative.

Solution

$$\text{a) } \mathbb{N} = \{1; 2; 3; 4 \dots\}$$

Condition for any binary operation: $r * q = y \forall r, q, y \in \mathbb{N}$

$$\text{Using } x * y = x + 2y - 1$$

$$\text{Let } x = 2, y = 3$$

$$2 * 3 = 2 + 2(3) - 1$$

$$= 2 + 6 - 1$$

$$= 7$$

$$2 * 3 = 7$$

$\therefore$ The operation is binary because 3, 2 and 7 are elements of natural numbers.

b) For commutativity $r * q = q * r$

$$\text{LHS} = r * q$$

$$\text{But } x * y = x + 2y - 1$$

$$r * q = r + 2(q) - 1$$

$$= r + 2q - 1$$

$$\text{LHS} = r + 2q - 1$$

$$\text{RHS} = q * r$$

$$q * r = q + 2(r) - 1$$

$$= q + 2r - 1$$

$$\text{LHS} \neq \text{RHS}$$

$\therefore$ The operation is not commutative.

4) Given that $R = \{1; 2; 3; 4\}$, multiplication mod 5.

a) Draw the Cayley table to show all possible outcomes.

b) State whether the set R is commutative or not.

Solution

$$\text{a) } (R_5; \times) = \{1; 2; 3; 4\}$$

How to obtain elements of the table i.e.

$$3 \times 4 \text{ mod } 5$$

$$12 = 5(2) + 2$$

$$3 \times 4 \text{ (mod } 5) = 2$$

$$2 \times 4 \text{ mod } 5.$$

$$8 = 5(1) + 3$$

$$2 \times 4 \text{ mod } 5 = 3$$

$\times$	1	2	3	4
1	1	2	3	4
2	2	4	1	3
3	3	1	4	2
4	4	3	2	1

b) Use the table to check for commutative

For commutativity $r * q = q * r$.

$$\text{LHS} = r * q$$

$$\text{Let } r = 2, q = 3$$

$$\text{From the table } 2 * 3 = 1$$

$$\text{RHS} = q * r$$

$$\text{From the table } 3 * 2 = 1$$

$$\text{LHS} = \text{RHS}$$

$\therefore$ The set R is commutative on multiplication mod 5.

c) **Associativity**

- The binary operation $*$ defined on set P is associative if;

$$r * (q * y) = (r * q) * y, \text{ for } q, r \text{ and } y \text{ are elements of set } P.$$

- The position of the brackets does not matter.
- Multiplication and addition of all real numbers is associative but division is not associative.
- Both multiplication and addition of complex number are associative.

Examples

1) $*$ is defined on $\mathbb{Z}$ by $r * q = r - q$, determine whether the operation is associative or not.

Solution

For associativity $r * (q * y) = (r * q) * y, \forall r, q, y \in \mathbb{Z}$

$$\text{LHS} = r * (q * y)$$

Using the system $r * q = r - q$

$$(q * y) = q - y, \text{ then}$$

$$\begin{aligned} r * (q * y) &= r * (q - y) \\ &= r - (q - y) \\ &= r - q + y \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{RHS} = (r * q) * y$$

$$(r * q) = r - q, \text{ then}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (r * q) * y &= (r - q) * y \\ &= (r - q) - y \\ &= r - q - y \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{LHS} \neq \text{RHS}$$

$\therefore$ The operation $(*)$ is not associative.

2) The operation $(*)$ is defined on $\mathbb{N}$ by $a * b = 2ab$, check whether the operation is associative or not.

Solution

For associativity $r * (q * y) = (r * q) * y, \forall r, q, y \in \mathbb{N}$

$$\text{LHS} = r * (q * y)$$

Using the system $a * b = 2ab$

$$(q * y) = 2qy, \text{ then}$$

$$\begin{aligned} r * (q * y) &= r * (2qy) \\ &= 2r(2qy) \\ &= 4qry \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{RHS} = (r * q) * y$$

$$r * q = 2rq, \text{ then}$$

$$(r * q) * y = (2rq) * y$$

$$= 2(2rq)y$$

$$= 4rqy$$

$$\text{LHS} = \text{RHS}$$

∴ The operation (*) is associative.

Sets

Union of sets

If $A, B,$ and C are three subsets of the universal set, then

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

∴ Union of sets is associative on binary operation.

Intersection of sets

If A, B and C are three subsets of the universal set, then

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

∴ Intersection of sets is associative on binary operation.

Matrices

- Addition of matrices is associative.
- Multiplication of (compatible) matrices is also associative.
- Compatible matrices are matrices which can be multiplied.

Example

Given that $A = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$, $B = \begin{pmatrix} q & f \\ g & h \end{pmatrix}$ and $C = \begin{pmatrix} m & n \\ x & y \end{pmatrix}$, use matrix A, B and C to show that addition of matrices is associative.

Solution

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

$\text{LHS} = A * (B * C)$ ----- substitute + for *.

$$= A + (B + C)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= A + \left(\begin{pmatrix} q & f \\ g & h \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} m & n \\ x & y \end{pmatrix} \right) \\
&= A + \begin{pmatrix} q+m & f+n \\ g+x & h+y \end{pmatrix} \\
&= \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} q+m & f+n \\ g+x & h+y \end{pmatrix} \\
&= \begin{pmatrix} a+q+m & b+f+n \\ c+g+x & d+h+y \end{pmatrix}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{RHS} &= (A * B) * C \\
&= (A + B) + C \\
&= \left(\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} q & f \\ g & h \end{pmatrix} \right) + C \\
&= \begin{pmatrix} a+q & b+f \\ c+g & d+h \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} m & n \\ x & y \end{pmatrix} \\
&= \begin{pmatrix} a+q+m & b+f+n \\ c+g+x & d+h+y \end{pmatrix}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{LHS} = \text{RHS}$$

$\therefore$ Addition of matrices is associative.

d) **Distribution**

- The binary operation $*$ defined on set P is distributive if $*$ both left and right is distributive.
- The Distributive Law says that multiplying a number by a group of numbers added together is the same as doing each multiplication separately, for example

$$2 \times (3 + 7) = 2 \times 3 + 2 \times 7$$

$$\text{LHS} = 2 \times (3 + 7)$$

$$= 20$$

$$\text{RHS} = 2 \times 3 + 2 \times 7$$

$$= 6 + 14$$

$$= 20$$

$$\text{LHS} = \text{LHS}$$

- Let $*$ and $+$ be binary operations on a set P . Then $*$ is said to be left distributive if;

$$a * (b + c) = (a * b) + (a * c), \forall a, b, c \in P.$$
- $*$ is said to be right distributive if;

$$(a + b) * c = (a * c) + (b * c), \forall a, b, c \in P.$$

Example

Show that standard multiplication ($\cdot$) and standard addition ($+$) on $\mathbb{R}$ is distributive.

Solution

Left distributive: $a * (b + c) = (a * b) + (a * c), \forall a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}$

$$= (a * b) + (a * c) \text{ ----- substitute } (\cdot) \text{ for } *.$$

$$a \cdot (b + c) = (a \cdot b) + (a \cdot c)$$

Right distribution: $(a + b) * c = (a * c) + (b * c)$

$$= (a * c) + (b * c) \text{ ----- substitute } (\cdot) \text{ for } *.$$

$$(a + b) \cdot c = (a \cdot c) + (b \cdot c)$$

Therefore standard multiplication and addition on $\mathbb{R}$ is distributive.

e) Identity element (Neutral element)

- An identity element (e) exist under operation $*$ defined on a set P if;

$$a * e = e * a = a, \text{ where } a \text{ and } e \text{ are elements of set } P.$$
- The identity matrix of a 2 by 2 is $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$.
- The later I can be used to denote the identity element.
- The identity element when multiplying real numbers is 1, for example

$$2 \times 1 = 1 \times 2 = 2$$
- Zero (0) is the identity element when adding real numbers, for example

$$0 + 3 = 3 + 0 = 3$$

Examples

Given that $x * b = a + b - 1 \forall x, y \in \mathbb{Q}$.

Determine whether the system $(\mathbb{Q}; *)$ possesses the identity element or not.

Solution

For an identity element to exist $a * e = e * a = a$

$$\text{LHS} = a * e$$

$$a * e = a$$

Using the system $a * b = a + b - 1$, then

$$a * e = a$$

$$a + e - 1 = a$$

$$e - 1 = a - a$$

$$e = 1$$

$$\text{RHS} = e * a$$

$$e * a = a$$

$$e + a - 1 = a$$

$$e = 1$$

$$\text{LHS} = \text{RHS}$$

∴ The identity element exists and the identity element is 1.

f) Inverse element

- If a is an element of set P , then the element a^{-1} is the inverse element of a with respect to the binary operation such that;

$$a * a^{-1} = e \text{ where } a, a^{-1} \text{ and } e \text{ are elements of set } P.$$

- The operation of an element (a) and its inverse (a^{-1}) gives an identity element (e).
- a^{-1} is just an inverse element not $\frac{1}{a}$.
- When adding integers, the inverse of an integer q is $-q$, for example;
The additive inverse of $(+3)$ is (-3) .
- When multiplying non zero rational numbers, the inverse of $\frac{x}{y}$ is $\frac{y}{x}$, for example
The multiplicative inverse of $\frac{3}{7}$ is $\frac{7}{3}$.

Examples

- 1) The Cayley table below shows all possible outcomes of set $Z = \{1; 5; 7; 11\}$ under multiplication mod 12.

$\times$	1	5	7	11
1	1	5	7	11
5	5	1	11	7
7	7	11	1	5
11	11	7	5	1

a) Find the identity element.

b) Find the inverse.

Solution

a) For identity element: $a * e = e * a = a$

$$5 * 1 = 5$$

$$1 * 5 = 5$$

$$e = 1$$

$\therefore$ The identity element is 1.

b) For inverse element: $a * a^{-1} = e$

$$1 * 1 = 1$$

$$1 * 1 = e$$

The inverse of 1 is 1 (self inverse).

$$5 * 5 = 1$$

$$5 * 5 = e$$

The inverse of 5 is 5 (self inverse).

$$7 * 7 = 1$$

$$7 * 7 = e$$

The inverse of 7 is 7 (self inverse).

$$11 * 11 = 1$$

$$11 * 11 = e, \text{ then}$$

The inverse of 11 is 11 (self inverse).

TOPIC: ALGEBRA

SUBTOPIC: GROUPS 2

Objectives

By the end of the subtopic learners should be able to;

- Define a group.
- Determine whether the given structure is a group or not using basic properties of a group.
- Solve problems involving binary operations and properties of a group.

Groups

A **group** $(G;*)$ is a non-empty set G with binary operation $*$ with the following basic properties(axioms);

- Set G is **closed** under binary operation $*$ i.e. $r * q \in G$ for r and q are elements of set G .
- Binary operation $*$ is **associative** such that $r * (q * y) = (r * q) * y \forall r, q, y \in G$.
- There is an **identity** element in set G such that $e * a = a * e = a \forall a, e \in G$.
- Every element in set G has an **inverse** (a^{-1}) i.e. $a * a^{-1} = a^{-1} * a = e$ for a, a^{-1} and e are elements of set G .

Any given structure is said to be a group if the given structure satisfies all basic properties above.

Examples

- 1) Determine whether a set of integers under addition forms a group.

Solution

Checking for closure

For closure $a * b = c \forall a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}$.

Let $a = 3, b = 5$

$$3 + 5 = 8$$

$$8 \in \mathbb{Z}$$

$\therefore$ Set of integers is closed under addition.

Checking for associative.

For associative $r * (q * y) = (r * q) * y, \forall r, q, y \in \mathbb{Z}$.

Let $r = 3, q = 5, y = -1$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{LHS} &= r * (q * y) \\
 &= r + (q + y) \\
 &= 3 * (5 + (-1)) \\
 &= 3 + 4 \\
 &= 7
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{RHS} &= (r * q) * y \\
 (r + q) * y &= (3 + 5) * (-1) \\
 &= 8 + (-1) \\
 &= 7
 \end{aligned}$$

LHS= RHS

∴ Addition is associative on integers.

The **identity** element is zero.

If a is an element of set $\mathbb{Z}$, then the **inverse** of a is $(-a)$ i.e. the inverse of 2 is -2 .

∴ Set of integers is a group under addition.

2) Determine whether each of the following sets forms a group.

- a) $\mathbb{R}$, the set of real numbers under the operation $a * b = 2a - b + 1$.
- b) $P = \{0; 1; 2; 3\}$, under multiplication mod 4.
- c) $\mathbb{Q}$, set of non-zero rational numbers under the operation $*$ defined by $a * b = 3ab$.

Solution

a) $a * b = 2a - b + 1, \forall a, b \in \mathbb{R}$.

Checking for closure

Let $x = 15, y = 2$

$$x * y = 2x - y + 1$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 15 * 2 &= 2(15) - 2 + 1 \\
 &= 29
 \end{aligned}$$

$$29 \in \mathbb{R}$$

∴ The set of real numbers is closed under binary operation $*$.

Checking for associative

For associative : $r * (q * y) = (r * q) * y$

$$\text{LHS} = r * (q * y)$$

Considering $q * y$.

Using the formula; $a * b = 2a - b + 1$.

By comparison $a = q, b = y$.

$$q * y = 2q - y + 1, \text{ then}$$

$$r * (q * y) = r * (2q - y + 1)$$

By comparison $a = r, b = 2q - y + 1$.

$$\begin{aligned} r * (q * y) &= 2r - (2q - y + 1) + 1 \\ &= 2r - 2q + y - 1 + 1 \\ &= 2r - 2q + y \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{RHS} = (r * q) * y$$

Considering $r * q$.

By comparison $a = r, b = q$.

$$r * q = 2r - q + 1, \text{ then}$$

$$(r * q) * y = (2r - q + 1) * y$$

By comparison $a = 2r - q + 1, b = y$.

$$\begin{aligned} (r * q) * y &= 2(2r - q + 1) - y + 1 \\ &= 4r - 2q + 2 - y + 1 \\ &= 4r - 2q - y + 3 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{LHS} \neq \text{RHS}$$

$\therefore$ The binary operation $*$ defined on $\mathbb{R}$ is not associative.

$\therefore$ Set $\mathbb{R}$ is not a group.

b) $P = \{0; 1; 2; 3\}$, multiplication mod 4.

+	0	1	2	3
0	0	1	2	3
1	1	2	3	0
2	2	3	0	1
3	3	0	1	2

Use the table above to check for closure.

There is no new element in table.

∴ Set P is closed under addition mod 4.

Checking for associative

For associative: $r * (q * y) = (r * q) * y$

Let $r = 1, q = 2, y = 3$

LHS = $r * (q * y)$

Considering $(q * y)$

$$q * y = 2 * 3$$

$$= 1$$

$$r * (q * y) = 1 * (2 * 3)$$

$$= 1 * 1$$

$$= 2$$

$$\text{RHS} = (r * q) * y$$

Considering $r * q$

$$r * q = 1 * 2$$

$$= 3$$

$$(r * q) * y = (1 * 2) * 3$$

$$= 3 * 3$$

$$= 2$$

LHS = RHS

∴ Set P is associative under addition mod 4.

The **identity** element is zero.

Inverses: Inverse of zero is zero

Inverse of 1 is 3.

Inverse of 2 is 2.

Inverse of 3 is 1.

∴ Every element has its own inverse.

∴ Set P under addition mod 4 is a group.

$$c) \quad a * b = 3ab \quad \forall a, b \in \mathbb{Q}$$

Checking for closure

For closure $a * b = c \quad \forall a, b, c \in \mathbb{Q}$

Let $a = 2, b = 7$

$$a * b = 3ab$$

$$2 * 7 = 3(2)(7)$$

$$= 42$$

$$42 \in \mathbb{Q}$$

∴ Binary operation $*$ is closed under set $\mathbb{Q}$.

Checking for associative

For associative: $r * (q * y) = (r * q) * y$

$$\text{LHS} = r * (q * y)$$

Using the formula $a = 3ab$.

Considering $q * y$

By comparison $a = q, b = y$

$$q * y = 3qy$$

$$r * (q * y) = r * (3qy)$$

By comparison $a = r, b = 3qy$

$$r * (3qy) = 3(r)(3qy) \\ = 9rqy$$

$$\text{RHS} = (r * q) * y$$

Considering $r * q$

By comparison $a = r, b = q$

$$r * q = 3rq$$

$$(r * q) * y = (3rq) * y$$

By comparison $a = 3rq, b = y$.

$$(3rq) * y = 3(3rq)(y) \\ = 9rqy$$

$$\text{LHS} = \text{RHS}$$

$\therefore$ Set $\mathbb{Q}$ is associative on binary operation $*$.

Identity element

For identity element $a * e = e * a = a$.

$$\text{LHS} = a * e$$

$$a * e = a$$

By comparison $a = a, b = e$.

$$a * e = a$$

$$3(a)(e) = a$$

$$e = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$\text{RHS} = e * a$$

$$e * a = a$$

By comparison $a = e, b = a$.

$$e * a = a$$

$$3(e)(a) = a$$

$$e = \frac{1}{3}$$

The identity element is $\frac{1}{3}$.

∴ Identity element exist on binary operation defined on set $\mathbb{Q}$.

Inverse element

For inverse element: $a * a^{-1} = a^{-1} * a = e$.

$$\text{LHS} = a * a^{-1}$$

By comparison $a = a, b = a^{-1}$.

$$a * a^{-1} = e \text{ ----- but } e = \frac{1}{3}.$$

$$3(a)(a^{-1}) = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$a^{-1} = \frac{1}{9a}$$

$$\text{RHS} = a^{-1} * a$$

By comparison $a = a^{-1}, b = a$.

$$a^{-1} * a = e \text{ ----- but } e = \frac{1}{3}.$$

$$3(a^{-1})(a) = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$a = \frac{1}{9a}$$

$$\text{LHS} = \text{RHS}$$

The inverse element is $\frac{1}{9a}$.

∴ The inverse element exist on binary operation defined on set $\mathbb{Q}$.

∴ Set $\mathbb{Q}$ is a group.

Abelian Group.

- A group $(G;*)$ which is commutative is called **Abelian group**.
- Check for commutative in order to determine whether the given structure is an Abelian group or not.
- All basic properties of a group are still valid.

Example

Given that $R = \{2; 4; 6; 8\}$, multiplication.

- Compile Cayley table to show all possible outcomes of set R .
- Determine whether set R is a group or not
- Show that set R is an Abelian group.

Solution

- If the mod is not given, the mod is 10.

$\times$	2	4	6	8
2	4	8	2	6
4	8	6	4	2
6	2	4	6	8
8	6	2	8	4

Leading diagonal which shows that the set R is commutative.

- Check all basic properties of a group.

Checking for closure.

For closure $a * b = c, \forall a, b, c \in R$.

Let $a = 2, b = 6$

$$a * b = 2 * 6$$

$$= 2$$

$$2 \in R$$

$\therefore$ Set R is closed under multiplication mod 10.

Checking for associative

For associative $r * (q * y) = (r * q) * y$

Let $r = 2, q = 4, y = 8$

$$\text{LHS} = r * (q * y)$$

$$= 2 * (4 * 8)$$

$$= 2 * 2$$

$$= 4$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{RHS} &= (r * q) * y \\
 &= (2 * 4) * 8 \\
 &= 8 * 8 \\
 &= 4
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{RHS} = \text{LHS}$$

∴ Multiplication is associative on set R.

Identity element

The identity element is 6.

∴ The identity element exist on set R.

Inverse element:

Inverse of 2 is 8

Inverse of 4 is 4.

Inverse of 6 is 6.

Inverse of 8 is 2.

∴ Each element has its own inverse .

∴ Set R is a group.

c) Checking for commutative.

The group is symmetrical about the leading diagonal .

∴ The group is commutative.

∴ Set R is an Abelian group.

Exercise 1

- 1) Determine whether the following sets are closed under the given law of binary operation.
- a) $H = \{5; 7; 9; 12\}$; addition mod 13.
 - b) Complex numbers; multiplication.
 - c) Real numbers ; division.

Solution

- a) $H = \{5; 7; 9; 12\}$, addition mod 13.

$$(H_{13}; +)$$

For closure $a * b = c \forall a, b, c \in H$.

Let $a = 5, b = 12$.

$$a + b = 5 + 12$$

$$= 17$$

$$17 \bmod 13 = 4$$

$$4 \notin H$$

$\therefore$ Set H is not closed under addition mod 13.

- b) Any number is a complex number , then complex numbers are closed under multiplication.
c) Real numbers is closed under division.

- 2) Given that $H = \{2; 3; 4; 6\}$, $a * b = 2a + b - 4 \forall a, b \in H$, check whether $*$ is closed to set H or not.

Solution

$$H = \{2; 3; 4; 6\}, a * b = 2a + b - 4 \forall a, b \in H$$

Using $a * b = 2a + b - 4$ to check for closure.

Let $a = 3, b = 6$

$$3 * 6 = 2(3) + 6 - 4$$

$$= 8$$

$$8 \notin H$$

$\therefore *$ is not closed on set H .

- 3) A binary operation $(*)$ is defined on a set $G = \{1; 2; 3\}$, $a * b = 2(a - b) \forall a, b \in G$.
Show that the binary operation $(*)$ is not closed on set G .

Solution

$$G = \{1; 2; 3\}, a * b = 2(a - b) \forall a, b \in G$$

Using $a * b = 2(a - b)$ to check for closure.

Let $a = 2, b = 3$

$$2 * 3 = 2(2 - 3)$$

$$= -2$$

$$-2 \notin G$$

$\therefore$ Binary operation $(*)$ is not closed on set G .

4) $*$ is defined on a set of natural numbers by $q * r = q^{r-1}, \forall q, r \in \mathbb{N}$, evaluate

a) $3 * 2$

b) $10 * 1$

c) $2 * (5 * 3)$

Solution

a) $q * r = q^{r-1} \forall q, r \in \mathbb{N}$

$$3 * 2 = q * r$$

$$q = 3, r = 2$$

$$3 * 2 = 3^{2-1}$$

$$= 3$$

b) $q * r = q^{r-1}$

$$10 * 1 = q * r$$

$$q = 10, r = 1$$

$$10 * 1 = 10^{1-1}$$

$$= 1$$

c) $q * r = q^{r-1} \forall$

$$5 * (2 * 3)$$

Consider $(2 * 3)$

$$q = 2, r = 3$$

$$5 * (2 * 3) = 5 * (2^{3-1})$$

$$= 5 * 4$$

$$\text{For } 5 * 4, q = 5, r = 4$$

$$5 * 4 = q^{r-1}$$

$$= 5^{4-1}$$

$$= 125$$

5) Find the value of the following,

a) $3 \times 7 \pmod{4}$.

b) $4 \times 2 + 21 \pmod{11}$.

c) $6 + 5(100 \div 4) \pmod{15}$

Solution

a) $3 \times 7 \pmod{4}$

$$21 = 4(5) + 1$$

$$21 \pmod{4} = 1$$

b) $4 \times 2 + 21 \pmod{11}$

$$29 = 11(2) + 7$$

$$29 \pmod{11} = 7$$

c) $3 + 5(100 \div 4) \pmod{15}$

$$128 = 15(8) + 8$$

$$128 \pmod{15} = 8$$

6) It is given that $a * b = a + (b + 1), \forall a, b \in \mathbb{R}$. Show that $*$ is commutative.

Solution

For commutative $r * q = q * r$

Using the system $a * b = a + (b + 1)$

$$\text{LHS} = r * q$$

$$r * q = r + (q + 1)$$

$$= r + q + 1$$

$$\text{RHS} = q * r$$

$$= q + (r + 1)$$

$$= q + r + 1$$

$$\text{LHS} = \text{RHS}$$

$\therefore *$ is commutative on $\mathbb{R}$.

7) The Cayley table shows results of set $G = \{m; n; p; q\}$ under the binary operation $*$.

$*$	m	n	p	q
m	n	m	q	p
n	m	n	p	q
p	q	p	m	n
q	p	q	n	m

Use the table above to simplify the following

- a) $n * m$
- b) $m * p$
- c) $n * (m * q)$
- d) $(m * p) * m$
- e) $(m * n) * (p * q)$

Solution

- a) $n * m = m$
- b) $m * p = q$
- c) $n * (m * q) = n * p$
 $= p$
- d) $(m * p) * m = q * m$
 $= p$
- e) $(m * n) * (p * q) = m * n$
 $= m$

8) A binary operation $(*)$ is defined on $\mathbb{R}$, $a * b = \sqrt{a^2 + b} + ab \forall a, b \in \mathbb{R}$.
Check whether the binary operation $(*)$ is commutative or not.

Solution

For commutative : $r * q = q * r$

$$\text{LHS} = r * q$$

Using the system $a * b = \sqrt{a^2 + b} + ab$

$$r * q = \sqrt{r^2 + q} + rq$$

$$\text{RHS} = q * r$$

$$q * r = \sqrt{q^2 + r} + qr$$

$$\text{LHS} \neq \text{RHS}$$

∴ Binary operation (*) is not commutative.

9) Show that the set $B = \{1; 3; 5; 7\}$ is commutative under multiplication (mod 8).

Solution

Using the Cayley table to check for commutative.

$\{1; 3; 5; 7\}$, multiplication (mod 8).

×	1	3	5	7
1	1	3	5	7
3	3	1	7	5
5	5	7	1	3
7	7	5	3	1

Leading diagonal.

∴ Set B is commutative because it is symmetric to the leading diagonal.

10) * is defined on $\mathbb{N}$ by $a * b = a + b + |ab|$, show that binary operation (*) defined on $\mathbb{N}$ is commutative.

Solution

For commutative: $r * q = q * r$

LHS = $r * q$

Using the system $a * b = a + b + |ab|$

$$r * q = r + q + |rq|$$

RHS = $q * r$

$$q * r = q + r + |qr|$$

LHS = RHS

∴ Binary operation $(*)$ is commutative on $\mathbb{N}$.

11) Compute the Cayley table of the following sets under the given law of binary operation.

a) $\{0; 1; 2; 3; 4; 5; 6\}$, addition (mod 7).

b) $H = \{1; -1; i; -i\}$, multiplication.

Solution

a) $\{0; 1; 2; 3; 4; 5; 6\}$, addition (mod 7)

+	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	1	2	3	4	5	6	0
2	2	3	4	5	6	0	1
3	3	4	5	6	0	1	2
4	4	5	6	0	1	2	3
5	5	6	0	1	2	3	4
6	6	0	1	2	3	4	5

b) $H = \{1; -1; i; -i\}$

$\times$	1	-1	-i	i
1	1	-1	-i	i
-1	-1	1	i	-i
-i	-i	i	-1	-1
i	i	-i	1	-1

Exercise 2

1) The binary operation $(*)$ on $\mathbb{N}$ is given by $a * b = 2ab - 1, \forall a, b \in \mathbb{N}$.

a) Evaluate

i) $2 * 3$

- ii) $4 * 1$
- iii) $(3 * 1) * 5$
- b) Solve the following equations
 - i) $7 * y = 55$
 - ii) $(2 * y) * 4 = 23$

Solution

a) Using the system $a * b = 2ab - 1$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{i)} \quad 2 * 3 &= 2(2)(3) - 1 \\ &= 11 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ii)} \quad 4 * 1 &= 2(4)(1) - 1 \\ &= 7 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{iii)} \quad (3 * 1) * 5 &\text{----- firstly simply elements inside brackets.} \\ (3 * 1) &= 2(3)(1) - 1 \\ &= 5 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then } (3 * 1) * 5 &= 5 * 5 \\ &= 2(5)(5) - 1 \\ &= 49 \end{aligned}$$

b) Using the system $a * b = 2ab - 1$ to solve;

$$\text{i)} \quad 7 * y = 55$$

By comparison $a = 7, b = y$, then

$$2(7)(y) - 1 = 55$$

$$14y - 1 = 55$$

$$14y = 56$$

$$y = 4$$

$$\text{ii)} \quad (y * 2) + 4 = 23$$

Considering $(y * 2)$,

By comparison $a = y, b = 2$, then

$$y * 2 = 2(2)(y) - 1$$

$$= 4y - 1$$

$$(y * 2) * 4 = 23$$

$$(4y - 1) * 4 = 23$$

By comparison $a = 4y - 1, b = 4$

$$2(4y - 1)(4) - 1 = 23$$

$$8(4y - 1) = 24$$

$$4y - 1 = 3$$

$$4y = 4$$

$$y = 1$$

2) Binary operation $*$ is defined on $\mathbb{Q}$ by $a * b = 2(a + b) + 1, \forall a, b \in \mathbb{Q}$.

Check whether binary operation $(*)$ defined on $\mathbb{Q}$ is associative or not.

Solution

$$a * b = 2(a + b) + 1, \forall a, b \in \mathbb{Q}$$

For associativity: $r * (q * y) = (r * q) * y$

$$\text{LHS} = r * (q * y)$$

$$= r * (2(q + y) + 1)$$

$$= r * (2q + 2y + 1)$$

$$= 2(r + 2q + 2y + 1) + 1$$

$$= 2r + 4q + 4y + 2 + 1$$

$$= 2r + 4q + 4y + 3$$

$$\text{RHS} = (r * q) * y$$

Firstly simplify $(r * q)$

By comparison $a = r, b = q$.

$$(r * q) = 2(r + q) + 1,$$

$$= 2r + 2q + 1 \text{ then}$$

$$(r * q) * y = (2r + 2q + 1) * y$$

By comparison $a = 2r + 2q + 1, b = y$.

$$(r * q) * y = 2(2r + 2q + 1 + y) + 1$$

$$= 4r + 4q + 2 + 2y + 1$$

$$= 4r + 4q + 2y + 3$$

LHS $\neq$ RHS

∴ Binary operation (*) defined on $\mathbb{Q}$ is not associative.

3) Compute the Cayley table for the set $\{3; 6; 9; 12\}$ under multiplication (mod 15).

Use the table to find,

- a) The identity element.
- b) The inverse of each element.

Solution

Mod 15

To obtain all elements of the set use the formula $y \bmod n = R, \forall 0 \leq R < n$.

For example

$$3 \times 6 \pmod{15}$$

$$18 = 15(1) + 3$$

$$\text{Then } 3 \times 6 \pmod{15} = 3.$$

$$9 \times 9 \pmod{15}$$

$$81 = 15(5) + 6$$

$$\text{Then } 9 \times 9 \pmod{15} = 6$$

×	3	6	9	12
3	9	3	12	6
6	3	6	9	12
9	12	9	6	3
12	6	12	9	3

a) For identity: $e * a = a * e = a$.

The identity element is 6.

b) For inverse $a * a^{-1} = a^{-1} * a = e$.

Inverse of 3 is 12

Inverse of 6 is 6.

Inverse of 9 is 9.

Inverse of 12 is 3.

4) Results of Set $H = \{A; B; C; D\}$, under the binary operation $*$ is shown in the table below.

$*$	A	B	C	D
A	B	A	D	C
B	A	B	C	D
C	D	C	A	B
D	C	D	B	A

Use the table above to find

- a) The identity element.
- b) The inverse of each element.
- c) $A*B$
- d) $A*(B*C)$

Solution

a) For identity element $e * a = a * e = a$.

From the table, the operation of B and any element does not change the result i.e.

$$B * A = A$$

$$A * B = A$$

$$C * B = C$$

$$D * B = D$$

$\therefore$ The identity element is B .

b) For inverse element $a * a^{-1} = e$

The identity element is B .

$$A * A = B$$

$\therefore$ Inverse of A is A .

$$B * B = B$$

$\therefore$ Inverse of B is B .

$$C * D = B$$

$\therefore$ Inverse of C is D .

$$D * C = B$$

$\therefore$ Inverse of D is C .

c) $A * B = A$

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

5) Determine whether non-zero real numbers are associative under the operation $*$ defined by $a * b = 2ab + 1$ or not.

Solution

For associativity; $r * (q * y) = (r * q) * y$.

Using the formula $a * b = 2ab + 1$.

$$\text{LHS} = r * (q * y)$$

Considering $(q * y)$.

By comparison $q = a, y = b$, then

$$\begin{aligned} q * y &= 2(q)(y) + 1 \\ &= 2qy + 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$r * (q * y) = r * (2qy + 1)$$

By comparison $a = r, b = 2qy + 1$.

$$\begin{aligned} r * (2qy + 1) &= 2(r)(2qy + 1) + 1 \\ &= 4rqy + 2r + 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{RHS} = (r * q) * y$$

Considering $(r * q)$.

Using the formula $a * b = 2ab + 1$.

By comparison $a = r, b = q$.

$$r * q = 2(r)(q) + 1$$

$$= 2rq + 1$$

$$(r * q) * y = (2rq + 1) * y$$

By comparison $a = 2rq + 1, b = y$

$$(2rq + 1) * y = 2(2rq + 1)(y) + 1$$

$$= 4rky + 2y + 1$$

LHS $\neq$ RHS

$\therefore$ Non zero numbers are not associative under binary operation $*$.

6) Given that $a * b = a + 2b, \forall a, b \in \mathbb{Q}$. Determine whether that $(\mathbb{Q}; *)$ possess an identity element.

Solution

$$a * b = a + 2b, \forall a, b \in \mathbb{Q}$$

For identity element $a * e = e * a = a$

$$\text{LHS} = a * e = a$$

$$a + 2e = a$$

$$2e = 0$$

$$e = 0$$

$$e + 2a = a$$

$$e = a - 2a$$

$$e = -a$$

LHS $\neq$ RHS

$\therefore (\mathbb{Q}; *)$ does not possess an identity element.

7) $*$ is defined on $\mathbb{R}$ by $a * b = 2a + b - 1 \forall a, b \in \mathbb{R}$. If a^{-1} denotes the inverse element and e denotes the identity element of the operation $(*)$, show that $a^{-1} = 2\left(\frac{e+1}{2} - a\right)$.

Solution

For inverse element: $a * a^{-1} = e$.

Using the formula $a * b = 2a + b - 1$.

By comparison $a = a, b = a^{-1}$.

$$a * a^{-1} = 2a + a^{-1} - 1 = e$$

$$2a + a^{-1} - 1 = e$$

$$a^{-1} = e + 1 - 2a$$

$$a^{-1} = 2\left(\frac{e+1}{2} - 2a\right) \text{ (Shown).}$$

8) Prove that non zero integers are associative under the operation $*$ defined by $a * b = a + b$.

Solution

For associative; $r * (q * y) = (r * q) * y$.

$$\text{LHS} = r * (q * y).$$

Considering $(q * y)$.

Using the formula $a * b = a + b$.

By comparison $a = q, b = y$.

$$q * y = q + y$$

$$r * (q * y) = r * (q + y)$$

By comparison $= r, b = q + y$.

$$r * (q + y) = r + q + y$$

$$\text{RHS} = (r * q) * y$$

Considering $(r * q)$.

Using the formula $a * b = a + b$.

By comparison $a = r, b = q$.

$$r * q = r + q$$

$$(r * q) * y = (r + q) * y$$

By comparison $a = r + q, b = y$.

$$(r * q) * y = r + q + y$$

$$\text{LHS} = \text{RHS}$$

$\therefore$ Non zero integers are associative under the operation $*$.

9) Given that $I = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ and $H = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$. Compile a Cayley table for I and H under multiplication.

Solution

$$\begin{aligned} II &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

$$II = I$$

$$\begin{aligned} IH &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} 1+0 & 0+0 \\ 0+0 & 0-1 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

$$IH = H$$

$\times$	I	H
I	I	H
H	H	I

10) Use the table below to answer the following questions.

	J	M	N	P	Q	R
J	J	M	N	P	Q	R
M	M	N	J	R	P	Q
N	N	J	M	Q	R	P
P	P	Q	R	J	M	N
Q	Q	R	P	N	J	M
R	R	P	Q	M	N	J

a) Solve the following equations.

i) $Py = M$

ii) $Qx = N$

iii) $yN = R$

b) Simplify the following

i) QR

ii) NM

iii) $M(QN)$

iv) $(RQ)(PN)$

c) Write down the identity element.

d) Find all elements which are self-inverse.

Solution

a) Using the table to solve;

i) $Py = M$

From the table $PQ = M$.

$\therefore y = Q$

ii) $Qx = N$

From the table $QP = N$.

$\therefore x = P$

iii) $yN = R$

From the table $PN = R$.

$$\therefore y = P$$

b) Using the table to simplify;

i) $QR = M$

ii) $NM = J$

iii) $M(QN)$ ----- Firstly simplify brackets.

$$M(QR) = MM$$

$$= N$$

iv) $(RQ)(PN)$ -----Simplify brackets at first.

$$(RQ)(PN) = NR$$

$$= P$$

c) For identity element : $a * e = e * a = a$.

Using the table to check.

$$JM = MJ = M$$

$$JN = NJ = N$$

$\therefore$ The identity element is J.

d) Self inverse elements are J, P, Q and R.