Math 128A, Wed Aug 26

- Use a laptop or desktop with a large screen so you can read these words clearly.
- In general, please turn off your camera and mute yourself.
- Exception: When we do groupwork, please turn both your camera and mic on. (Groupwork will not be recorded.)
- Please always have the chat window open to ask questions.
- Reading for today: Ch. 2. Reading for Mon: Ch. 3.
- PS01 due tonight, 11pm; PS02 outline due Mon Aug 31.
- Next problem session Fri Aug 28, 10:00-noon on Zoom.

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but I am usually flexible with deadlines if you need a little time. (Exception: Please get outlines in on time.) After Labor Day, outlines due on Wed, complete on Mon.





Definition of group



Formal definition of binary operation:

A binary operation on G is a function * : G x G -> G.

Instead of writing *(a,b), write a*b.

- Or: If * is multiplication-like, write ab.
- Or: If * is addition-like, write a+b.

Can rewrite axioms of a group in any of these notations:

Eg., assoc becomes (a+b)+c = a+(b+c)

Examples coming from numbers



Integers Z under +

Assoc: (a+b)+c = a+(b+c); Identity: 0; Inverse of a is -a.

Integers relatively prime to *n* under multiplication (mod *n*)
Notn is usual multiplicative notn.

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Non-examples coming from numbers



Set = Z, operation = multiplication: This does not have inverses for all elements, so is not a group. (Note: Some elements, namely, +/- 1, have inverses, but not all do, so inverse axiom fails.)

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An important example from linear algebra, and variations

Recall: A square matrix has an inverse iff det not 0. The group $GL(2, \mathbb{R})$: Set is 2×2 matrices A with det $A \neq 0$ Operation is matrix multiplication Can change \mathbb{R} to \mathbb{Q} , \mathbb{C} , \mathbb{Z}_p (p prime). Add extra condition det A = 1, get $SL(2, \mathbb{R})$.

From linear algebra, you know that $AB \neq BA$ in general: These are **non-Abelian** groups.

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Dihedral groups D_n

Look at Cayley table for D_6 . Where can you see:

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- Identity?
- Inverse?
- What other patterns do you notice?

Uniqueness of the identity

Theorem

G a group. If e, e' are both identity elements for G, then e = e'.

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Cancellation (Sudoku) property

Theorem

G a group. If ab = ac, then b = c.

(l.e., same entry can't appear twice in the row of Cayley table corresponding to a.)

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Uniqueness of inverses

Theorem

G a group, $a \in G$. If b and b' are both inverses of a, then b = b'.

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