

Exercise 1.

(a) Write down the definition of a group. [5 points]

A group  $G$  consists of a set of elements and a binary operation " $\cdot$ " that relates two elements of the group to a third.

The axioms for a group are:

(A1) For all elements  $x$  and  $y$  we have  $x \cdot y \in G$ .

(A2) The binary operation is associative:  $\forall x, y, z \in G$

$$(x \cdot y) \cdot z = x \cdot (y \cdot z)$$

(A3) There is a special element  $e \in G$  s.t.  $x \cdot e = x \quad \forall x \in G$ .

The element  $e$  is called the identity of  $G$ .

(A4) Given  $x \in G$ , there is an element  $x^{-1} \in G$  s.t.  $x \cdot x^{-1} = e$ .

The element  $x^{-1}$  is called the inverse to  $x$ .

(b) Let  $G$  be the set of invertible functions  $\mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , with  $\circ$  given by composition of functions. [10 points]

Prove that this is a model for the above axiomatic system.

(i): Associativity:

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

$$(f \circ (g \circ h))(x) = f((g \circ h)(x)) = f(g(h(x))) \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$\Rightarrow (f \circ g) \circ h = f \circ (g \circ h) \text{ as functions } \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}.$$

(ii) Identity:

$$\text{let } e = \text{id}_{\mathbb{R}} : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \quad \text{H is an invertible function,} \\ x \mapsto x.$$

and if  $f \in G$  is any element,

$$(f \circ e)(x) = f(e(x)) = f(x) \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$\Rightarrow f \circ e = f \text{ as required.}$$

(iii) Inverses:

each element  $f \in G$  has an inverse  $f^{-1} \in G$  by definition of  $G$ .

iv: Closure under  $\circ$  (Axiom A1)

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If  $f, g \in G$ , it is clear that  $f \circ g: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .

But we need to check that  $f \circ g$  has an inverse.

Note that  $f, g$  each have inverses  $f^{-1}$  and  $g^{-1}$ .

Claim:  $g^{-1} \circ f^{-1}$  is an inverse for  $f \circ g$ .

$$\begin{aligned}(g^{-1} \circ f^{-1}) \circ (f \circ g) &= ((g^{-1} \circ f^{-1}) \circ f) \circ g && \text{by associativity} \\ &= (g^{-1} \circ (f^{-1} \circ f)) \circ g && \text{by associativity} \\ &= (g^{-1} \circ e) \circ g && \text{since } f^{-1} \circ f = e \\ &= g^{-1} \circ g && \text{since } g^{-1} \circ e = g^{-1} \\ &= e\end{aligned}$$

Likewise  $(f \circ g) \circ (g^{-1} \circ f^{-1}) = e$

Exercise 2:

(a) Let  $G$  be a group, and suppose  $x, y, z \in G$  satisfy  $x \cdot z = y \cdot z$ . Show that  $x = y$ . [5 points]

$x \cdot z = y \cdot z \Rightarrow (x \cdot z) \cdot z^{-1} = (y \cdot z) \cdot z^{-1}$

But  $(x \cdot z) \cdot z^{-1} = x(z \cdot z^{-1})$  by associativity  
 $= x \cdot e$  by property of inverses  
 $= x$  by property of identity

and likewise  $(y \cdot z) \cdot z^{-1} = y$

$\therefore x = y$  as claimed.

(b) If  $x \in G$ ,  $x \cdot e = e \cdot x$ . [5 points]

By (a), it suffices to show that  $(x \cdot e) \cdot x^{-1} = (e \cdot x) \cdot x^{-1}$ .

But  $(x \cdot e) \cdot x^{-1} = x \cdot x^{-1}$  by property of  $e$   
 $= e$

and  $(e \cdot x) \cdot x^{-1} = e(x \cdot x^{-1})$  by associativity  
 $= e \cdot e$  by property of inverses  
 $= e$  by property of  $e$ .

$\therefore$  the claim holds.

(c) The identity element is unique.

[5 points]

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proof: Suppose  $\exists$  an element  $e' \in G$  s.t.  $x \cdot e' = x \quad \forall x \in G$   
we want to show that  $e' = e$

•  $e \cdot e' = e$  by definition of  $e'$

But also  $e \cdot e' = e' \cdot e$  by (b)  
 $= e'$  by definition of  $e$ .

$\therefore e = e'$  as claimed.

Exercise 3:  $S, P \subseteq S \times S$  s.t.

(1) if  $(a,b) \in P$ ,  $(b,a) \notin P$

(2) if  $(a,b), (b,c) \in P$ ,  $(a,c) \in P$ .

(a) Let  $S_1 = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ ,  $P_1 = \{(1,2), (2,3), (1,3)\}$  [5 points]  
Is this a model for the system?

Yes. We can show that the axioms hold.

(1) if  $(a,b) \in P$  we need to show  $(b,a) \notin P$ .

•  $(a,b) = (1,2) \Rightarrow (2,1) \notin P$

•  $(a,b) = (2,3) \Rightarrow (3,2) \notin P$

•  $(a,b) = (1,3) \Rightarrow (3,1) \notin P$ .

So axiom 1 holds.

(2) we need to look at pairs  $(a,b), (b,c) \in P$ .

The only such pair is  $(1,2)$  and  $(2,3)$ .

the axiom says that  $(1,3)$  should be in  $P$ , and it is.

(b) Let  $S_2 = \mathbb{R}$ ,  $P_2 = \{(x,y) \mid x < y\}$ . Is this a model? [5 points]

Yes. We check the axioms again.

(1) if  $(a,b) \in P_2$ , then  $a < b$ , so  $b \not< a$ , and hence  $(b,a) \notin P_2$ .

(2) if  $(a,b), (b,c) \in P_2$ , then  $a < b$ ,  $b < c$ ,

so  $a < c$ , and hence  $(a,c) \in P_2$ .

(c) Use this to argue that the axiomatic system is not complete. [5 points] 4

We can add a third axiom which is independent from the first two and also consistent with them:

e.g. (A3) there are only finitely many elements of  $S$ .

\* the model  $(S_1, P_1)$  satisfies this axiom, but the model  $(S_2, P_2)$  does not.