

4&5 Binary Operations and Relations. The Integers. (part I)

4.1: Binary Operations

DEFINITION 1. A **binary operation** $*$ on a nonempty set A is a function from $A \times A$ to A .

Addition, subtraction, multiplication are binary operations on \mathbf{Z} .

Addition is a binary operation on \mathbf{Q} because

Division is NOT a binary operation on \mathbf{Z} because

Division is a binary operation on

- To prove that $*$ is a binary operation on a set A
- To show that $*$ is not a binary operation on a set A

Classification of binary operations by their properties

Associative and Commutative Laws

DEFINITION 2. A binary operation $*$ on A is **associative** if

$$\forall a, b, c \in A, \quad (a * b) * c = a * (b * c).$$

A binary operation $*$ on A is **commutative** if

$$\forall a, b \in A, \quad a * b = b * a.$$

EXAMPLE 3. Using symbols complete the following

(a) A binary operation $*$ on A is not **associative** if

(b) A binary operation $*$ on A is not **commutative** if

Identities

DEFINITION 4. If $*$ is a binary operation on A , an element $e \in A$ is an **identity element** of A w.r.t $*$ if

$$\forall a \in A, \quad a * e = e * a = a.$$

EXAMPLE 5. (a) 1 is an identity element for \mathbf{Z} , \mathbf{Q} and \mathbf{R} w.r.t. multiplication.

(b) 0 is an identity element for \mathbf{Z} , \mathbf{Q} and \mathbf{R} w.r.t. addition.

Inverses

DEFINITION 6. Let $*$ be a binary operation on A with identity e , and let $a \in A$. We say that a is **invertible** w.r.t. $*$ if there exists $b \in A$ such that

$$a * b = b * a = e.$$

If b exists, we say that b is an **inverse** of a w.r.t. $*$ and write $b = a^{-1}$.

Note, inverses may or may not exist.

EXAMPLE 7. Every $x \in \mathbf{Z}$ has inverse w.r.t. addition because

$$\forall x \in \mathbf{Z}, \quad x + (-x) = (-x) + x = 0.$$

However, very few elements in \mathbf{Z} have multiplicative inverses. Namely,

EXAMPLE 8. Let $*$ be an operation on \mathbf{Z} defined by

$$\forall a, b \in \mathbf{Z}, \quad a * b = a + 3b - 1.$$

(a) Prove that the operation is binary.

(b) Determine whether the operation is associative and/or commutative. Prove your answers.

(c) Determine whether the operation has identities.

(d) Discuss inverses.

EXAMPLE 9. Let $*$ be an operation on the power set $P(A)$ defined by

$$\forall X, Y \in P(A), \quad X * Y = X \cap Y.$$

(a) Prove that the operation is binary.

(b) Determine whether the operation is associative and/or commutative. Prove your answers.

(c) Determine whether the operation has identities.

(d) Discuss inverses.

EXAMPLE 10. Let $*$ be an operation on $F(A)$ defined by

$$\forall f, g \in F(A), \quad f * g = f \circ g.$$

(a) Prove that the operation is binary.

(b) Determine whether the operation is associative and/or commutative.

(c) Determine whether the operation has identities.

(d) Discuss inverses.

PROPOSITION 11. Let $*$ be a binary operation on a nonempty set A . If e is an identity element on A then e is unique.

Proof.

PROPOSITION 12. Let $*$ be an associative binary operation on a nonempty set A with the identity e , and if $a \in A$ has an inverse element w.r.t. $*$, then this inverse element is unique.

Proof.

Closure

DEFINITION 13. Let $*$ be a binary operation on a nonempty set A , and suppose that $S \subseteq A$. If $*$ is also a binary operation on S then we say that S is closed in A under $*$.

EXAMPLE 14. Let $*$ be a binary operation on A and let $S \subseteq A$. Using symbols complete the following

(a) S is closed in A under $*$ if and only if

(a) S is not closed in A under $*$ if

EXAMPLE 15. Determine whether the following subsets of \mathbf{Z} are closed in \mathbf{Z} under addition and multiplication.

(a) \mathbf{Z}^+

(b) \mathbf{E}

(c) \mathbf{O}

5.1: The Integers: Axioms and Basic Properties

Operations on the set of integers, \mathbf{Z} : *addition* and *multiplication* with the following properties:

A1. Addition is **associative**:

A2. Addition is **commutative**:

A3. \mathbf{Z} has an **identity** element with respect to addition namely, the integer 0.

A4. Every integer x in \mathbf{Z} has an **inverse** w.r.t. addition, namely, its negative $-x$:

A5. Multiplication is **associative**:

A6. Multiplication is **commutative**:

A7. \mathbf{Z} has an **identity** element with respect to multiplication namely, the integer 1. (and $1 \neq 0$.)

A8. Distributive Law:

REMARK 16. We do not prove A1-A8. We take them as **axioms**: statements we *assume* to be true about the integers.

We use xy instead $x \cdot y$ and $x - y$ instead $x + (-y)$.

PROPOSITION 17. *Let $a, b, c \in \mathbf{Z}$.*

P1. *If $a + b = a + c$ then $b = c$. (cancellation law for addition)*

P2. $a \cdot 0 = 0 \cdot a = 0$.

P3. $(-a)b = a(-b) = -(ab)$

P4. $-(-a) = a$

P5. $(-a)(-b) = ab$

P6. $a(b - c) = ab - ac$

P7. $(-1)a = -a$

P8. $(-1)(-1) = 1$.

Proof

\mathbf{Z} contains a subset \mathbf{Z}^+ , called the **positive integers**, that has the following properties:

A9. Closure property: \mathbf{Z}^+ is closed w.r.t. addition and multiplication:

A10. Trichotomy Law: for all $x \in \mathbf{Z}$ exactly one is true:

PROPOSITION 18. *If $x \in \mathbf{Z}$, $x \neq 0$, then $x^2 \in \mathbf{Z}^+$.*

Proof.

COROLLARY 19. $\mathbf{Z}^+ = \{1, 2, 3, \dots, n, n + 1, \dots\}$

Proof.

Inequalities (the order relation less than)

DEFINITION 20. For $x, y \in \mathbf{Z}$, $x < y$ if and only $y - x \in \mathbf{Z}^+$.

REMARK 21. If $x < y$, we can also write $y > x$. We can also write $x \leq y$ if $x < y$ or $x = y$. Similarly, $y \geq x$ if $y > x$ or $y = x$.

Note that $\mathbf{Z}^+ = \{n \in \mathbf{Z} | n > 0\}$.

EXAMPLE 22. Let $x, y \in \mathbf{Z}$. Using symbols complete the following

- $x < y \Leftrightarrow$
- $x > y \Leftrightarrow$
- $x < 0 \Leftrightarrow$
- $x > 0 \Leftrightarrow$

PROPOSITION 23. Let $a, b \in \mathbf{Z}$.

Q1. Exactly one of the following holds: $a < b$, $b < a$, or $a = b$.

Q2. If $a > 0$ then $-a < 0$; if $a < 0$ then $-a > 0$.

Q3. If $a > 0$ and $b > 0$ then $a + b > 0$ and $ab > 0$.

Q4. If $a > 0$ and $b < 0$ then $ab < 0$.

Q5. If $a < 0$ and $b < 0$ then $ab > 0$.

Proof.

PROPOSITION 24. *Let $a, b, c \in \mathbf{Z}$.*

Q6. *If $a < b$ and $b < c$ then $a < c$.*

Q7. *If $a < b$ and $a + c < b + c$.*

Q8. *If $a < b$ and $c > 0$ then $ac < bc$.*

Q9. *If $a < b$ and $c < 0$ then $ac > bc$.*

A11. The Well Ordering Principle Every nonempty subset on \mathbf{Z}^+ has a smallest element; that is, if S is a nonempty subset of \mathbf{Z}^+ , then there exists $a \in S$ such that $a \leq x$ for all $x \in S$.

PROPOSITION 25. *There is no integer x such that $0 < x < 1$.*

Proof.

COROLLARY 26. *1 is the smallest element of \mathbf{Z}^+ .*

COROLLARY 27. *The only integers having multiplicative inverses in \mathbf{Z} are ± 1 .*

5.2: Induction¹

THEOREM 28. (First Principle of Mathematical Induction) *Let $P(n)$ be a statement about the positive integer n . Suppose that $P(1)$ is true. Whenever k is a positive integer for which $P(k)$ is true, then $P(k + 1)$ is true. Then $P(n)$ is true for every positive integer n .*

Proof.

Paradox: All horses are of the same color.

Question: What's wrong in the following "proof" of G. Pólya?

$P(n)$: Let $n \in \mathbf{Z}^+$. Within any set of n horses, there is only one color.

Basic Step. If there is only one horse, there is only one color.

Induction Hypothesis. Assume that within any set of k horses, there is only one color.

Inductive step. Prove that within any set of $k + 1$ horses, there is only one color.

Indeed, look at any set of $k + 1$ horses. Number them: $1, 2, 3, \dots, k, k + 1$. Consider the subsets $\{1, 2, 3, \dots, k\}$ and $\{2, 3, 4, \dots, k + 1\}$. Each is a set of only k horses, therefore within each there is only one color. But the two sets overlap, so there must be only one color among all $k + 1$ horses.

¹see also Chapter 1(Part III)