

~~10101010~~ B.Sc Part II (Hons) 15104129  
Math. Paper III DR. ANJANI KUMAR SINGH.

Topic - Different ways of defining a group and their equivalence.

Theorem :- Define group in two different ways and show their equivalency.

Solution: - <sup>1st way -</sup> Let  $G$  be a non-empty set,  $\circ$  be any binary operation then the system  $(G, \circ)$  is called group iff following laws hold.

- (i) closure law:  $\forall a, b \in G$  such that  $a \circ b \in G$
- (ii) Associative law:  $\forall a, b, c \in G$ , such that

$$(a \circ b) \circ c = a \circ (b \circ c)$$

(iii) Existence of identity:  $\forall a \in G, a \circ e = e \circ a = a$

(iv) Existence of inverse:  $\forall a \in G, a \circ a^{-1} = a^{-1} \circ a = e$

2nd way - A system  $(G, \circ)$  where  $\circ$  is binary operation is said to be group ~~iff~~ if following postulates hold:

- (i) closure law:  $\forall a, b \in G$  then  $a \circ b \in G$
- (ii) Associative law:  $\forall a, b, c \in G$  then  $(a \circ b) \circ c = a \circ (b \circ c)$
- (iii) Uniqueness of solution: - The equations  $a \circ x = b$

and  $y \circ a = b$  have unique solution in  $G \forall a, b \in G$ .

Equivalence of two definitions: We observe that law (i) and (ii) of 1st definition and 2nd definition are similar. For a group  $(G, \circ)$  if  $a, b \in G$  then there exist a left element  $x \in G$  such that  $a \circ x = b$  and for  $y \in G$  such that

$g \circ g = b$  i.e. law (iii) of 2nd definition.

Thus we arrive in a position that the postulates of the second definition have been derived from the postulates of the first definition. We remain to derive the postulates of 1st definition assumption of 2nd definition.

From the (i) and (ii) law of 2nd def we get (i) and (ii) of 1st definition.

So we have to derive (iii) and (iv) laws of 1st definition from the laws of second definition.

From (iii) laws of 2nd definition there exists  $x_1, x_2$  such that

$$x_1 \circ g = a \text{ and } g \circ x_1 = a \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

$$\text{Also } \exists x_3, x_4, g \circ x_2 = b \text{ and } x_4 \circ a = b \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

where  $b \in Y$

We have

$$b \circ x_1 = (x_4 \circ a) \circ x_1 \quad \text{by (2)}$$

$$= x_4 \circ (a \circ x_1) \quad \text{by (i)}$$

$$= x_4 \circ a \quad \text{by (1)}$$

$$\Rightarrow b \circ x_1 = b \quad \text{(by (2))}$$

Now taking  $x_2$  for  $b$  as  $b$  is

arbitrary

$$\Rightarrow x_2 \circ x_1 = x_2 \quad \text{--- (3)}$$

We have by (2)

$$x_2 \circ b = x_2 \circ (g \circ x_3) \quad \text{--- by (ii)}$$

$$= (x_2 \circ g) \circ x_3 \quad \text{--- by (1)}$$

$$= g \circ x_3 \quad \text{--- by (2)}$$

$$\Rightarrow x_2 \circ b = b, \text{ taking } x_1 = b \text{ as } b \text{ is arbitrary}$$

$$\therefore x_2 \circ x_1 = x_1 \quad \text{--- (4)}$$

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By eqn (3) and (4)

$$x_1 = x_2 = x_2 \circ x_1 = e \text{ (Say)}$$

With regards to (iii) this is unique

$$\text{So by (i), } a \circ e = e \circ a = a$$

$\therefore e$  is the unique identity element in  $G$   
i.e. identity law of first definition.

Lastly by (iii) suppose  $c$  is the unique solution of  
 $a \circ c = e$  (where  $e$  is identity element)

$$\Rightarrow a \circ c = e \quad \text{--- (5)}$$

and if  $d$  is the unique solution of  
 $x \circ a = e$

$$\Rightarrow d \circ a = e \quad \text{--- (6)}$$

$$\Rightarrow (d \circ a) \circ c = e \circ c$$

$$\Rightarrow d \circ (a \circ c) = c \text{ (By associativity and } c \text{ is identity)}$$

$$\Rightarrow d \circ e = c \text{ by (5)}$$

$$\Rightarrow d = c$$

So by (5) and (6)

$$a \circ c = c \circ a = e$$

$\therefore c$  is the inverse element of  $a$ . Thus every  
every element of  $G$  has an inverse element.

So by supposition of 2nd definition, we  
find all postulates of first definition satisfied  
by  $G$  under the operation  $\circ$ .

$\therefore (G, \circ)$  is a group.

So the two definitions of a group are equivalent.