

Structured Sets

CS1200, CSE IIT Madras

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Structured Sets

- Relational Structures
 - Properties and closures ✓
 - Equivalence Relations ✓
 - Partially Ordered Sets (Posets) and Lattices ✓
- Algebraic Structures
 - Groups and Rings

Binary Operator: Example 1

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redT	ball	car
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- A binary operator tells how two elements are “combined” to get output!
- A binary operator from $A \times A$ to A is called closed.

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Say, we have two possibilities of hair color for the parents *light* and *dark*.

Following is the way in which the hair color of the child is determined.

	Father		
		<i>light</i>	<i>dark</i>
Mother			
	<i>light</i>	<i>light</i>	<i>dark</i>
	<i>dark</i>	<i>dark</i>	<i>dark</i>

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- The above is a function from $A \times A$ to A where $A = \{light, dark\}$
- Note that in this case the binary operator is closed.
- Typical to represent $f(a, b)$ as " $a \mathbf{f} b$ " or use one of the symbols like \cdot or $*$ and write $a \cdot b$ or $a * b$

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\cdot	<i>redT</i>	<i>blueT</i>
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<i>redT</i>	<i>ball</i>	<i>car</i>
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$*$	<i>light</i>	<i>dark</i>
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- Z^+ along with the addition $+$ and multiplication \cdot form an algebraic system $(Z^+, +, \cdot)$.
- Let \diamond be a binary operator which is 1 if the $a + b$ is even and 0 otherwise. Let Δ denote the ternary operator which gives maximum of three integers a, b, c . Then (Z^+, \diamond, Δ) form an algebraic system.

Semi-group

Let $*$ be a binary operator on a set A .

The operator $*$ is **associative** if for all p, q, r in A , we have:

$$(p * q) * r = p * (q * r)$$

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- Let $A = \{\dots, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, \dots\}$.

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- Let $A = \{\dots, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, \dots\}$. The operator is subtraction "-". Then $(A, -)$ is **not** a semi-group

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Identity Elements

$(A, *)$ is an algebraic system where $*$ is a binary operator.

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- What if $e * a$ and $a * e$ are not the same? Note that “*” may not be commutative.
- Can there be multiple identity elements?

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Claim 1: If e_1 is a left identity for $(A, *)$, then e_1 is also a right identity.

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- $(\{2, 4, 6, 8, \dots\}, +)$ is a sub-group but not a monoid.

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Qn: Can left inverse and right inverse be different?

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This shows that c is the right inverse of b . Hence proved.

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- **Ref:** Elements of Discrete Mathematics, C. L. Liu, Section 11.1, 11.2.