

In the last few investigations, you may have noticed that many of the algebras we have constructed share a lot of the same structural features. In this investigation, we will explore this fact.

**Problem 1.** Consider the general linear group  $GL_2 = (M_2, *)$  of  $2 \times 2$  invertible matrices under matrix multiplication. In particular, consider the matrix

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

**Part (a).** The set  $\text{Pow}[A]$  contains six distinct members. Determine these members.

$$A^2 = \qquad \qquad \qquad A^3 = \qquad \qquad \qquad A^4 =$$

$$A^5 = \qquad \qquad \qquad A^6 =$$

**Part (b).** Use your matrices to fill in the operation table for the algebra  $(\text{Pow}[A], *)$ .

*	$A$	$A^2$	$A^3$	$A^4$	$A^5$	$A^6$
$A$						
$A^2$						
$A^3$						
$A^4$						
$A^5$						
$A^6$						

**Part (c).** Did you really need the formulas for the powers of  $A$  from Part (a) in order to fill in this table? Explain your thinking.

**Part (d).** Do you think the algebra  $(\text{Pow}[A], *)$  has the same “structure” as the group  $\mathcal{Z}_6 = (\mathbb{Z}_6, \boxplus_6)$ ? What leads you to your conclusion?

**Problem 2.** The operation tables for the triangle symmetries group  $\mathcal{S}_\Delta = (\mathcal{S}_\Delta, *)$  and cross-ratio group  $(CR, \circ)$  are shown below.

**Part (a).** In the empty table provided, rearrange the elements of the cross-ratio group so that the patterns presented in its table exactly match the patterns in the symmetries table.

*	<i>RRR</i>	<i>RR</i>	<i>R</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>FR</i>	<i>FRR</i>
<i>RRR</i>	<i>RRR</i>	<i>RR</i>	<i>R</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>FR</i>	<i>FRR</i>
<i>RR</i>	<i>RR</i>	<i>R</i>	<i>RRR</i>	<i>FR</i>	<i>FRR</i>	<i>F</i>
<i>R</i>	<i>R</i>	<i>RRR</i>	<i>RR</i>	<i>FRR</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>FR</i>
<i>F</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>FRR</i>	<i>FR</i>	<i>RRR</i>	<i>R</i>	<i>RR</i>
<i>FR</i>	<i>FR</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>FRR</i>	<i>RR</i>	<i>RRR</i>	<i>R</i>
<i>FRR</i>	<i>FRR</i>	<i>FR</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>R</i>	<i>RR</i>	<i>RRR</i>

$\circ$	$\varepsilon$	$q$	$r$	$s$	$t$	$u$
$\varepsilon$	$\varepsilon$	$q$	$r$	$s$	$t$	$u$
$q$	$q$	$\varepsilon$	$u$	$t$	$s$	$r$
$r$	$r$	$s$	$\varepsilon$	$q$	$u$	$t$
$s$	$s$	$r$	$t$	$u$	$q$	$\varepsilon$
$t$	$t$	$u$	$s$	$r$	$\varepsilon$	$q$
$u$	$u$	$t$	$q$	$\varepsilon$	$r$	$s$

$\circ$						

**Part (b).** Explain the strategies you used to determine your arrangement.

**Isomorphic Groups**

Suppose that  $\mathcal{X} = (X, *)$  and  $\mathcal{Y} = (Y, \odot)$  are groups. We say these groups are *isomorphic* provided they have exactly the same structure. The group  $\mathcal{Y}$  is isomorphic to  $\mathcal{X}$  when it is possible to arrange the members of  $Y$  so that they relate to each other under the  $\odot$  operation in exactly the same way as the members of  $X$  under the  $*$  operation.

The triangle symmetries and cross-ratio groups are isomorphic, as are the groups  $\mathcal{Z}_6$  and  $(\text{Pow}[A], *)$  from Problem 1.

**Problem 3.** Do you think that the triangle symmetries group  $\mathcal{S}_\Delta = (S_\Delta, *)$  is isomorphic to the group  $\mathcal{Z}_6 = (\mathbb{Z}_6, \boxplus_6)$ ? Explain your thinking.

**Problem 4.** In Homework Problem 5 of Investigation 3 you worked with the rectangle symmetries group. The operation table for this group along with the operation table for  $\mathcal{Z}_4$  is shown below.

$*$	$R$	$F$	$RR$	$RF$
$R$	$RR$	$RF$	$R$	$F$
$F$	$RF$	$RR$	$F$	$R$
$RR$	$R$	$F$	$RR$	$RF$
$RF$	$F$	$R$	$RF$	$RR$

$\boxplus_4$	$0$	$1$	$2$	$3$
$0$	$0$	$1$	$2$	$3$
$1$	$1$	$2$	$3$	$0$
$2$	$2$	$3$	$0$	$1$
$3$	$3$	$0$	$1$	$2$

Are these groups isomorphic? Explain your thinking.

**Problem 5.** Think about the rearrangement of the cross-ratio set  $CR$  you constructed in Problem 2. In a sense, you “renamed” the members of the set  $CR$  as certain members of the set  $S_\Delta$ .

**Part (a).** Define a function  $f : CR \rightarrow S_\Delta$  which accomplishes your “renaming.”

$$f(\varepsilon) = \quad f(q) = \quad f(r) = \quad f(s) = \quad f(t) = \quad f(u) =$$

**Part (b).** Are any of the following equations valid?

$$f(r \circ t) = f(r) * f(t) \qquad f(u \circ q) = f(u) * f(q) \qquad f(s \circ r) = f(s) * f(r)$$

$$f(s^3) = [f(s)]^3 \qquad f(u^{-1}) = [f(u)]^{-1}$$

***Isomorphism Between Groups***

Suppose that  $\mathcal{X} = (X, *)$  and  $\mathcal{Y} = (Y, \odot)$  are groups. An *isomorphism between  $\mathcal{X}$  and  $\mathcal{Y}$*  is a bijection  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  with the property that  $f(a * b) = f(a) \odot f(b)$  for all  $a, b \in X$ . Two groups are isomorphic if and only if there is an isomorphism between them.

It is common to say that an isomorphism between groups “preserves” the group operations.

**Problem 6.** Consider the bijections  $g : \text{Pow}[A] \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_6$  and  $h : \text{Pow}[A] \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_6$  defined below.

$$g(A) = 5 \quad g(A^2) = 2 \quad g(A^3) = 3 \quad g(A^4) = 4 \quad g(A^5) = 1 \quad g(A^6) = 0$$

$$h(A) = 5 \quad h(A^2) = 4 \quad h(A^3) = 3 \quad h(A^4) = 2 \quad h(A^5) = 1 \quad h(A^6) = 0$$

Is either of these functions an isomorphism? Justify your answer.

**Problem 7.** Is the group  $\mathcal{Z} = (\mathbb{Z}, +)$  of integers isomorphic to the group  $2\mathcal{Z} = (2\mathbb{Z}, +)$  of even integers? Justify your answer.

**Problem 8.** Let  $\mathcal{R}^p = (\mathbb{R}^+, \cdot)$  represent the group of positive real numbers under multiplication, and let  $\mathcal{R}_+ = (\mathbb{R}, +)$  denote the group of real numbers under addition. Consider the function  $f : \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  defined by  $f(x) = \ln(x)$ . Is this function an isomorphism between  $\mathcal{R}_+$  and  $\mathcal{R}^p$ ?

**Homework.**

**Problem 1.** Let  $\mathbb{Q}^*$  represent the set of nonzero rational numbers, and let  $\mathbb{Q}^+$  represent the set of positive rational numbers. Consider the groups  $\mathcal{Q}^* = (\mathbb{Q}^*, \cdot)$  and  $\mathcal{Q}^+ = (\mathbb{Q}^+, \cdot)$ , where  $\cdot$  is rational number multiplication, along with the function  $f : \mathbb{Q}^* \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}^+$  defined by  $f(x) = |x|$ .

**Part (a).** Does the function  $f$  preserve the group operation?

**Part (b).** Is the function  $f$  an isomorphism between these groups?

**Problem 2.** Let  $\mathbb{R}^*$  denote the set of nonzero real numbers, and consider the binary rule  $\sqcap$  defined by

$$a \sqcap b = \frac{ab}{4}$$

In Problem 1 of Investigation 5, you showed that  $\mathcal{R}^* = (\mathbb{R}^*, \sqcap)$  is a group. Let  $\mathcal{R} = (\mathbb{R}^*, \cdot)$  represent the group of nonzero real numbers under multiplication. Prove that the function  $f : \mathbb{R}^* \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^*$  defined by

$$f(x) = 4 \cdot x$$

is an isomorphism between these groups. (You have to be careful about which group  $f$  is taking you from.)

**Problem 3.** Consider the general linear group  $\mathbf{GL}_2 = (M_2, *)$  of  $2 \times 2$  invertible matrices under matrix multiplication. In Homework Problem 9 of Investigation 6, you showed that

$$\text{Pow} \left[ \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \right] = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 2^n & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} : n \in \mathbb{Z} \right\}$$

Prove that the group  $\left( \text{Pow} \left[ \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \right], * \right)$  is isomorphic to the group  $\mathcal{Z}$ .

**Problem 4.** Suppose that  $\mathcal{X} = (X, *)$  and  $\mathcal{Y} = (Y, \odot)$  are groups, and suppose that  $h : X \rightarrow Y$  is an isomorphism. Use the function to prove that, if  $\mathcal{X}$  is commutative, then  $\mathcal{Y}$  must also be commutative.

**Problem 5.** Suppose that  $\mathcal{X} = (X, *)$  and  $\mathcal{Y} = (Y, \odot)$  are groups, and suppose that  $h : X \rightarrow Y$  is an isomorphism. Also, suppose that  $\delta$  is the identity for the group  $\mathcal{Y}$ , and suppose that  $\varepsilon$  is the identity for the group  $\mathcal{X}$ .

**Part (a).** Use group properties and the fact that  $\varepsilon * \varepsilon = \varepsilon$  to help you prove  $h(\varepsilon) = \delta$ .

**Part (b).** Let  $a \in X$ . Use the fact that  $h(\varepsilon) = h(a * a^{-1})$  to help you prove that  $h(a^{-1})$  serves as the inverse for  $h(a)$  in the group  $\mathcal{Y}$ .

In light of Problem 5, we say that isomorphisms between groups *preserve* the identity and inverses.

**Problem 6.** Suppose that  $\mathcal{X} = (X, *)$  and  $\mathcal{Y} = (Y, \odot)$  are groups, and suppose that  $h : X \rightarrow Y$  is an isomorphism. Prove that the inverse function  $g : Y \rightarrow X$  for the function  $h$  is also an isomorphism. (Remember, if  $u \in Y$ , then there exist  $a \in X$  such that  $u = h(a)$  and  $a = g(u)$ .)

In the next exercise, we will prove the following result:

- Suppose that  $\mathcal{X} = (X, *)$  is a group. If  $a \in X$  has finite order  $n$ , then the group  $(\text{Pow}[A], *)$  is isomorphic to the group  $\mathcal{Z}_n$ .

**Problem 7.** Suppose that  $\mathcal{X} = (X, *)$  is a group and suppose  $a \in X$  has finite order  $n$ . Let  $\varepsilon$  be the identity for the group  $\mathcal{X}$ .

**Part (a).** If  $m$  is any integer, use the Division Algorithm to help prove that there exists a unique integer  $r \in \mathbb{Z}_n$  such that  $a^m = a^r$ .

**Part (b).** Suppose  $r, s \in \mathbb{Z}_n$  and suppose that  $r < s$ . Prove that  $a^r \neq a^s$ . (Assume the contrary and use the definition of finite order.)

Part (a) tells us  $\text{Pow}[A] = \{\varepsilon, a, \dots, a^{n-1}\}$ , and Part (b) tells us these elements are all distinct. Consequently,  $\text{Pow}[A]$  contains the same number of elements as does  $\mathbb{Z}_n$ . This tells us there is a bijection from  $\text{Pow}[A]$  to  $\mathbb{Z}_n$ . One such bijection is  $f : \text{Pow}[A] \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_n$  defined by  $f(a^r) = r$ .

**Part (c).** Prove this function is an isomorphism.