

In the next few exercises, we will consider the group \mathcal{S}_Δ of triangle symmetries. Here is the operation table for this group.

*	<i>RRR</i>	<i>RR</i>	<i>R</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>FR</i>	<i>F(RR)</i>
<i>RRR</i>	<i>RRR</i>	<i>RR</i>	<i>R</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>FR</i>	<i>F(RR)</i>
<i>RR</i>	<i>RR</i>	<i>R</i>	<i>RRR</i>	<i>FR</i>	<i>F(RR)</i>	<i>F</i>
<i>R</i>	<i>R</i>	<i>RRR</i>	<i>RR</i>	<i>F(RR)</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>FR</i>
<i>F</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>F(RR)</i>	<i>FR</i>	<i>RRR</i>	<i>R</i>	<i>RR</i>
<i>FR</i>	<i>FR</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>F(RR)</i>	<i>RR</i>	<i>RRR</i>	<i>R</i>
<i>F(RR)</i>	<i>F(RR)</i>	<i>FR</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>R</i>	<i>RR</i>	<i>RRR</i>

Problem 1. Identify all of the nonempty subsets of $\{R, RR, RRR, F, FR, F(RR)\}$ that are closed under the $*$ operation.

Problem 2. Consider the subsets you identified in Problem 1. Are there any features that they all have in common?

Problem 3. Consider the group $\mathcal{Z}_{12} = (\mathbb{Z}_{12}, \boxplus_{12})$. Identify all of the nonempty subsets of \mathbb{Z}_{12} that are closed under the operation.

Problem 4. Consider the subsets you identified in Problem 3. Are there any features that they all have in common?

Subgroup of a Group

Suppose that $\mathcal{X} = (X, *)$ is a group. We say that a subset H of the set X is a *subgroup* of the group \mathcal{X} provided the set H is a group in its own right under the operation $*$. In other words,

1. The set H is closed under the binary rule $*$.
2. There is an identity element for the set H under the operation $*$.
3. Every member of H has an inverse (relative to the identity for H) under the operation $*$.

Problem 5. Are the following statements true or false? Explain your answer.

- Every nonempty subset of triangle symmetries that is closed under the $*$ operation is a subgroup of the group \mathcal{S}_Δ .
- Every nonempty subset of \mathbb{Z}_{12} that is closed under the operation \boxplus_{12} is a subgroup of the group \mathcal{Z}_{12} .

Problem 6. Suppose that $\mathcal{X} = (X, *)$ is a group, and let $a \in X$. Is the set $\text{Pow}[a]$ a subgroup of \mathcal{X} ? Explain.

Problem 7. Consider the group $\mathcal{Z} = (\mathbb{Z}, +)$ of integers under addition.

Part (a). Is the set \mathbb{Z}^+ of positive integers closed under addition?

Part (b). Is the set \mathbb{Z}^+ a subgroup of \mathcal{Z} ? Explain.

Problem 8. Let $\mathcal{X} = (X, *)$ be any group, and suppose that $H \subseteq X$ is a subgroup of \mathcal{X} . Let ε be the identity for X under $*$, and let δ be the identity for H under $*$.

Part (a). Prove that we must have $\varepsilon = \delta$. (Hint: Let $a \in H$ and consider the equation $a * x = a$ in *both* groups.)

Part (b). Let $a \in H$, and suppose that a^{-1} represents the inverse for a in the group \mathcal{X} . Prove that $a^{-1} \in H$ as well.

Homework.

Problem 1. There are ten subgroups of the group \mathcal{S}_X of cross symmetries.

Part (a). Construct all ten of these subgroups.

Part (b). What is the *smallest* subgroup that contains both RR and F ?

Part (c). What is the *smallest* subgroup that contains both R and F ?

Problem 2. Consider the group $\mathcal{Z}_6 \times \mathcal{Z}_8$. What is the *smallest* subgroup of this group that contains both $(3,4)$ and $(0,6)$?

Problem 3. Consider the group $\mathcal{Z}_6 \times \mathcal{S}_X$. What is the *smallest* subgroup of this group that contains both $(3, F)$ and $(0, RR)$?

Problem 4. Let $\mathcal{X} = (X, *)$ be any group, and suppose that H is a nonempty subset of X . Furthermore, suppose that $a * b^{-1} \in H$ for all $a, b \in H$.

Part (a). Prove that the identity of \mathcal{X} is a member of H .

Part (b). Let $u \in H$. Use Part (a) to prove that $u^{-1} \in H$.

Part (c). Let $m, n \in H$. Use Part (b) to prove that $m * n \in H$.

Problem 2 is often called the *subgroup test* because it tells us that *if* we can show that a nonempty subset H of a group \mathcal{X} contains $a * b^{-1}$ for all $a, b \in H$, *then* we know that H is a subgroup of \mathcal{X} .

Problem 5. Consider the general linear group $GL_2 = (M_2, *)$ of 2×2 invertible matrices under matrix multiplication. Use the subgroup test to show that the following set is a subgroup of GL_2 .

$$H = \{A \in U_{2 \times 2} : \text{Det}(A) = 1\}$$

You may need to review the properties of matrix determinants from linear algebra.

Problem 6. Prove that the group $\mathcal{Z} = (\mathbb{Z}, +)$ is isomorphic to its subgroup $n\mathbb{Z}$ for any fixed positive integer n .

Problem 7. Consider the group $\mathcal{Z} = (\mathbb{Z}, +)$ along with any subgroup H of \mathbb{Z} that contains at least two elements.

Part (a). Explain why H must contain a positive integer.

Part (b). Let n be the *smallest* positive member of H . Explain why $n\mathbb{Z} \subseteq H$.

Part (c). Let $a \in H$. Use the Division Algorithm and Part (b) to explain why we must have $a = nk$ for some integer k . (Therefore, we know $H = n\mathbb{Z}$.)

A group $\mathcal{X} = (X, *)$ is *cyclic* provided $X = \text{Pow}[a]$ for some $a \in X$. Problem 7 tells us that the subsets $n\mathbb{Z}$ are the *only* subgroups of the group \mathcal{Z} . In particular, every subgroup of \mathcal{Z} is cyclic.