

Lec 01

# GROUP THEORY

For B.Sc, B.C.A, B.Sc(I.T)

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# 1. GROUP STRUCTURE

An algebraic structure is a set of elements (the carrier of the structure) with an operation (equally denoted application) that matches any two members of the set uniquely onto a third member. The specificity of an algebraic structure is given by the axioms that it satisfies. One of the most basic algebraic structures is the group.

## (1.1) Definition.

**Definition 1.1:** If  $G$  is a nonempty set, a binary operation  $*$  on  $G$  is a function  $*$  :  $G \times G \rightarrow G$ .

**Definition 1.2:** A binary operation  $*$  on set  $G$  is associative if

$$(a * b) * c = a * (b * c), \text{ for all } a; b; c \in G.$$

**Definition 1.3:** A group  $(G; *)$  is a set  $G$  with a special element  $e$  on which an associative binary operation  $*$  is defined that satisfies:

1.  $e * a = a$  for all  $a \in G$ ;
2. for every  $a \in G$ , there is an element  $b \in G$  such that  $b * a = e$ .

## Definition of Group

A **group** is a couple  $(G, *)$  where:

- 1)  $G$  is a set
- 2)  $*$  is an application,  $*$  :  $G \times G \rightarrow G$ , [i.e.  $(G, *)$  is closure property]
- 3)  $\forall a, b, c \in G$ , the relation  $a*(b*c)=(a*b)*c$  is fulfilled [Associative Property]
- 4)  $\exists e \in G$  such that  $\forall a \in G$ , the relation  $(e*a) = (a*e) = a$  is fulfilled [Identity property, where  $e$  is called identity element]
- 5)  $\forall a \in G$ ,  $\exists b \in G$  such that  $a*b=b*a=e$ , where  $b$  is called inverse of  $a$  or vice versa.

1.2 Some properties are unique.

**Lemma 1.2.1.** If  $(G, *)$  is a group and  $a \in G$ , then  $a*a = a$  implies  $a = e$ .

**Proof.** Suppose  $a \in G$  satisfies  $a*a = a$  and let  $b \in G$  be such that  $b*a = e$ . Then  $b * (a * a) = b * a$  and thus

$$a = e * a = (b * a) * a = b * (a * a) = b * a = e.$$

**Lemma 1.2.2.** *In a group  $(G, *)$*

*(i) if  $b * a = e$ , then  $a * b = e$  and*

*(ii)  $a * e = a$  for all  $a \in G$*

*Furthermore, there is only one element  $e \in G$  satisfying (ii) and for all  $a \in G$ , there is only one  $b \in G$  satisfying  $b * a = e$ .*

**Proof.** Suppose  $b * a = e$ , then

$$(a * b) * (a * b) = a * (b * a) * b = a * e * b = a * b:$$

Therefore by Lemma 1.2.1  $a * b = e$ .

Suppose  $a \in G$  and let  $b \in G$  be such that  $b * a = e$ . Then by (i)

$$a * e = a * (b * a) = (a * b) * a = e * a = a$$

Now we show uniqueness. Suppose that  $a * e = a$  and  $a * f = a$  for all

$a \in G$ . Then

$$(e * f) * (e * f) = e * (f * e) * f = e * f * e = e * f$$

Therefore by Lemma 1.2.1  $e * f = e$ . Consequently

$$f * f = (f * e) * (f * e) = f * (e * f) * e = f * e * e = f * e = f$$

and therefore by Lemma 1.2.1  $f = e$ . Finally suppose  $b_1 * a = e$  and

$b_2 * a = e$ . Then by (i) and (ii)

$$b_1 = b_1 * e = b_1 * (a * b_2) = (b_1 * a) * b_2 = e * b_2 = b_2.$$

## 1.2. SOME PROPERTIES ARE UNIQUE.

**Definition 1.4:** *Let  $(G; *)$  be a group. The unique element  $e \in G$*

*satisfying  $e * a = a$  for all  $a \in G$  is called the identity for the group*

*$(G; *)$ . If  $a \in G$ , the unique element  $b \in G$  such that  $b * a = e$  is called the inverse of  $a$  and we denote it by  $b = a^{-1}$ .*

**Definition 1.5:** *A Latin square of side  $n$  is an  $n$  by  $n$  array in which each cell contains a single element from an  $n$ -element set  $S = \{s_1; s_2; \dots; s_n\}$ , such that each element occurs in each row exactly once. It is in standard form with respect to the sequence  $s_1; s_2; \dots; s_n$  if the elements in the first row and first column occur in the order of this sequence.*

