

Solution of Home Work Problems

1) a) Since $1 + (-1) = 0 \notin H$, hence we find that H is a not a subgroup of \mathbb{Z} .

b) clearly, $H \neq \emptyset$. Let $a = 2n$ and $b = 2m$ be two elements of H . Then $a - b = 2n - 2m = 2(n - m) \in H$. H is a subgroup of \mathbb{Z} .

2) Let $a = ghg^{-1}$ and $b = gh_1g^{-1}$ be two elements of K .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then } ab^{-1} &= ghg^{-1}(gh_1g^{-1})^{-1} \\ &= ghg^{-1}((g^{-1})^{-1}h_1^{-1}g^{-1}) \\ &= ghg^{-1}gh_1^{-1}g^{-1} \\ &= gh h_1^{-1} g^{-1} \quad \dots (1) \end{aligned}$$

Now $h, h_1 \in H$ and H is a subgroup of G .

Hence $h h_1^{-1} \in H$. Then from (1) above we get,

$$ab^{-1} = g(h h_1^{-1})g^{-1} \in gHg^{-1}$$

Hence K is a sub-group of G .

Theorem 5 - The intersection of any two subgroups of a group $(G, *)$ is again a subgroup of $(G, *)$.

Proof: Let S_1 and S_2 be any two subgroups of $(G, *)$.

We have $S_1 \cap S_2 \neq \emptyset$, since $e \in S_1$ and $e \in S_2$.

Let $a \in S_1 \cap S_2$ and $b \in S_1 \cap S_2$

$$\text{Now } a \in S_1 \cap S_2 \Rightarrow a \in S_1 \text{ and } a \in S_2$$

$$b \in S_1 \cap S_2 \Rightarrow ba \in S_1 \text{ and } b \in S_2$$

Since S_1 and S_2 form subgroups under the group (G, \cdot) , we have

$$a \in S_1, b \in S_1 \Rightarrow ab^{-1} \in S_1$$

$$a \in S_2, b \in S_2 \Rightarrow ab^{-1} \in S_2$$

$$\text{Finally, } ab^{-1} \in S_1, ab^{-1} \in S_2 \Rightarrow ab^{-1} \in S_1 \cap S_2$$

$$\text{Thus } a \in S_1 \cap S_2, b \in S_1 \cap S_2 \Rightarrow ab^{-1} \in S_1 \cap S_2$$

Therefore $S_1 \cap S_2$ forms a subgroup of (G, \cdot) .

Theorem 6: The union of two subgroups is a subgroup if and only if one is contained in the other.

Proof Left for students as an exercise.

Home work: Let $GL(2, \mathbb{R})$ be the group of all non-singular 2×2 matrices over \mathbb{R} . Show that each of the following sets is a subgroup of $GL(2, \mathbb{R})$

$$(i) H = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} a & 0 \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \in GL(2, \mathbb{R}) \mid ad \neq 0 \right\},$$

$$(ii) H = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ -b & a \end{bmatrix} \in GL(2, \mathbb{R}) \mid \text{either } a \text{ or } b \neq 0 \right\}$$