

1. Let $S = \{0123456\}$, and consider the operation \cdot on S given by $x \cdot y = xy \pmod{7}$. Write a Cayley table for this operation. Is there an identity element? If so, does every element have an inverse?

\cdot	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
2	0	2	4	6	1	3	5
3	0	3	6	2	5	1	4
4	0	4	1	5	2	6	3
5	0	5	3	1	6	4	2
6	0	6	5	4	3	2	1

We see that 1 is an identity element since $1 \cdot n = n \cdot 1 = n$ for all $n \in \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$. We also note that 1 is its own inverse, as is 6, since $1 \cdot 1 = 6 \cdot 6 = 1$. Furthermore 2 and 4 are inverses since $2 \cdot 4 = 4 \cdot 2 = 1$ and 3 and 5 are inverses since $3 \cdot 5 = 5 \cdot 3 = 1$. 0 has no inverse since there is no x with $0 \cdot x = 1$. \square

2. Let A be a set and consider the operation \heartsuit on $\mathcal{P}(A)$ given by $S \heartsuit T = (S \setminus T) \cup (T \setminus S)$.

- (a) Prove that \heartsuit is a binary operation on $\mathcal{P}(A)$.

Proof. Given $S, T \in \mathcal{P}(A)$ we note that $S \setminus T \subseteq S \subseteq A$ and $T \setminus S \subseteq T \subseteq A$, which implies that $(S \setminus T) \cup (T \setminus S) \subseteq A$, and hence is an element of $\mathcal{P}(A)$. It is thus clear then, that \heartsuit is a function $\heartsuit : \mathcal{P}(A) \times \mathcal{P}(A) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(A)$, and thus is a binary operation. \square

- (b) Is \heartsuit associative? (prove or give a counterexample)

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- (c) Is \heartsuit commutative? (prove or give a counterexample)

Proof.

$$R \heartsuit S = (R \setminus S) \cup (S \setminus R) = (S \setminus R) \cup (R \setminus S) = S \heartsuit R$$

\square

- (d) Is there an identity element for \heartsuit (if so – prove that there is, if not give a counterexample of a set A for which \heartsuit has no identity element)? If there is always an identity element for \heartsuit , for any $B \subseteq A$ is there an inverse B^{-1} such that $B \heartsuit B^{-1}$ equals this identity element? (prove or give a counterexample)

We claim that \emptyset is an identity element for \heartsuit and that $S^{-1} = S$ for all $S \in \mathcal{P}(A)$.

Proof. First note that $S \setminus \emptyset = S$ and that $\emptyset \setminus S = \emptyset$. Thus $S \heartsuit \emptyset = S \cup \emptyset = S$, and thus \emptyset is an identity element for the operation \heartsuit .

Now consider $S \heartsuit S$. Since $S \setminus S = \emptyset$ we have that $S \heartsuit S = \emptyset \cup \emptyset = \emptyset$, and hence every set is its own inverse under the operation \heartsuit . \square

3. Prove that there are no onto functions from $[4]$ to $[5]$. (Recall that $[n] = \{1, 2, 3, \dots, n\}$.)

Proof. Suppose that $f : [4] \rightarrow [5]$ is onto. Then for each $i \in \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$ there is some x_i in $[4]$ such that $f(x_i) = i$. Each of $[1, 2, 3, 4]$ can appear but once in the list $[x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5]$ since f is a function, but since the length of $[x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5]$ is five and there are only four elements in $[1, 2, 3, 4]$ one of these elements must be repeated, contradicting the fact that there can be no repeats. Thus $f : [4] \rightarrow [5]$ cannot be onto. \square

4. Consider the set $\{0, 1, 2, 3, 4\}$ and the operation $*$ on it given by $x*y = 2y - x \pmod{5}$. Write a Cayley table for this operation. Is it commutative? Is it associative?

The Cayley table follows.

$*$	0	1	2	3	4
0	0	2	4	1	3
1	4	1	3	0	2
2	3	0	2	4	1
3	2	4	1	3	0
4	1	3	0	2	4

Now $0*1 = 2$ and $1*0 = 4$, so $*$ is not commutative. Furthermore $(0*1)*2 = 2*2 = 2$ but $0*(1*2) = 0*3 = 1$, so $*$ is not associative either. \square