

1. Let $S = \{n \mid n \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ and } n \text{ is even.}\}$. Determine if the given operation describes a binary operation on S . If it is a binary operation, determine if it is also associative. If it is not a binary operation, explain how you determined this.

(a) $a * b = a - b$

This is a binary operation, since the difference of two even numbers is even.

It is not associative, since, for example, $(2 - 2) - 2 = 0 - 2 = -2$,

but $2 - (2 - 2) = 2 - 0 = 2 \neq -2$.

(b) $a * b = \frac{a}{b}$

This is not a binary operation. One reason is that the quotient of two integers is not usually an integer.

Another reason is that $0 \in S$, but $a * 0$ is undefined.

2. Prove: $\forall n \in \mathbb{Z}^+, 4 + 8 + 12 + \dots + 4n = 2n(n + 1)$, using the Principle of Mathematical Induction.

Proof. Premises: none.

$\forall n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$, let $P(n)$ be the statement $4 + 8 + 12 + \dots + 4n = 2n(n + 1)$.

Then $P(1)$ is the statement $4 = 2(1)(1 + 1)$ which is clearly true.

Now, suppose $\exists k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ such that $P(k)$ is true.

That is, $4 + 8 + 12 + \dots + 4k = 2k(k + 1)$.

Adding $4(k + 1)$ to both sides of this equation gives us

$$\begin{aligned} 4 + 8 + 12 + \dots + 4k + 4(k + 1) &= 2k(k + 1) + 4(k + 1) \\ &= 2k^2 + 2k + 4k + 4 \\ &= 2k^2 + 6k + 4 \\ &= 2(k^2 + 3k + 2) \\ &= 2(k + 1)(k + 2) \\ &= 2(k + 1)((k + 1) + 1) \end{aligned}$$

Thus, $P(k + 1)$ is true.

By the Principle of Mathematical Induction, $P(n)$ is true for all $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$.

Conclusion: $\forall n \in \mathbb{Z}^+, 4 + 8 + 12 + \dots + 4n = 2n(n + 1)$. ■

3. Fill in each table below so that it is a group with the stated properties.

(a) b is the identity element and $c^{-1} = a$

$*$	a	b	c	d
a	d	a	b	c
b	a	b	c	d
c	b	c	d	a
d	c	d	a	b

(b) Every element is its own inverse.

$*$	a	b	c	d
a	a	b	c	d
b	b	a	d	c
c	c	d	a	b
d	d	c	b	a

} Here I have used a as the identity element. If you choose a different element as the identity element, your table will look different.