

3. Define $*$ on $\mathbb{Q} \setminus \{0\}$ by $a * b = \frac{a}{b}$. Is $(\mathbb{Q} \setminus \{0\}, *)$ a group? Why or why not?

No. The associative property does not hold.

$$2 * (2 * 2) = 2 * \frac{2}{2} = 2 * 1 = \frac{2}{1} = 2$$

$$(2 * 2) * 2 = \frac{2}{2} * 2 = 1 * 2 = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\text{Thus } 2 * (2 * 2) \neq (2 * 2) * 2$$

4. Recall that $GL_2(\mathbb{R})$ represents the group of invertible 2×2 matrices with real number entries. The operation in $GL_2(\mathbb{R})$ is matrix multiplication. The matrix

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

is an element of $GL_2(\mathbb{R})$. What is A 's inverse?

A 's inverse is $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ because

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$