

FUN WITH MULTIPLICATION TABLES

Look at the following multiplication table for the set $M = \{m1, m2\}$:

*	m1	m2
m1	m1	m2
m2	m2	m1

Recall that for M to be a group, it needs to have an associative binary operations, an identity, and every element needs to have an inverse. Since M is given by a multiplication table, you can check that the binary operation is well defined by looking to make sure that everything in the table is in M .

1.1 Check to see whether M is a group. Write out each equation that you have to check to see that the operation on M is associative, that M has an identity, and that each element of M has an inverse.

Next we will have GAP do the same thing. You will have to read in the functions, Assoc, Ident, Inver. You can do this with the Read command. For example;

```
gap>Read("Assoc");
```

Once you have read in all of these functions, you can run once you put your table in. You do that with the command Magma ¹ Use the command:

```
gap>m:=MagmaByMultiplicationTable([[1,2],[2,1]]);
```

Notice that when we do this, we put in the 1 and the 2 from the first line of the table, but not the m. GAP will put the m in for you. Unfortunately, it seems to be the only letter it will put in, so we should call all of our sets with a binary operation m. So it goes.

¹**Magma** is not a standard mathematical term. It means a set with a binary operation. It was used by a famous fictional French mathematician (and real French general).

Next run the functions you read in, so that you can check your calculations from 1.1. Start with `Assoc`.

```
gap>Assoc(m);
```

This will give you each equation you should have checked to see if M was associative, along with whether the equation is true or false. Next check if each element is an identity with `Ident`.

```
gap>Ident(m)
```

This will check to see if each element of M is an identity. Last, check if each element has an inverse with `Inver`.

```
gap>Inver(m, e);
```

Here e is the **integer** corresponding to the identity you found. For example if the identity was $m2$ you would type `Inver(m, 2);`.

1.2 You have now checked all the group properties. Is M a group? After you have an answer, check it by using the command `AsGroup(m);`.

1.3 Now do the same thing with the following multiplication table. Check and see if it is a group by hand, then check using `Assoc`, `Inver`, and `Ident`. Only use `AsGroup` after you have checked everything else.

*	m1	m2	m3
m1	m1	m2	m2
m2	m1	m2	m3
m3	m1	m3	m2

You can also check sets we have already seen, like S_3 and D_4 using these functions.

1.4 Write out the multiplication table for S_3 . Would you like to check by hand that this is a group.

1.5 Check S_3 using the functions we used above. To get S_3 you need the command

```
gap>s3 := SymmetricGroup(3);
```