

# Definitions of Group

Alex Glandon

June 2026

## 1 Miller's Definition

A set of elements  $S$  and an operator  $*$

Closure:  $a \in S, b \in S \rightarrow a * b \in S$

Associativity:  $(a * b) * c = a * (b * c)$

Identity:  $\exists I$ , such that  $a * I = I * a = a$

Inverse:  $\forall a, \exists b$  (called  $a^{-1}$ ), such that  $a * b = b * a = I$

## 2 Arden's Definition

A set of elements  $S$  and a set of unary operators  $T$ .

Closure:  $\forall a \in S, E \in T, F \in T \rightarrow E(F(a)) \in S$  and  $E \circ F \in T$

Associativity:

theorem: function composition is always associative given the definition of a function

Identity:  $\exists I \in T, \forall a \in S, a = I(a)$

Inverse:  $\forall E \in T, \exists F \in T, \forall a \in S, E(F(a)) = a$

## 3 Conjecture

Using set elements as the group elements and a binary operator is homeomorphic to using set elements and unary operators as the group elements.

(for GS Venkatesh)

(also for the author of PVS)