

## Introductory Algebra — Exercise no. 2

### Due Thursday, 24 November, 2016

1. Given a group  $\mathcal{G}$  and an element  $X \in \mathcal{G}$ . Show that

$$G_i \mapsto XG_iX^{-1}, \text{ for all } G_i \in \mathcal{G}$$

is an isomorphism from  $\mathcal{G}$  to  $\mathcal{G}$  (called an inner automorphism).

2. Quaternions are a generalisation of complex numbers. A quaternion can be written in the form  $a\mathbf{1} + b\mathbf{i} + c\mathbf{j} + d\mathbf{k}$ , where  $a, b, c, d$  are real numbers and the quaternion units  $\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{i}, \mathbf{j}, \mathbf{k}$  have the properties

$$\mathbf{1}^2 = \mathbf{1}; \quad \mathbf{i}^2 = -\mathbf{1}; \quad \mathbf{j}^2 = -\mathbf{1}; \quad \mathbf{k}^2 = -\mathbf{1}$$

$$\mathbf{1}\mathbf{i} = \mathbf{i} = \mathbf{i}\mathbf{1}; \quad \mathbf{1}\mathbf{j} = \mathbf{j} = \mathbf{j}\mathbf{1}; \quad \mathbf{1}\mathbf{k} = \mathbf{k} = \mathbf{k}\mathbf{1}$$

$$\mathbf{i}\mathbf{j} = \mathbf{k}; \quad \mathbf{i}\mathbf{k} = -\mathbf{j}; \quad \mathbf{j}\mathbf{i} = -\mathbf{k}; \quad \mathbf{j}\mathbf{k} = \mathbf{i}; \quad \mathbf{k}\mathbf{i} = \mathbf{j}; \quad \mathbf{k}\mathbf{j} = -\mathbf{i}$$

where  $-\mathbf{u}$  is interpreted as  $-1\mathbf{u}$ , for any quaternion unit  $\mathbf{u}$ . The quaternion units commute with all real numbers.

Show that the 8 elements  $\pm\mathbf{1}, \pm\mathbf{i}, \pm\mathbf{j}, \pm\mathbf{k}$  form a group under the multiplication defined by the above properties. Find the order of each element and decompose the group into conjugacy classes. Find an invariant subgroup of order 2 and an invariant subgroup of order 4.