

## Axioms for Integers

The set of integers,  $\mathbb{Z}$ , is a non-empty set with a binary operation  $+$  satisfying:

1.  $(a + b) + c = a + (b + c)$  for any  $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}$  ( $+$  is associative);
2. there is an integer  $0$  where  $0 + a = a + 0 = a$  for all  $a \in \mathbb{Z}$  (there is an additive identity);
3. for every  $a \in \mathbb{Z}$  there is a  $b \in \mathbb{Z}$  where  $a + b = b + a = 0$  (every element has an additive inverse); and
4.  $a + b = b + a$  for all  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$  (addition is commutative).

Also, there is another binary operation  $\times$  on  $\mathbb{Z}$  which

1. is associative;
2. has an identity not equal to the additive identity;
3. distributes through addition on both the left and right, i.e.,  $a \times (b + c) = a \times b + a \times c$  and  $(a + b) \times c = a \times c + b \times c$  for all  $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}$ ; and
4. is commutative.

Further, there is a order relation  $\leq$  on  $\mathbb{Z}$  which totally orders  $\mathbb{Z}$ , i.e.,

1.  $a \leq a$  for all  $a \in \mathbb{Z}$ ;
2. if  $a \leq b$  and  $b \leq a$ , then  $a = b$ ;
3. if  $a \leq b$  and  $b \leq c$ , then  $a \leq c$ ; and
4. for all  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ , either  $a \leq b$  or  $b \leq a$ .

This order relation satisfies:

1. if  $a \leq b$ , then  $a + c \leq b + c$  for all  $c \in \mathbb{Z}$ ;
2. if  $a \leq b$  and  $0 \leq c$ , then  $a \times c \leq b \times c$ ; and
3.  $0 < 1$ . (Here  $<$  means  $\leq$  and not equal.)

Finally, every non-empty subset of  $\mathbb{N} = \{a \in \mathbb{Z} : 0 \leq a\}$  has a least element.