AtlasRep — A GAP 4 Package

(Version 1.4)

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Chapter 1

Introduction to the **AtlasRep** Package

The aim of the GAP 4 package AtlasRep is to provide a link between GAP and the "ATLAS of Group Representations", a database that comprises representations of many almost simple groups and information about their maximal subgroups. This database has been available independent of GAP at

> http://brauer.maths.qmul.ac.uk/Atlas

The AtlasRep package consists of this database (see Section 1.1) and a GAP interface (see Section 1.2); the latter is extended by further information available via the internet (see Section 1.3).

Information about installing and customizing the package can be found in the sections 1.4, 1.5, and 1.6, 1.7, 1.8.

Finally, Section 1.9 lists the changes w.r.t. previous releases of the package, and Section 1.10 acknowledges contributions of non-authors to the package.

1.1 An **ATLAS** of Group Representations

The ATLAS of Group Representations consists of matrices over various rings, permutations, and shell scripts encoding so-called black box programs (see [Nic06] and Section 4.2). Many of these scripts are straight line programs (see [BSWW01], [SWW00], and (**Reference: Straight Line Programs**)) and straight line decisions (see Section 4.1). These programs can be used to compute certain elements in a group G from its standard generators (see [Wil96] and (**Reference: Standard Generators of Groups**)), for example generators of maximal subgroups of G or representatives of conjugacy classes of G.

The ATLAS of Group Representations has been prepared by Robert Wilson, Peter Walsh, Jonathan Tripp, Ibrahim Suleiman, Richard Parker, Simon Norton, Simon Nickerson, Steve Linton, John Bray, and Rachel Abbott (in reverse alphabetical order).

The information was computed and composed using computer algebra systems such as MeatAxe (see [Rin98]), Magma (see [CP96]), and GAP (in reverse alphabetical order). Part of the constructions have been documented in the literature on almost simple groups, or the results have been used in such publications, see for example the references in [CCN$^+$85] and [BN95].

If you use the ATLAS of Group Representations to solve a problem then please send a short email to R.A.Wilson@qmul.ac.uk about it. The ATLAS of Group Representations database should be referenced with the entry [Wil] in the bibliography of this manual.

If your work made use of functions of the GAP interface (see Section 1.2) then you should also reference this interface, as follows.

```
─────────────────────────────── Example ───────────────────────────────
@misc{ AtlasRep1.4,
  author =        {Wilson, R. A. and Parker, R. A. and Nickerson, S. and
                   Bray, J. N. and Breuer, T.},
  title =         {{AtlasRep}, A \textsf{GAP} Interface to the Atlas of
                   Group Representations,
                   {V}ersion 1.4},
  month =         {June},
  year =          {2008},
  note =          {Refereed \textsf{GAP} package},
  howpublished = {http://www.math.rwth-aachen.de/\~{}Thomas.Breuer/atlasrep}
}
```

For referencing the GAP system in general, use the entry [GAP07] in the bibliography of this manual, see also

`http://www.gap-system.org.`

1.2   The GAP Interface to the ATLAS of Group Representations

The GAP interface to the ATLAS of Group Representations consists of essentially two parts.

First, there is the *user interface* which allows the user to get an overview of the contents of the database, and to access the data in GAP format; this is described in Chapter 2. Advanced users may add their own data to the database, this is described in Chapter 3.

Second, there is *administrational information*, which covers also the declaration of GAP objects such as straight line decisions and black box programs. This is important mainly for users interested in the actual implementation (e. g., for modifying the package) or in using it together with the C-MeatAxe standalone (see [Rin98]); this is described in Chapter 5.

Information concerning the C-MeatAxe, including the manual [Rin98], can be found at

`http://www.math.rwth-aachen.de/LDFM/homes/MTX`

The GAP interface should be regarded as preliminary. Hopefully it will become more user-friendly when the ATLAS of Group Representations will be integrated into a larger GAP database of groups and their representations, character tables, and tables of marks.

The interface and this manual have been provided by Thomas Breuer, except for the interpreter for black box programs (see Section 4.2), which is due to Simon Nickerson. Comments, bug reports, and hints for improving the interface can be sent to `sam@math.rwth-aachen.de`.

1.3   Web Services for the AtlasRep Package

The home page of the AtlasRep package is

`http://www.math.rwth-aachen.de/~Thomas.Breuer/atlasrep`

Besides package archives and introductory package information, it provides

- the current file with the *table of contents* (the file `gap/atlasprm.g` of the package), cf. `ReloadAtlasTableOfContents` (1.6.1),

- a *starter archive* containing many small representations and programs,

- the list of *changes of server files* in HTML format (cf. `AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsTestTableOfContentsRemoteUpdates` (1.6.4)), and

- an *overview of the data* available via the GAP interface to the ATLAS of Group Representations, in HTML format; this is similar to the information shown by `DisplayAtlasInfo` (2.5.1); further information can be found on the home page of the ATLAS (see the introduction to this chapter).

1.4 Installing the AtlasRep Package

To install the package, unpack the archive file in a directory in the `pkg` directory of your local copy of GAP 4. This might be the `pkg` directory of the GAP 4 root directory, see (**Reference: Installing a GAP Package**) for details. It is however also possible to keep an additional `pkg` directory in your private directories, see Section (**Reference: GAP Root Directory**). The latter possibility *must* be chosen if you do not have write access to the GAP root directory.

Data files (in the subdirectories `datagens` and `dataword` of the package) that are available from an earlier version of the package are in principle kept; see `AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsTestTableOfContentsRemoteUpdates` (1.6.4) for necessary updates.

If it is likely that one will work offline, it makes sense to install the "starter archive" that can be downloaded from the package's homepage.

The package consists entirely of GAP code, no external binaries need to be compiled for the package itself. However, if the GAP package IO [Neu07] is used to access remote data files (see Section 1.7.3) then its external binary must be available.

After unpacking the package archive, it should be checked whether the subdirectories `datagens` and `dataword` of the package directory have write permissions for those users who will download files from the servers. The recommended permissions under UNIX are set as follows.

```
————————————————— Example —————————————————
 you@unix> chmod 1777 atlasrep/data*
 you@unix> ls -ld atlasrep/data*
 drwxrwxrwt   3 you       you            1024 Oct 31 12:34 datagens
 drwxrwxrwt   3 you       you            1024 Oct 31 12:34 dataword
```

For checking the installation of the package, you should start GAP, load the package (see Section 1.5), and then call

```
————————————————— Example —————————————————
 gap> ReadPackage( "atlasrep", "tst/testinst.g" );
```

If the installation is o.k. then the GAP prompt appears without anything else being printed; otherwise the output lines tell you what should be changed.

More test files are available in the `tst` directory of the package, see Section 5.8 for details.

`PDF` and HTML versions of the package manual are available in the `doc` directory of the package.

1.5 Loading the **AtlasRep** Package

The AtlasRep package may be loaded automatically when GAP is started, for example when other GAP packages require it, or it has to be loaded within the GAP session as follows.

```
——————————————— Example ———————————————
gap> LoadPackage( "atlasrep" );
true
```

See (**Reference: Loading a GAP Package**) for details about these alternatives.

1.6 Maintaining the Local Data of the **AtlasRep** Package

The current *table of contents* of the database is contained in the file gap/atlasprm.g of the AtlasRep package. This file is read by default when the package is loaded. It may happen that new data files have been added to the servers since the last release of the AtlasRep package, thus it is useful to update the table of contents of the package from time to time.

For that, one can fetch the most recent version of the file gap/atlasprm.g from the home page of the package (see Section 1.3), either by calling ReloadAtlasTableOfContents (1.6.1) in a GAP session or "by hand". In the latter case, the new file can then be read into the GAP session via ReplaceAtlasTableOfContents (1.6.3). Alternatively, one can add a line to the user's .gaprc file (see (**Reference: The .gaprc file**)), which assigns the filename of the current gap/atlasprm.g file (as an absolute path or relative to the user's home directory, cf. Directory (**Reference: Directory**)) to the global variable ATLASREP_TOCFILE; in this case, this file is read instead of the one from the package distribution when the package is loaded.

Users who have write access to the directory where the AtlasRep package is installed can alternatively use the maketoc script in the etc directory of the package for regularly updating the file gap/atlasprm.g. Users without this write access can store the new file in a different place, and read it with ReplaceAtlasTableOfContents (1.6.3).

1.6.1 ReloadAtlasTableOfContents

◊ ReloadAtlasTableOfContents(*dirname*)   (function)

    Returns: fail if the required table of contents could not be reloaded, otherwise true.

    Let *dirname* be a string, which must be one of "remote", "local", or the name of a private data directory (see Chapter 3).

    In the case of "remote", the file atlasprm.g is fetched from the package's home page, and then read into GAP. In the case of "local", the subset of the data listed in the "remote" table of contents is considered that are actually available in the local data directories. In the case of a private directory, its contents is inspected, and the table of contents for *dirname* is replaced by the one obtained from inspecting the actual contents of the data directories (see Section 5.7).

1.6.2 StoreAtlasTableOfContents

◊ StoreAtlasTableOfContents(*filename*)   (function)

    Let *filename* be a string. This function prints the loaded table of contents of the servers to the file with name *filename*.

1.6.3   ReplaceAtlasTableOfContents

◇ ReplaceAtlasTableOfContents(`filename`)   (function)

Let `filename` be the name of a file that has been created with StoreAtlasTableOfContents (1.6.2).

ReplaceAtlasTableOfContents first removes the information that GAP has stored about the table of contents of the servers, and then reads the file with name `filename`, thus replacing the previous information by the stored one.

1.6.4   AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsTestTableOfContentsRemoteUpdates

◇ AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsTestTableOfContentsRemoteUpdates()   (function)

Returns: the list of names of all locally available data files that should be removed.

This function fetches the file changes.html from the package's home page, extracts the times of changes for the data files in question, and compares them with the times of the last changes of the local data files. For that, the GAP package IO [Neu07] is needed; if it is not available then an error message is printed, and fail is returned.

If the time of the last modification of a server file is later than that of the local copy then the local file must be updated. (This means that touching files in the local directories will cheat this function.)

It is useful that a system administrator (i. e., someone who has the permission to remove files from the data directories) runs this function from time to time, and afterwards removes the files in the list that is returned. This way, new versions of these files will be fetched automatically from the servers when a user asks for their data.

1.7   User Parameters for the **AtlasRep** Package

This section lists global parameters for which it might make sense to change their defaults by assignments to global variables, either just for the current GAP session or as user preferences in the user's .gaprc file (see (**Reference: The .gaprc file**)).

1.7.1   Local or Remote Access

There are two possibilities to use the AtlasRep package.

Local access only (offline) You can restrict he access to the data that are actually stored in the local installation of GAP.

Remote access (online) If your computer is connected to a network that provides access to the ATLAS data (for example the internet) then the functions of the package may fetch the requested data automatically from remote servers when they are required for the first time; these data are then by default stored in the local copy, so later access to them needs no network transfer.

The latter possibility is presently not used by other GAP packages, so it may be regarded as an important feature of the AtlasRep package. Anyhow it requires a few words of explanation.

The possibility of online access reflects in particular the fact that the ATLAS of Group Representations is designed as an *open database*, it is expected to grow. As soon as the developers of the ATLAS of Group Representations add new information to the servers, these data become available in

GAP when remote access is enabled, after one has updated the corresponding table of contents (see Section 1.6).

Remote access is enabled if and only if the value of the `remote` component of the global variable `AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsInfo` (5.1.5) is `true`. If one wants to work offline, i.e., if one does *not* want GAP to attempt accessing remote data then this value must be set to `false`.

Conversely, if the default value of the `remote` component in your GAP installation is `false` then changing this value to `true` may be not successful. First, it might be the case that no server is reachable. And second, if one can in principle *download* files from a server then it might be impossible to actually *store* these files in the data directories of the installed package; in this case, it is advisable to install the whole package or just its data directories in a private directory, see (**Reference: GAP Root Directory**) for details.

1.7.2 Adding and Removing Servers

When access to remote data is enabled (see Section 1.7.1) then the available servers are given by the `servers` component of the global variable `AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsInfo` (5.1.5).

Removing entries from this list means to disable access to the corresponding servers, *adding* entries makes the corresponding servers available. Of course the latter makes sense only if the new servers really exist, for example in a local network.

Currently there is just one remote server. As soon as other servers become available, or a server name is changed which makes it necessary to adjust the `servers` component, this will be announced in the GAP Forum, cf. (**Tutorial: Further Information about GAP**). The same holds when upgrades of the package become available.

1.7.3 Accessing Data Files with the GAP Package IO or with `wget`

When access to remote data is enabled (see Section 1.7.1) then one needs either the GAP package IO [Neu07] or the external program `wget` for accessing data files.

The chosen alternative is given by the value of the `wget` component of the global variable `AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsInfo` (5.1.5).

If this component has the value `true` then only `wget` is tried, if the value is `false` then only the IO package is used. If this component is not bound or bound to another value than `true` or `false` (this is also the default) then the IO package is preferred to `wget` if this package is available, and otherwise `wget` is tried.

Note that the system program `wget` may be not available, and that it may require some work to install it; hints for that can be found on the home page of the AtlasRep package (see Section 1.3).

1.7.4 Compressed or Uncompressed Data Files

When used with UNIX, GAP can read `gzipped` files, see (**Reference: Saving and Loading a Workspace**). If the component `compress` of `AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsInfo` (5.1.5) has the value `true` then each MeatAxe format file that is fetched from a remote server is afterwards compressed with `gzip`. This saves a lot of space if many MeatAxe format files are accessed. (Note that data files in other formats are very small.) For example, at the time of the release of version 1.4 there were about 8 400 data files in MeatAxe format, which needed about 1 400 MB in uncompressed text format and about 275 MB in compressed text format. The default value for the component `compress` is `false`.

1.7.5 Customizing `DisplayAtlasInfo`

The way how `DisplayAtlasInfo` (2.5.1) shows the requested overview is controlled by the component `displayFunction` of `AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsInfo` (5.1.5). The default value is `Print` (**Reference: Print**), another useful value is `Pager` (**Reference: Pager**).

1.7.6 Customizing the Access to Data Files

By default, local data files are stored in the subdirectories `datagens` and `dataword` of the package, and the files are exactly the text files provided on the servers. However, a more flexible approach may be useful.

First, one may want to use *different file formats*, for example the MeatAxe binary files that are provided by the servers parallel to the MeatAxe text files. Second, one may want to use *a different directory structure*, for example the same structure as used on the servers –this makes sense for example if a local mirror of a server is available, because then one can read the server files directly, without transferring/copying them to another directory.

As a consequence, one would like to customize the meaning of the following three access steps.

Are the required filed locally available? The required files may have a different name or a different path, and the data can be available in one file or can be distributed to several files.

How can a file be made locally available? A different server file may be fetched or some postprocessing may be required.

How is the data of a file accessed by GAP? A different function may be needed to read the file.

Details how to achieve this can be found in Section 5.2.

1.7.7 Reading Large Matrices over Finite Fields

Matrices over finite fields in GAP can be represented in a compressed format that needs less space than the corresponding text file. Such a MeatAxe format text file can be read by `ScanMeatAxeFile` (5.3.1) either line by line (which is the default) or as a whole; the latter is faster but needs more space than the former. For example, a 4370 by 4370 matrix over the field with two elements (as occurs for an irreducible representation of the Baby Monster) requires less than 3 MB space in GAP but the corresponding MeatAxe format text file is more than 19 MB large, which means that when one reads the file with the fast variant, GAP will temporarily grow by more than this value. One can change the mode by setting the global variable `CMeatAxe.FastRead` (5.1.4) to `true` or `false`, respectively.

Note that this parameter is meaningful only when `ScanMeatAxeFile` (5.3.1) is used. It has no effect for example if MeatAxe binary files are read, cf. `FFMatOrPermCMtxBinary` (5.3.5).

1.7.8 AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsShowUserParameters

◊ `AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsShowUserParameters()` (function)

This function prints an overview of the current values of the user parameters introduced in this section.

1.8 Extending the **ATLAS** Database

Users who have computed new representations that might be interesting for inclusion into the ATLAS of Group representations can send the data in question to `R.A.Wilson@qmul.ac.uk`.

It is also possible to store "private" representations and programs in local directories, and to use them in the same way as the "official" data. See Chapter 3 for details.

1.9 What's New in **AtlasRep**, Compared to Older Versions?

1.9.1 What's New in Version 1.4?

- In addition to the group orders that were added in version 1.3 (see Section 1.9.3), also many orders of maximal subgroups are now available. These values occur in the records returned by `AtlasProgram` (2.5.3) (for the case of `"maxes"` type programs) and of the three argument version of `AtlasGenerators` (2.5.2); now a `size` component may be bound. In these cases, the groups returned by `AtlasSubgroup` (2.5.7) have the `Size` (**Reference: Size**) attribute set.

  For this feature, the function `AGRGNAN` (5.7.1) was generalized, the function `AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsTestWords` (5.8.6) was improved for `"maxes"` type programs, and the function `AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsTestSubgroupOrders` (5.8.2) for preparing the values was added; this function serves also as a consistency check.

- The information about the number of maximal subgroups, if available, is now used in `DisplayAtlasInfo` (2.5.1).

- In many cases, straight line programs for computing generators of maximal subgroups of a group G, say, can in fact be used to compute also generators of maximal subgroups of downward extensions of G; if not then it may suffice to extend the given straight line programs by additional generators, see `AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsTestCompatibleMaxes` (5.8.4).

  Currently this yields more than 200 more possibilities to compute maximal subgroups, this means a growth by about 25 percent. For example, all maximal subgroups of $12.M_{22}$ and $2.Fi_{22}$ can now be accessed via `AtlasGenerators` (2.5.2).

  (Of course this extension means only that one can access the straight line programs in question automatically via the GAP interface. In principle one could have used them already before, by explicitly applying a straight line program for a factor group to generators of a group, and perhaps adding some element in the kernel of the natural epimorphism.)

  For this feature, information about the compatibility of standard generators of groups and their factor groups was added, see `AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsTestStdCompatibility` (5.8.3).

- The bibliographies contained in the ATLAS of Finite Groups [CCN+85] and in the ATLAS of Brauer Characters [JLPW95] are now available, see Section 4.4.

- If the GAP package Browse (see [BL08]) is loaded then the new functions `BrowseMinimalDegrees` (4.3.6) and `BrowseBibliographySporadicSimple` (4.4.1) are available; these functions can be called also by choosing the corresponding menu entries of the Browse application `BrowseGapData` (**Browse: BrowseGapData**).

- The function `AtlasGroup` (2.5.6) now admits also the return value of `OneAtlasGeneratingSetInfo` (2.5.4) as its argument.

1.9.2   What's New in Version 1.3.1?

This version was mainly released in order to fix a few problems. Now one does not get warnings about unbound variables when the package is loaded and the GAP package IO [Neu07] is not available, and pathological situations in `FFMatOrPermCMtxBinary` (5.3.5) (concerning extremely short corrupted data files and different byte orderings in binary files) are handled more carefully.

Besides this, the two functions `AtlasGroup` (2.5.6) and `AtlasSubgroup` (2.5.7) were introduced, and the extended function `QuaternionAlgebra` (**Reference: QuaternionAlgebra**) of GAP 4.4.10 can now be used for describing base rings in `OneAtlasGeneratingSetInfo` (2.5.4) and `AllAtlasGeneratingSetInfos` (2.5.5). (This is the reason why this version of the package requires at least version 4.4.10 of GAP.)

1.9.3   What's New in Version 1.3?

- The database was extended, see Section 1.7.4 for the number and size of files.

- New data types and corresponding GAP objects have been introduced, for representing semi-presentations, presentations, and programs for finding standard generators. For details, see `AtlasProgram` (2.5.3), Chapter 4, and Section 5.6.

- The records returned by the functions `AtlasGenerators` (2.5.2), `OneAtlasGeneratingSetInfo` (2.5.4), and `AllAtlasGeneratingSetInfos` (2.5.5) now contain the name and (if known) the order of the group in question, and also components describing the degree in the case of permutation representations or the dimension and the base ring of the natural module in the case of matrix representations.

- For many of the groups, information about the minimal degree of faithful permutation representations and the minimal dimensions of faithful matrix representations in various characteristics is available for `DisplayAtlasInfo` (2.5.1), `OneAtlasGeneratingSetInfo` (2.5.4), and `AllAtlasGeneratingSetInfos` (2.5.5), see also Section 4.3. For these functions, also properties such as `IsPrimeInt` (**Reference: IsPrimeInt**) can be used to describe the intended restriction of the output.

- One can now use `Pager` (**Reference: Pager**) in `DisplayAtlasInfo` (2.5.1), see Section 1.7.5.

  An interactive alternative to `DisplayAtlasInfo` (2.5.1) is provided by the function `BrowseAtlasInfo` (**Browse: BrowseAtlasInfo**) from the new (recommended) GAP package Browse [BL08].

- The functions `OneAtlasGeneratingSetInfo` (2.5.4) and `AllAtlasGeneratingSetInfos` (2.5.5) now admit also a list of group names as the first argument.

- The functions for actually accessing the data are more flexible now, see Section 1.7.6.

- For transferring remote data, the GAP package IO [Neu07] can now be used (and is recommended) as an alternative to `wget`, see Section 1.7.3.

- The address of the data server has changed. Since the access to the server is no longer possible via `ftp`, the mechanim used up to version 1.2, which was based on `ftp`, had to be rewritten.

  The main consequence of this change is that information about updates of the table of contents is now provided at the package's homepage. This means that on the one hand, now package users cannot *compute* the table of contents directly from the server data, but on the other hand the update information can be *downloaded* without the necessity to install `perl`.

  Another consequence is that the system program `ls` is no longer needed, see Section 1.9.5.

- The package manual has been restructured, extended and improved. It is now based on the package GAPDoc [LN08].

1.9.4   What's New in Version 1.2?

Not much.

The release of Version 1.2 became necessary first of all in order to provide a package version that is compatible with GAP 4.4, since some cross-references into the GAP Reference Manual were broken due to changes of section names. Additionally, several web addresses concerning the package itself were changed and thus had to be adjusted.

This opportunity was used

- to upgrade the administrational part for loading the package to the mechanism that is recommended for GAP 4.4,

- to extend the test suite, which now covers more consistency checks using the GAP Character Table Library [Bre04],

- to make the function `ScanMeatAxeFile` (5.3.1) more robust, due to the fact that the GAP function `PermList` (**Reference: PermList**) now returns `fail` instead of raising an error,

- to change the way how representations with prescribed properties are accessed (the new function `OneAtlasGeneratingSetInfo` (2.5.4) is now preferred to the former `OneAtlasGeneratingSet`, and `AllAtlasGeneratingSetInfos` (2.5.5) has been added in order to provide programmatic access in parallel to the human readable descriptions printed by `DisplayAtlasInfo` (2.5.1)),

- and last but not least to include the current table of contents of the underlying database.

For AtlasRep users, the new feature of GAP 4.4 is particularly interesting that due to better kernel support, reading large matrices over finite fields is now faster than it was in GAP 4.3.

1.9.5   What's New in Version 1.1?

The biggest change w.r.t. Version 1.1 is the addition of private extensions (see Chapter 3). It includes a new "free format" for straight line programs (see Section 3.2). Unfortunately, this feature requires the system program `ls`, so it may be not available for example under MS Windows operating systems. [But see Section 1.9.3.]

In order to admit the addition of other types of data, the implementation of several functions has been changed. Data types are described in Section 5.5. An example of a new data type are quaternionic representations (see Section 5.6). The user interface itself (see Chapter 2) remained the same.

As an alternative to `perl`, one can use `wget` now for transferring data files (see 1.7).

Data files can be read much more efficiently in GAP 4.3 than in GAP 4.2. In Version 1.1 of the AtlasRep package, this feature is used for reading matrices and permutations in MeatAxe text format with `ScanMeatAxeFile` (5.3.1). As a consequence, (at least) GAP 4.3 is required for AtlasRep Version 1.1.

The new `compress` component of the global variable `AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsInfo` (5.1.5) allows one to store data files automatically in `gzipped` form.

For matrix representations in characteristic zero, invariant forms and generators for the centralizer algebra are now accessible in GAP if they are contained in the source files –this information had been ignored in Version 1.0 (see `AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsTestTableOfContentsRemoteUpdates` (1.6.4) for necessary updates).

Additional information is now available via the internet (see 1.3).

The update facilities have been extended (see 1.6).

The manual is now distributed also in pdf and HTML format; on the other hand, the PostScript format manual is no longer contained in the archives.

Apart from these changes, a few minor bugs in the handling of MeatAxe files have been fixed, typos in the documentation have been corrected, and the syntax checks for ATLAS straight line programs (see 5.4) have been improved.

1.10   Acknowledgments

The perl script that had been used for fetching remote data until version 1.2 had been kindly provided by Frank Lübeck and Max Neunhöffer. Thanks also to Greg Gamble and Alexander Hulpke for technical hints concerning "standard" perl.

Ulrich Kaiser helped with preparing the package for MS Windows.

The idea to support private extensions of the package (see Chapter 3) is due to Klaus Lux. He used a preliminary version of AtlasRep Version 1.1, and helped to fix several bugs.

The functions `CMtxBinaryFFMatOrPerm` (5.3.4) and `FFMatOrPermCMtxBinary` (5.3.5) were contributed by Frank Lübeck.

The GAPDoc package [LN08], which is used for processing the package manual, was written by Frank Lübeck and Max Neunhöffer.

The GAP package IO [Neu07], which is recommended for transferring data, was written by Max Neunhöffer.

Max has also suggested the generalization of the data access described in Section 1.7.6.

Gunter Malle had suggested to make the information about representations of minimal degree accessible.

Chapter 2

The User Interface of the **AtlasRep** Package

The *user interface* is the part of the GAP interface that allows one to display information about the current contents of the database and to access individual data (perhaps from a remote server, see Section 1.7.1). The corresponding functions are described in this chapter. See Section 2.6 for some small examples how to use the functions of the interface.

Extensions of the AtlasRep package are regarded as another part of the GAP interface, they are described in Chapter 3. Finally, the low level part of the interface are described in Chapter 5.

As stated in Section 1.2, the user interface is preliminary. It will be extended when the GAP version of the ATLAS of Group Representations is connected to other GAP databases such as the libraries of character tables and tables of marks.

For some of the examples in this chapter, the GAP packages CTblLib [Bre04] and TomLib are needed.

```
——————————————————— Example ———————————————————
  gap> LoadPackage( "ctbllib" );
  true
  gap> LoadPackage( "tomlib" );
  true
```

2.1 Accessing vs. Constructing Representations

Note that *accessing* the data means in particular that it is *not* the aim of this package to *construct* representations from known ones. For example, if at least one permutation representation for a group G is stored but no matrix representation in a positive characteristic p, say, then `OneAtlasGeneratingSetInfo` (2.5.4) returns `fail` when it is asked for a description of an available set of matrix generators for G in characteristic p, although such a representation can be obtained by reduction modulo p of an integral matrix representation, which in turn can be constructed from any permutation representation.

2.2 Group Names Used in the **AtlasRep** Package

The AtlasRep package refers to data of the ATLAS of Group Representations by the *name* of the group in question plus additional information. Thus it is essential to know this name, which is called *the*

GAP name of the group in the following.

For an almost simple group, the GAP name is equal to the `Identifier` (**Reference: Identifier!for character tables**) value of the character table of this group in the GAP library (see `Access to Library Character Tables` (**CTblLib: Access to Library Character Tables**)); this name is usually very similar to the name used in the ATLAS of Finite Groups [CCN$^+$85]. For example, `"M22"` is the GAP name of the Mathieu group M_{22}, and `"12_1.U4(3).2_1"` is the GAP name of $12_1.U_4(3).2_1$.

Internally, for example as part of filenames (see Section 5.6), the package uses names that may differ from the GAP names; these names are called *ATLAS-file names*. For example, `A5`, `TE62`, and `F24` are possible values for *groupname*. Of these, only `A5` is also a GAP name, but the other two are not; the corresponding GAP names are `2E6(2)` and `Fi24'`, respectively.

2.3 Standard Generators Used in the **AtlasRep** Package

For the general definition of *standard generators* of a group, see Section (**Reference: Standard Generators of Groups**); details can be found in [Wil96].

Several *different* standard generators may be defined for a group, the definitions can be found at
`http://brauer.maths.qmul.ac.uk/Atlas`

When one specifies the standardization, the *i*-th set of standard generators is denoted by the number *i*. Note that when more than one set of standard generators is defined for a group, one must be careful to use *compatible standardization*. For example, the straight line programs, straight line decisions and black box programs in the database refer to a specific standardization of their inputs. That is, a straight line program for computing generators of a certain subgroup of a group *G* is defined only for a specific set of standard generators of *G*, and applying the program to matrix or permutation generators of *G* but w.r.t. a different standardization may yield unpredictable results. Therefore the results returned by the functions described in this chapter contain information about the standardizations they refer to.

2.4 Class Names Used in the **AtlasRep** Package

For each straight line program (see `AtlasProgram` (2.5.3)) that is used to compute lists of class representatives, it is essential to describe the classes in which these elements lie. Therefore, in these cases the records returned by the function `AtlasProgram` (2.5.3) contain a component `outputs` with value a list of *class names*.

Currently we define these class names only for simple groups and automorphic extensions and central extensions of simple groups, see Section 2.4.1. The function `AtlasClassNames` (2.4.2) can be used to compute the list of class names from the character table in the GAP Library.

2.4.1 Definition of ATLAS Class Names

For the definition of class names of an almost simple group, we assume that the ordinary character tables of all nontrivial normal subgroups are shown in the ATLAS of Finite Groups [CCN$^+$85].

Each class name is a string consisting of the element order of the class in question followed by a combination of capital letters, digits, and the characters ′ and − (starting with a capital letter). For example, `1A`, `12A1`, and `3B'` denote the class that contains the identity element, a class of element order 12, and a class of element order 3, respectively.

1. For the table of a *simple* group, the class names are the same as returned by the two argument version of the GAP function `ClassNames` (**Reference: ClassNames**), cf. [CCN⁺85, Chapter 7, Section 5]: The classes are arranged w.r.t. increasing element order and for each element order w.r.t. decreasing centralizer order, the conjugacy classes that contain elements of order n are named nA, nB, nC, ...; the alphabet used here is potentially infinite, and reads A, B, C, ..., Z, A1, B1, ..., A2, B2, ...

   For example, the classes of the alternating group A_5 have the names 1A, 2A, 3A, 5A, and 5B.

2. Next we consider the case of an *upward extension G.A* of a simple group G by a *cyclic* group of order A. The ATLAS defines class names for each element g of $G.A$ only w.r.t. the group $G.a$, say, that is generated by G and g; namely, there is a power of g (with the exponent coprime to the order of g) for which the class has a name of the same form as the class names for simple groups, and the name of the class of g w.r.t. $G.a$ is then obtained from this name by appending a suitable number of dashes ′. So dashed class names refer exactly to those classes that are not printed in the ATLAS.

   For example, those classes of the symmetric group S_5 that do not lie in A_5 have the names 2B, 4A, and 6A. The outer classes of the group $L_2(8).3$ have the names 3B, 6A, 9D, and 3B′, 6A′, 9D′. The outer elements of order 5 in the group $Sz(32).5$ lie in the classes with names 5B, 5B′, 5B′′, and 5B′′′.

   In the group $G.A$, the class of g may fuse with other classes. The name of the class of g in $G.A$ is obtained from the names of the involved classes of $G.a$ by concatenating their names after removing the element order part from all of them except the first one.

   For example, the elements of order 9 in the group $L_2(27).6$ are contained in the subgroup $L_2(27).3$ but not in $L_2(27)$. In $L_2(27).3$, they lie in the classes 9A, 9A′, 9B, and 9B′; in $L_2(27).6$, these classes fuse to 9AB and 9A′B′.

3. Now we define class names for *general upward extensions G.A* of a simple group G. Each element g of such a group lies in an upward extension $G.a$ by a cyclic group, and the class names w.r.t. $G.a$ are already defined. The name of the class of g in $G.A$ is obtained by concatenating the names of the classes in the orbit of $G.A$ on the classes of cyclic upward extensions of G, after ordering the names lexicographically and removing the element order part from all of them except the first one. An *exception* is the situation where dashed and non-dashed class names appear in an orbit; in this case, the dashed names are omitted.

   For example, the classes 21A and 21B of the group $U_3(5).3$ fuse in $U_3(5).S_3$ to the class 21AB, and the class 2B of $U_3(5).2$ fuses with the involution classes 2B′, 2B′′ in the groups $U_3(5).2'$ and $U_3(5).2''$ to the class 2B of $U_3(5).S_3$.

   It may happen that some names in the `outputs` component of a record returned by `AtlasProgram` (2.5.3) do not uniquely determine the classes of the corresponding elements. For example, the (algebraically conjugate) classes 39A and 39B of the group Co_1 have not been distinguished yet. In such cases, the names used contain a minus sign –, and mean "one of the classes in the range described by the name before and the name after the minus sign"; the element order part of the name does not appear after the minus sign. So the name 39A-B for the group Co_1 means 39A or 39B, and the name 20A-B′′′ for the group $Sz(32).5$ means one of the classes of element order 20 in this group (these classes lie outside the simple group Sz).

4. For a central *downward extension m.G* of a simple group *G* by a cyclic group of order *m*, let π denote the natural epimorphism from *m.G* onto *G*. Each class name of *m.G* has the form nX_0, nX_1 etc., where nX is the class name of the image under π, and the indices 0, 1 etc. are chosen according to the position of the class in the lifting order rows for *G*, see [CCN$^+$85, Chapter 7, Section 7, and the example in Section 8]).

For example, if *m* = 6 then 1A_1 and 1A_5 denote the classes containing the generators of the kernel of π, that is, central elements of order 6.

2.4.2 AtlasClassNames

◇ AtlasClassNames(*tbl*)　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　(function)

Returns: a list of class names.

Let *tbl* be the ordinary character table of a group *G* that is simple or an automorphic or a central extension of a simple group and such that *tbl* is an ATLAS table from the GAP Character Table Library, according to its InfoText (**Reference: InfoText**) value. Then AtlasClassNames returns the list of class names for *G*, as defined in Section 2.4.1. The ordering of class names is the same as the ordering of the columns of *tbl*.

(The function may work also for character tables that are not ATLAS tables, but then clearly the class names returned are somewhat arbitrary.)

```
───────────────────────── Example ─────────────────────────
gap> AtlasClassNames( CharacterTable( "L3(4).3" ) );
[ "1A", "2A", "3A", "4ABC", "5A", "5B", "7A", "7B", "3B", "3B’", "3C", "3C’",
  "6B", "6B’", "15A", "15A’", "15B", "15B’", "21A", "21A’", "21B", "21B’" ]
gap> AtlasClassNames( CharacterTable( "U3(5).2" ) );
[ "1A", "2A", "3A", "4A", "5A", "5B", "5CD", "6A", "7AB", "8AB", "10A", "2B",
  "4B", "6D", "8C", "10B", "12B", "20A", "20B" ]
gap> AtlasClassNames( CharacterTable( "L2(27).6" ) );
[ "1A", "2A", "3AB", "7ABC", "13ABC", "13DEF", "14ABC", "2B", "4A", "26ABC",
  "26DEF", "28ABC", "28DEF", "3C", "3C’", "6A", "6A’", "9AB", "9A’B’", "6B",
  "6B’", "12A", "12A’" ]
gap> AtlasClassNames( CharacterTable( "L3(4).3.2_2" ) );
[ "1A", "2A", "3A", "4ABC", "5AB", "7A", "7B", "3B", "3C", "6B", "15A",
  "15B", "21A", "21B", "2C", "4E", "6E", "8D", "14A", "14B" ]
gap> AtlasClassNames( CharacterTable( "3.A6" ) );
[ "1A_0", "1A_1", "1A_2", "2A_0", "2A_1", "2A_2", "3A_0", "3B_0", "4A_0",
  "4A_1", "4A_2", "5A_0", "5A_1", "5A_2", "5B_0", "5B_1", "5B_2" ]
```

2.5 Accessing Data of the AtlasRep Package

(Note that the output of the examples in this section refers to a perhaps outdated table of contents; the current version of the database may contain more information than is shown here.)

2.5.1 DisplayAtlasInfo

◇ DisplayAtlasInfo()　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　(function)
◇ DisplayAtlasInfo(*listofnames*)　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　(function)
◇ DisplayAtlasInfo(*gapname[, std][, ...]*)　　　　　　　　　　　　(function)

This function lists the information available via the AtlasRep package, for the given input. Depending on whether remote access to data is enabled (see Section 1.7.1), all the data provided by the ATLAS of Group Representations or only those in the local installation are considered.

(An interactive alternative to `DisplayAtlasInfo` is the function `BrowseAtlasInfo` (**Browse: BrowseAtlasInfo**), see [BL08]; this function provides also the functionality of `AtlasGenerators` (2.5.2).)

Called without arguments, `DisplayAtlasInfo` prints an overview what information the ATLAS of Group Representations provides. One line is printed for each group *G*, with the following columns.

group the GAP name of *G* (see Section 2.2),

the number of representations stored for *G*,

maxes the available straight line programs for computing generators of maximal subgroups of *G*,

cl a + sign if at least one program for computing representatives of conjugacy classes of elements of
  G is stored, and a – sign otherwise,

cyc a + sign if at least one program for computing representatives of classes of maximally cyclic
  subgroups of *G* is stored, and a – sign otherwise,

out descriptions of outer automorphisms of *G* for which at least one program is stored,

check a + sign if at least one program is available for checking whether a set of generators is a set
  of standard generators, and a – sign otherwise,

pres a + sign if at least one program is available that encodes a presentation, and a – sign otherwise,

find a + sign if at least one program is available for finding standard generators, and a – sign
  otherwise,

Called with a list `listofnames` of strings that are GAP names for a group from the ATLAS of Group Representations, `DisplayAtlasInfo` prints the overview described above but restricted to the groups in this list.

Called with a string `gapname` that is a GAP name for a group from the ATLAS of Group Representations, `DisplayAtlasInfo` prints an overview of the information that is available for this group. One line is printed for each representation, showing the number of this representation (which can be used in calls of `AtlasGenerators` (2.5.2)), and a string of one of the following forms; in both cases, `id` is a (possibly empty) string.

G <= Sym(*nid*) denotes a permutation representation of degree *n*, for example G <= Sym(40a)
  and G <= Sym(40b) denote two (nonequivalent) representations of degree 40.

G <= GL(*nid*,*descr*) denotes a matrix representation of dimension *n* over a coefficient ring
  described by `descr`, which can be a prime power, Z (denoting the ring of integers), a description of an algebraic extension field, C (denoting an unspecified algebraic extension field), or
  Z/*m*Z for an integer *m* (denoting the ring of residues mod *m*); for example, G <= GL(2a,4) and
  G <= GL(2b,4) denote two (nonequivalent) representations of dimension 2 over the field with
  four elements.

After the representations, the programs available for `gapname` are listed.

If the first argument is a string `gapname`, the following optional arguments can be used to restrict the overview.

`std` must be a positive integer or a list of positive integers; if it is given then only those representations are considered that refer to the `std`-th set of standard generators or the *i*-th set of standard generators, for *i* in `std` (see Section 2.3),

`IsPermGroup` and `true` restrict to permutation representations,

`NrMovedPoints` and *n* for a positive integer, a list of positive integers, or a property *n*, restrict to permutation representations of degree equal to *n*, or in the list *n*, or satisfying the function *n*,

`NrMovedPoints` and the string `"minimal"` restrict to faithful permutation representations of minimal degree (if this information is available),

`IsMatrixGroup` and `true` restrict to matrix representations,

`Characteristic` and *p* for a prime integer, a list of prime integers, or a property *p*, restrict to matrix representations over fields of characteristic equal to *p*, or in the list *p*, or satisfying the function *p* (representations over residue class rings that are not fields can be addressed by entering `fail` as the value of *p*),

`Dimension` and *n* for a positive integer, a list of positive integers, or a property *n*, restrict to matrix representations of dimension equal to *n*, or in the list *n*, or satisfying the function *n*,

`Characteristic`, *p*, `Dimension`, and the string `"minimal"` for a prime integer *p*, restrict to faithful matrix representations over fields of characteristic *p* that have minimal dimension (if this information is available),

`Ring` and *R* for a ring or a property *R*, restrict to matrix representations over this ring or satisfying this function (note that the representation might be defined over a proper subring of *R*), and

`Ring`, *R*, `Dimension`, and the string `"minimal"` for a ring *R*, restrict to faithful matrix representations over this ring that have minimal dimension (if this information is available),

`IsStraightLineProgram` restricts to straight line programs, straight line decisions (see Section 4.1), and black box programs (see Section 4.2).

If "minimality" information is requested and no available representation matches this condition then either no minimal representation is available or the information about the minimality is missing. See `MinimalRepresentationInfo` (4.3.1) for checking whether the minimality information is available for the group in question. Note that in the cases where the string `"minimal"` occurs as an argument, `MinimalRepresentationInfo` (4.3.1) is called with third argument `"lookup"`; this is because the stored information was computed just for the groups in the ATLAS of Group Representations, so trying to compute non-stored minimality information (using other available databases) will hardly be successful.

The representations are ordered as follows. Permutation representations come first (ordered according to their degrees), followed by matrix representations over finite fields (ordered first according to the field size and second according to the dimension), matrix representations over the integers, and then matrix representations over algebraic extension fields (both kinds ordered according to the

dimension), the last representations are matrix representations over residue class rings (ordered first according to the modulus and second according to the dimension).

The maximal subgroups are ordered according to decreasing group order. For an extension $G.p$ of a simple group G by an outer automorphism of prime order p, this means that G is the first maximal subgroup and then come the extensions of the maximal subgroups of G and the novelties; so the n-th maximal subgroup of G and the n-th maximal subgroup of $G.p$ are in general not related. (This coincides with the numbering used for the Maxes (**CTblLib: Maxes**) attribute for character tables.)

```
 ─────────────────────── Example ───────────────────────
 gap> DisplayAtlasInfo( [ "M11", "A5" ] );
 group    #  maxes  cl  cyc  out  find  check  pres
 ----------------------------------------------------
 M11      42     5   +    +          +     +      +
 A5       18     3   -    -          -     +      +
```

The above output means that the ATLAS of Group Representations contains 42 representations of the Mathieu group M_{11}, straight line programs for computing generators of representatives of all five classes of maximal subgroups, for computing representatives of the conjugacy classes of elements and of generators of maximally cyclic subgroups, contains no straight line program for applying outer automorphisms (well, in fact M_{11} admits no nontrivial outer automorphism), and contains a straight line decision that checks generators for being standard generators. Analogously, 18 representations of the alternating group A_5 are available, straight line programs for computing generators of representatives of all three classes of maximal subgroups, and no straight line programs for computing representatives of the conjugacy classes of elements, of generators of maximally cyclic subgroups, and no for computing images under outer automorphisms; a straight line decision for checking the standardization of generators is contained.

```
 ─────────────────────── Example ───────────────────────
 gap> DisplayAtlasInfo( "A5", IsPermGroup, true );
 Representations for G = A5:    (all refer to std. generators 1)
 --------------------------
 1: G <= Sym(5)
 2: G <= Sym(6)
 3: G <= Sym(10)
 gap> DisplayAtlasInfo( "A5", NrMovedPoints, [ 4 .. 9 ] );
 Representations for G = A5:    (all refer to std. generators 1)
 --------------------------
 1: G <= Sym(5)
 2: G <= Sym(6)
```

The first three representations stored for A_5 are (in fact primitive) permutation representations.

```
 ─────────────────────── Example ───────────────────────
 gap> DisplayAtlasInfo( "A5", Dimension, [ 1 .. 3 ] );
 Representations for G = A5:    (all refer to std. generators 1)
 --------------------------
  8: G <= GL(2a,4)
  9: G <= GL(2b,4)
 10: G <= GL(3,5)
 12: G <= GL(3a,9)
 13: G <= GL(3b,9)
 17: G <= GL(3a,Field([Sqrt(5)]))
 18: G <= GL(3b,Field([Sqrt(5)]))
```

```
gap> DisplayAtlasInfo( "A5", Characteristic, 0 );
Representations for G = A5:    (all refer to std. generators 1)
--------------------------
14: G <= GL(4,Z)
15: G <= GL(5,Z)
16: G <= GL(6,Z)
17: G <= GL(3a,Field([Sqrt(5)]))
18: G <= GL(3b,Field([Sqrt(5)]))
```

The representations with number between 4 and 13 are (in fact irreducible) matrix representations over various finite fields, those with numbers 14 to 16 are integral matrix representations, and the last two are matrix representations over the field generated by $\sqrt{5}$ over the rational number field.

```
──────────────── Example ────────────────
gap> DisplayAtlasInfo( "A5", NrMovedPoints, IsPrimeInt );
Representations for G = A5:    (all refer to std. generators 1)
--------------------------
1: G <= Sym(5)
gap> DisplayAtlasInfo( "A5", Characteristic, IsOddInt );
Representations for G = A5:    (all refer to std. generators 1)
--------------------------
 6: G <= GL(4,3)
 7: G <= GL(6,3)
10: G <= GL(3,5)
11: G <= GL(5,5)
12: G <= GL(3a,9)
13: G <= GL(3b,9)
gap> DisplayAtlasInfo( "A5", Dimension, IsPrimeInt );
Representations for G = A5:    (all refer to std. generators 1)
--------------------------
 8: G <= GL(2a,4)
 9: G <= GL(2b,4)
10: G <= GL(3,5)
11: G <= GL(5,5)
12: G <= GL(3a,9)
13: G <= GL(3b,9)
15: G <= GL(5,Z)
17: G <= GL(3a,Field([Sqrt(5)]))
18: G <= GL(3b,Field([Sqrt(5)]))
gap> DisplayAtlasInfo( "A5", Ring, IsFinite and IsPrimeField );
Representations for G = A5:    (all refer to std. generators 1)
--------------------------
 4: G <= GL(4a,2)
 5: G <= GL(4b,2)
 6: G <= GL(4,3)
 7: G <= GL(6,3)
10: G <= GL(3,5)
11: G <= GL(5,5)
```

The above examples show how the output can be restricted using a property (a unary function that returns either `true` or `false`) that follows `NrMovedPoints` (**Reference: NrMovedPoints**), `Characteristic` (**Reference: Characteristic**), `Dimension` (**Reference: Dimension**), or `Ring` (**Reference: Ring**) in the argument list of `DisplayAtlasInfo` (2.5.1).

```
                            ──── Example ────
 gap> DisplayAtlasInfo( "A5", IsStraightLineProgram, true );
 Programs for G = A5:    (all refer to std. generators 1)
 --------------------
 available maxes of G:  [ 1 .. 3 ] (all)
 standard generators checker available
 presentation available
```

Straight line programs are available for computing generators of representatives of the three classes of maximal subgroups of A_5, and a straight line decision for checking whether given generators are in fact standard generators ia available as well as a presentation in terms of standard generators, see `AtlasProgram` (2.5.3).

2.5.2 AtlasGenerators

◇ AtlasGenerators(*gapname, repnr[, maxnr]*)   (function)
◇ AtlasGenerators(*identifier*)   (function)

Returns: a record containing generators for a representation, or `fail`.

In the first form, *gapname* must be a string denoting a GAP name (see Section 2.2) of a group, and *repnr* a positive integer. If the ATLAS of Group Representations contains at least *repnr* representations for the group with GAP name *gapname* then `AtlasGenerators`, when called with *gapname* and *repnr*, returns an immutable record describing the *repnr*-th representation; otherwise `fail` is returned. If a third argument *maxnr*, a positive integer, is given then an immutable record describing the restriction of the *repnr*-th representation to the *maxnr*-th maximal subgroup is returned.

The result record has the following components.

groupname the GAP name of the group (see Section 2.2),

generators a list of generators for the group,

standardization the positive integer denoting the underlying standard generators,

size (only if known) the order of the group,

identifier a GAP object (a list of filenames plus additional information) that uniquely determines the representation; the value can be used as *identifier* argument of `AtlasGenerators`.

repnr the number of the representation in the current session, equal to the argument *repnr* if this is given.

Additionally, there are describing components dependent on the data type of the representation: For permutation representations, these are `p` for the number of moved points and `id` for the distinguishing string as described for `DisplayAtlasInfo` (2.5.1); for matrix representations, these are `dim` for the dimension of the matrices, `ring` (if known) for the ring generated by the matrix entries, and `id` for the distinguishing string.

It should be noted that the number *repnr* refers to the number shown by `DisplayAtlasInfo` (2.5.1) *in the current session*; it may be that after the addition of new representations, *repnr* refers to another representation.

The alternative form of `AtlasGenerators`, with only argument *identifier*, can be used to fetch the result record with `identifier` value equal to *identifier*. The purpose of this variant is to access the *same* representation also in *different* GAP sessions.

```
                              Example
 gap> gens1:= AtlasGenerators( "A5", 1 );
 rec( generators := [ (1,2)(3,4), (1,3,5) ], groupname := "A5",
   standardization := 1, repnr := 1,
   identifier := [ "A5", [ "A5G1-p5B0.m1", "A5G1-p5B0.m2" ], 1, 5 ], p := 5,
   id := "", size := 60 )
 gap> gens8:= AtlasGenerators( "A5", 8 );
 rec(
   generators := [ [ [ Z(2)^0, 0*Z(2) ], [ Z(2^2), Z(2)^0 ] ], [ [ 0*Z(2), Z(2
                   )^0 ], [ Z(2)^0, Z(2)^0 ] ] ], groupname := "A5",
   standardization := 1, repnr := 8,
   identifier := [ "A5", [ "A5G1-f4r2aB0.m1", "A5G1-f4r2aB0.m2" ], 1, 4 ],
   dim := 2, id := "a", ring := GF(2^2), size := 60 )
 gap> gens17:= AtlasGenerators( "A5", 17 );
 rec(
   generators := [ [ [ -1, 0, 0 ], [ 0, -1, 0 ], [ -E(5)-E(5)^4, -E(5)-E(5)^4,
                 1 ] ], [ [ 0, 1, 0 ], [ 0, 0, 1 ], [ 1, 0, 0 ] ] ],
   groupname := "A5", standardization := 1, repnr := 17,
   identifier := [ "A5", "A5G1-Ar3aB0.g", 1, 3 ], dim := 3, id := "a",
   ring := NF(5,[ 1, 4 ]), size := 60 )
```

Each of the above pairs of elements generates a group isomorphic to A_5.

```
                              Example
 gap> gens1max2:= AtlasGenerators( "A5", 1, 2 );
 rec( generators := [ (1,2)(3,4), (2,3)(4,5) ], standardization := 1,
   repnr := 1, identifier := [ "A5", [ "A5G1-p5B0.m1", "A5G1-p5B0.m2" ], 1, 5,
       2 ], p := 5, id := "", size := 10 )
 gap> id:= gens1max2.identifier;;
 gap> gens1max2 = AtlasGenerators( id );
 true
 gap> max2:= Group( gens1max2.generators );;
 gap> Size( max2 );
 10
 gap> IdGroup( max2 ) = IdGroup( DihedralGroup( 10 ) );
 true
```

The elements stored in `gens1max2.generators` describe the restriction of the first representation of A_5 to a group in the second class of maximal subgroups of A_5 according to the list in the ATLAS of Finite Groups [CCN⁺85]; this subgroup is isomorphic to the dihedral group D_{10}.

2.5.3 AtlasProgram

◊ AtlasProgram(*gapname[, std], ...*)   (function)
◊ AtlasProgram(*identifier*)   (function)

Returns: a record containing a program, or `fail`.

In the first form, *gapname* must be a string denoting a GAP name (see Section 2.2) of a group *G*, say. If the ATLAS of Group Representations contains a straight line program (see Section (**Reference: Straight Line Programs**)) or straight line decision (see Section 4.1) or black box program (see Section 4.2) as described by the remaining arguments (see below) then `AtlasProgram` returns an immutable record containing this program. Otherwise `fail` is returned.

If the optional argument std is given, only those straight line programs/decisions are considered that take generators from the std-th set of standard generators of G as input, see Section 2.3.

The result record has the following components.

program the required straight line program/decision, or black box program,

standardization the positive integer denoting the underlying standard generators of G,

identifier a GAP object (a list of filenames plus additional information) that uniquely determines the program; the value can be used as $identifier$ argument of `AtlasProgram` (see below).

In the first form, the last arguments must be as follows.

(the string "maxes" and) a positive integer *maxnr* the required program computes generators of the $maxnr$-th maximal subgroup of the group with GAP name $gapname$.

In this case, the result record of `AtlasProgram` also may contain a component `size`, whose value is the order of the maximal subgroup in question.

one of the strings "classes" or "cyclic" the required program computes representatives of conjugacy classes of elements or representatives of generators of maximally cyclic subgroups of G, respectively.

See [BSWW01] and [SWW00] for the background concerning these straight line programs. In these cases, the result record of `AtlasProgram` also contains a component `outputs`, whose value is a list of class names of the outputs, as described in Section 2.4.

the strings "automorphism" and *autname* the required program computes images of standard generators under the outer automorphism of G that is given by this string.

the string "check" the required result is a straight line decision that takes a list of generators for G and returns `true` if these generators are standard generators w.r.t. the standardization std, and `false` otherwise.

the string "presentation" the required result is a straight line decision that takes a list of group elements and returns `true` if these elements are standard generators of G w.r.t. the standardization std, and `false` otherwise.

the string "find" the required result is a black box program that takes G and returns a list of standard generators of G, w.r.t. the standardization std.

the string "restandardize" and an integer *std2* the required result is a straight line program that computes standard generators of G w.r.t. the $std2$-th set of standard generators of G; in this case, the argument std must be given.

the strings "other" and *descr* the required program is described by $descr$.

The second form of `AtlasProgram`, with only argument the list $identifier$, can be used to fetch the result record with `identifier` value equal to $identifier$.

```
───────────────────── Example ─────────────────────
 gap> prog:= AtlasProgram( "A5", 2 );
 rec( program := <straight line program>, standardization := 1,
   identifier := [ "A5", "A5G1-max2W1", 1 ], size := 10, groupname := "A5" )
 gap> StringOfResultOfStraightLineProgram( prog.program, [ "a", "b" ] );
 "[ a, bbab ]"
 gap> gens1:= AtlasGenerators( "A5", 1 );
 rec( generators := [ (1,2)(3,4), (1,3,5) ], groupname := "A5",
   standardization := 1, repnr := 1,
   identifier := [ "A5", [ "A5G1-p5B0.m1", "A5G1-p5B0.m2" ], 1, 5 ], p := 5,
   id := "", size := 60 )
 gap> maxgens:= ResultOfStraightLineProgram( prog.program, gens1.generators );
 [ (1,2)(3,4), (2,3)(4,5) ]
 gap> maxgens = gens1max2.generators;
 true
```

The above example shows that for restricting representations given by standard generators to a maximal subgroup of A_5, we can also fetch and apply the appropriate straight line program. Such a program (see (**Reference: Straight Line Programs**)) takes standard generators of a group –in this example A_5– as its input, and returns a list of elements in this group –in this example generators of the D_{10} subgroup we had met above– which are computed essentially by evaluating structured words in terms of the standard generators.

```
───────────────────── Example ─────────────────────
 gap> prog:= AtlasProgram( "J1", "cyclic" );
 rec( program := <straight line program>, standardization := 1,
   identifier := [ "J1", "J1G1-cycW1", 1 ],
   outputs := [ "6A", "7A", "10B", "11A", "15B", "19A" ], groupname := "J1" )
 gap> gens:= GeneratorsOfGroup( FreeGroup( "x", "y" ) );;
 gap> ResultOfStraightLineProgram( prog.program, gens );
 [ x*y*x*y^2*x*y*x*y^2*x*y*x*y*x*y^2*x*y^2, x*y, x*y*x*y^2*x*y*x*y*x*y^2*x*y^2,
   x*y*x*y*x*y^2*x*y^2*x*y*x*y^2*x*y*x*y*x*y^2*x*y^2*x*y*x*y^2*x*y*x*y*x*y^
     2*x*y^2, x*y*x*y*x*y^2*x*y^2, x*y*x*y^2 ]
```

The above example shows how to fetch and use straight line programs for computing generators of representatives of maximally cyclic subgroups of a given group.

2.5.4 OneAtlasGeneratingSetInfo

◊ OneAtlasGeneratingSetInfo(*[gapname,][std,][...]*)   (function)
    Returns: a record describing a representation that satisfies the conditions, or fail.
    Let *gapname* be a string denoting a GAP name (see Section 2.2) of a group *G*, say. If the ATLAS of Group Representations contains at least one representation for *G* with the required properties then OneAtlasGeneratingSetInfo returns a record *r* whose components are the same as those of the records returned by AtlasGenerators (2.5.2), except that the component generators is not contained; the component identifier of *r* can be used as input for AtlasGenerators (2.5.2) in order to fetch the generators. If no representation satisfying the given conditions ia available then fail is returned.
    If the argument *std* is given then it must be a positive integer or a list of positive integers, denoting the sets of standard generators w.r.t. which the representation shall be given (see Section 2.3).

The argument *gapname* can be missing (then all available groups are considered), or a list of group names can be given instead.

Further restrictions can be entered as arguments, with the same meaning as described for DisplayAtlasInfo (2.5.1). The result of OneAtlasGeneratingSetInfo describes the first generating set for *G* that matches the restrictions, in the ordering shown by DisplayAtlasInfo (2.5.1).

Note that even in the case that the user parameter "remote" has the value true (see Section 1.7.1), OneAtlasGeneratingSetInfo does *not* attempt to *transfer* remote data files, just the table of contents is evaluated. So this function (as well as AllAtlasGeneratingSetInfos (2.5.5)) can be used to check for the availability of certain representations, and afterwards one can call AtlasGenerators (2.5.2) for those representations one wants to work with.

In the following example, we try to access information about permutation representations for the alternating group A_5.

```
──────────────── Example ────────────────
gap> info:= OneAtlasGeneratingSetInfo( "A5" );
rec( groupname := "A5", standardization := 1, repnr := 1,
  identifier := [ "A5", [ "A5G1-p5B0.m1", "A5G1-p5B0.m2" ], 1, 5 ], p := 5,
  id := "", size := 60 )
gap> gens:= AtlasGenerators( info.identifier );
rec( generators := [ (1,2)(3,4), (1,3,5) ], groupname := "A5",
  standardization := 1, repnr := 1,
  identifier := [ "A5", [ "A5G1-p5B0.m1", "A5G1-p5B0.m2" ], 1, 5 ], p := 5,
  id := "", size := 60 )
gap> info = OneAtlasGeneratingSetInfo( "A5", IsPermGroup, true );
true
gap> info = OneAtlasGeneratingSetInfo( "A5", NrMovedPoints, "minimal" );
true
gap> info = OneAtlasGeneratingSetInfo( "A5", NrMovedPoints, [ 1 .. 10 ] );
true
gap> OneAtlasGeneratingSetInfo( "A5", NrMovedPoints, 20 );
fail
```

Note that a permutation representation of degree 20 could be obtained by taking twice the primitive representation on 10 points; however, the ATLAS of Group Representations does not store this imprimitive representation (cf. Section 2.1).

We continue this example a little. Next we access matrix representations of A_5.

```
──────────────── Example ────────────────
gap> info:= OneAtlasGeneratingSetInfo( "A5", IsMatrixGroup, true );
rec( groupname := "A5", standardization := 1, repnr := 4,
  identifier := [ "A5", [ "A5G1-f2r4aB0.m1", "A5G1-f2r4aB0.m2" ], 1, 2 ],
  dim := 4, id := "a", ring := GF(2), size := 60 )
gap> gens:= AtlasGenerators( info.identifier );
rec(
  generators := [ <an immutable 4x4 matrix over GF2>, <an immutable 4x4 matrix\
 over GF2> ], groupname := "A5", standardization := 1, repnr := 4,
  identifier := [ "A5", [ "A5G1-f2r4aB0.m1", "A5G1-f2r4aB0.m2" ], 1, 2 ],
  dim := 4, id := "a", ring := GF(2), size := 60 )
gap> info = OneAtlasGeneratingSetInfo( "A5", Dimension, 4 );
true
gap> info = OneAtlasGeneratingSetInfo( "A5", Characteristic, 2 );
true
```

```
gap> info = OneAtlasGeneratingSetInfo( "A5", Ring, GF(2) );
true
gap> OneAtlasGeneratingSetInfo( "A5", Characteristic, [2,5], Dimension, 2 );
rec( groupname := "A5", standardization := 1, repnr := 8,
  identifier := [ "A5", [ "A5G1-f4r2aB0.m1", "A5G1-f4r2aB0.m2" ], 1, 4 ],
  dim := 2, id := "a", ring := GF(2^2), size := 60 )
gap> OneAtlasGeneratingSetInfo( "A5", Characteristic, [2,5], Dimension, 1 );
fail
gap> info:= OneAtlasGeneratingSetInfo( "A5", Characteristic, 0, Dimension, 4 );
rec( groupname := "A5", standardization := 1, repnr := 14,
  identifier := [ "A5", "A5G1-Zr4B0.g", 1, 4 ], dim := 4, id := "",
  ring := Integers, size := 60 )
gap> gens:= AtlasGenerators( info.identifier );
rec(
  generators := [ [ [ 1, 0, 0, 0 ], [ 0, 0, 1, 0 ], [ 0, 1, 0, 0 ], [ -1, -1,
              -1, -1 ] ],
      [ [ 0, 1, 0, 0 ], [ 0, 0, 0, 1 ], [ 0, 0, 1, 0 ], [ 1, 0, 0, 0 ] ] ],
  groupname := "A5", standardization := 1, repnr := 14,
  identifier := [ "A5", "A5G1-Zr4B0.g", 1, 4 ], dim := 4, id := "",
  ring := Integers, size := 60 )
gap> info = OneAtlasGeneratingSetInfo( "A5", Ring, Integers );
true
gap> info = OneAtlasGeneratingSetInfo( "A5", Ring, CF(37) );
true
gap> OneAtlasGeneratingSetInfo( "A5", Ring, Integers mod 77 );
fail
gap> info:= OneAtlasGeneratingSetInfo( "A5", Ring, CF(5), Dimension, 3 );
rec( groupname := "A5", standardization := 1, repnr := 17,
  identifier := [ "A5", "A5G1-Ar3aB0.g", 1, 3 ], dim := 3, id := "a",
  ring := NF(5,[ 1, 4 ]), size := 60 )
gap> gens:= AtlasGenerators( info.identifier );
rec(
  generators := [ [ [ -1, 0, 0 ], [ 0, -1, 0 ], [ -E(5)-E(5)^4, -E(5)-E(5)^4,
              1 ] ], [ [ 0, 1, 0 ], [ 0, 0, 1 ], [ 1, 0, 0 ] ] ],
  groupname := "A5", standardization := 1, repnr := 17,
  identifier := [ "A5", "A5G1-Ar3aB0.g", 1, 3 ], dim := 3, id := "a",
  ring := NF(5,[ 1, 4 ]), size := 60 )
gap> OneAtlasGeneratingSetInfo( "A5", Ring, GF(17) );
fail
```

2.5.5 AllAtlasGeneratingSetInfos

◇ AllAtlasGeneratingSetInfos(*[gapname,][std,][...]*)   (function)

   Returns: the list of all records describing representations that satisfy the conditions.

   AllAtlasGeneratingSetInfos is similar to OneAtlasGeneratingSetInfo (2.5.4). The difference is that the list of *all* records describing the available representations with the given properties is returned instead of just one such component. In particular an empty list is returned if no such representation is available.

─────────────────────── Example ───────────────────────
```
gap> AllAtlasGeneratingSetInfos( "A5", IsPermGroup, true );
[ rec( groupname := "A5", standardization := 1, repnr := 1,
```

```
         identifier := [ "A5", [ "A5G1-p5B0.m1", "A5G1-p5B0.m2" ], 1, 5 ],
         p := 5, id := "", size := 60 ),
    rec( groupname := "A5", standardization := 1, repnr := 2,
         identifier := [ "A5", [ "A5G1-p6B0.m1", "A5G1-p6B0.m2" ], 1, 6 ],
         p := 6, id := "", size := 60 ),
    rec( groupname := "A5", standardization := 1, repnr := 3,
         identifier := [ "A5", [ "A5G1-p10B0.m1", "A5G1-p10B0.m2" ], 1, 10 ],
         p := 10, id := "", size := 60 ) ]
```

Note that a matrix representation in any characteristic can be obtained by reducing a permutation representation or an integral matrix representation; however, the ATLAS of Group Representations does not *store* such a representation (cf. Section 2.1).

2.5.6 AtlasGroup

◊ AtlasGroup(*[gapname,][std,][...]*) (function)

Returns: a group that satisfies the conditions, or `fail`.

`AtlasGroup` takes the same arguments as `OneAtlasGeneratingSetInfo` (2.5.4), and returns the group generated by the `generators` component of the record that is returned by `OneAtlasGeneratingSetInfo` (2.5.4) with these arguments; if `OneAtlasGeneratingSetInfo` (2.5.4) returns `fail` then also `AtlasGroup` returns `fail`.

Alternatively, a record as returned by `OneAtlasGeneratingSetInfo` (2.5.4) or `AllAtlasGeneratingSetInfos` (2.5.5) can be given as the only argument.

```
———————————————— Example ————————————————
 gap> g:= AtlasGroup( "A5" );
 Group([ (1,2)(3,4), (1,3,5) ])
```

2.5.7 AtlasSubgroup

◊ AtlasSubgroup(*gapname[, std][, ...], maxnr*) (function)

Returns: a group that satisfies the conditions, or `fail`.

The arguments of `AtlasSubgroup`, except the last argument `maxn`, are the same as for `AtlasGroup` (2.5.6). If the ATLAS of Group Representations provides a straight line program for restricting representations of the group with name *gapname* (given w.r.t. the *std*-th standard generators) to the *maxnr*-th maximal subgroup and if a representation with the required properties is available, in the sense that calling `AtlasGroup` (2.5.6) with the same arguments except *maxnr* yields a group, then `AtlasSubgroup` returns the restriction of this representation to the *maxnr*-th maximal subgroup. In all other cases, `fail` is returned.

Note that the conditions refer to the group and not to the subgroup. It may happen that in the restriction of a permutation representation to a subgroup, fewer points are moved, or that the restriction of a matrix representation turns out to be defined over a smaller ring. Here is an example.

```
———————————————— Example ————————————————
 gap> g:= AtlasSubgroup( "A5", NrMovedPoints, 5, 1 );
 Group([ (1,5)(2,3), (1,3,5) ])
 gap> NrMovedPoints( g );
 4
```

2.6 Examples of Using the **AtlasRep** Package

2.6.1 Example: Class Representatives

First we show the computation of class representatives of the Mathieu group M_{11}, in a 2-modular matrix representation. We start with the ordinary and Brauer character tables of this group.

```
────────────────────────── Example ──────────────────────────
 gap> tbl:= CharacterTable( "M11" );;
 gap> modtbl:= tbl mod 2;;
 gap> CharacterDegrees( modtbl );
 [ [ 1, 1 ], [ 10, 1 ], [ 16, 2 ], [ 44, 1 ] ]
```

The output of `CharacterDegrees` (**Reference: CharacterDegrees**) means that the 2-modular irreducibles of M_{11} have degrees 1, 10, 16, 16, and 44.

Using `DisplayAtlasInfo` (2.5.1), we find out that matrix generators for the irreducible 10-dimensional representation are available in the database.

```
────────────────────────── Example ──────────────────────────
 gap> DisplayAtlasInfo( "M11", Characteristic, 2 );
 Representations for G = M11:    (all refer to std. generators 1)
 ---------------------------
  6: G <= GL(10,2)
  7: G <= GL(32,2)
  8: G <= GL(44,2)
 16: G <= GL(16a,4)
 17: G <= GL(16b,4)
```

So we decide to work with this representation. We fetch the generators and compute the list of class representatives of M_{11} in the representation. The ordering of class representatives is the same as that in the character table of the ATLAS of Finite Groups ([CCN+85]), which coincides with the ordering of columns in the GAP table we have fetched above.

```
────────────────────────── Example ──────────────────────────
 gap> info:= OneAtlasGeneratingSetInfo( "M11", Characteristic, 2,
 >                                        Dimension, 10 );;
 gap> gens:= AtlasGenerators( info.identifier );;
 gap> ccls:= AtlasProgram( "M11", gens.standardization, "classes" );
 rec( program := <straight line program>, standardization := 1,
   identifier := [ "M11", "M11G1-cclsW1", 1 ],
   outputs := [ "1A", "2A", "3A", "4A", "5A", "6A", "8A", "8B", "11A", "11B" ],
   groupname := "M11" )
 gap> reps:= ResultOfStraightLineProgram( ccls.program, gens.generators );;
```

If we would need only a few class representatives, we could use the GAP library function `RestrictOutputsOfSLP` (**Reference: RestrictOutputsOfSLP**) to create a straight line program that computes only specified outputs. Here is an example where only the class representatives of order eight are computed.

```
────────────────────────── Example ──────────────────────────
 gap> ord8prg:= RestrictOutputsOfSLP( ccls.program,
 >                 Filtered( [ 1 .. 10 ], i -> ccls.outputs[i][1] = '8' ) );
 <straight line program>
```

```
gap> ord8reps:= ResultOfStraightLineProgram( ord8prg, gens.generators );;
gap> List( ord8reps, m -> Position( reps, m ) );
[ 7, 8 ]
```

Let us check that the class representatives have the right orders.

```
_____ Example _____
gap> List( reps, Order ) = OrdersClassRepresentatives( tbl );
true
```

From the class representatives, we can compute the Brauer character we had started with. This Brauer character is defined on all classes of the 2-modular table. So we first pick only those representatives, using the GAP function `GetFusionMap` (**Reference: GetFusionMap**); in this situation, it returns the class fusion from the Brauer table into the ordinary table.

```
_____ Example _____
gap> fus:= GetFusionMap( modtbl, tbl );
[ 1, 3, 5, 9, 10 ]
gap> modreps:= reps{ fus };;
```

Then we call the GAP function `BrauerCharacterValue` (**Reference: BrauerCharacterValue**), which computes the Brauer character value from the matrix given.

```
_____ Example _____
gap> char:= List( modreps, BrauerCharacterValue );
[ 10, 1, 0, -1, -1 ]
gap> Position( Irr( modtbl ), char );
2
```

2.6.2 Example: Permutation and Matrix Representations

The second example shows the computation of a permutation representation from a matrix representation. We work with the 10-dimensional representation used above, and consider the action on the 2^{10} vectors of the underlying row space.

```
_____ Example _____
gap> grp:= Group( gens.generators );;
gap> v:= GF(2)^10;;
gap> orbs:= Orbits( grp, AsList( v ) );;
gap> List( orbs, Length );
[ 1, 396, 55, 330, 66, 165, 11 ]
```

We see that there are six nontrivial orbits, and we can compute the permutation actions on these orbits directly using `Action` (**Reference: Action**). However, for larger examples, one cannot write down all orbits on the row space, so one has to use another strategy if one is interested in a particular orbit.

Let us assume that we are interested in the orbit of length 11. The point stabilizer is the first maximal subgroup of M_{11}, thus the restriction of the representation to this subgroup has a nontrivial fixed point space. This restriction can be computed using the AtlasRep package.

```
_____ Example _____
gap> gens:= AtlasGenerators( "M11", 6, 1 );;
```

Now computing the fixed point space is standard linear algebra.

```
─────────────────────── Example ───────────────────────
gap> id:= IdentityMat( 10, GF(2) );;
gap> sub1:= Subspace( v, NullspaceMat( gens.generators[1] - id ) );;
gap> sub2:= Subspace( v, NullspaceMat( gens.generators[2] - id ) );;
gap> fix:= Intersection( sub1, sub2 );
<vector space of dimension 1 over GF(2)>
```

The final step is of course the computation of the permutation action on the orbit.

```
─────────────────────── Example ───────────────────────
gap> orb:= Orbit( grp, Basis( fix )[1] );;
gap> act:= Action( grp, orb );;  Print( act, "\n" );
Group( [ ( 1, 2)( 4, 6)( 5, 8)( 7,10), ( 1, 3, 5, 9)( 2, 4, 7,11) ] )
```

Note that this group is *not* equal to the group obtained by fetching the permutation representation from the database. This is due to a different numbering of the points, so the groups are permutation isomorphic.

```
─────────────────────── Example ───────────────────────
gap> permgrp:= Group( AtlasGenerators( "M11", 1 ).generators );;
gap> Print( permgrp, "\n" );
Group( [ ( 2,10)( 4,11)( 5, 7)( 8, 9), ( 1, 4, 3, 8)( 2, 5, 6, 9) ] )
gap> permgrp = act;
false
gap> IsConjugate( SymmetricGroup(11), permgrp, act );
true
```

2.6.3 Example: Outer Automorphisms

The straight line programs for applying outer automorphisms to standard generators can of course be used to define the automorphisms themselves as GAP mappings.

```
─────────────────────── Example ───────────────────────
gap> DisplayAtlasInfo( "G2(3)", IsStraightLineProgram );
Programs for G = G2(3):    (all refer to std. generators 1)
-----------------------
available maxes of G:  [ 1 .. 10 ] (all)
class repres. of G available
repres. of cyclic subgroups of G available
available automorphisms:  [ "2" ]
standard generators checker available
presentation available
gap> prog:= AtlasProgram( "G2(3)", "automorphism", "2" ).program;;
gap> info:= OneAtlasGeneratingSetInfo( "G2(3)", Dimension, 7 );;
gap> gens:= AtlasGenerators( info ).generators;;
gap> imgs:= ResultOfStraightLineProgram( prog, gens );;
```

If we are not suspicious whether the script really describes an automorphism then we should tell this to GAP, in order to avoid the expensive checks of the properties of being a homomorphism and bijective (see Section (**Reference: Creating Group Homomorphisms**)). This looks as follows.

```
———————————————— Example ————————————————
gap> g:= Group( gens );;
gap> aut:= GroupHomomorphismByImagesNC( g, g, gens, imgs );;
gap> SetIsBijective( aut, true );
```

If we are suspicious whether the script describes an automorphism then we might have the idea to check it with GAP, as follows.

```
———————————————— Example ————————————————
gap> aut:= GroupHomomorphismByImages( g, g, gens, imgs );;
gap> IsBijective( aut );
true
```

(Note that even for a comparatively small group such as $G_2(3)$, this was a difficult task for GAP before version 4.3.)

Often one can form images under an automorphism α, say, without creating the homomorphism object. This is obvious for the standard generators of the group G themselves, but also for generators of a maximal subgroup M computed from standard generators of G, provided that the straight line programs in question refer to the same standard generators. Note that the generators of M are given by evaluating words in terms of standard generators of G, and their images under α can be obtained by evaluating the same words at the images under α of the standard generators of G.

```
———————————————— Example ————————————————
gap> max1:= AtlasProgram( "G2(3)", 1 ).program;;
gap> mgens:= ResultOfStraightLineProgram( max1, gens );;
gap> comp:= CompositionOfStraightLinePrograms( max1, prog );;
gap> mimgs:= ResultOfStraightLineProgram( comp, gens );;
```

The list `mgens` is the list of generators of the first maximal subgroup of $G_2(3)$, `mimgs` is the list of images under the automorphism given by the straight line program `prog`. Note that applying the program returned by `CompositionOfStraightLinePrograms` (**Reference: CompositionOfStraightLinePrograms**) means to apply first `prog` and then `max1`, Since we have already constructed the GAP object representing the automorphism, we can check whether the results are equal.

```
———————————————— Example ————————————————
gap> mimgs = List( mgens, x -> x^aut );
true
```

However, it should be emphasized that using `aut` requires a huge machinery of computations behind the scenes, whereas applying the straight line programs `prog` and `max1` involves only elementary operations with the generators. The latter is feasible also for larger groups, for which constructing the GAP automorphism might be impossible.

2.6.4 Example: Using Semi-presentations and Black Box Programs

Let us suppose that we want to restrict a representation of the Mathieu group M_{12} to a non-maximal subgroup of the type $L_2(11)$. The idea is that this subgroup can be found as a maximal subgroup of a maximal subgroup of the type M_{11}, which is itself maximal in M_{12}. For that, we fetch a representation of M_{12} and use a straight line program for restricting it to the first maximal subgroup, which has the type M_{11}.

```
─────────────────────────── Example ───────────────────────────
gap> info:= OneAtlasGeneratingSetInfo( "M12", NrMovedPoints, 12 );
rec( groupname := "M12", standardization := 1, repnr := 1,
  identifier := [ "M12", [ "M12G1-p12aB0.m1", "M12G1-p12aB0.m2" ], 1, 12 ],
  p := 12, id := "a", size := 95040 )
gap> gensM12:= AtlasGenerators( info.identifier );;
gap> restM11:= AtlasProgram( "M12", "maxes", 1 );;
gap> gensM11:= ResultOfStraightLineProgram( restM11.program,
>                                           gensM12.generators );
[ (3,9)(4,12)(5,10)(6,8), (1,4,11,5)(2,10,8,3) ]
```

Now we cannot simply apply a straight line program for M_{11} to these generators of M_{11}, since they are not necessarily *standard* generators of M_{11}. We check this using a semi-presentation for M_{11}.

```
─────────────────────────── Example ───────────────────────────
gap> checkM11:= AtlasProgram( "M11", "check" );
rec( program := <straight line decision>, standardization := 1,
  identifier := [ "M11", "M11G1-check1", 1, 1 ], groupname := "M11" )
gap> ResultOfStraightLineDecision( checkM11.program, gensM11 );
true
```

So we are lucky that applying the appropriate program for M_{11} will give us the required generators for $L_2(11)$.

```
─────────────────────────── Example ───────────────────────────
gap> restL211:= AtlasProgram( "M11", "maxes", 2 );;
gap> gensL211:= ResultOfStraightLineProgram( restL211.program, gensM11 );
[ (3,9)(4,12)(5,10)(6,8), (1,11,9)(2,12,8)(3,6,10) ]
gap> G:= Group( gensL211 );;  Size( G );  IsSimple( G );
660
true
```

Usually representations are not given in terms of standard generators. For example, let us take the M_{11} type group returned by the GAP function `MathieuGroup` (**Reference: MathieuGroup**).

```
─────────────────────────── Example ───────────────────────────
gap> G:= MathieuGroup( 11 );;
gap> gens:= GeneratorsOfGroup( G );
[ (1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11), (3,7,11,8)(4,10,5,6) ]
gap> ResultOfStraightLineDecision( checkM11.program, gens );
false
```

If we want to compute an $L_2(11)$ type subgroup of this group, we can use a black box program for computing standard generators, and then apply the straight line program for computing the restriction.

```
─────────────────────────── Example ───────────────────────────
gap> find:= AtlasProgram( "M11", "find" );
rec( program := <black box program>, standardization := 1,
  identifier := [ "M11", "M11G1-find1", 1, 1 ], groupname := "M11" )
gap> stdgens:= ResultOfBBoxProgram( find.program, Group( gens ) );;
gap> List( stdgens, Order );
[ 2, 4 ]
gap> ResultOfStraightLineDecision( checkM11.program, stdgens );
```

```
true
gap> gensL211:= ResultOfStraightLineProgram( restL211.program, stdgens );;
gap> List( gensL211, Order );
[ 2, 3 ]
gap> G:= Group( gensL211 );;  Size( G );  IsSimple( G );
660
true
```

2.6.5 Example: Using the **GAP** Library of Tables of Marks

The GAP library of tables of marks provides, for many almost simple groups, information for constructing representatives of all conjugacy classes of subgroups. If this information is compatible with the standard generators of the ATLAS of Group Representations then we can use it to restrict any representation from the ATLAS to prescribed subgroups. This is useful in particular for those subgroups for which the ATLAS of Group Representations itself does not contain a straight line program.

```
_____ Example _____
gap> tom:= TableOfMarks( "A5" );
TableOfMarks( "A5" )
gap> info:= StandardGeneratorsInfo( tom );
[ rec( generators := "a, b", description := "|a|=2, |b|=3, |ab|=5",
      script := [ [ 1, 2 ], [ 2, 3 ], [ 1, 1, 2, 1, 5 ] ], ATLAS := true ) ]
```

The `true` value of the component `ATLAS` indicates that the information stored on `tom` refers to the standard generators of type 1 in the ATLAS of Group Representations.

We want to restrict a 4-dimensional integral representation of A_5 to a Sylow 2 subgroup of A_5, and use `RepresentativeTomByGeneratorsNC` (**Reference: RepresentativeTomByGeneratorsNC**) for that.

```
_____ Example _____
gap> info:= OneAtlasGeneratingSetInfo( "A5", Ring, Integers, Dimension, 4 );;
gap> stdgens:= AtlasGenerators( info.identifier );
rec(
  generators := [ [ [ 1, 0, 0, 0 ], [ 0, 0, 1, 0 ], [ 0, 1, 0, 0 ], [ -1, -1,
             -1, -1 ] ],
      [ [ 0, 1, 0, 0 ], [ 0, 0, 0, 1 ], [ 0, 0, 1, 0 ], [ 1, 0, 0, 0 ] ] ],
  groupname := "A5", standardization := 1, repnr := 14,
  identifier := [ "A5", "A5G1-Zr4B0.g", 1, 4 ], dim := 4, id := "",
  ring := Integers, size := 60 )
gap> orders:= OrdersTom( tom );
[ 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 10, 12, 60 ]
gap> pos:= Position( orders, 4 );
4
gap> sub:= RepresentativeTomByGeneratorsNC( tom, pos, stdgens.generators );
<matrix group of size 4 with 2 generators>
gap> GeneratorsOfGroup( sub );
[ [ [ 1, 0, 0, 0 ], [ -1, -1, -1, -1 ], [ 0, 0, 0, 1 ], [ 0, 0, 1, 0 ] ],
  [ [ 1, 0, 0, 0 ], [ 0, 0, 1, 0 ], [ 0, 1, 0, 0 ], [ -1, -1, -1, -1 ] ] ]
```

Chapter 3

Private Extensions of the **AtlasRep** Package

It may be interesting to use the functions of the GAP interface also for representations or programs that are *not* part of the ATLAS of Group Representations. This chapter describes how to achieve this.

The main idea is that users can notify directories containing the "private" data files, which may consist of

1. new representations and programs for groups that are declared already in the "official" ATLAS of Group Representations,

2. the declaration of groups that are not declared in the "official" ATLAS of Group Representations, and representations and programs for them, and

3. the definition of new kinds of representations and programs.

The first two kinds are dealt with in Section 3.1 and Section 3.2. The last is described in Section 5.5.

Finally, an example of using private extensions is given in Section 3.3.

Several of the sanity checks for the official part of the AtlasRep package make sense also for private extensions, see Section 5.8 for more information.

3.1 Adding a Private Data Directory

After the AtlasRep package has been loaded into the GAP session, one can add private data. However, one should *not* add private files to the local data directories of the package, or modify files in these directories. It should be noted that a data file is fetched from a server only if the local data directories do not contain a file with this name, independent of the contents of the files. (As a consequence, corrupted files in the local data directories are *not* automatically replaced by a correct server file.)

3.1.1 AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsNotifyPrivateDirectory

◇ AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsNotifyPrivateDirectory(*dir[, dirid]*)   (function)

Returns: `true` if none of the filenames with admissible format in the directory *dir* is contained in other data directories and if the data belongs to groups whose names have been declared, otherwise `false`.

Let `dir` be a directory (see (**Reference: Directories**)) or a string denoting the name of a directory (such that the GAP object describing this directory can be obtained by calling `Directory` (**Reference: Directory**) with the argument `dir`). In the following, let `dirname` be the name of the directory. So `dirname` can be an absolute path or a path relative to the home directory of the user (starting with a tilde character ˜) or a path relative to the directory where GAP was started.

If the second argument `dirid` is given, it must be a string. This value will be used in the `identifier` components of the records that are returned by interface functions (see Section 2.5) for data contained in the directory `dir`. Note that the directory name may be different in different GAP sessions or for different users who want to access the same data, whereas the `identifier` components shall be independent of such differences. The default for `dirid` is `dirname`.

`AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsNotifyPrivateDirectory` notifies the data in the directory `dir` to the AtlasRep package. First the pair `[ dirname, dirid ]` is added to the `private` component of `AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsInfo` (5.1.5). If the directory contains a file with the name `toc.g` then this file is read; this file is useful for adding new group names (see `AGRGNAN` (5.7.1)), for adding field information for characteristic zero representations (see `AGRRNG` (5.7.2)), or for adding new data types (see Section 5.5). Next the table of contents of the private directory is built from the list of files contained in the private directory or in its subdirectories (one layer deep).

Only those files are considered whose names match an admissible format (see Section 5.6). Filenames that are already contained in another data directory of the AtlasRep package are ignored, and messages about these filenames are printed if the info level of `InfoAtlasRep` (5.1.1) is at least 1.

Note that this implies that the files of the "official" (i.e. non-private) data directories have priority over files in private directories.

If the directory contains files for groups whose names have not been declared before and if the info level of `InfoAtlasRep` (5.1.1) is at least 1 then a message about these names is printed.

For convenience, the user may collect the notifications of private data directories in the file `.gaprc` (see Section (**Reference: The .gaprc file**)).

3.1.2   AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsForgetPrivateDirectory

◇ `AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsForgetPrivateDirectory(dirid)`   (function)

If `dirid` is the identifier of a private data directory that has been notified with `AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsNotifyPrivateDirectory` (3.1.1) then `AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsForgetPrivateDirectory` removes the directory from the list of notified private directories; this means that from then on, the data in this directory cannot be accessed anymore in the current session.

3.2   The Effect of Private Extensions on the User Interface

First suppose that only new groups or new data for known groups are added.

In this case, `DisplayAtlasInfo` (2.5.1) lists the private representations and programs in the same way as the "official" data, except that private parts are marked with the string stored in the component `markprivate` of `AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsInfo` (5.1.5); by default, this is a star `*`. The ordering of representations listed by `DisplayAtlasInfo` (2.5.1) (and referred to by `AtlasGenerators` (2.5.2)) will in general change when private directories are notified. If several private directories are used then the ordering of data may depend on the ordering of notifications. For the other interface

functions described in Chapter 2, the only difference is that also the private data can be accessed. In particular the "free format" *groupname*G*i*-X*descr*W*n* for straight line programs (see Section 5.6) may be used in private directories; the data can be accessed with `AtlasProgram` (2.5.3), where the last two arguments are the strings `"other"` and *descr*.

If also private data types are introduced (see Section 5.5) then additional columns or rows can appear in the output of `DisplayAtlasInfo` (2.5.1), and new inputs can become meaningful for all interface functions. Examples for these changes can be found in Section 3.3.

3.3   An Example of Extending the **AtlasRep** Package

In the beginning we set the info level of `InfoAtlasRep` (5.1.1) to 1.

```
───────────────── Example ─────────────────
gap> level:= InfoLevel( InfoAtlasRep );;
gap> SetInfoLevel( InfoAtlasRep, 1 );
```

Let us assume that the directory `privdir` contains data for the cyclic group C_4 of order 4 and for the symmetric group S_5 on 5 points, respectively. Note that it is obvious what the term "standard generators" means for the group C_4.

Further let us assume that `privdir` contains the following files.

C4G1-p4B0.m1 a faithful permutation representation of C_4 on 4 points,

C4G1-max1W1 the straight line program that returns the square of its unique input,

C4G1-a2W1 the straight line program that applies an outer automorphism to its unique input,

C4G1-XtestW1 the straight line program that returns the square of its unique input,

S5G1-p2B0.m1 and S5G1-p2B0.m2 the permutation representation of the commutator factor group of S_5, on 2 points.

The directory and the files can be created as follows.

```
───────────────── Example ─────────────────
gap> pkg:= Filename( DirectoriesPackageLibrary( "atlasrep", "" ), "" );;
gap> prv:= DirectoryTemporary( "privdir" );;
gap> FileString( Filename( prv, "C4G1-p4B0.m1" ),
>                MeatAxeString( [ (1,2,3,4) ], 4 ) );;
gap> FileString( Filename( prv, "C4G1-max1W1" ),
>                "inp 1\npwr 2 1 2\noup 1 2\n" );;
gap> FileString( Filename( prv, "C4G1-XtestW1" ),
>                "inp 1\npwr 2 1 2\noup 1 2\n" );;
gap> FileString( Filename( prv, "C4G1-a2W1" ),
>                "inp 1\npwr 3 1 2\noup 1 2\n" );;
gap> FileString( Filename( prv, "C4G1-Ar1aB0.g" ),
>                "return rec( generators:= [ [[E(4)]] ] );\n" );;
gap> FileString( Filename( prv, "S5G1-p2B0.m1" ),
>                MeatAxeString( [ (1,2) ], 2 ) );;
gap> FileString( Filename( prv, "S5G1-p2B0.m2" ),
>                MeatAxeString( [ (1,2) ], 2 ) );;
```

(We could also introduce intermediate directories C4 and S5, say, each with the data for one group only. Here we do not show this because creating directories seems to be not possible without the GAP package IO.)

Now we create a file whose name is not admissible because it occurs already in the official part of the database. (This will cause an info line below.)

```
─────────────── Example ───────────────
gap> FileString( Filename( prv, "S5G1-p5B0.m1" ),
>            MeatAxeString( [ (1,2) ], 5 ) );;
```

The official part of the AtlasRep package does not contain information about C_4, so we first notify this group, in the file privdir/toc.g. (The group S_5 is known with name A5.2 in the official part of the AtlasRep package, so it cannot be notified.)

```
─────────────── Example ───────────────
gap> FileString( Filename( prv, "toc.g" ),
>            "AGRGNAN(\"C4\",\"C4\");\n" );;
```

Then we notify the private directory.

```
─────────────── Example ───────────────
gap> AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsNotifyPrivateDirectory( prv, "priv" );
#I  file 'S5G1-p5B0.m1' was already in another t.o.c.
false
```

(The nonadmissible filename S5G1-p5B0.m1 was ignored for the private directory. If this file would not be present then the return value would be true.) Now we can use the interface functions for accessing the data in the private directory.

```
─────────────── Example ───────────────
gap> DisplayAtlasInfo( [ "C4" ] );
group   #  maxes  cl  cyc  out  find  check  pres
-------------------------------------------------
C4*     2    1    -    -    2     -     -     -
gap> DisplayAtlasInfo( "C4" );
Representations for G = C4:    (all refer to std. generators 1)
--------------------------
1: G <= Sym(4)*
2: G <= GL(1a,C)*

Programs for G = C4:    (all refer to std. generators 1)
--------------------
available maxes of G:   [ 1 ]*
available automorphisms:  [ "2" ]*
available other scripts:
   "test"*
gap> DisplayAtlasInfo( "C4", IsPermGroup, true );
Representations for G = C4:    (all refer to std. generators 1)
--------------------------
1: G <= Sym(4)*
gap> DisplayAtlasInfo( "C4", IsMatrixGroup );
Representations for G = C4:    (all refer to std. generators 1)
--------------------------
```

```
2: G <= GL(1a,C)*
gap> DisplayAtlasInfo( "C4", Dimension, 2 );
gap> DisplayAtlasInfo( "A5.2", NrMovedPoints, 2 );
Representations for G = A5.2:    (all refer to std. generators 1)
----------------------------
4: G <= Sym(2)*
gap> info:= OneAtlasGeneratingSetInfo( "C4" );
rec( groupname := "C4", standardization := 1, repnr := 1,
  identifier := [ [ "priv", "C4" ], [ "C4G1-p4B0.m1" ], 1, 4 ], p := 4,
  id := "" )
gap> AtlasGenerators( info.identifier );
rec( generators := [ (1,2,3,4) ], groupname := "C4", standardization := 1,
  repnr := 1, identifier := [ [ "priv", "C4" ], [ "C4G1-p4B0.m1" ], 1, 4 ],
  p := 4, id := "" )
gap> AtlasProgram( "C4", 1 );
rec( program := <straight line program>, standardization := 1,
  identifier := [ [ "priv", "C4" ], "C4G1-max1W1", 1 ], groupname := "C4" )
gap> AtlasProgram( "C4", "maxes", 1 );
rec( program := <straight line program>, standardization := 1,
  identifier := [ [ "priv", "C4" ], "C4G1-max1W1", 1 ], groupname := "C4" )
gap> AtlasProgram( "C4", "maxes", 2 );
fail
gap> AtlasGenerators( "C4", 1 );
rec( generators := [ (1,2,3,4) ], groupname := "C4", standardization := 1,
  repnr := 1, identifier := [ [ "priv", "C4" ], [ "C4G1-p4B0.m1" ], 1, 4 ],
  p := 4, id := "" )
gap> AtlasGenerators( "C4", 2 );
rec( generators := [ [ [ E(4) ] ] ], groupname := "C4", standardization := 1,
  repnr := 2, identifier := [ [ "priv", "C4" ], "C4G1-Ar1aB0.g", 1, 1 ],
  dim := 1, id := "a" )
gap> AtlasGenerators( "C4", 3 );
fail
gap> AtlasProgram( "C4", "other", "test" );
rec( program := <straight line program>, standardization := 1,
  identifier := [ [ "priv", "C4" ], "C4G1-XtestW1", 1 ], groupname := "C4" )
```

For checking the data in the private directory, we apply some of the sanity checks (see Section 5.8).

```
──────────────── Example ────────────────
gap> AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsTestWords( "priv" );
true
gap> AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsTestFileHeaders( "priv" );
true
```

Finally, we "uninstall" the private directory, and reset the info level that had been set to 1 in the beginning. (Also the group name C4 is removed this way, which is an advantage of using a `toc.g` file over calling AGRGNAN (5.7.1) directly.), Note that we need not remove the data in the temporary directory, GAP will do this automatically.

```
──────────────── Example ────────────────
gap> AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsForgetPrivateDirectory( "priv" );
gap> SetInfoLevel( InfoAtlasRep, level );
```

Chapter 4

New Objects and Utility Functions Provided by the **AtlasRep** Package

This chapter describes GAP objects and functions that are provided in the AtlasRep package but that might be of general interest.

The new objects are straight line decisions (see Section 4.1) and black box programs (see Section 4.2).

The new functions are concerned with representations of minimal degree, see Section 4.3.

4.1 Straight Line Decisions

Straight line decisions are similar to straight line programs (see Section (**Reference: Straight Line Programs**)) but return `true` or `false`. A straight line decisions checks a property for its inputs. An important example is to check whether a given list of group generators is in fact a list of standard generators (cf. Section2.3) for this group.

A straight line decision in GAP is represented by an object in the category `IsStraightLineDecision` (4.1.1) that stores a list of "lines" each of which has one of the following three forms.

1. a nonempty dense list *l* of integers,

2. a pair $[l, i]$ where *l* is a list of form 1. and *i* is a positive integer,

3. a list $["Order", i, n]$ where *i* and *n* are positive integers.

The first two forms have the same meaning as for straight line programs (see Section (**Reference: Straight Line Programs**)), the last form means a check whether the element stored at the label *i*-th has the order *n*.

For the meaning of the list of lines, see `ResultOfStraightLineDecision` (4.1.6).

Straight line decisions can be constructed using `StraightLineDecision` (4.1.5), defining attributes for straight line decisions are `NrInputsOfStraightLineDecision` (4.1.3) and `LinesOfStraightLineDecision` (4.1.2), an operation for straight line decisions is `ResultOfStraightLineDecision` (4.1.6).

Special methods applicable to straight line decisions are installed for the operations `Display` (**Reference: Display**), `IsInternallyConsistent` (**Reference: IsInternallyConsistent**), `PrintObj` (**Reference: PrintObj**), and `ViewObj` (**Reference: ViewObj**).

For a straight line decision `prog`, the default `Display` (**Reference: Display**) method prints the interpretation of `prog` as a sequence of assignments of associative words and of order checks; a record with components `gensnames` (with value a list of strings) and `listname` (a string) may be entered as second argument of `Display` (**Reference: Display**), in this case these names are used, the default for `gensnames` is `[ g1, g2, ... ]`, the default for `listname` is `r`.

4.1.1 IsStraightLineDecision

◊ `IsStraightLineDecision(obj)` (Category)

Each straight line decision in GAP lies in the category `IsStraightLineDecision`.

4.1.2 LinesOfStraightLineDecision

◊ `LinesOfStraightLineDecision(prog)` (operation)

Returns: the list of lines that define the straight line decision.

This defining attribute for the straight line decision `prog` (see `IsStraightLineDecision` (4.1.1)) corresponds to `LinesOfStraightLineProgram` (**Reference: LinesOfStraightLineProgram**) for straight line programs.

```
——————————— Example ———————————
 gap> dec:= StraightLineDecision( [ [ [ 1, 1, 2, 1 ], 3 ],
 > [ "Order", 1, 2 ], [ "Order", 2, 3 ], [ "Order", 3, 5 ] ] );
 <straight line decision>
 gap> LinesOfStraightLineDecision( dec );
 [ [ [ 1, 1, 2, 1 ], 3 ], [ "Order", 1, 2 ], [ "Order", 2, 3 ],
   [ "Order", 3, 5 ] ]
```

4.1.3 NrInputsOfStraightLineDecision

◊ `NrInputsOfStraightLineDecision(prog)` (operation)

Returns: the number of inputs required for the straight line decision.

This defining attribute corresponds to `NrInputsOfStraightLineProgram` (**Reference: NrInputsOfStraightLineProgram**).

```
——————————— Example ———————————
 gap> NrInputsOfStraightLineDecision( dec );
 2
```

4.1.4 ScanStraightLineDecision

◊ `ScanStraightLineDecision(string)` (function)

Returns: a record containing the straight line decision, or `fail`.

Let `string` be a string that encodes a straight line decision in the sense that it consists of the lines listed for `ScanStraightLineProgram` (5.4.1), except that `oup` lines are not allowed, and instead lines of the following form may occur.

chor **a** **b** means that it is checked whether the order of the element at label a is b.

ScanStraightLineDecision returns a record containing as the value of its component program the corresponding GAP straight line decision (see IsStraightLineDecision (4.1.1)) if the input string satisfies the syntax rules stated above, and returns fail otherwise. In the latter case, information about the first corrupted line of the program is printed if the info level of InfoCMeatAxe (5.1.2) is at least 1.

```
─────────── Example ───────────
gap> str:= "inp 2\nchor 1 2\nchor 2 3\nmu 1 2 3\nchor 3 5";;
gap> prg:= ScanStraightLineDecision( str );
rec( program := <straight line decision> )
gap> prg:= prg.program;;
gap> Display( prg );
# input:
r:= [ g1, g2 ];
# program:
if Order( r[1] ) <> 2 then  return false;  fi;
if Order( r[2] ) <> 3 then  return false;  fi;
r[3]:= r[1]*r[2];
if Order( r[3] ) <> 5 then  return false;  fi;
# return value:
true
```

4.1.5 StraightLineDecision

◊ StraightLineDecision(*lines[, nrgens]*)   (function)
◊ StraightLineDecisionNC(*lines[, nrgens]*)   (function)
     Returns: the straight line decision given by the list of lines.
     Let *lines* be a list of lists that defines a unique straight line decision (see IsStraightLineDecision (4.1.1)); in this case StraightLineDecision returns this program, otherwise an error is signalled. The optional argument *nrgens* specifies the number of input generators of the program; if a list of integers (a line of form 1. in the definition above) occurs in *lines* then this number is not determined by *lines* and therefore *must* be specified by the argument *nrgens*; if not then StraightLineDecision returns fail.
     StraightLineDecisionNC does the same as StraightLineDecision, except that the internal consistency of the program is not checked.

4.1.6 ResultOfStraightLineDecision

◊ ResultOfStraightLineDecision(*prog, gens[, orderfunc]*)   (operation)
     Returns: true if all checks succeed, otherwise false.
     ResultOfStraightLineDecision evaluates the straight line decision (see IsStraightLineDecision (4.1.1)) *prog* at the group elements in the list *gens*.
     The function for computing the order of a group element can be given as the optional argument *orderfunc*. For example, this may be a function that gives up at a certain limit if one has to be aware of extremely huge orders in failure cases.
     The *result* of a straight line decision with lines $p_1, p_2, \ldots, p_k$ when applied to *gens* is defined as follows.

(a) First a list *r* of intermediate values is initialized with a shallow copy of *gens*.

(b) For $i \leq k$, before the i-th step, let r be of length n. If p_i is the external representation of an associative word in the first n generators then the image of this word under the homomorphism that is given by mapping r to these first n generators is added to r. If p_i is a pair $[l, j]$, for a list l, then the same element is computed, but instead of being added to r, it replaces the j-th entry of r. If p_i is a triple $["Order", i, n]$ then it is checked whether the order of $r[i]$ is n; if not then `false` is returned immediately.

(c) If all k lines have been processed and no order check has failed then `true` is returned.

Here are some examples.

```
                              Example
 gap> dec:= StraightLineDecision( [ ], 1 );
 <straight line decision>
 gap> ResultOfStraightLineDecision( dec, [ () ] );
 true
```

The above straight line decision `dec` returns `true` –for *any* input of the right length.

```
                              Example
 gap> dec:= StraightLineDecision( [ [ [ 1, 1, 2, 1 ], 3 ],
 >        [ "Order", 1, 2 ], [ "Order", 2, 3 ], [ "Order", 3, 5 ] ] );
 <straight line decision>
 gap> LinesOfStraightLineDecision( dec );
 [ [ [ 1, 1, 2, 1 ], 3 ], [ "Order", 1, 2 ], [ "Order", 2, 3 ],
   [ "Order", 3, 5 ] ]
 gap> ResultOfStraightLineDecision( dec, [ (), () ] );
 false
 gap> ResultOfStraightLineDecision( dec, [ (1,2)(3,4), (1,4,5) ] );
 true
```

The above straight line decision admits two inputs; it tests whether the orders of the inputs are 2 and 3, and the order of their product is 5.

4.1.7 Semi-Presentations and Presentations

We can associate a *finitely presented group* F/R to each straight line decision dec, say, as follows. The free generators of the free group F are in bijection with the inputs, and the defining relators generating R as a normal subgroup of F are given by those words w^k for which dec contains a check whether the order of w equals k.

So if dec returns `true` for the input list $[g_1, g_2, \ldots, g_n]$ then mapping the free generators of F to the inputs defines an epimorphism Φ from F to the group G, say, that is generated by these inputs, such that R is contained in the kernel of Φ.

(Note that "satisfying dec" is a stronger property than "satisfying a presentation". For example, $\langle x \mid x^2 = x^3 = 1 \rangle$ is a presentation for the trivial group, but the straight line decision that checks whether the order of x is both 2 and 3 clearly always returns `false`.)

The ATLAS of Group Representations contains the following two kinds of straight line decisions.

- A *presentation* is a straight line decision dec that is defined for a set of standard generators of a group G and that returns `true` if and only if the list of inputs is in fact a sequence of such standard generators for G. In other words, the relators derived from the order checks in the

way described above are defining relators for *G*, and moreover these relators are words in terms of standard generators. (In particular the kernel of the map Φ equals *R* whenever `dec` returns `true`.)

- A *semi-presentation* is a straight line decision `dec` that is defined for a set of standard generators of a group *G* and that returns `true` for a list of inputs *that is known to generate a group isomorphic with G* if and only if these inputs form in fact a sequence of standard generators for *G*. In other words, the relators derived from the order checks in the way described above are *not necessarily defining relators* for *G*, but if we assume that the g_i generate *G* then they are standard generators. (In particular, *F/R* may be a larger group than *G* but in this case Φ maps the free generators of *F* to standard generators of *G*.)

  More about semi-presentations can be found in [NW05].

Available presentations and semi-presentations are listed by `DisplayAtlasInfo` (2.5.1), they can be accessed via `AtlasProgram` (2.5.3). (Clearly each presentation is also a semi-presentation. So a semi-presentation for some standard generators of a group is regarded as available whenever a presentation for these standard generators and this group is available.)

Note that different groups can have the same semi-presentation. We illustrate this with an example that is mentioned in [NW05]. The groups $L_2(7) \cong L_3(2)$ and $L_2(8)$ are generated by elements of the orders 2 and 3 such that their product has order 7, and no further conditions are necessary to define standard generators.

```
――――――――――――――――― Example ―――――――――――――――――
 gap> check:= AtlasProgram( "L2(8)", "check" );
 rec( program := <straight line decision>, standardization := 1,
   identifier := [ "L2(8)", "L28G1-check1", 1, 1 ], groupname := "L2(8)" )
 gap> gens:= AtlasGenerators( "L2(8)", 1 );
 rec( generators := [ (1,2)(3,4)(6,7)(8,9), (1,3,2)(4,5,6)(7,8,9) ],
   groupname := "L2(8)", standardization := 1, repnr := 1,
   identifier := [ "L2(8)", [ "L28G1-p9B0.m1", "L28G1-p9B0.m2" ], 1, 9 ],
   p := 9, id := "", size := 504 )
 gap> ResultOfStraightLineDecision( check.program, gens.generators );
 true
 gap> gens:= AtlasGenerators( "L3(2)", 1 );
 rec( generators := [ (2,4)(3,5), (1,2,3)(5,6,7) ], groupname := "L3(2)",
   standardization := 1, repnr := 1,
   identifier := [ "L3(2)", [ "L27G1-p7aB0.m1", "L27G1-p7aB0.m2" ], 1, 7 ],
   p := 7, id := "a", size := 168 )
 gap> ResultOfStraightLineDecision( check.program, gens.generators );
 true
```

4.1.8   AsStraightLineDecision

◇ `AsStraightLineDecision`(*bbox*)   (attribute)

Returns: an equivalent straight line decision for the given black box program, or `fail`.

For a black box program (see `IsBBoxProgram` (4.2.1)) *bbox*, `AsStraightLineDecision` returns a straight line decision (see `IsStraightLineDecision` (4.1.1)) with the same output as *bbox*, in the sense of `AsBBoxProgram` (4.2.5), if such a straight line decision exists, and `fail` otherwise.

```
――――――――――――――――― Example ―――――――――――――――――
 gap> lines:= [ [ "Order", 1, 2 ], [ "Order", 2, 3 ],
 >             [ [ 1, 1, 2, 1 ], 3 ], [ "Order", 3, 5 ] ];;
```

```
gap> dec:= StraightLineDecision( lines, 2 );
<straight line decision>
gap> bboxdec:= AsBBoxProgram( dec );
<black box program>
gap> asdec:= AsStraightLineDecision( bboxdec );
<straight line decision>
gap> LinesOfStraightLineDecision( asdec );
[ [ "Order", 1, 2 ], [ "Order", 2, 3 ], [ [ 1, 1, 2, 1 ], 3 ],
  [ "Order", 3, 5 ] ]
```

4.1.9 StraightLineProgramFromStraightLineDecision

◊ StraightLineProgramFromStraightLineDecision(*dec*)   (operation)

Returns: the straight line program associated to the given straight line decision.

For a straight line decision *dec* (see IsStraightLineDecision (4.1.1), StraightLineProgramFromStraightLineDecision returns the straight line program (see IsStraightLineProgram (**Reference: IsStraightLineProgram**) obtained by replacing each line of type 3. (i.e, each order check) by an assignment of the power in question to a new slot, and by declaring the list of these elements as the return value.

This means that the return value describes exactly the defining relators of the presentation that is associated to the straight line decision, see 4.1.7.

For example, one can use the return value for printing the relators with StringOfResultOfStraightLineProgram (**Reference: StringOfResultOfStraightLinePro-gram**), or for explicitly constructing the relators as words in terms of free generators, by applying ResultOfStraightLineProgram (**Reference: ResultOfStraightLineProgram**) to the program and to these generators.

```
_____ Example _____
 gap> dec:= StraightLineDecision( [ [ [ 1, 1, 2, 1 ], 3 ],
 > [ "Order", 1, 2 ], [ "Order", 2, 3 ], [ "Order", 3, 5 ] ] );
 <straight line decision>
 gap> prog:= StraightLineProgramFromStraightLineDecision( dec );
 <straight line program>
 gap> Display( prog );
 # input:
 r:= [ g1, g2 ];
 # program:
 r[3]:= r[1]*r[2];
 r[4]:= r[1]^2;
 r[5]:= r[2]^3;
 r[6]:= r[3]^5;
 # return values:
 [ r[4], r[5], r[6] ]
 gap> StringOfResultOfStraightLineProgram( prog, [ "a", "b" ] );
 "[ a^2, b^3, (ab)^5 ]"
 gap> gens:= GeneratorsOfGroup( FreeGroup( "a", "b" ) );
 [ a, b ]
 gap> ResultOfStraightLineProgram( prog, gens );
 [ a^2, b^3, a*b*a*b*a*b*a*b*a*b ]
```

4.2   Black Box Programs

Black box programs formalize the idea that one takes some group elements, forms arithmetic expressions in terms of them, tests properties of these expressions, executes conditional statements (including jumps inside the program) depending on the results of these tests, and eventually returns some result.

A specification of the language can be found in [Nic06], see also

`http://brauer.maths.qmul.ac.uk/Atlas/info/blackbox.html`.

The *inputs* of a black box program may be explicit group elements, and the program may also ask for random elements from a given group. The *program steps* form products, inverses, conjugates, commutators, etc. of known elements, *tests* concern essentially the orders of elements, and the *result* is a list of group elements or `true` or `false` or `fail`.

Examples that can be modeled by black box programs are

straight line programs, which require a fixed number of input elements and form arithmetic expressions of elements but do not use random elements, tests, conditional statements and jumps; the return value is always a list of elements; these programs are described in Section (**Reference: Straight Line Programs**).

straight line decisions, which differ from straight line programs only in the sense that also order tests are admissible, and that the return value is `true` if all these tests are satisfied, and `false` as soon as the first such test fails; they are described in Section 4.1.

scripts for finding standard generators, which take a group and a function to generate a random element in this group but no explicit input elements, admit all control structures, and return either a list of standard generators or `fail`; see `ResultOfBBoxProgram` (4.2.4) for examples.

In the case of general black box programs, currently GAP provides only the possibility to read an existing program via `ScanBBoxProgram` (4.2.2), and to run the program using `RunBBoxProgram` (4.2.3). The aim is not to write such programs in GAP.

The special case of the "find" scripts mentioned above is also admissible as an argument of `ResultOfBBoxProgram` (4.2.4), which returns either the set of generators or `fail`.

Contrary to the general situation, more support is provided for straight line programs and straight line decisions in GAP, see Section (**Reference: Straight Line Programs**) for functions that manipulate them (compose, restrict etc.).

The functions `AsStraightLineProgram` (4.2.6) and `AsStraightLineDecision` (4.1.8) can be used to transform a general black box program object into a straight line program or a straight line decision if this is possible.

Conversely, one can create an equivalent general black box program from a straight line program or from a straight line decision with `AsBBoxProgram` (4.2.5).

(Computing a straight line program related to a given straight line decision is supported in the sense of `StraightLineProgramFromStraightLineDecision` (4.1.9).)

Note that none of these three kinds of objects is a special case of another: Running a black box program with `RunBBoxProgram` (4.2.3) yields a record, running a straight line program with `ResultOfStraightLineProgram` (**Reference: ResultOfStraightLineProgram**) yields a list of elements, and running a straight line decision with `ResultOfStraightLineDecision` (4.1.6) yields `true` or `false`.

4.2.1   IsBBoxProgram

◇ IsBBoxProgram(*obj*)   (Category)

Each black box program in GAP lies in the category IsBBoxProgram.

4.2.2   ScanBBoxProgram

◇ ScanBBoxProgram(*string*)   (function)

Returns: a record containing the black box program encoded by the input string, or fail.

For a string *string* that describes a black box program, e.g., the return value of StringFile (**GAPDoc: StringFile**), ScanBBoxProgram computes this black box program. If this is successful then the return value is a record containing as the value of its component program the corresponding GAP object that represents the program, otherwise fail is returned.

As the first example, we construct a black box program that tries to find standard generators for the alternating group A_5; these standard generators are any pair of elements of the orders 2 and 3, respectively, such that their product has order 5.

```
—————————————— Example ——————————————
gap> findstr:= "\
>   set V 0\n\
> lbl START1\n\
>   rand 1\n\
>   ord 1 A\n\
>   incr V\n\
>   if V gt 100 then timeout\n\
>   if A notin 1 2 3 5 then fail\n\
>   if A noteq 2 then jmp START1\n\
> lbl START2\n\
>   rand 2\n\
>   ord 2 B\n\
>   incr V\n\
>   if V gt 100 then timeout\n\
>   if B notin 1 2 3 5 then fail\n\
>   if B noteq 3 then jmp START2\n\
>   # The elements 1 and 2 have the orders 2 and 3, respectively.\n\
>   set X 0\n\
> lbl CONJ\n\
>   incr X\n\
>   if X gt 100 then timeout\n\
>   rand 3\n\
>   cjr 2 3\n\
>   mu 1 2 4   # ab\n\
>   ord 4 C\n\
>   if C notin 2 3 5 then fail\n\
>   if C noteq 5 then jmp CONJ\n\
>   oup 2 1 2";;
gap> find:= ScanBBoxProgram( findstr );
rec( program := <black box program> )
```

The second example is a black box program that checks whether its two inputs are standard generators for A_5.

```
                              _____ Example _____
  gap> checkstr:= "\
  > chor 1 2\n\
  > chor 2 3\n\
  > mu 1 2 3\n\
  > chor 3 5";;
  gap> check:= ScanBBoxProgram( checkstr );
  rec( program := <black box program> )
```

4.2.3 RunBBoxProgram

◇ RunBBoxProgram(*prog, G, input, options*)   (function)

Returns: a record describing the result and the statistics of running the black box program *prog*, or fail, or the string "timeout".

For a black box program *prog*, a group *G*, a list *input* of group elements, and a record *options*, RunBBoxProgram applies *prog* to *input*, where *G* is used only to compute random elements.

The return value is fail if a syntax error or an explicit fail statement is reached at runtime, and the string "timeout" if a timeout statement is reached. (The latter might mean that the random choices were unlucky.) Otherwise a record with the following components is returned.

gens a list of group elements, bound if an oup statement was reached,

result true if a true statement was reached, false if either a false statement or a failed order check was reached,

The other components serve as statistical information about the numbers of the various operations (multiply, invert, power, order, random, conjugate, conjugateinplace, commutator), and the runtime in milliseconds (timetaken).

The following components of *options* are supported.

randomfunction the function called with argument *G* in order to compute a random element of *G* (default PseudoRandom (**Reference: PseudoRandom**))

orderfunction the function for computing element orders (the default is Order (**Reference: Order**)),

quiet ignore echo statements (default false),

verbose print information about the line that is currently processed, and about order checks (default false),

allowbreaks call Error (**Reference: Error**) when a break statement is reached (default true).

As an example, we run the black box programs constructed in the example for ScanBBoxProgram (4.2.2).

```
                              _____ Example _____
  gap> g:= AlternatingGroup( 5 );;
  gap> res:= RunBBoxProgram( find.program, g, [], rec() );;
  gap> IsBound( res.gens );  IsBound( res.result );
```

```
  true
  false
  gap> List( res.gens, Order );
  [ 2, 3 ]
  gap> Order( Product( res.gens ) );
  5
  gap> res:= RunBBoxProgram( check.program, "dummy", res.gens, rec() );;
  gap> IsBound( res.gens );  IsBound( res.result );
  false
  true
  gap> res.result;
  true
  gap> othergens:= GeneratorsOfGroup( g );;
  gap> res:= RunBBoxProgram( check.program, "dummy", othergens, rec() );;
  gap> res.result;
  false
```

4.2.4 ResultOfBBoxProgram

◊ ResultOfBBoxProgram(*prog, G*)   (function)

   Returns: a list of group elements or `true`, `false`, `fail`, or the string `"timeout"`.

   This function calls `RunBBoxProgram` (4.2.3) with the black box program *prog* and second argument either a group or a list of group elements; the default options are assumed. The return value is `fail` if this call yields `fail`, otherwise the `gens` component of the result, if bound, or the `result` component if not.

   As an example, we run the black box programs constructed in the example for `ScanBBoxProgram` (4.2.2).

```
  ──────────────────────────  Example  ──────────────────────────
  gap> g:= AlternatingGroup( 5 );;
  gap> res:= ResultOfBBoxProgram( find.program, g );;
  gap> List( res, Order );
  [ 2, 3 ]
  gap> Order( Product( res ) );
  5
  gap> res:= ResultOfBBoxProgram( check.program, res );
  true
  gap> othergens:= GeneratorsOfGroup( g );;
  gap> res:= ResultOfBBoxProgram( check.program, othergens );
  false
```

4.2.5 AsBBoxProgram

◊ AsBBoxProgram(*slp*)   (attribute)

   Returns: an equivalent black box program for the given straight line program or straight line decision.

   Let *slp* be a straight line program (see `IsStraightLineProgram` (**Reference: IsStraight-LineProgram**)) or a straight line decision (see `IsStraightLineDecision` (4.1.1)). Then `AsBBoxProgram` returns a black box program *bbox* (see `IsBBoxProgram` (4.2.1)) with the "same" output as *slp*, in the sense that `ResultOfBBoxProgram` (4.2.4) yields the same result

for *bbox* as ResultOfStraightLineProgram (**Reference: ResultOfStraightLineProgram**) or
ResultOfStraightLineDecision (4.1.6), respectively, for *slp*.

```
 ────────────────────────── Example ──────────────────────────
 gap> f:= FreeGroup( "x", "y" );;  gens:= GeneratorsOfGroup( f );;
 gap> slp:= StraightLineProgram( [ [1,2,2,3], [3,-1] ], 2 );
 <straight line program>
 gap> ResultOfStraightLineProgram( slp, gens );
 y^-3*x^-2
 gap> bboxslp:= AsBBoxProgram( slp );
 <black box program>
 gap> ResultOfBBoxProgram( bboxslp, gens );
 [ y^-3*x^-2 ]
 gap> lines:= [ [ "Order", 1, 2 ], [ "Order", 2, 3 ],
 >              [ [ 1, 1, 2, 1 ], 3 ], [ "Order", 3, 5 ] ];;
 gap> dec:= StraightLineDecision( lines, 2 );
 <straight line decision>
 gap> ResultOfStraightLineDecision( dec, [ (1,2)(3,4), (1,3,5) ] );
 true
 gap> ResultOfStraightLineDecision( dec, [ (1,2)(3,4), (1,3,4) ] );
 false
 gap> bboxdec:= AsBBoxProgram( dec );
 <black box program>
 gap> ResultOfBBoxProgram( bboxdec, [ (1,2)(3,4), (1,3,5) ] );
 true
 gap> ResultOfBBoxProgram( bboxdec, [ (1,2)(3,4), (1,3,4) ] );
 false
```

4.2.6 AsStraightLineProgram

◊ AsStraightLineProgram(*bbox*)   (attribute)

Returns: an equivalent straight line program for the given black box program, or fail.

For a black box program (see AsBBoxProgram (4.2.5)) *bbox*, AsStraightLineProgram returns
a straight line program (see IsStraightLineProgram (**Reference: IsStraightLineProgram**)) with
the same output as *bbox* if such a straight line program exists, and fail otherwise.

```
 ────────────────────────── Example ──────────────────────────
 gap> Display( AsStraightLineProgram( bboxslp ) );
 # input:
 r:= [ g1, g2 ];
 # program:
 r[3]:= r[1]^2;
 r[4]:= r[2]^3;
 r[5]:= r[3]*r[4];
 r[3]:= r[5]^-1;
 # return values:
 [ r[3] ]
 gap> AsStraightLineProgram( bboxdec );
 fail
```

4.3   Representations of Minimal Degree

This section deals with minimal degrees of permutation and matrix representations. We do not provide an algorithm that computes these degrees for an arbitrary group, we only provide some tools for evaluating known databases, mainly concerning nearly simple groups, in order to derive the minimal degrees, see Section 4.3.4.

In the AtlasRep package, this information is used in `DisplayAtlasInfo` (2.5.1), `OneAtlasGeneratingSetInfo` (2.5.4), and `AllAtlasGeneratingSetInfos` (2.5.5).

4.3.1   MinimalRepresentationInfo

◊ `MinimalRepresentationInfo(`*grpname, conditions*`)`   (function)

Returns: a record with the components `value` and `source`, or `fail`

Let *groupname* be the GAP name of a group *G*, say. If the information described by *conditions* about minimal representations of this group can be computed or is stored then `MinimalRepresentationInfo` returns a record with the components `value` and `source`, otherwise `fail` is returned.

The following values for *conditions* are supported.

- If *conditions* is `NrMovedPoints` (**Reference: NrMovedPoints**) then `value`, if known, is the degree of a minimal faithful permutation representation for *G*.

- If *conditions* consists of `Characteristic` (**Reference: Characteristic**) and a prime integer p then `value`, if known, is the dimension of a minimal faithful matrix representation in characteristic p for *G*.

- If *conditions* consists of `Size` (**Reference: Size**) and a prime power q then `value`, if known, is the dimension of a minimal faithful matrix representation over the field of size q for *G*.

In all cases, the value of the component `source` is a list of strings that describe sources of the information, which can be the ordinary or modular character table of `G` (see [CCN+85], [JLPW95], [HL89]), the table of marks of `G`, or [Jan05]. For an overview of minimal degrees of faithful matrix representations for sporadic simple groups and their covering groups, see also

`http://www.math.rwth-aachen.de/~MOC/mindeg/`.

Note that this function does not give any information about minimal representations over prescribed fields in characteristic zero.

Information about groups that occur in the AtlasRep package is precomputed in `MinimalRepresentationInfoData` (4.3.2), so the packages CTblLib and TomLib are not needed when `MinimalRepresentationInfo` is called for these groups. (The only case that is not covered by this list is that one asks for the minimal degree of matrix representations over a prescribed field in characteristic coprime to the group order.)

One of the following strings can be given as an additional last argument.

`"cache"` means that the function tries to compute (and then store) values that are not stored in `MinimalRepresentationInfoData` (4.3.2), but stored values are preferred; this is also the default.

"lookup" means that stored values are returned but the function does not attempt to compute values that are not stored in MinimalRepresentationInfoData (4.3.2).

"recompute" means that the function always tries to compute the desired value, and checks the result against stored values.

```
───────────────────── Example ─────────────────────
gap> MinimalRepresentationInfo( "A5", NrMovedPoints );
rec( value := 5,
  source := [ "computed (alternating group)", "computed (char. table)",
      "computed (subgroup tables)",
      "computed (subgroup tables, known repres.)",
      "computed (table of marks)" ] )
gap> MinimalRepresentationInfo( "A5", Characteristic, 2 );
rec( value := 2, source := [ "computed (char. table)" ] )
gap> MinimalRepresentationInfo( "A5", Size, 2 );
rec( value := 4, source := [ "computed (char. table)" ] )
```

4.3.2 MinimalRepresentationInfoData

◇ MinimalRepresentationInfoData   (global variable)

This is a record whose components are GAP names of groups for which information about minimal permutation and matrix representations were known in advance or have been computed in the current GAP session. The value for the group G, say, is a record with the following components.

NrMovedPoints a record with the components value (the degree of a smallest faithful permutation representation of G) and source (a string describing the source of this information).

Characteristic a record whose components are at most 0 and strings corresponding to prime integers, each bound to a record with the components value (the degree of a smallest faithful matrix representation of G in this characteristic) and source (a string describing the source of this information).

CharacteristicAndSize a record whose components are strings corresponding to prime integers p, each bound to a record with the components sizes (a list of powers q of p), dimensions (the corresponding list of minimal dimensions of faithful matrix representations of G over a field of size q), sources (the corresponding list of strings describing the source of this information), and complete (a record with the components val (true if the minimal dimension over *any* finite field in characteristic p can be derived from the values in the record, and false otherwise) and source (a string describing the source of this information)).

The values are set by SetMinimalRepresentationInfo (4.3.3).

4.3.3 SetMinimalRepresentationInfo

◇ SetMinimalRepresentationInfo(*grpname, op, value, source*)   (function)

Returns: true if the values were successfully set, false if stored values contradict the given ones.

This function sets an entry in MinimalRepresentationInfoData (4.3.2) for the group G, say, with GAP name *grpname*.

Supported values for *op* are

- "NrMovedPoints" (see NrMovedPoints (**Reference: NrMovedPoints**)), which means that *value* is the degree of minimal faithful permutation representations of *G*,

- a list of length two with first entry "Characteristic" (see Characteristic (**Reference: Characteristic**)) and second entry *char* either zero or a prime integer, which means that *value* is the dimension of minimal faithful matrix representations of *G* in characteristic *char*,

- a list of length two with first entry "Size" (see Size (**Reference: Size**)) and second entry a prime power *q*, which means that *value* is the dimension of minimal faithful matrix representations of *G* over the field with *q* elements, and

- a list of length three with first entry "Characteristic" (see Characteristic (**Reference: Characteristic**)), second entry a prime integer *p*, and third entry the string "complete", which means that the information stored for characteristic *p* is complete in the sense that for any given power *q* of *p*, the minimal faithful degree over the field with *q* elements equals that for the largest stored field size of which *q* is a power.

In each case, *source* is a string describing the source of the data; *computed* values are detected from the prefix "comp" of *source*.

If the intended value is already stored and differs from *value* then an error message is printed.

```
——————————————————— Example ———————————————————
gap> SetMinimalRepresentationInfo( "A5", "NrMovedPoints", 5,
>     "computed (alternating group)" );
true
gap> SetMinimalRepresentationInfo( "A5", [ "Characteristic", 0 ], 3,
>     "computed (char. table)" );
true
gap> SetMinimalRepresentationInfo( "A5", [ "Characteristic", 2 ], 2,
>     "computed (char. table)" );
true
gap> SetMinimalRepresentationInfo( "A5", [ "Size", 2 ], 4,
>     "computed (char. table)" );
true
gap> SetMinimalRepresentationInfo( "A5", [ "Size", 4 ], 2,
>     "computed (char. table)" );
true
gap> SetMinimalRepresentationInfo( "A5", [ "Characteristic", 3 ], 3,
>     "computed (char. table)" );
true
```

4.3.4 Criteria Used to Compute Minimality Information

Let *grpname* be the GAP name of a group *G*, say.

The information about the minimal degree of a faithful *matrix representation* of *G* in a given characteristic or over a given field in positive characteristic is derived from the relevant (ordinary or modular) character table of *G*, except in a few cases where this table itself is not known but enough information about the degrees is available in [HL89] and [Jan05].

The following criteria are used for deriving the minimal degree of a faithful *permutation representation* of *G* from the information in the GAP libraries of character tables and of tables of marks.

- If *grpname* has the form An or An.2 (denoting alternating and symmetric groups, respectively) then the minimal degree is n, except if n is smaller than 3 or 2, respectively.

- If *grpname* has the form L2(*q*) (denoting projective special linear groups in dimension two) then the minimal degree is $q + 1$, except if $q \in \{2, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11\}$, see [Hup67, Satz II.8.28].

- If the largest maximal subgroup of *G* is core-free then the index of this subgroup is the minimal degree. (This is used when the two character tables in question and the class fusion are available in the GAP Character Table Library; this happens for many character tables of simple groups.)

- If *G* has a unique minimal normal subgroup then each minimal faithful permutation representation is transitive.

  In this case, the minimal degree can be computed directly from the information in the table of marks of *G* if this is available in GAP's library of tables of marks.

  Suppose that the largest maximal subgroup of *G* is not core-free but simple and normal in *G*, and that the other maximal subgroups of *G* are core-free. In this case, we take the minimum of the indices of the core-free maximal subgroups and of the product of index and minimal degree of the normal maximal subgroup. (This suffices since no core-free subgroup of the whole group can contain a nontrivial normal subgroup of a normal maximal subgroup.)

  Let *N* be the unique minimal normal subgroup of *G*, and assume that G/N is simple and has minimal degree n, say. If there is a subgroup *U* of index $n \cdot |N|$ in *G* that intersects *N* trivially then the minimal degree of *G* is $n \cdot |N|$. (This is used for the case that *N* is central in *G* and $N \times U$ occurs as a subgroup of *G*.)

- If we know a subgroup of *G* whose minimal degree is n, say, and if we know either (a class fusion from) a core-free subgroup of index n in *G* or a faithful permutation representation of degree n for *G* then n is the minimal degree for *G*. (This happens often for tables of almost simple groups.)

4.3.5 AGR_TestMinimalDegrees

◊ AGR_TestMinimalDegrees()   (function)

Returns: true if no contradiction was found, and false otherwise.

This function checks that the (permutation and matrix) representations available in the ATLAS of group representations do not have smaller degree than the claimed minimum.

An error message is printed for each contradiction found.

4.3.6 BrowseMinimalDegrees

◊ BrowseMinimalDegrees([*groupnames*])   (function)

Returns: the list of info records for the clicked representations.

If the GAP package Browse (see [BL08]) is loaded then the function BrowseMinimalDegrees is available. It opens a browse table whose rows correspond to the groups for which the ATLAS of Group Representations contains some information about minimal degrees, whose columns correspond to the characteristics that occur, and whose entries are the known minimal degrees.

```
──────────────────────── Example ────────────────────────
 gap> if LoadPackage( "browse", "1.2" ) = true then
 >    down:= NCurses.keys.DOWN;;  DOWN:= NCurses.keys.NPAGE;;
```

```
>    right:= NCurses.keys.RIGHT;;  END:= NCurses.keys.END;;
>    enter:= NCurses.keys.ENTER;;  nop:= [ 14, 14, 14 ];;
>    # just scroll in the table
>    BrowseData.SetReplay( Concatenation( [ DOWN, DOWN, DOWN,
>         right, right, right ], "sedddrrrddd", nop, nop, "Q" ) );
>    BrowseMinimalDegrees();;
>    # restrict the table to the groups with minimal ordinary degree 6
>    BrowseData.SetReplay( Concatenation( "scf6",
>         [ down, down, right, enter, enter ] , nop, nop, "Q" ) );
>    BrowseMinimalDegrees();;
>    BrowseData.SetReplay( false );
> fi;
```

If an argument *groupnames* is given then it must be a list of group names of the ATLAS of Group Representations; the browse table is then restricted to the rows corresponding to these group names and to the columns that are relevant for these groups. A perhaps interesting example is the subtable with the data concerning sporadic simple groups and their covering groups, which has been published in [Jan05]. This table can be shown as follows.

```
———————————————————— Example ————————————————————
gap> if LoadPackage( "browse", "1.2" ) = true then
>    # just scroll in the table
>    BrowseData.SetReplay( Concatenation( [ DOWN, DOWN, DOWN, END ],
>         "rrrrrrrrrrrrrr", nop, nop, "Q" ) );
>    BrowseMinimalDegrees( BibliographySporadicSimple.groupNamesJan05 );;
> fi;
```

(The browse table does not contain rows for the groups $6.M_{22}$, $12.M_{22}$, $6.Fi_{22}$. Note that in spite of the title of [Jan05], the entries in Table 1 of this paper are in fact the minimal degrees of faithful *irreducible* representations, and in the above three cases, these degrees are larger than the minimal degrees of faithful representations. The underlying data of the browse table is about the minimal faithful degrees.)

The return value of `BrowseMinimalDegrees` is the list of `OneAtlasGeneratingSetInfo` (2.5.4) values for those representations that have been "clicked" in visual mode.

The variant without arguments of this function is also available in the menu shown by `BrowseGapData` (**Browse: BrowseGapData**).

4.4   Bibliographies of Sporadic Simple Groups

The bibliographies contained in the ATLAS of Finite Groups [CCN$^+$85] and in the ATLAS of Brauer Characters [JLPW95] are available online in HTML format, see `http://www.gap-system.org/Manuals/pkg/atlasrep/bibl/index.html`.

The source data in BibXMLext format is part of the AtlasRep package, in four files with suffix `xml` in the package's `bibl` directory. Note that each of the two books contains two bibliographies.

Details about the BibXMLext format, including information how to transform the data into other formats such as BibTeX, can be found in the GAP package GAPDoc (see [LN08]).

These source files are used also by the function `BrowseBibliographySporadicSimple` (4.4.1).

4.4.1 BrowseBibliographySporadicSimple

◊ BrowseBibliographySporadicSimple() (function)

Returns: a record as returned by ParseBibXMLExtString (**GAPDoc: ParseBibXM-LextString**).

If the GAP package Browse (see [BL08]) is loaded then this function is available. It opens a browse table whose rows correspond to the entries of the bibliographies of the ATLAS of Finite Groups [CCN+85] and the ATLAS of Brauer Characters [JLPW95].

The function is based on BrowseBibliography (**Browse: BrowseBibliography**), see the documentation of this function for details, e.g., about the return value.

The returned record encodes the bibliography entries corresponding to those rows of the table that are "clicked" in visual mode, in the same format as the return value of ParseBibXMLExtString (**GAPDoc: ParseBibXMLextString**), see the manual of the GAP package GAPDoc [LN08] for details.

BrowseBibliographySporadicSimple can be called also via the menu shown by BrowseGapData (**Browse: BrowseGapData**).

```
_____ Example _____
gap> if LoadPackage( "browse", "1.2" ) = true then
>    enter:= NCurses.keys.ENTER;;  nop:= [ 14, 14, 14 ];;
>    BrowseData.SetReplay( Concatenation(
>      # choose the application
>      "/Bibliography of Sporadic Simple Groups", [ enter, enter ],
>      # search in the title column for the Atlas of Finite Groups
>      "scr/Atlas of finite groups", [ enter,
>      # and quit
>      nop, nop, nop, nop ], "Q" ) );
>    BrowseGapData();;
>    BrowseData.SetReplay( false );
> fi;
```

Chapter 5

Technicalities of the **AtlasRep** Package

This chapter describes those parts of the GAP interface to the ATLAS of Group Representations that do not belong to the user interface (cf. Chapter 2).

Besides global variables used for administrational purposes (see Section 5.1) and several sanity checks (see Section 5.8), they can be regarded as the interface between the data actually contained in the files and the corresponding GAP objects (see Section 5.2, 5.3, 5.4, and 5.5), and the interface between the remote and the local version of the database (see Section 5.6 and 5.7). The former interface contains functions to read and write files in MeatAxe format, which may be interesting for users familiar with MeatAxe standalones (see for example [Rin98]). Other low level functions may be undocumented in the sense that they are not described in this manual. Users interested in them may look at the actual implementation in the `gap` directory of the package, but it may happen that this will be changed in future versions of the package.

5.1   Global Variables Used by the **AtlasRep** Package

For debugging purposes, the functions from the GAP interface to the ATLAS of Group Representations print information depending on the info level of the info classes `InfoAtlasRep` (5.1.1), `InfoCMeatAxe` (5.1.2), and `InfoBBox` (5.1.3) (cf. (**Reference: Info Functions**)).

The info level of an info class can be changed using `SetInfoLevel` (**Reference: SetInfoLevel**). For example, the info level of `InfoAtlasRep` (5.1.1) can be set to the nonnegative integer n using `SetInfoLevel( InfoAtlasRep, n )`.

Information about files being read can be obtained by setting the value of the global variable `InfoRead1` to `Print` (**Reference: Print**).

5.1.1   InfoAtlasRep

◊ `InfoAtlasRep` (info class)

If the info level of `InfoAtlasRep` is at least 1 then information about `fail` results of functions in the AtlasRep package is printed. If the info level is at least 2 then information about calls to external programs is printed. The default level is 0, no information is printed on this level.

5.1.2 InfoCMeatAxe

◇ InfoCMeatAxe   (info class)

If the info level of InfoCMeatAxe is at least 1 then information about fail results of C-MeatAxe functions is printed. The default level is zero, no information is printed on this level.

5.1.3 InfoBBox

◇ InfoBBox   (info class)

If the info level of InfoBBox is at least 1 then information about fail results of functions dealing with black box programs (see Section 4.2) is printed. The default level is 0, no information is printed on this level.

5.1.4 CMeatAxe.FastRead

◇ CMeatAxe.FastRead   (global variable)

If this component is bound and has the value true then ScanMeatAxeFile (5.3.1) reads text files via StringFile (**GAPDoc: StringFile**). Otherwise each file containing a matrix over a finite field is read line by line via ReadLine (**Reference: ReadLine**), and the GAP matrix is constructed line by line, in a compressed representation (see (**Reference: Row Vectors over Finite Fields**) and (**Reference: Matrices over Finite Fields**)), which makes it possible to read large matrices in a reasonable amount of space. The StringFile (**GAPDoc: StringFile**) approach is faster but needs more intermediate space when text files containing matrices over finite fields are read.

5.1.5 AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsInfo

◇ AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsInfo   (global variable)

This is a record that is defined in the file gap/types.g of the package, with the following components.

Components corresponding to *user parameters* (see Section 1.7) are

remote a boolean that controls what files are available; if the value is true then GAP is allowed to try remotely accessing any ATLAS file from the servers (see below) and thus all files listed in the global table of contents are available, if the value is false then GAP may access only those files that are stored in the database directories of the local GAP installation (see Section 1.7.1),

servers a list of pairs [*server*, *path*], where *server* is a string denoting the http address of a server where files can be fetched that are not stored in the local database, and *path* is a string describing the path where the data directories on the server reside,

wget a boolean that controls whether the GAP package IO[Neu07] or the external program wget is used to fetch data files, see 1.7.3,

compress a boolean that controls whether MeatAxe format text files are stored in compressed form; if the value is true then these files are compressed with gzip after they have been fetched from a server, see Section 1.7.4,

displayFunction the function that is used by DisplayAtlasInfo (2.5.1) for printing the formatted data, see Section 1.7.5,

accessFunctions a list of records, each describing how to access the data files, see Sections 1.7.6 and 5.2.

markprivate a string used in DisplayAtlasInfo (2.5.1) to mark private data, see Section 3.2, and

System components (which are computed automatically) are

GAPnames a list of pairs, each containing the GAP name and the ATLAS-file name of a group, see Section 2.2,

groupnames a list of triples, each containing at the first position the name of the directory on each server that contains data about the group *G* in question, at the second position the name of the (usually simple) group for which a subdirectory exists that contains the data about *G*, and at the third position the ATLAS-file name used for *G*, see Section 5.6,

ringinfo a list of triples, each containing at the first position the name of a file with the matrix generators, at the second position a string describing the ring generated by the matrix entries, and at the third position this ring itself; DisplayAtlasInfo (2.5.1) displays this information for example for representations over proper extensions of the rational number field only if the representation is mentioned in the ringinfo list,

private a list of pairs of strings used for administrating private data (see Chapter 3); the value is changed by AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsNotifyPrivateDirectory (3.1.1) and AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsForgetPrivateDirectory (3.1.2),

TableOfContents a record with at most the components local, remote, types, and the names of private data directories. The values of the components local and remote can be computed automatically by ReloadAtlasTableOfContents (1.6.1), the value of the component types is set in AGRDeclareDataType (5.5.1), and the values of the components for local data directories are created by AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsNotifyPrivateDirectory (3.1.1).

5.2 How to Customize the Access to Data files

We discuss the three steps listed in Section 1.7.6.

For creating an overview of the locally available data, the first of these steps must be available independent of actually accessing the file in question. For updating the local copy of the server data, the second of the above steps must be available independent of the third one. Therefore, the package provides the possibility to extend the default behaviour by adding new records to the accessFunctions component of AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsInfo (5.1.5), the components of which are as follows.

location(*filename, groupname, dirname, type*) Let *filename* be the default filename (without path) of the required file, or a list of such filenames. Let *groupname* be the ATLAS name of the group to which the data in these files belong, *dirname* be the default directory name (one of "datagens", "dataword", or the *dirid* value of a private directory, see

AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsNotifyPrivateDirectory (3.1.1)), and *type* be the data type (see AGRDeclareDataType (5.5.1)). This function must return either the absolute path(s) where the mechanism implemented by the current record expects the local version of the given file(s), or fail if this function does not feel responsible for these file(s). In the latter case, the location function in another record will know a path.

The file(s) is/are regarded as not locally available if all installed location functions return either fail or paths of nonexisting files, in the sense of IsExistingFile (**Reference: IsExistingFile**).

fetch(*filepath*, *filename*, *groupname*, *dirname*, *type*) This function is called when a file is not locally available and if the location function in the current record has returned a path or a list of paths. The arguments *dirname* and *type* must be the same as for the location function, and *filepath* and *filename* must be strings (*not* lists of strings).

The return value must be true if the function succeeded with making the file locally available (including postprocessing if applicable), and false otherwise.

contents(*filepath*, *type*) This function is called when the location function in the current record has returned the path(s) *filepath*, and if either these are paths of existing files or the fetch function in the current record has been called for these paths, and the return value was true. The argument *type* must be the same as for the location and the fetch functions.

The return value must be the contents of the file(s), in the sense that the GAP matrix, matrix list, permutation, permutation list, or program described by the file(s) is returned. This means that besides reading the file(s) via the appropriate function, it may be necessary to interpret the contents.

description This must be a short string that describes for which kinds of files the functions in the current record are intended, which file formats are supported etc. The value is shown when AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsShowUserParameters (1.7.8) is called.

active The current accessFunctions record is ignored by AGRFileContents (5.6.2) if the value is not true.

In AGRFileContents (5.6.2), the records in the accessFunctions component of AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsInfo (5.1.5) are considered in reversed order.

By default, the accessFunctions list contains three records. Only for one of them, the active component has the value true. One of the other two records can be used to change the access to permutation representations and to matrix representations over finite fields such that MeatAxe binary files are transferred and read instead of MeatAxe text files. The fourth record makes sense only if a local server is accessible, i. e., if the server files can be read directly, without being transferred into the data directories of the package.

5.3   Reading and Writing MeatAxe Format Files

5.3.1   ScanMeatAxeFile

◇ ScanMeatAxeFile(*filename[, q][, "string"]*)   (function)
  Returns: the matrix or list of permutations stored in the file or encoded by the string.

Let `filename` be the name of a GAP readable file (see (**Reference: Filename**)) that contains a matrix or a permutation or a list of permutations in MeatAxe text format (see the section about the program `zcv` in the MeatAxe manual [Rin98]), and let q be a prime power. `ScanMeatAxeFile` returns the corresponding GAP matrix or list of permutations, respectively.

If the file contains a matrix then the way how it is read by `ScanMeatAxeFile` depends on the value of the global variable `CMeatAxe.FastRead` (5.1.4). If the parameter q is given then the result matrix is represented over the field with q elements, the default for q is the field size stored in the file.

If the file contains a list of permutations then it is read with `StringFile` (**GAPDoc: StringFile**); the parameter q, if given, is ignored in this case.

If the string `"string"` is entered as the third argument then the first argument must be a string as obtained by reading a file in MeatAxe text format as a text stream (see `InputTextFile` (**Reference: InputTextFile**)). Also in this case, `ScanMeatAxeFile` returns the corresponding GAP matrix or list of permutations, respectively.

5.3.2 MeatAxeString

◊ MeatAxeString(*mat, q*)   (operation)
◊ MeatAxeString(*perms, degree*)   (operation)
◊ MeatAxeString(*perm, q, dims*)   (operation)

Returns: a string encoding the GAP objects given as input in MeatAxe format.

In the first form, for a matrix *mat* whose entries lie in the finite field with q elements, `MeatAxeString` returns a string that encodes *mat* as a matrix over `GF(q)`, in MeatAxe text format.

In the second form, for a nonempty list *perms* of permutations that move only points up to the positive integer *degree*, `MeatAxeString` returns a string that encodes *perms* as permutations of degree *degree*, in MeatAxe text format (see [Rin98]).

In the third form, for a permutation *perm* with largest moved point n, say, a prime power q, and a list *dims* of length 2 containing two positive integers larger than or equal to n, `MeatAxeString` returns a string that encodes *perm* as a matrix over `GF(q)`, of dimensions *dims*, whose first n rows and columns describe the permutation matrix corresponding to *perm*, and the remaining rows and columns are zero.

When strings are printed to files using `PrintTo` (**Reference: PrintTo**) or `AppendTo` (**Reference: AppendTo**) then line breaks are inserted whenever lines exceed the number of characters given by the second entry of the list returned by `SizeScreen` (**Reference: SizeScreen**), see (**Reference: Operations for Output Streams**). This behaviour is not desirable for creating data files. So the recommended functions for printing the result of `MeatAxeString` to a file are `FileString` (**GAPDoc: FileString**) and `WriteAll` (**Reference: WriteAll**).

```
                              Example
  gap> mat:= [ [ 1, -1 ], [ 0, 1 ] ] * Z(3)^0;;
  gap> str:= MeatAxeString( mat, 3 );
  "1 3 2 2\n12\n01\n"
  gap> mat = ScanMeatAxeFile( str, "string" );
  true
  gap> str:= MeatAxeString( mat, 9 );
  "1 9 2 2\n12\n01\n"
  gap> mat = ScanMeatAxeFile( str, "string" );
  true
  gap> perms:= [ (1,2,3)(5,6) ];;
  gap> str:= MeatAxeString( perms, 6 );
```

```
"12 1 6 1\n2\n3\n1\n4\n6\n5\n"
gap> perms = ScanMeatAxeFile( str, "string" );
true
gap> str:= MeatAxeString( perms, 8 );
"12 1 8 1\n2\n3\n1\n4\n6\n5\n7\n8\n"
gap> perms = ScanMeatAxeFile( str, "string" );
true
gap> perm:= (1,2,4);;
gap> str:= MeatAxeString( perm, 3, [ 5, 6 ] );
"2 3 5 6\n2\n4\n3\n1\n5\n"
gap> mat:= ScanMeatAxeFile( str, "string" );;  Print( mat, "\n" );
[ [ 0*Z(3), Z(3)^0, 0*Z(3), 0*Z(3), 0*Z(3), 0*Z(3) ],
  [ 0*Z(3), 0*Z(3), 0*Z(3), Z(3)^0, 0*Z(3), 0*Z(3) ],
  [ 0*Z(3), 0*Z(3), Z(3)^0, 0*Z(3), 0*Z(3), 0*Z(3) ],
  [ Z(3)^0, 0*Z(3), 0*Z(3), 0*Z(3), 0*Z(3), 0*Z(3) ],
  [ 0*Z(3), 0*Z(3), 0*Z(3), 0*Z(3), Z(3)^0, 0*Z(3) ] ]
gap> MeatAxeString( mat, 3 ) = str;
true
```

5.3.3 FFList

◊ FFList(*F*)　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　(function)

　　Returns: a list of elements in the given finite field.

◊ FFLists　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　(global variable)

FFList is a utility program for the conversion of vectors and matrices from MeatAxe format to GAP format and vice versa. It is used by ScanMeatAxeFile (5.3.1) and MeatAxeString (5.3.2).

For a finite field F, FFList returns a list l giving the correspondence between the MeatAxe numbering and the GAP numbering of the elements in F.

The element of F corresponding to MeatAxe number n is $l[n+1]$, and the MeatAxe number of the field element z is Position(l, z) - 1.

The global variable FFLists is used to store the information about F once it has been computed.

```
────────────────── Example ──────────────────
gap> FFList( GF(4) );
[ 0*Z(2), Z(2)^0, Z(2^2), Z(2^2)^2 ]
gap> IsBound( FFLists[4] );
true
```

5.3.4 CMtxBinaryFFMatOrPerm

◊ CMtxBinaryFFMatOrPerm(*elm, def, outfile*)　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　(function)

Let the pair (*elm*, *def*) be either of the form (M, q) where M is a matrix over a finite field F, say, with $q \leq 256$ elements, or of the form (π, n) where π is a permutation with largest moved point at most n. Let *outfile* be a string. CMtxBinaryFFMatOrPerm writes the C-MeatAxe binary format of M, viewed as a matrix over F, or of π, viewed as a permutation on the points up to n, to the file with name *outfile*.

(The binary format is described in the C-MeatAxe manual [Rin98].)

```
                            ──────── Example ────────
  gap> tmpdir:= DirectoryTemporary();;
  gap> mat:= Filename( tmpdir, "mat" );;
  gap> q:= 4;;
  gap> mats:= GeneratorsOfGroup( GL(10,q) );;
  gap> CMtxBinaryFFMatOrPerm( mats[1], q, Concatenation( mat, "1" ) );
  gap> CMtxBinaryFFMatOrPerm( mats[2], q, Concatenation( mat, "2" ) );
  gap> prm:= Filename( tmpdir, "prm" );;
  gap> n:= 200;;
  gap> perms:= GeneratorsOfGroup( SymmetricGroup( n ) );;
  gap> CMtxBinaryFFMatOrPerm( perms[1], n, Concatenation( prm, "1" ) );
  gap> CMtxBinaryFFMatOrPerm( perms[2], n, Concatenation( prm, "2" ) );
```

5.3.5 FFMatOrPermCMtxBinary

◇ FFMatOrPermCMtxBinary(*fname*)   (function)
    Returns: the matrix or permutation stored in the file.

Let *fname* be the name of a file that contains the C-MeatAxe binary format of a matrix over a finite field or of a permutation, as is described in [Rin98]. FFMatOrPermCMtxBinary returns the corresponding GAP matrix or permutation.

```
                            ──────── Example ────────
  gap> FFMatOrPermCMtxBinary( Concatenation( mat, "1" ) ) = mats[1];
  true
  gap> FFMatOrPermCMtxBinary( Concatenation( mat, "2" ) ) = mats[2];
  true
  gap> FFMatOrPermCMtxBinary( Concatenation( prm, "1" ) ) = perms[1];
  true
  gap> FFMatOrPermCMtxBinary( Concatenation( prm, "2" ) ) = perms[2];
  true
```

5.4 Reading and Writing ATLAS Straight Line Programs

5.4.1 ScanStraightLineProgram

◇ ScanStraightLineProgram(*filename[, "string"]*)   (function)
    Returns: a record containing the straight line program.

Let *filename* be the name of a file that contains a straight line program in the sense that it consists only of lines in the following form.

#*anything* lines starting with a hash sign # are ignored,

echo *anything* lines starting with echo are ignored for the program component of the result record (see below), they are used to set up the bijection between the labels used in the program and conjugacy class names in the case that the program computes dedicated class representatives,

inp *n* means that there are n inputs, referred to via the labels $1, 2, \ldots, n$,

inp *k a1 a2 ... ak* means that the next k inputs are referred to via the labels *a1*, *a2*, ..., *ak*,

cjr *a b* means that *a* is replaced by `b^(-1) * a * b`,

cj *a b c* means that *c* is defined as `b^(-1) * a * b`,

com *a b c* means that *c* is defined as `a^(-1) * b^(-1) * a * b`,

iv *a b* means that *b* is defined as `a^(-1)`,

mu *a b c* means that *c* is defined as `a * b`,

pwr *a b c* means that *c* is defined as `b^a`,

cp *a b* means that *b* is defined as a copy of *a*,

oup *l* means that there are *l* outputs, stored in the labels `1, 2, …, l`, and

oup *l b1 b2 ... bl* means that the next *l* outputs are stored in the labels *b1, b2, ... bl*.

Each of the labels *a*, *b*, *c* can be any nonempty sequence of digits and alphabet characters, except that the first argument of `pwr` must denote an integer.

If the `inp` or `oup` statements are missing then the input or output, respectively, is assumed to be given by the labels `1` and `2`. There can be multiple `inp` lines at the beginning of the program and multiple `oup` lines at the end of the program. Only the first `inp` or `oup` line may omit the names of the elements. For example, an empty file *filename* or an empty string *string* represent a straight line program with two inputs that are returned as outputs.

No command except `cjr` may overwrite its own input. For example, the line `mu a b a` is not legal. (This is not checked.)

`ScanStraightLineProgram` returns a record containing as the value of its component `program` the corresponding GAP straight line program (see `IsStraightLineProgram` (**Reference: IsStraight-LineProgram**)) if the input string satisfies the syntax rules stated above, and returns `fail` otherwise. In the latter case, information about the first corrupted line of the program is printed if the info level of `InfoCMeatAxe` (5.1.2) is at least 1.

If the string `"string"` is entered as the second argument then the first argument must be a string as obtained by reading a file in MeatAxe text format as a text stream (see `InputTextFile` (**Reference: InputTextFile**)). Also in this case, `ScanStraightLineProgram` returns either a record with the corresponding GAP straight line program or `fail`.

If the input describes a straight line program that computes certain class representatives of the group in question then the result record also contains the component `outputs`. Its value is a list of strings, the entry at position *i* denoting the name of the class in which the *i* output of the straight line program lies; see Section 2.4 for the definition of the class names that occur.

Such straight line programs must end with a sequence of output specifications of the following form.

```
──────── Example ────────
  echo "Classes 1A 2A 3A 5A 5B"
  oup 5 3 1 2 4 5
```

This example means that the list of outputs of the program contains elements of the classes `1A`, `2A`, `3A`, `5A`, and `5B` (in this order), and that inside the program, these elements are referred to by the names `3`, `1`, `2`, `4`, and `5`.

5.4.2 AtlasStringOfProgram

◇ AtlasStringOfProgram(*prog[, outputnames]*) (function)
◇ AtlasStringOfProgram(*prog[, "mtx"]*) (function)

Returns: a string encoding the straight line program/decision in the format used in ATLAS files.

For a straight line program or straight line decision *prog* (see `IsStraightLineProgram` (**Reference: IsStraightLineProgram**) and `IsStraightLineDecision` (4.1.1)), this function returns a string describing the input format of an equivalent straight line program or straight line decision as used in the ATLAS of Group Representations, that is, the lines are of the form described in `ScanStraightLineProgram` (5.4.1).

A list of strings that is given as the optional second argument *outputnames* is interpreted as the class names corresponding to the outputs; this argument has the effect that appropriate `echo` statements appear in the result string.

If the string `"mtx"` is given as the second argument then the result has the format used in the C-MeatAxe (see [Rin98]) rather than the format described in Section 5.4. (Note that the C-MeatAxe format does not make sense if the argument *outputnames* is given, and that this format does not support `inp` and `oup` statements.)

The argument *prog* must not be a black box program (see `IsBBoxProgram` (4.2.1)).

```
  ───────────────────────── Example ─────────────────────────
 gap> str:= "inp 2\nmu 1 2 3\nmu 3 1 2\niv 2 1\noup 2 1 2";;
 gap> prg:= ScanStraightLineProgram( str, "string" );
 rec( program := <straight line program> )
 gap> prg:= prg.program;;
 gap> Display( prg );
 # input:
 r:= [ g1, g2 ];
 # program:
 r[3]:= r[1]*r[2];
 r[2]:= r[3]*r[1];
 r[1]:= r[2]^-1;
 # return values:
 [ r[1], r[2] ]
 gap> StringOfResultOfStraightLineProgram( prg, [ "a", "b" ] );
 "[ (aba)^-1, aba ]"
 gap> AtlasStringOfProgram( prg );
 "inp 2\nmu 1 2 3\nmu 3 1 2\niv 2 1\noup 2\n"
 gap> prg:= StraightLineProgram( "(a^2b^3)^-1", [ "a", "b" ] );
 <straight line program>
 gap> Print( AtlasStringOfProgram( prg ) );
 inp 2
 pwr 2 1 4
 pwr 3 2 5
 mu 4 5 3
 iv 3 4
 oup 1 4
 gap> prg:= StraightLineProgram( [ [2,3], [ [3,1,1,4], [1,2,3,1] ] ], 2 );
 <straight line program>
 gap> Print( AtlasStringOfProgram( prg ) );
 inp 2
 pwr 3 2 3
 pwr 4 1 5
```

```
 mu 3 5 4
 pwr 2 1 6
 mu 6 3 5
 oup 2 4 5
gap> Print( AtlasStringOfProgram( prg, "mtx" ) );
# inputs are expected in 1 2
zsm pwr3 2 3
zsm pwr4 1 5
zmu 3 5 4
zsm pwr2 1 6
zmu 6 3 5
echo "outputs are in 4 5"
gap> str:= "inp 2\nchor 1 2\nchor 2 3\nmu 1 2 3\nchor 3 5";;
gap> prg:= ScanStraightLineDecision( str );;
gap> AtlasStringOfProgram( prg.program );
"inp 2\nchor 1 2\nchor 2 3\nmu 1 2 3\nchor 3 5\n"
```

5.5 Data Types Used in the **ATLAS** of Group Representations

Each representation or program that is administrated by the AtlasRep package belongs to a unique *data type*. Informally, examples of data types are "permutation representation", "matrix representation over the integers", or "straight line program for computing class representatives".

The idea is that for each data type, there can be

- a column of its own in the output produced by `DisplayAtlasInfo` (2.5.1) when called without arguments or with only argument a list of group names,

- a line format of its own for the output produced by `DisplayAtlasInfo` (2.5.1) when called with first argument a group name,

- an input format of its own for `AtlasProgram` (2.5.3),

- an input format of its own for `OneAtlasGeneratingSetInfo` (2.5.4), and

- specific tests for the data of this data type; these functions are used by the global tests described in Section 5.8.

Formally, a data type is defined by a record whose components are used by the interface functions. The details are described in the following.

5.5.1 AGRDeclareDataType

◇ AGRDeclareDataType(*kind, name, record*)   (function)

Let *kind* be one of the strings `"rep"` or `"prg"`, and *record* be a record. `AGRDeclareDataType` declares a new data type of representations (if *kind* is `"rep"`) or of programs (if *kind* is `"prg"`). For each group used in the AtlasRep package, the record that contains the information about the data will have a component *name* whose value is a list containing the data about the new type. Examples of *name* are `"perm"`, `"matff"`, and `"classes"`.

Mandatory components of *record* are

FilenameFormat This defines the format of the filenames containing data of the type in question. The value must be a list that can be used as the second argument of `AGRParseFilenameFormat` (5.6.1), such that only filenames of the type in question match. (It is not checked whether this "detection function" matches exactly one type, so one must be very careful here when declaring a new type.)

AddFileInfo This defines the information stored in the table of contents for the data of the type. The value must be a function that takes three arguments (the current list of data for the type and the given group, a list returned by `AGRParseFilenameFormat` (5.6.1) for the given type, and a filename). This function adds the necessary parts of the data entry to the list, and returns `true` if the data belongs to the type, otherwise `false` is returned; note that the latter case occurs if the filename matches the format description but additional conditions on the parts of the name are not satisfied (for example integer parts may be required to be positive or prime powers).

ReadAndInterpretDefault This is the function that does the work for the default `contents` value of the `accessFunctions` component of `AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsInfo` (5.1.5), see Section 5.2. This function must take a path and return the GAP object given by this file.

AddDescribingComponents (for rep only) This function takes two arguments, a record (that will be returned by `AtlasGenerators` (2.5.2), `OneAtlasGeneratingSetInfo` (2.5.4), or `AllAtlasGeneratingSetInfos` (2.5.5)) and the type record *record*. It sets the components `p`, `dim`, `id`, and `ring` that are promised for return values of the abovementioned three functions.

DisplayGroup (for rep only) This defines the format of the lines printed by `DisplayAtlasInfo` (2.5.1) for a given group. The value must be a function that takes a list as returned by the function given in the component `AddFileInfo`, and returns the string to be printed for the representation in question.

Optional components of *record* are

DisplayOverviewInfo This is used to introduce a new column in the output of `DisplayAtlasInfo` (2.5.1) when this is called without arguments or with a list of group names as its only argument. The value must be a list of length three, containing at its first position a string used as the header of the column, at its second position one of the strings `"r"` or `"l"`, denoting right or left aligned column entries, and at its third position a function that takes two arguments (a list of tables of contents of the AtlasRep package and a group name), and returns a list of length two, containing the string to be printed as the column value and `true` or `false`, depending on whether private data is involved or not. (The default is to print no column for the data type.)

DisplayPRG (for prg only) This is used in `DisplayAtlasInfo` (2.5.1) for ATLAS programs. The value must be a function that takes four arguments (a list of tables of contents to examine, the name of the given group, a list of integers or `true` for the required standardization, and a list of all available standardizations), and returns the list of lines (strings) to be printed as the information about the available programs of the current type and for the given group. (The default is to return an empty list.)

AccessGroupCondition (for rep only) This is used in `DisplayAtlasInfo` (2.5.1) and `OneAtlasGeneratingSetInfo` (2.5.4). The value must be a function that takes two arguments

(a list as returned by `AGRParseFilenameFormat` (5.6.1), and a list of conditions), and returns `true` or `false`, depending on whether the first argument satisfies the conditions. (The default value is `ReturnFalse` (**Reference: ReturnFalse**).)

The function must support conditions such as `[ IsPermGroup, true ]` and `[ NrMovedPoints, [ 5, 6 ] ]`, in general a list of functions followed by a prescribed value, a list of prescribed values, another (unary) function, or the string `"minimal"`. For an overview of the interesting functions, see `DisplayAtlasInfo` (2.5.1).

AccessPRG (for `prg` only) This is used in `AtlasProgram` (2.5.3). The value must be a function that takes three arguments (the record with the information about the given group in the current table of contents, an integer or a list of integers or `true` for the required standardization, and a list of conditions given by the optional arguments of `AtlasProgram` (2.5.3)), and returns either `fail` or a list that together with the group name forms the identifier of a program that matches the conditions. (The default value is `ReturnFail` (**Reference: ReturnFail**).)

AtlasProgram (for `prg` only) This is used in `AtlasProgram` (2.5.3) to create the result value from the identifier. (The default value is `AtlasProgramDefault`, which works whenever the second entry of the identifier is the filename; this is not the case for example if the program is the composition of several programs.)

TOCEntryString This is used in `StoreAtlasTableOfContents` (1.6.2). The value must be a function that takes two arguments (the name *name* of the type and a list as returned by `AGRParseFilenameFormat` (5.6.1) and returns a string that describes the appropriate function call. (The default value is `TOCEntryStringDefault`.)

PostprocessFileInfo This is used in the construction of a table of contents via `ReloadAtlasTableOfContents` (1.6.1), for testing or rearranging the data of the current table of contents. The value must be a function that takes two arguments, the table of contents record and the record in it that belongs to one fixed group. (The default function does nothing.)

SortTOCEntries This is used in the construction of a table of contents (see `ReloadAtlasTableOfContents` (1.6.1)), for sorting the entries after they have been added and after the value of the component `PostprocessFileInfo` has been called. The value must be a function that takes a list as returned by `AGRParseFilenameFormat` (5.6.1), and returns the sorting key. (There is no default value, which means that no sorting is needed.)

TestFileHeaders (for `rep` only) This is used in the function `AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsTestFileHeaders` (5.8.5). The value must be a function that takes the same four arguments as `AGRFileContents` (5.6.2), except that the first argument `"datagens"` can be replaced by `"local"` and that the third argument is a list as returned by `AGRParseFilenameFormat` (5.6.1). (The default value is `ReturnTrue` (**Reference: ReturnTrue**).)

TestFiles (for `rep` only) This is used in the function `AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsTestFiles` (5.8.7). The format of the value and the default are the same as for the value of the component `TestFileHeaders`.

TestWords (for `prg` only) This is used in the function `AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsTestWords` (5.8.6). The value must be a function that takes five arguments where the first four are the same

arguments as for `AGRFileContents` (5.6.2), except that the first argument `"dataword"` can be replaced by `"local"`, and the fifth argument is `true` or `false`, indicating verbose mode or not.

5.6   Filenames Used in the ATLAS of Group Representations

The data of each local GAP version of the ATLAS of Group Representations is either private (see Chapter 3) or is stored in the two directories `datagens` and `dataword`. In the following, we describe the format of filenames in the latter two directories, as a reference of the "official" part of the ATLAS.

In the directory `datagens`, the generators for the *representations* available are stored, the directory `dataword` contains the *programs* to compute conjugacy class representatives, generators of maximal subgroups, images of generators under automorphisms of a given group G from standard generators of G, and to check and compute standard generators (see Section 2.3).

The name of each data file in the ATLAS of Group Representations describes the contents of the file. This section lists the definitions of the filenames used.

Each filename consists of two parts, separated by a minus sign `-`. The first part is always of the form *groupname*`G`i, where the integer i denotes the i-th set of standard generators for the group G, say, with ATLAS-file name *groupname* (see 2.2). The translations of the name *groupname* to the name(s) used within GAP is given by the component `GAPnames` of `AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsInfo` (5.1.5).

The filenames in the directory `dataword` have one of the following forms. In each of these cases, the suffix `W`n means that n is the version number of the program.

***groupname*Gi-cycWn** In this case, the file contains a straight line program that returns a list of representatives of generators of maximally cyclic subgroups of G. An example is `Co1G1-cycW1`.

***groupname*Gi-cclsWn** In this case, the file contains a straight line program that returns a list of conjugacy class representatives of G. An example is `RuG1-cclsW1`.

***groupname*G$i$cycWn-cclsWm** In this case, the file contains a straight line program that takes the return value of the program in the file *groupname*`G`i`-cyc`Wn (see above), and returns a list of conjugacy class representatives of G. An example is `M11G1cycW1-cclsW1`.

***groupname*Gi-max$k$Wn** In this case, the file contains a straight line program that takes generators of G w.r.t. the i-th set of standard generators, and returns a list of generators (in general *not* standard generators) for a subgroup U in the k-th class of maximal subgroups of G. An example is `J1G1-max7W1`.

***groupname*G$i$max$k$Wn-subgroupnameGjWm** In this case, the file contains a straight line program that takes the return value of the program in the file *groupname*`G`i`-max`k`W`n (see above), which are generators for a group U, say; *subgroupname* is a name for U, and the return value is a list of standard generators for U, w.r.t. the j-th set of standard generators. (Of course this implies that the groups in the k-th class of maximal subgroups of G are isomorphic to the group with name *subgroupname*.) An example is `J1G1max1W1-L211G1W1`; the first class of maximal subgroups of the Janko group J_1 consists of groups isomorphic to the linear group $L_2(11)$, for which standard generators are defined.

***groupname*Gi-aoutnameWn** In this case, the file contains a straight line program that takes generators of G w.r.t. the i-th set of standard generators, and returns the list of their images under

the outer automorphism α of G given by the name `outname`; if this name is empty then α is the unique nontrivial outer automorphism of G; if it is a positive integer k then α is a generator of the unique cyclic order k subgroup of the outer automorphism group of G; if it is of the form `2_1` or `2a`, `4_2` or `4b`, `3_3` or `3c` ... then α generates the cyclic group of automorphisms induced on G by $G.2_1$, $G.4_2$, $G.3_3$ ...; finally, if it is of the form `kpd`, with k one of the above forms and d an integer then d denotes the number of dashes appended to the automorphism described by k; if $d = 1$ then d can be omitted. Examples are `A5G1-aW1`, `L34G1-a2_1W1`, `U43G1-a2_3pW1`, and `O8p3G1-a2_2p5W1`; these file names describe the outer order 2 automorphism of A_5 (induced by the action of S_5) and the order 2 automorphisms of $L_3(4)$, $U_4(3)$, and $O_8^+(3)$ induced by the actions of $L_3(4).2_1$, $U_4(3).2_2'$, and $O_8^+(3).2_2''''''$, respectively.

groupnameGi-GjWn In this case, the file contains a straight line program that takes generators of G w.r.t. the i-th set of standard generators, and returns standard generators of G w.r.t. the j-th set of standard generators. An example is `L35G1-G2W1`.

groupnameGi-checkn In this case, the file contains a straight line decision that takes generators of G, and returns `true` if these generators are standard generators w.r.t. the i-th standardization, and `false` otherwise.

groupnameGi-Pn In this case, the file contains a straight line decision that takes some group elements, and returns `true` if these elements are standard generators for G, w.r.t. the i-th standardization, and `false` otherwise.

groupnameGi-findn In this case, the file contains a black box program that takes a group, and returns (if it is successful) a set of standard generators for G, w.r.t. the i-th standardization.

groupnameGi-XdescrWn In this case, the file contains a straight line program that takes generators of G w.r.t. the i-th set of standard generators, and whose return value corresponds to `descr`. This format is used only in private extensions (see Chapter 3), such a script can be accessed with `descr` as the third argument of `AtlasProgram` (2.5.3).

The filenames in the directory `datagens` have one of the following forms. In each of these cases, `id` is a (possibly empty) string that starts with a lowercase alphabet letter (see `IsLowerAlphaChar` (**Reference: IsLowerAlphaChar**)), and m is a nonnegative integer, meaning that the generators are written w.r.t. the m-th basis (the meaning is defined by the ATLAS developers).

groupnameGi-fqrdimidBm.mnr a file in MeatAxe text file format containing the nr-th generator of a matrix representation over the field with q elements, of dimension `dim`. An example is `S5G1-f2r4aB0.m1`.

groupnameGi-pnidBm.mnr a file in MeatAxe text file format containing the nr-th generator of a permutation representation on n points. An example is `M11G1-p11B0.m1`.

groupnameGi-ArdimidBm.g a GAP readable file containing all generators of a matrix representation of dimension `dim` over an algebraic number field not specified further. An example is `A5G1-Ar3aB0.g`.

groupnameGi-ZrdimidBm.g a GAP readable file containing all generators of a matrix representation over the integers, of dimension `dim`. An example is `A5G1-Zr4B0.g`.

groupnameGi-HrdimidBm.g a GAP readable file containing all generators of a matrix representation over a quaternion algebra over an algebraic number field, of dimension *dim*. An example is 2A6G1-Hr2aB0.g.

groupnameGi-ZnrdimidBm.g a GAP readable file containing all generators of a matrix representation of dimension *dim* over the ring of integers mod *n*. An example is 2A8G1-Z4r4aB0.g.

5.6.1 AGRParseFilenameFormat

◇ AGRParseFilenameFormat(*string, format*) (function)
      Returns: a list of strings and integers if *string* matches *format*, and fail otherwise.
      Let *string* be a filename, and *format* be a list $[[c_1, c_2, \ldots, c_n], [f_1, f_2, \ldots, f_n]]$ such that each entry c_i is a list of strings and of functions that take a character as their argument and return true or false, and such that each entry f_i is a function for parsing a filename, such as the currently undocumented functions ParseForwards and ParseBackwards.
      AGRParseFilenameFormat returns a list of strings and integers such that the concatenation of their String (**Reference: String**) values yields *string* if *string* matches *format*, and fail otherwise. Matching is defined as follows. Splitting *string* at each minus character (-) yields m parts $s_1, s_2, \ldots, s_m$. The string *string* matches *format* if s_i matches the conditions in c_i, for $1 \le i \le n$, in the sense that applying f_i to s_i and c_i yields a non-fail result.

```
———————————————————— Example ————————————————————
gap> format:= [ [ [ IsChar, "G", IsDigitChar ],
>                  [ "p", IsDigitChar, IsLowerAlphaOrDigitChar,
>                    "B", IsDigitChar, ".m", IsDigitChar ] ],
>                [ ParseBackwards, ParseForwards ] ];;
gap> AGRParseFilenameFormat( "A6G1-p10B0.m1", format );
[ "A6", "G", 1, "p", 10, "", "B", 0, ".m", 1 ]
gap> AGRParseFilenameFormat( "A6G1-p15aB0.m1", format );
[ "A6", "G", 1, "p", 15, "a", "B", 0, ".m", 1 ]
gap> AGRParseFilenameFormat( "A6G1-f2r16B0.m1", format );
fail
```

5.6.2 AGRFileContents

◇ AGRFileContents(*dirname, groupname, filename, type*) (function)
      Returns: the GAP object obtained from reading and interpreting the file(s) with name(s) *filename*.
      Let *dirname* and *groupname* be strings, *filename* be a string or a list of strings, and *type* be a data type (see AGRDeclareDataType (5.5.1)). *dirname* must be one of "datagens", "dataword", or the *dirid* value of a private directory, see AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsNotifyPrivateDirectory (3.1.1). If *groupname* is the ATLAS-file name of a group *G* (see Section 2.2), and if *filename* is either the name of an accessible file in the *dirname* directory of the ATLAS, or a list of such filenames, with data concerning *G* and for the data type type, then AGRFileContents returns the contents of the corresponding file(s), in the sense that the file(s) (or equivalent ones, see Section 1.7.6) is/are read, and the result is interpreted if necessary; otherwise fail is returned.
      Note that if *filename* refers to file(s) already stored in the *dirname* directory then AGRFileContents does *not* check whether the table of contents of the ATLAS of Group Representations actually contains *filename*.

5.7   The Tables of Contents of the **ATLAS** of Group Representations

The list of data currently available is stored in several *tables of contents*, one for the local GAP data, one for the data on remote servers, and one for each private data directory. These tables of contents are created by ReloadAtlasTableOfContents (1.6.1).

It is assumed that the local data directories contain only files that are also available on servers. Private extensions to the database (cf. Section 1.8 and Chapter 3) cannot be handled by putting the data files into the local directories.

Each table of contents is represented by a record whose components are the ATLAS-file names of the groups (see Section 2.2) and lastupdated, a string describing the date of the last update of this table of contents. The value for each group name is a record whose components are the names of those data types (see Section 5.5) for which data are available.

Note that the name mapping between the ATLAS-file and GAP names of the groups is provided by the groupnames component of AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsInfo (5.1.5), and information about the base rings of matrix representations is provided by the ringinfo component. Group names are notified with AGRGNAN (5.7.1), and base ring information can be notified with AGRRNG (5.7.2); these two administrational functions may be useful for private extensions of the package (see Chapter 3).

5.7.1   AGRGNAN

◊   AGRGNAN(*gapname, atlasname[, size[, maxessize[, "all"[, compatinfo]]]]*)   (function)

Let *gapname* be a string denoting a GAP group name, and *atlasname* be a string denoting the corresponding ATLAS-file name used in filenames of the ATLAS of Group Representations. The following optional arguments are supported.

size the order of the corresponding group,

maxessizes a (not necessarily dense) list of orders of the maximal subgroups of this group

complete the string "all" if the *maxessizes* list is complete,

compatinfo a list of entries of the form [std, factname, factstd, flag] meaning that mapping standard generators of standardization std to the factor group with GAP group name factname, via the natural epimorphism, yields standard generators of standardization factstd if flag is true.

AGRGNAN adds the list of its arguments to the list stored in the GAPnames component of AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsInfo (5.1.5), making the ATLAS data involving *atlasname* accessible for the group with name *gapname*.

An example of a valid call is AGRGNAN("A6.2_2","PGL29",360), see also Section 3.3.

5.7.2   AGRRNG

◊ AGRRNG(*filename, descr*)   (function)

Let *filename* be a string denoting the name of a file containing the generators of a matrix representation over a ring that is not determined by the filename, and let *descr* be a string describing this

ring *R*, say. AGRRNG adds the triple [*filename*, *descr*, *R*] to the list stored in the `ringinfo` component of `AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsInfo` (5.1.5).

An example of a valid call is `AGRRNG("A5G1-Ar3aB0","Field([Sqrt(5)])")`.

5.8 Sanity Checks for the **ATLAS** of Group Representations

The fact that the **ATLAS** of Group Representations is designed as an open database (see Section 1.7.1) makes it especially desirable to have consistency checks available which can be run automatically whenever new data are added by the developers of the **ATLAS**. The tests described in the following can also be used for private extensions of the package (see Chapter 3).

The file `tst/testall.g` of the package contains `ReadTest` (**Reference: ReadTest**) statements for executing a collection of such sanity checks; one can run them by starting **GAP** in the `tst` directory, and then calling `Read( "testall.g" )`. If no problem occurs then **GAP** prints only lines starting with one of the following.

```
                            ── Example ──
   + $Id:
   + GAP4stones:
```

The required space and time for running these tests depends on the amount of locally available data.

The examples in this manual form a part of these tests, they are collected in the file `tst/docxpl.tst` of the package.

The file `tst/atlasrep.tst` contains calls to the functions `AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsTestGroupOrders` (5.8.1), which checks the consistency of the stored group orders and the actual data, `AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsTestFileHeaders` (5.8.5), which checks the consistency of the names of **MeatAxe** text files and the first lines of the files, and `AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsTestWords` (5.8.6), which checks whether the available programs do what they promise.

The calls to `AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsTestFiles` (5.8.7), `AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsTestClassScripts` (5.8.8), and `AGR_TestMinimalDegrees` (4.3.5) are not part of the tests that are run by reading `tst/testall.g`.

All these tests apply only to the *local* table of contents (see Section 5.7), that is, only those data files are checked that are actually available in the local **GAP** installation. No files are fetched from servers during these tests.

Further tests, such as the consistency of different versions of server data, exist but are not part of the distributed package.

5.8.1 AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsTestGroupOrders

◊ `AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsTestGroupOrders()`   (function)

Returns: `false` if a contradiction was found, `true` otherwise.

This function checks whether the group orders stored in the `GAPnames` component of `AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsInfo` (5.1.5) coincide with the orders computed from an **ATLAS** permutation representation of degree up to 10^4, from the character table or the table of marks with the given name, or from the inner structure of the name (supported is a splitting of the name at the first dot (`.`), where the two parts of the name are examined with the same criteria in order to derive the group order).

A message is printed for each group name for which no order is stored (and perhaps now can be stored), for which the stored group order cannot be verified, for which a contradiction was found.

5.8.2 AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsTestSubgroupOrders

◇ `AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsTestSubgroupOrders()` (function)

Returns: `false` if a contradiction was found, `true` otherwise.

This function checks whether the orders of maximal subgroups stored in the `GAPnames` component of `AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsInfo` (5.1.5) coincide with the orders computed from an ATLAS permutation representation of degree up to 10^4, from the character table or the table of marks with the given name, or from the information about maximal subgroups of a factor group modulo a central subgroup that is contained in the derived subgroup.

A message is printed for each group name for which no order is stored (and perhaps now can be stored), for which the stored group order cannot be verified, for which a contradiction was found.

5.8.3 AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsTestStdCompatibility

◇ `AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsTestStdCompatibility()` (function)

Returns: `false` if a contradiction was found, `true` otherwise.

This function checks whether the compatibility info stored in the `GAPnames` component of `AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsInfo` (5.1.5) coincide with computed values.

The following criterion is used for computing the value for a group G. Use the GAP Character Table Library to determine factor groups F of G for which standard generators are defined and moreover a presentation in terms of these standard generators is known. Evaluate the relators of the presentation in the standard generators of G, and let N be the normal closure of these elements in G. Then mapping the standard generators of F to the Ncosets of the standard generators of G is an epimorphism. If $|G/N| = |F|$ holds then G/N and F are isomorphic, and the standard generators of G and F are compatible in the sense that mapping the standard generators of G to their N-cosets yields standard generators of F.

A message is printed for each group name for which no compatibility info was stored and now can be stored, for which the stored info cannot be verified, for which a contradiction was found.

5.8.4 AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsTestCompatibleMaxes

◇ `AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsTestCompatibleMaxes()` (function)

Returns: `false` if a contradiction was found, `true` otherwise.

This function checks whether the information about maximal subgroups stored in the `maxext` components of the records stored in the `TableOfContents.remote` component of `AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsInfo` (5.1.5) coincide with computed values.

The following criterion is used for computing the value for a group G. If F is a factor group of G such that the standard generators of G and F are compatible (see `AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsTestStdCompatibility` (5.8.3)) and if there are a presentation for F and a permutation representation of G then it is checked whether the `"maxes"` type scripts for F can be used to compute also generators for the maximal subgroups of G; if not then words in terms of the standard generators are computed such that the results of the script for F together with the images of these words describe the corresponding maximal subgroup of G.

A message is printed for each group name for which no compatibility info was stored and now can be stored, for which the stored info cannot be verified, for which a contradiction was found.

5.8.5 AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsTestFileHeaders

◇ AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsTestFileHeaders(*[tocid[, groupname]]*)   (function)

    Returns: `false` if an error occurs, otherwise `true`.

First suppose that this function is called with two arguments *tocid*, the identifier of a directory (see Section `sect:Adding a Private Data Directory` (3.1)), and *groupname*, an ATLAS-file name that occurs as a component name in the table of contents of the directory. The function checks for those data files for *groupname* in the *tocid* directory that are in MeatAxe text format whether the filename and the header line are consistent; it checks the data file in GAP format whether the file name is consistent with the contents of the file.

If only one argument *tocid* is given then all representations available for *groupname* are checked with the three argument version.

If only one argument *tocid* is given then all available groups in the directory with identifier *tocid* are checked; the contents of the local `dataword` directory can be checked by entering `"local"`, which is also the default for *tocid*.

5.8.6 AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsTestWords

◇ AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsTestWords(*[tocid[, groupname]]*)   (function)

    Returns: `false` if an error occurs, otherwise `true`.

Called with one argument *tocid*, a string, `AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsTestWords` processes all programs that are stored in the directory with identifier *tocid* (see Section `sect:Adding a Private Data Directory` (3.1)), using the function stored in the `TestWords` component of the data type in question. The contents of the local `dataword` directory can be checked by entering `"local"`, which is also the default.

If the string *groupname*, an ATLAS-file name that occurs as a component name in the table of contents of the directory, is given as the second argument then only the data files for this group are tested.

5.8.7 AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsTestFiles

◇ AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsTestFiles(*[tocid[, groupname]]*)   (function)

    Returns: `false` if an error occurs, otherwise `true`.

This function is an analogue of `AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsTestFileHeaders` (5.8.5). It checks whether reading MeatAxe text files with `ScanMeatAxeFile` (5.3.1) returns non-`fail` results. It does not check whether the first line of a MeatAxe text file is consistent with the filename, since this is tested by `AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsTestFileHeaders` (5.8.5).

5.8.8 AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsTestClassScripts

◇ AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsTestClassScripts(*[groupname]*)   (function)

    Returns: `false` if an error occurs, otherwise `true`.

First suppose that `AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsTestClassScripts` is called with one argument *groupname*, the name of a component in

`AtlasOfGroupRepresentationsInfo.TableOfContents.( "local" )`. If the GAP table library contains an ordinary character table with `Identifier` (**Reference: Identifier!for character tables**) value the GAP name corresponding to *groupname* then it is checked whether all those straight line programs for this group that return class representatives are consistent with the character table in the sense that the class names used occur for the table, and that the element orders and centralizer orders for the classes are correct.

If no argument is given then all available groups are checked with the one argument version.

References

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