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commutative semigroup

Canonical name	CommutativeSemigroup
Date of creation	2013-03-22 13:08:09
Last modified on	2013-03-22 13:08:09
Owner	mclase (549)
Last modified by	mclase (549)
Numerical id	4
Author	mclase (549)
Entry type	Definition
Classification	msc 20M14
Synonym	Abelian semigroup
Related topic	AbelianGroup
Related topic	AbelianGroup2
Defines	commutative
Defines	commutative monoid

A semigroup S is *commutative* if the defining binary operation is <http://planetmath.org/CommutativeSemigroup>. That is, for all $x, y \in S$, the identity $xy = yx$ holds.

Although the term *Abelian semigroup* is sometimes used, it is more common simply to refer to such semigroups as *commutative semigroups*.

A monoid which is also a commutative semigroup is called a *commutative monoid*.