

# Discrete Structures and Theory of Logic

## Lecture-40

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## Field

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An algebraic structure  $(F, +, \cdot)$ , where  $F$  is a set and  $+$  and  $\cdot$  are two binary operators defined on set  $F$ , is said to be field if it satisfies following properties:-

- (1)**  $(F, +)$  is an abelian group.
- (2)**  $(F', \cdot)$  is an abelian group, where  $F' = F - \{0\}$ .
- (3)** Distributive property must hold i.e.  $a \cdot (b+c) = a \cdot b + a \cdot c$  and  $(b+c) \cdot a = b \cdot a + c \cdot a$ ,  $\forall a, b, c \in F$ .

# Field

**Example:** The ring of rational numbers  $(\mathbb{Q}, +, \cdot)$  is a field.

**Solution:** Since  $(\mathbb{Q}, +, \cdot)$  is a ring therefore we have to show only second property of field i.e.  $(\mathbb{Q}', \cdot)$  is an abelian.

Since  $(\mathbb{Q}, +, \cdot)$  is ring therefore  $(\mathbb{Q}', \cdot)$  is a semigroup. Now, we have to find identity element and inverse.

Clearly 1 is an identity element.

Consider an element  $a \in \mathbb{Q}'$ . clearly the inverse of  $a$  is  $1/a$ . Therefore inverse property is also satisfied.

If  $a, b \in \mathbb{Q}'$  then  $a \cdot b = b \cdot a$ , therefore commutative property is satisfied. Since all the properties of an abelian group is satisfied within  $\mathbb{Q}'$ . Therefore,  $(\mathbb{Q}', \cdot)$  is an abelian group.

Therefore,  $(\mathbb{Q}, +, \cdot)$  is a field.

**Example:**  $(\mathbb{R}, +, \cdot)$  is a field.

## Ring with zero divisors

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If  $a$  and  $b$  are two non-zero elements of a ring  $R$  such that  $a.b = 0$ , then  $a$  and  $b$  are divisors of 0 (or zero divisors). In particular,  $a$  is a left divisor of 0 and  $b$  is right divisor of 0.

**Example:** The ring of integers do not have zero divisors. Because there exist no two non-zero integers such that their product is zero.

## Ring homomorphism

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Let  $(R, +, \cdot)$  and  $(S, \oplus, \odot)$  be rings. A mapping  $f: R \rightarrow S$  is called a ring homomorphism from  $(R, +, \cdot)$  to  $(S, \oplus, \odot)$  if for any  $a, b \in R$ ,

$$f(a+b) = f(a) \oplus f(b) \text{ and } f(a \cdot b) = f(a) \odot f(b)$$

## Boolean ring

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A ring  $R$  is said to be boolean ring if  $a^2 = a$ ,  $\forall a \in R$ .

**Example:** Show that a Boolean ring is always commutative.

**Solution:** It is proved in the previous example.

**Example:** If  $(R, +, \cdot)$  is a ring with unity, then show that, for all  $a \in R$ ,

(i)  $(-1) \cdot a = -a$

(ii)  $(-1) \cdot (-1) = 1$

**Solution:**

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(i) } a + (-1) \cdot a &= 1 \cdot a + (-1) \cdot a \\ &= (1 + (-1)) \cdot a \\ &= 0 \cdot a \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow -a = (-1) \cdot a$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(ii) } (-1) \cdot (-1) &= -((-1) \cdot 1) = -(-(1 \cdot 1)) = -(-(1)) = 1 \text{ (since } (a^{-1})^{-1} \\ &= a) \end{aligned}$$

**Example:** Explain Boolean ring with suitable example.

**Solution:** A ring  $R$  is said to be boolean ring if  $a^2 = a, \forall a \in R$ .

Example of Boolean ring is  $(Z_2, +_2, \times_2)$  because

$Z_2 = \{0,1\}$  and  $0^2 = 0 \times_2 0 = 0, 1^2 = 1 \times_2 1 = 1$ .

**Note:**  $(Z_n, +_n, \times_n)$  is a field iff  $n$  is prime number.

**Example:** Determine all values of  $x$  from the given field which satisfies the given equation:-

(i)  $x + 1 = -1$  over  $Z_2, Z_3, Z_5$  and  $Z_7$

(ii)  $2x + 1 = 2$  over  $Z_3$ , and  $Z_5$

(iii)  $5x + 1 = 2$  over  $Z_5$

**Solution:**

**(i)** Consider field  $Z_2$ .  $Z_2 = \{0,1\}$ . Now, we have to find which values of  $Z_2$  satisfies following  $x + 1 = -1$ .

Here,  $-1$  indicate the additive inverse of 1. Clearly, in this field, additive inverse of 1 is 1, therefore the given equation is modified as  $x + 1 = 1$ .

Clearly  $x = 0$  satisfies this equation.



Consider field  $Z_3$ .  $Z_3 = \{0,1,2\}$ . In this field, additive inverse of 1 is 2, therefore the given equation is modified as  $x + 1 = 2$ .

Clearly  $x = 1$  satisfies this equation.

Consider field  $Z_5$ .  $Z_5 = \{0,1,2,3,4\}$ . In this field, additive inverse of 1 is 4, therefore the given equation is modified as  $x + 1 = 4$ .

Clearly  $x = 3$  satisfies this equation.

Consider field  $Z_7$ .  $Z_7 = \{0,1,2,3,4,5,6\}$ . In this field, additive inverse of 1 is 6, therefore the given equation is modified as  $x + 1 = 6$ .

Clearly  $x = 5$  satisfies this equation.

**(ii)** Consider field  $Z_3$ .  $Z_3 = \{0,1,2\}$ . Now, we have to find which values of  $Z_3$  satisfies following  $2x + 1 = 2$ .

Clearly  $x = 2$  satisfies this equation.

Consider field  $Z_5$ .  $Z_5 = \{0,1,2,3,4\}$ . Now, we have to find which values of  $Z_5$  satisfies following  $2x + 1 = 2$ .

Clearly  $x = 3$  satisfies this equation.

**(iii)** Consider field  $Z_5$ .  $Z_5 = \{0,1,2,3,4\}$ . Now, we have to find which values of  $Z_5$  satisfies following  $5x + 1 = 2$ .

Clearly there is no  $x$  in  $Z_5$  which satisfies this equation.

## Exercise

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1. Show that  $(\mathbb{Z}_7, +_7, \times_7)$  is a commutative ring with identity.
2. We are given the ring  $(\{a,b,c,d\}, +, \cdot)$ , whose operations are given by the following table:-

+	a	b	c	d
a	a	b	c	d
b	b	c	d	a
c	c	d	a	b
d	d	a	b	c

.	a	b	c	d
a	a	a	a	a
b	a	c	a	c
c	a	a	a	a
d	a	c	a	a

Is it commutative ring? Does it have an identity? what is the zero of this ring? Find the additive inverse of each of its elements.

## Exercise

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1. Show that  $(I, \oplus, \odot)$  is a commutative ring with identity, where the operations  $\oplus$  and  $\odot$  are defined, for any  $a, b \in I$  as  $a \oplus b = a + b - 1$  and  $a \odot b = a + b - ab$ .
2. Prove that  $(R, +, *)$  is a ring with zero divisors, where  $R$  is  $2 \times 2$  matrix and  $+$  and  $*$  are usual addition and multiplication operations.