

# MT3164 - Fields and Galois Theory

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# Chapter 1

## Basic Ring and Field Theory

### 1.1 Rings and Fields

A Ring,  $R$ , is a non-empty set with two operations  $+$  and  $\cdot$  with the following properties:

- $(R, +)$  is an abelian group.
- $\cdot$  is a binary operation on  $R$
- $\cdot$  is associative.
- $\cdot$  distributes over  $+$ .

**Multiplicative Identity:** Some Rings have a Multiplicative Identity,  $1 \neq 0$  such that,  $\forall x \in R$ :

$$x \cdot 1 = x = 1 \cdot x$$

**Commutative Ring:** Where the multiplication operation is Commutative.

A field is a commutative ring with identity, where every non-zero element has an inverse.