

MATH425 Lecture 2

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1 The field

A field \mathbb{F} is a set containing at least two distinct elements, an additive identity or $\{0\}$. And a multiplicative Identity $\{1\}$, and the elements of the set that satisfy the following properties

2 Properties of a Field

Commutativity: $\alpha + \beta = \beta + \alpha \quad \forall \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{F}$

Associativity: $\alpha + (\beta + \lambda) = (\alpha + \beta) + \lambda \quad (\alpha\beta)\lambda = \alpha(\beta\lambda) \quad \forall \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{F}$

Identities: $\lambda + 0 = \lambda$ and $\lambda(1) = \lambda \quad \forall \lambda \in \mathbb{F}$

Additive inverse: $\forall \alpha \in \mathbb{F} \exists \beta \in \mathbb{F}$ such that $\alpha + \beta = 0$

Multiplicative inverse: $\forall \alpha \in \mathbb{F}$ with $\alpha \neq 0, \exists \beta \in \mathbb{F}$ such that $\alpha\beta = 1$

Distributive property $\lambda(\alpha + \beta) = \lambda\alpha + \lambda\beta \quad \forall \lambda, \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{F}$

Examples of Fields

\mathbb{R} set of real numbers

GF(2): Galois field of order 2. finite field: integers modulo 2 = $\{0, 2\}$

Characteristics of GF2

Since GF2 has two elements it forms a 2 dimensions matrix for addition with zeros on the principal diagonal and 1s on the other indices.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Multiplication for GF(2) also forms a 2x2 matrix as again, there are only two elements.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

In GF(2) you take the modulus of anything larger than 2 because the set is constrained to two elements.

3 Re-Introduction to Complex Numbers

The complex plane is a field that consists of the set of complex numbers.

$$\mathbb{C} = \{a + bi, a, b \in \mathbb{R}\}$$

Where $i = \sqrt{-1}$.

In python j is used in place of i as a fragment of applications in electrical engineering.

$$z = a + bi = \text{Re}(z) + i\text{Im}(z)$$

$$\text{Re}(z)=a, \text{Im}(z)=b$$