

# Fields

## Definition

To say that ‘ $*$ ’ is a binary operator on a set  $S$  means  $\forall a, b \in S$ , the operator ‘ $*$ ’ is:

- 1). Closed:  $a * b \in S$
- 2). Well-defined:  $a * b = c$  and  $a * b = d \implies c = d$

## Definition

A field is a mathematical object consisting of a non-empty set of elements  $F$  and two binary operators called addition ( $a + b$ ) and multiplication ( $a \cdot b = ab$ ) that satisfy the following nine axioms:

- A1. Additive Commutivity:  $\forall a, b \in F, a + b = b + a$
- A2. Additive Associativity:  $\forall a, b, c \in F, (a + b) + c = a + (b + c)$
- A3. Additive Identity:  $\exists 0 \in F, \forall a \in F, a + 0 = 0 + a = a$
- A4. Additive Inverse:  $\forall a \in F, \exists (-a) \in F, a + (-a) = 0$
  
- M1. Multiplicative Commutivity:  $\forall a, b \in F, ab = ba$
- M2. Multiplicative Associativity:  $\forall a, b, c \in F, (ab)c = a(bc)$
- M3. Multiplicative Identity:  $\exists 1 \in F, \forall a \in F, a1 = 1a = a$
- M4. Multiplicative Inverse:  $\forall a \in F - \{0\}, \exists a^{-1} \in F, aa^{-1} = 1$
  
- LD. Left Distribution:  $\forall a, b, c \in F, a(b + c) = ab + ac$

## Theorem: Right Distribution (RD)

$$\forall a, b, c \in F, (a + b)c = ac + bc$$

## Proof

Assume  $a, b, c \in F$ .

$$\begin{array}{ll} a + b \in F & \text{closure} \\ (a + b)c = c(a + b) & \text{M1} \\ (a + b)c = ca + cb & \text{LD} \\ \therefore (a + b)c = ac + bc & \text{M1} \end{array}$$

## Theorem: Right Cancellation

- 1).  $\forall a, b, c \in F, a + c = b + c \iff a = b$
- 2).  $\forall a, b, c \in F, ac = bc$  and  $c \neq 0 \implies a = b$

$$3). \forall a, b, c \in F, a = b \implies ac = bc$$

### Proof

$$1). \text{ Assume } a, b, c \in F.$$

$$\implies \text{ Assume } a + c = b + c.$$

$$\exists (-c) \in F, c + (-c) = 0 \quad \text{A4}$$

$$(a + c) + (-c) = (b + c) + (-c) \quad \text{WD}$$

$$a + (c + (-c)) = b + (c + (-c)) \quad \text{A2}$$

$$a + 0 = b + 0 \quad \text{A4}$$

$$\therefore a = b \quad \text{A3}$$

$$\longleftarrow \text{ Assume } a = b.$$

$$\therefore a + c = b + c \quad \text{WD}$$

$$2). \text{ Assume } a, b \in F \text{ and } c \in F - \{0\}.$$

$$\text{ Assume } ac = bc.$$

$$\exists c^{-1} \in F, cc^{-1} = 1 \quad \text{M4}$$

$$(ac)c^{-1} = (bc)c^{-1} \quad \text{WD}$$

$$a(cc^{-1}) = b(cc^{-1}) \quad \text{M2}$$

$$a1 = b1 \quad \text{M4}$$

$$\therefore a = b \quad \text{M3}$$

$$3). \text{ Assume } a, b, c \in F.$$

$$\text{ Assume } a = b.$$

$$\therefore ac = bc \quad \text{WD}$$

### Theorem: Left Cancellation

$$1). \forall a, b, c \in F, c + a = c + b \iff a = b$$

$$2). \forall a, b, c \in F, ca = cb \text{ and } c \neq 0 \implies a = b$$

$$3). \forall a, b, c \in F, a = b \implies ca = cb$$

### Proof

$$1). \text{ Assume } a, b, c \in F.$$

$$c + a = c + b \iff a + c = b + c \quad (\text{A1})$$

$$\iff a = b \quad (\text{RCAN})$$

$$2). \text{ Assume } a, b \in F \text{ and } c \in F - \{0\}.$$

$$\text{ Assume } ac = bc.$$

$$ac = bc \quad \text{M1}$$

$$\therefore a = b \quad \text{RCAN}$$

3). Assume  $a, b, c \in F$ .

Assume  $a = b$ .

$$ac = bc \quad \text{WD}$$

$$\therefore ca = cb \quad \text{M1}$$

### **Theorem: Uniqueness**

- 1). The additive identity is unique
- 2).  $\forall a \in F, (-a)$  is unique
- 3). The multiplicative identity is unique
- 4).  $\forall a \in F - \{0\}, a^{-1}$  is unique

### **Proof**

1). Assume that there are two: 0 and  $0'$ .

$$a + 0 = a \quad \text{A3}$$

$$a + 0' = a \quad \text{A3}$$

$$a + 0 = a + 0' \quad \text{WD}$$

$$\therefore 0 = 0' \quad \text{LCAN}$$

2). Assume that there are two:  $a'$  and  $a''$ .

$$a + a' = 0 \quad \text{A4}$$

$$a + a'' = 0 \quad \text{A4}$$

$$a + a' = a + a'' \quad \text{WD}$$

$$\therefore a' = a'' \quad \text{LCAN}$$

3). Assume that there are two: 1 and  $1'$ .

$$a1 = a \quad \text{A3}$$

$$a1' = a \quad \text{A3}$$

$$a1 = a1' \quad \text{WD}$$

$$\therefore 1 = 1' \quad \text{LCAN}$$

4). Assume that there are two:  $a'$  and  $a''$ .

$$aa' = 1 \quad \text{M4}$$

$$aa'' = 1 \quad \text{M4}$$

$$aa' = aa'' \quad \text{WD}$$

$$\therefore a' = a'' \quad \text{LCAN}$$

### **Properties of Zero**

- 1).  $0 = -0$
- 2).  $\forall a \in F, a0 = 0a = 0$
- 3).  $\forall a, b \in F, ab = 0 \iff a = 0 \text{ or } b = 0$

### Proof

$$\begin{aligned} 1). \quad 0 + (-0) &= 0 & \text{A4} \\ 0 + (-0) &= -0 & \text{A3} \\ \therefore 0 &= -0 \end{aligned}$$

2). Assume  $a \in F$ .

$$\begin{aligned} a0 &\in F & \text{Closure} \\ a0 &= a0 + 0 & \text{A3} \\ a(0 + 0) &= a0 + 0 & \text{A3} \\ a0 + a0 &= a0 + 0 & \text{LD} \\ \therefore a0 &= 0 & \text{LCAN} \\ \therefore 0a &= 0 & \text{M1} \end{aligned}$$

3). Assume  $a, b \in F$ .

$\implies$  Assume  $ab = 0$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{AWLOG: } b &\neq 0 \\ \exists b^{-1} &\in F, bb^{-1} = 1 & \text{M4} \\ (ab)b^{-1} &= 0b^{-1} & \text{WD} \\ (ab)b^{-1} &= 0 & \text{prop of 0} \\ a(bb^{-1}) &= 0 & \text{M2} \\ a1 &= 0 & \text{M4} \\ \therefore a &= 0 & \text{M3} \end{aligned}$$

$\Leftarrow$  AWLOG:  $a = 0$

$$ab = 0a = 0 \quad \text{prop of 0}$$

### Properties of Negatives

- 1).  $\forall a \in F, (-1)a = -a$
- 2).  $\forall a \in F, -(-a) = a$
- 3).  $\forall a, b \in F, (-a)b = -ab$
- 4).  $\forall a, b \in F, a(-b) = -ab$
- 5).  $\forall a, b \in F, (-a)(-b) = ab$

### Proof

1). Assume  $a \in F$

$$\begin{aligned} a + (-1)a &= 1a + (-1)a & \text{M3} \\ a + (-1)a &= (1 + (-1))a & \text{RD} \\ a + (-1)a &= 0a & \text{A4} \\ a + (-1)a &= 0 & \text{prop of 0} \\ \therefore (-1)a &= -a & \text{uniqueness} \end{aligned}$$

2). Assume  $a \in F$

$$\begin{aligned} -(-a) + (-a) &= (-1)(-a) + (-a) & (1) \\ -(-a) + (-a) &= (-1)(-a) + 1(-a) & \text{M3} \\ -(-a) + (-a) &= ((-1) + 1)(-a) & \text{RD} \\ -(-a) + (-a) &= 0(-a) & \text{A4} \\ -(-a) + (-a) &= 0 & \text{prop of 0} \\ \therefore -(-a) &= a & \text{uniqueness} \end{aligned}$$

3). Assume  $a, b \in F$

$$\begin{aligned} ab + (-a)b &= (a + (-a))b & \text{RD} \\ ab + (-a)b &= 0b & \text{A4} \\ ab + (-a)b &= 0 & \text{prop of 0} \\ \therefore (-a)b &= -ab & \text{uniqueness} \end{aligned}$$

4). Assume  $a, b \in F$

$$\begin{aligned} ab + a(-b) &= a(b + (-b)) & \text{LD} \\ ab + a(-b) &= a0 & \text{A4} \\ ab + a(-b) &= 0 & \text{prop of 0} \\ \therefore a(-b) &= -ab & \text{uniqueness} \end{aligned}$$

5). Assume  $a, b \in F$

$$\begin{aligned} (-a)(-b) + (-ab) &= (-a)(-b) + (-a)b & (3) \\ (-a)(-b) + (-ab) &= (-a)(-b + b) & \text{LD} \\ (-a)(-b) + (-ab) &= (-a)0 & \text{A4} \\ (-a)(-b) + (-ab) &= 0 & \text{A3} \\ \therefore (-a)(-b) &= ab & \text{uniqueness} \end{aligned}$$