

Finite fields

Please refer to literatures about finite fields for more details.

Definition 0.1. *field* $(F, +, \cdot)$

Lemma 0.2. *All non-zero elements have the same additional order of prime p .*

Proof. $F^\times \curvearrowright F^+ \setminus \{0\}$ by multiplication as group automorphism (distributive law) transitively. \square

Definition 0.3. *The p above is the **characteristic** of F . $F_0 := \langle 1 \rangle_+$ is the **prime subfield** of F .*

Lemma 0.4. $|F| = p^d$

Proof. F is a vector space over F_0 . \square

Lemma 0.5. $F^\times = \langle \sigma \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}_{p^d-1}$, where σ is called a **Singer cycle**.

Proof. By Vandermonde's lemma, polynomial of degree n on F has at most n solutions in F .
 $e := \exp(F^\times) < |F^\times| \implies x^e - 1 = 0$ has $|F^\times| > e$ solutions. \square

Proposition 0.6. *For any prime power $q = p^d$, $\exists_1 F$ of order q up to field isomorphism, says \mathbb{F}_q .*

Proof. Existence: $\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}[x]/(f(x))$ for any irreducible polynomial $f(x)$ of degree d .

Uniqueness: If $|F| = p^d$, then $F_0 \cong \mathbb{F}_p$, F is the splitting field of $x^{p^d} - x$ over F_0 , $F^\times = \langle x \rangle$. \square

Lemma 0.7. $\text{Aut}(\mathbb{F}_q) = \langle \phi \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}_d$, where $\phi : x \mapsto x^p$ is called the **Frobenius automorphism**.

Remark 0.8. ϕ may not be a linear transformation on \mathbb{F}_q^n since it may not preserve scalar multiplication.

Definition 0.9. $\Gamma L_n(q) := \text{GL}_n(q) \rtimes \langle \phi \rangle$ and $\Sigma L_n(q) := \text{SL}_n(q) \rtimes \langle \phi \rangle$

Lemma 0.10. $x^n = 1$ has $(n, q-1)$ solutions in \mathbb{F}_q .