

Additive identity is  $0+0\sqrt{3}=0$  and multiplicative identity is  $1+0\sqrt{3}=1$ .

$\forall x = (a+b\sqrt{3}) \in F_1, \exists$  an additive inverse of the form  $(-a-b\sqrt{3}) \in F_1$ , and

$\exists$  a multiplicative inverse  $(a+b\sqrt{3})^{-1}$  or  $\frac{a-b\sqrt{3}}{a^2-3b^2} = \frac{a}{a^2-3b^2} - \frac{b}{a^2-3b^2}\sqrt{3}$

$$a, b \in \mathbb{Q} \Rightarrow \frac{a}{b} \neq \pm\sqrt{3} \Rightarrow \left(\frac{a}{b}\right)^2 \neq 3 \Rightarrow a^2 \neq 3b^2 \Rightarrow a^2 - 3b^2 \neq 0$$

$\frac{a}{a^2-3b^2} \in \mathbb{Q}$   
 $\frac{-b}{a^2-3b^2} \in \mathbb{Q}$ ,  
 when  $a, b \in \mathbb{Q}$

Hence,  $F_1$  is a field.

3-2. Is the set  $F_2 = \{a + b\sqrt{3} : a, b \in \mathbb{Z}\}$  (with the same addition & multiplication) a field?

It is not true that  $\forall x = (a+b\sqrt{3}) \in F_2, \exists$  a multiplicative inverse in  $F_2$ .

Counter example: take  $x = 4 + 0\sqrt{3} = 4 \in F_2$ , its multiplicative inverse is  $1/4$ , of the form,  $a+b\sqrt{3}$ , where  $a=1/4$  and  $b=0$ , but  $a=1/4 \notin \mathbb{Z}$ , i.e.,  $x$ 's inverse  $(1/4 + 0\sqrt{3}) \notin F_2$ . Hence,  $F_2$  is **not** a field.

4. Let  $F_4 = \{0, 1, a, b\}$  be a field containing 4 elements. Assume that  $1 + 1 = 0$ . Prove that  $b = a^{-1} = a^2 = a + 1$ .

3/4

Proof: By definition of a field

$\Rightarrow$  The sum, product, difference, & quotient of any two elements in  $F_4$  is also an element of  $F_4$  and field elements are distinct elements.  $\Rightarrow$

ab =	0	then $a=0$ or $b=0$	impossible
	a	then $b=1$ or $a=0$	impossible
	b	then $a=1$ or $b=0$	impossible
	1	then	$b = a^{-1}$
a <sup>2</sup> =	0	then $a=0$	impossible
	1	then $a = a^{-1} = b$ ? $a=1$ or $a=-1=1$	impossible
	a	then $a(a-1)=0, a=0,1$	impossible
	b	$a^2 = b$	the only choice
a+1 =	0	then $a=-1=1$ since $1+1=0$ or $1=-1$	impossible
	1	then $a=0$	impossible
	a	then $1=0$	impossible
	b	$a+1=b$	the only choice

Hence,  $b = a^{-1} = a^2 = a + 1$ .

□