

*Important

Theorem \rightarrow Every field is an integral domain.

Proof \rightarrow From definition, we know that field F is a commutative ring with unity therefore to prove that every field is an integral domain. we only have to show that field has no zero divisors i.e. for all $a, b \in R$

$$a \cdot b = 0 \Rightarrow a = 0 \text{ or } b = 0$$

Suppose $a \neq 0$, so that a^{-1} exists

$$\text{then } ab = 0 \Rightarrow a^{-1}(ab) = a^{-1} \cdot 0$$

$$(a^{-1}a)b = 0$$

$$(1 \cdot b) = 0$$

$$b = 0$$

Similarly, if $b \neq 0$ and $ab = 0$ then

$$ab = 0 \Rightarrow (ab)b^{-1} = 0 \cdot b^{-1}$$

$$\Rightarrow a(bb^{-1}) = 0 \Rightarrow a \cdot 1 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow a = 0$$

therefore, in a field $ab = 0$

$$\Rightarrow a = 0 \text{ or } b = 0$$

thus, a field has no zero divisors.

Hence Every field is an integral domain -

But the converse of the above theorem is not true -

i.e. Every integral domain is not a field -

for Example; the ring of integers is an integral domain but it is not a field. the only invertible elements of this ring are 1 and -1.

Q → Give an Example of a Skew field which is not a field?

Solution → Consider $M =$ Set of matrices of the form $\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$ where a, b, c, d are real numbers. the set M is a Skew field with respect to the addition and multiplication of matrices.

Properties Under Addition:

1.) Closure Law: the sum of two members of M is also a member of M . therefore closure law is satisfied.

2.) Associative Law →

$$A + (B + C) = (A + B) + C \text{ for all } A, B, C \in M$$

3.) Existence of identity →

$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \in M$ and is the identity for Matrix addition in M i.e. $0 + A = A + 0 = A$

for all $A \in M$

4.) Existence of inverse →

for each $A \in M$, there exists a Matrix $-A \in M$ such that

$$(-A) + A = O_{2 \times 2}$$

5.) Commutative Law →

$$A + B = B + A \text{ for all } A, B \in M$$

Properties Under Multiplication:

6.) Closure Law: the Product of two Matrices of type 2×2 is a Matrix of type 2×2 i.e. $A, B \in M \Rightarrow A \cdot B \in M$

7.) Associative Law → Matrix Multiplication is Associative

$$A(BC) = (AB)C \text{ for all } A, B, C \in M$$

8.) Existence of identity →

if $I = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ then $I \cdot A = A \cdot I = A$ for all $A \in M$

Also $I \in M$ give that I is identity for Matrix Multiplication in M .

9.) Existence of Multiplicative inverse:

Consider $A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$, where A is a non Singular Matrix.

$\Rightarrow |A| \neq 0$ i.e. A^{-1} exists and $A^{-1} \in M$.

$$\text{Also } A \cdot A^{-1} = A^{-1} A = I$$

Hence, Each non Singular Matrix possesses Inverse.

10.) Distributive Law: for all Matrices

$A, B, C \in M$, we have

$$A \cdot (B + C) = A \cdot B + A \cdot C$$

and $(B + C) \cdot A = B \cdot A + C \cdot A$

Hence $(M, +, \cdot)$ is a Skew field. But

Matrix Multiplication is not commutative

Let $A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$, $B = \begin{bmatrix} p & q \\ r & s \end{bmatrix}$, where $A, B \in M$

$$AB = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} p & q \\ r & s \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} ap + br & aq + bs \\ cp + dr & cq + ds \end{bmatrix}$$

$$BA = \begin{bmatrix} p & q \\ r & s \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} pa + cq & pb + dq \\ ra + cs & rb + ds \end{bmatrix}$$

Hence $AB \neq BA$

So $(M, +, \cdot)$ is a Skew field but not a field.