

Galois finite field concept

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1 Finite field:

Definition 1 A field having finite number of elements is called a finite field or a Galois finite field.

Theorem 1 If \mathbb{F} is a finite field, then $o(\mathbb{F}) = p^n$ for some p and an integern ≥ 1 .

Let P be the prime subfield of \mathbb{F} .

Since \mathbb{F} is finite, so is P . Therefore, $P \cong \frac{\mathbb{Z}}{\langle p \rangle}$ for some prime p .

But

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\mathbb{Z}}{\langle p \rangle} &\cong \{0, 1, 2, 3, \dots, p-1\} \pmod{p} = \mathbb{F}_p \\ &\implies P \cong \mathbb{F}_p \end{aligned}$$

Since $P \subseteq \mathbb{F}$, we can regard $\mathbb{F}_p \subseteq \mathbb{F}$. Now \mathbb{F} is a vector space over \mathbb{F}_p . Since \mathbb{F} is finite,

$$[\mathbb{F}, \mathbb{F}_p] = n = \text{finite.}$$

Let $\{u_1, \{u_2, \{u_3, \dots, \{u_n\}$ be basis of $\frac{\mathbb{F}}{\mathbb{F}_p}$.

Then

$$\mathbb{F} = \{\alpha_1 u_1 + \alpha_2 u_2 + \alpha_3 u_3 + \dots + \alpha_n u_n \mid \alpha_i \in \mathbb{F}_p\}$$

Now each α_i can choose in p ways and

$$\sigma \alpha_i u_i = \sigma \beta_i u_i$$

$$\implies \alpha_i = \beta_i$$

$$\therefore o(\mathbb{F}) = p^n$$

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Definition 2 Let \mathbb{F} be a finite field of $o(\mathbb{F}) = p$, and $f(x)$ is irreducible polynomial over \mathbb{F} of degree n , then $\frac{\mathbb{F}(x)}{\langle f(x) \rangle}$ is a field of order p^n , it is denoted by $GLF(p^n)$, read as Galois field and $|GLF(p^n)| = p^n$ i.e., $\mathbb{F} \cong \mathbb{Z}_p$

Hence

$$GLF(p^n) = \frac{\mathbb{Z}_p[x]}{\langle f(x) \rangle}$$

$$= \{a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + \dots + a_{n-1}x^{n-1} + \langle f(x) \rangle \mid a_i \in \mathbb{Z}_p, \quad i = 1, 2, 3, \dots, n-1\}$$

Theorem 2 Construct Galois field of order 4.

Since $|GLF(p^n)| = 2^2$, $p = 2$, $n = 2$

$\therefore \mathbb{F} \cong \mathbb{Z}_2$

$$GLF(2^2) = \frac{\mathbb{Z}_2[x]}{\langle f(x) \rangle}$$

where $f(x) = x^2 + x + 1$ which is irreducible polynomial over \mathbb{Z}_2

For $f(0) = 0^2 + 0 + 1 = 1 \pmod{2}$ and $f(1) = 1^2 + 1 + 1 = 1 \pmod{2}$

$$GLF(2^2) = \frac{\mathbb{Z}_2[x]}{\langle x^2 + x + 1 \rangle}$$

$$= \{a_0 + a_1x + \langle x^2 + x + 1 \rangle \mid a_0, a_1 \in \mathbb{Z}_2, \quad i = 1, 2\}$$

$$\implies GLF(2^2) = \{0 + 0.x + \langle x^2 + x + 1 \rangle, 1 + 0.x + \langle x^2 + x + 1 \rangle, 0 + 1.x + \langle x^2 + x + 1 \rangle, 1 + 1.x + \langle x^2 + x + 1 \rangle\}$$

$$\therefore GLF(2^2) = \{0 + \langle x^2 + x + 1 \rangle, 1 + \langle x^2 + x + 1 \rangle, x + \langle x^2 + x + 1 \rangle, 1 + x + \langle x^2 + x + 1 \rangle\}$$

It is very simple to show $\{GLF(2^2), +\}$ is abelian group on $\pmod{2}$ (Student must be show). so it is clearly

$$\{GLF(2^2), +\} \cong \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$$

Now, For $\{GLF^*(2^2), \cdot\}$ is group?

For this some operation be

$$x + \langle x^2 + x + 1 \rangle, 1 + x + \langle x^2 + x + 1 \rangle \in GLF(2^2)$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} (x + \langle x^2 + x + 1 \rangle)(1 + x + \langle x^2 + x + 1 \rangle) &= x + x^2 + \langle x^2 + x + 1 \rangle \\ &= -1 + \langle x^2 + x + 1 \rangle \quad (\text{Since } x^2 + x = -1) \\ &= 1 + \langle x^2 + x + 1 \rangle \in GLF(2^2) \quad (\because 1 = -1 \text{ in } \mathbb{Z}_2) \end{aligned}$$

Now,

$$\begin{aligned} (1+x+\langle x^2+x+1 \rangle)(1+x+\langle x^2+x+1 \rangle) &= (1+x)^2 + \langle x^2+x+1 \rangle \\ &= 1+2x+x^2 + \langle x^2+x+1 \rangle \\ &= x + \langle x^2+x+1 \rangle \in \text{GLF}(2^2) \quad (\text{Since } 1+x+x^2=0 \text{ in } \mathbb{Z}_2) \end{aligned}$$

This type operation show that $1 + \langle x^2 + x + 1 \rangle$ is identity element in $\text{GLF}^*(2^2)$ under binary operation multiplication and their order is $|1 + \langle x^2 + x + 1 \rangle| = 1$
Now order of elements in $\text{GLF}^*(2^2)$

$$\begin{aligned} (1+x+\langle x^2+x+1 \rangle)^3 &= (1+x+\langle x^2+x+1 \rangle)(x+\langle x^2+x+1 \rangle) \\ &= x+x^2 + \langle x^2+x+1 \rangle \\ &= 1 + \langle x^2+x+1 \rangle \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore |1+x+\langle x^2+x+1 \rangle| = 3$$

Similarly, $|x + \langle x^2 + x + 1 \rangle| = 3$.

$$\therefore \text{GLF}^*(2^2) \cong \mathbb{Z}_4^* \quad \mathbb{Z}_4^* = \mathbb{Z}_4 - \{0\}$$

Hence $\{\text{GLF}(2^2), +, \cdot\}$ is field.

Assignment

Question:1. Construct Galois field of order 8 and 27.

Question:2. How many elements that satisfied $x^{26} = 1$ in $\text{GLF}(3^5)$.

Question:3. Let \mathbb{F} be finite field of order $n (= p^k, \text{ for some } k)$ then $\forall 0 \neq x \in \mathbb{F}, x^{n-1} = 1$.

Question:3. If $f(x) = x^2 + 2x - 1 \in \mathbb{F}_3[x]$ and $\text{GLF}(3^2) = \frac{\mathbb{F}_3[x]}{\langle x^2+2x-1 \rangle}$, then which of the following is/are correct.

- (a) $\text{GLF}(9)$ is field of order 9.
- (b) $\text{Aut}(\text{GLF}(3^2) - \{0\})$ is cyclic.
- (c) $\text{Aut}(\text{GLF}(3^2) - \{0\})$ is abelian but not cyclic.
- (d) none

Ans. : a, c.

.....All the best.....