

## 207. On Axiom Systems of Commutative Rings

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Recently G. R. Blakley gives an interesting axiom system of commutative rings (see G. R. Blakley [1]).

In this short Note, we give some new axioms of commutative rings and semirings that the addition and multiplication are commutative.

**Theorem 1.** *A set with two nullary operations, 0 and 1, with one unary operation,  $-$ , and with two binary operations,  $+$  and juxtaposition such that*

- 1)  $r + 0 = r,$
- 2)  $r1 = r,$
- 3)  $((-r) + r)a = 0,$
- 4)  $((ay + bx) + cz)r = b(xr) + (a(yr) + z(cr))$

for every  $a, b, c, r, x, y, z,$  is a commutative ring with unit element.

**Remark.** It is obvious that every commutative ring (with unit element) satisfies 1)–4).

**Proof.** The proof is divided into several steps.

- 5) 
$$\begin{aligned} &(-r) + r \\ &= ((-r) + r)1 && \{2\} \\ &= 0. && \{3\} \end{aligned}$$
- 6) 
$$\begin{aligned} &0a \\ &= ((-0) + 0)a && \{5\} \\ &= 0. && \{3\} \end{aligned}$$
- 7) 
$$\begin{aligned} &a + b \\ &= ((a1 + b1) + 00)1 && \{2, 6\} \\ &= b(11) + (a(11) + 0(01)) && \{4\} \\ &= b + a. && \{2, 6, 1\} \end{aligned}$$
- 8) 
$$\begin{aligned} &cz \\ &= ((00 + 00) + cz)1 && \{1, 7, 6, 2\} \\ &= 0(01) + (0(01) + z(c1)) && \{4\} \\ &= zc. && \{1, 7, 2\} \end{aligned}$$
- 9) 
$$\begin{aligned} &(b + a) + c \\ &= (a + b) + c && \{7\} \\ &= ((a1 + b1) + c1)1 && \{2\} \\ &= b(11) + (a(11) + 1(c1)) && \{4\} \\ &= b + (a + c). && \{2\} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 10) \quad & (ay)r \\
 & = ((ay+00)+00)r && \{1, 6\} \\
 & = 0(0r) + (a(yr) + 0(0r)) && \{4\} \\
 & = a(yr). && \{6, 1, 7\}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 11) \quad & (a+b)r \\
 & = ((a1+b1)+00)r && \{2, 1, 6\} \\
 & = b(1r) + (a(1r) + 0(0r)) && \{4\} \\
 & = br + ar && \{2, 8, 6, 1\} \\
 & = ar + br. && \{7\}
 \end{aligned}$$

12) For given  $a, b$ ,  $a+x=b$  is solvable. Let  $x=(-a)+b$ , then we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 & a + ((-a) + b) \\
 & = (a + (-a)) + b && \{9\} \\
 & = b. && \{5, 1, 7\}
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore the proof of Theorem 1 is complete.

**Theorem 2.** *A set with two nullary operations, 0 and 1, with two binary operations, + and juxtaposition such that*

$$\begin{aligned}
 1) \quad & r+0=r, \\
 2) \quad & r1=r, \\
 3) \quad & 0r=0, \\
 4) \quad & ((ay+bx)+cz)r=b(xr)+(a(yr)+z(cr))
 \end{aligned}$$

for every  $a, b, c, r, x, y, z$ , is a semiring with 0 and 1 that these binary operations satisfy the commutative laws.

**Proof.** We divide our proof into some steps.

$$\begin{aligned}
 5) \quad & a+b \\
 & = ((a1+b1)+00)1 && \{2, 1, 3\} \\
 & = b(11) + (a(11) + 0(01)) && \{4\} \\
 & = b+a. && \{2, 3, 1\}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 6) \quad & ab \\
 & = ((00+00)+ab)1 && \{1, 5\} \\
 & = 0(01) + (0(01) + b(a1)) && \{4\} \\
 & = ba. && \{3, 1, 5\}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 7) \quad & (b+a)+c \\
 & = (a+b)+c && \{5\} \\
 & = ((a1+b1)+c1)1 && \{2\} \\
 & = b(11) + (a(11) + 1(c1)) && \{4\} \\
 & = b+(a+c). && \{2, 6\}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 8) \quad & (ay)r \\
 & = ((ay+00)+00)r && \{1\} \\
 & = 0(0r) + (a(yr) + 0(0r)) && \{4\} \\
 & = a(yr). && \{1, 5, 3\}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
9) \quad & (a+b)r \\
& = ((a1+b1)+00)r && \{2, 1\} \\
& = b(1r) + (a(1r) + 0(0r)) && \{4\} \\
& = br + ar && \{2, 3\} \\
& = ar + br. && \{5\}
\end{aligned}$$

Hence the proof of Theorem 2 is complete.

Next we consider another axiom system which characterizes a commutative ring.

**Theorem 3.** *A set with two nullary operations, 0 and 1, with one unary operation,  $-$ , and with two binary operations,  $+$  and juxtaposition such that*

$$\begin{aligned}
1) \quad & r+0=0+r=r, \\
2) \quad & r1=r, \\
3) \quad & ((-r)+r)a=0, \\
4) \quad & ((ay+b)+c)r=rb+(a(yr)+cr)
\end{aligned}$$

for every  $a, b, c, r, y$ , is a commutative ring with unit element.

**Remark.** It is obvious that every commutative ring (with unit element) satisfies 1)—4).

**Proof.**

$$\begin{aligned}
5) \quad & (-r)+r \\
& = ((-r)+r)1 && \{2\} \\
& = 0. && \{3\} \\
6) \quad & 0a \\
& = ((-0)+0)a && \{5\} \\
& = 0. && \{3\} \\
7) \quad & br \\
& = ((00+b)+0)r && \{1, 6\} \\
& = r\bar{b} + (0(0r)+0r) && \{4\} \\
& = r\bar{b}. && \{6, 1\} \\
8) \quad & a+b \\
& = ((a1+b)+0)1 && \{2, 1\} \\
& = 1\bar{b} + (a(11)+01) && \{4\} \\
& = b+a. && \{2, 7, 6, 1\} \\
9) \quad & (ay)r \\
& = ((ay+0)+0)r && \{1\} \\
& = r0 + (a(yr)+0r) && \{4\} \\
& = a(yr). && \{6, 7, 1\} \\
10) \quad & (a+b)+c \\
& = (b+a)+c && \{8\} \\
& = ((b1+a)+c)1 && \{2\} \\
& = 1a + (b(11)+c1) && \{4\} \\
& = a+(b+c). && \{2, 7\}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
11) \quad & (a+b)r \\
& =((a1+b)+0)r && \{2, 1\} \\
& =rb+(a(1r)+01) && \{4\} \\
& =rb+ar && \{2, 6, 1\} \\
& =ar+br. && \{8\}
\end{aligned}$$

12) For given  $a, b$ ,  $a+x=b$  is solvable. Let  $x=(-a)+b$ , then we have

$$\begin{aligned}
& a+((-a)+b) \\
& = (a+(-a))+b && \{10\} \\
& = b. && \{5, 8, 1\}
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore the proof of Theorem 3 is complete.

**Theorem 4.** *A set with two nullary operations, 0 and 1, with two binary operations, + and juxtaposition, such that*

$$\begin{aligned}
1) \quad & r+0=0+r=r, \\
2) \quad & r1=r, \\
3) \quad & 0r=0, \\
4) \quad & ((ay+b)+c)r=rb+(a(yr)+cr)
\end{aligned}$$

for every  $a, b, c, r, y$ , is a commutative semiring.

**Remark.** It is obvious that every commutative semiring (with unity) satisfies 1)—4).

**Proof.**

$$\begin{aligned}
5) \quad & br \\
& =((00+b)+0)r && \{1, 3\} \\
& =rb+(0(0r)+0r) && \{4\} \\
& =rb. && \{3, 1\} \\
6) \quad & a+b \\
& =((a1+b)+0)1 && \{2, 1\} \\
& =1b+(a(11)+01) && \{4\} \\
& =b+a. && \{2, 5, 3, 1\} \\
7) \quad & (ay)r \\
& =((ay+0)+0)r && \{1\} \\
& =r0+(a(yr)+0r) && \{4\} \\
& =a(yr). && \{3, 5, 1\} \\
8) \quad & (a+b)+c \\
& =(b+a)+c && \{6\} \\
& =((b1+a)+c)1 && \{2\} \\
& =1a+(b(11)+c1) && \{4\} \\
& =a+(b+c). && \{2, 5\} \\
9) \quad & (a+b)r \\
& =((a1+b)+0)r && \{2, 1\} \\
& =rb+(a(1r)+0r) && \{4\} \\
& =rb+ar && \{2, 3, 1\}
\end{aligned}$$

$$= ar + br.$$

{5, 6}

Hence the proof of Theorem 4 is complete.

### Reference

- [1] G. R. Blakley: Four axioms for commutative rings. Notices of Amer. Math. Soc., **15**, p. 730 (1968).