

HW2, due Wednesday, September 16
Math 404, Spring 2014
Patrick Brosnan, Instructor

Exercises from the Hoffman-Kunze: (16 points each) 1.6.1, 1.6.5, 1.6.6, 1.6.7

1 (20 points). Let \mathbb{F}_2 denote the field with two elements, and let X be a set. Write $P(X)$ for the set of subsets of X . Suppose $S, T \in P(X)$. Define $S + T$ to be the set of all $x \in X$ such that x is in either S or in T but not in both. So, symbolically,

$$S + T := S \cup T \setminus S \cap T.$$

Define a map $\mathbb{F}_2 \times P(X) \rightarrow P(X)$ by setting $1S = S$ and $0S = \emptyset$. Show that, with the operations of addition and multiplication by \mathbb{F}_2 just given, $P(X)$ is a vector space over \mathbb{F}_2 .