

**Definition 5.3.** [1ZG] (Solved on 2022-11-15) A **ring** is a set  $A$  with two binary operations

- $+$  (called *sum* or *addition*) and
- $\cdot$  (called "multiplication", also indicated by the symbol  $\times$  or  $*$ , and often omitted),

such that

- $A +$  is a commutative group (usually the neutral element is denoted by  $0$ );
- the operation  $\cdot$  has neutral element (usually the neutral element is indicated by  $1$ ) and is associative;
- multiplication distributes on addition, both on the left

$$a \cdot (b + c) = (a \cdot b) + (a \cdot c) \quad \forall a, b, c \in A$$

and on the right

$$(b + c) \cdot a = (b \cdot a) + (c \cdot a) \quad \forall a, b, c \in A$$

A ring is called **commutative** if multiplication is commutative. (In which case the right or left distributions are equivalent.)