



CHAPTER II

GENERALIZED SEMIFIELDS

We shall now generalize the concept of semifield by giving a new definition which contains P.Sinutoke's definition as a special case.

Definition 2.1 A semiring  $(K, +, \cdot)$  is said to be a generalized semifield iff there exists an element  $a$  in  $K$  such that  $(K \setminus \{a\}, \cdot)$  is a group.

Example 2.2

(1)  $\mathbb{Q}_0^+$  and  $\mathbb{R}_0^+$  with the usual addition and multiplication are generalized semifields.

(2) Let  $D$  be a ratio semiring. Let  $a$  be a symbol not representing any element of  $D$ . We can extend  $+$  and  $\cdot$  to  $D^* = D \cup \{a\}$  by  $a \cdot x = x \cdot a = a$  and  $a + x = x + a = a$  for all  $x \in D^*$ . Then  $(D^*, +, \cdot)$  is a generalized semifield.

(3) Let  $K = \{a, e\}$ . Define  $\cdot$  and  $+$  on  $K$  by

$\cdot$	a	e
a	e	e
e	e	e

and

$+$	a	e
a	e	a
e	a	e

Then  $K$  is a generalized semifield.

Example 2.3 Let  $(G, \cdot)$  be a commutative group with zero element  $\infty$ .

We can define  $+$  on  $G$  so that  $(G, +, \cdot)$  is a generalized semifield by

- (1)  $x+y = \infty$  for all  $x, y \in G$ ,
- (2)  $x+y = \infty$  if  $x \neq y$  and  $x+y = x$  if  $x = y$  for all  $x, y \in G$ .

Example 2.4 Let  $D$  be a ratio semiring and  $a$  a symbol not representing any element of  $D$ . Extend  $+$  and  $\cdot$  from  $D$  to  $D \cup \{a\}$  by

- (1)  $ax = xa = a$  for all  $x \in D \cup \{a\}$ ,
- (2)  $a+x = x+a = 1+x$  for all  $x \in D$ ,
- (3)  $a+a = 1+1$ .

It is easy to show that  $D \cup \{a\}$  is a generalized semifield.

Example 2.5 Let  $D$  be a ratio semiring,  $a$  a symbol not representing any element of  $D$  and  $d \in D$ . Extend  $+$  and  $\cdot$  from  $D$  to  $D \cup \{a\}$  by

- (1)  $ax = xa = dx \quad \forall x \in D$  and  $a^2 = d^2$ ,
- (2)  $a+x = x+a = d+x \quad \forall x \in D$ ,
- (3)  $a+a = d+d$ .

It is easy to show that  $D \cup \{a\}$  is a generalized semifield.

From now on the word "semifield" will mean a generalized semifield.

Theorem 2.6 Let  $(K, +, \cdot)$  be a semifield and  $a$  an element in  $K$  such that  $(K \setminus \{a\}, \cdot)$  is a group. Then  $ax = a$  for all  $x \in K$  or  $ax = x$  for all  $x \in K$  or  $a^2 \neq a$  and  $ae \neq a$  where  $e$  is the identity of  $(K \setminus \{a\}, \cdot)$ .

Proof. Let  $e$  be the identity of  $(K \setminus \{a\}, \cdot)$ . Consider  $ae$  and  $a^2$ .

Case 1  $ae = a$  and  $a^2 = a$ . Claim that  $ax = a$  for all  $x \in K$ . Let  $x \in K \setminus \{a\}$ . Suppose that  $ax \neq a$ . Since  $(K \setminus \{a\}, \cdot)$  is a group,

$\exists y \in K \setminus \{a\}$  such that  $xy = e$ , so  $a = ae = a(xy) = (ax)y$ . Thus  $(ax)y = a$ , a contradiction since  $ax, y \in K \setminus \{a\}$  which is a group. Hence  $ax = a$  for all  $x \in K$ . So we have the claim.

Case 2  $ae = a$  and  $a^2 \neq a$ . Claim that  $ax = a$  for all  $x \in K \setminus \{a\}$ . Let  $x \in K \setminus \{a\}$ . Suppose that  $ax \neq a$ . Then  $\exists y \in K \setminus \{a\}$  such that  $xy = e$ . Then  $a = ae = a(xy) = (ax)y$ . Thus  $(ax)y = a$ , a contradiction since  $ax, y \in K \setminus \{a\}$  which is a group. Hence  $ax = a$  for all  $x \in K \setminus \{a\}$ . So we have the claim. Since  $a^2 \neq a$ ,  $\exists z \in K \setminus \{a\}$  such that  $a^2 z = e$ . Then  $e = a^2 z = a(az) = aa = a^2$  by the claim. Thus  $a^2 = e$ . Hence  $(K, \cdot)$  is a group. Therefore  $K$  is a ratio semiring. Suppose that  $|K| > 2$ . Let  $x \in K \setminus \{a, e\}$ . By the claim we get  $ax = a$ . Then  $x = ex = a^2 x = a(ax) = aa = a^2 = e$ , so  $x = e$  which is a contradiction. Thus  $|K| = 2$ . So we have that  $K$  is a ratio semiring of order 2 which contradicts the Theorem 1.13. Therefore this case cannot occur.

Case 3  $ae \neq a$  and  $a^2 = a$ . Since  $(ae)(ae) = a(e(ae)) = a(ae) = (aa)e = ae$ , we get that  $(ae)(ae) = ae$ , so  $ae = e$ . Let  $x \in K \setminus \{a\}$ ,  $ax = a(ex) = (ae)x = ex = x$ , so  $ax = x$ . Thus  $ax = x$  for all  $x \in K$ .

Case 4  $ae \neq a$  and  $a^2 \neq a$ . So we have the theorem. #

From Theorem 2.6 we see that there are three types of semifields :

- (1) Semifields with  $ax = a$  for all  $x \in K$  (called type I semifields w.r.t. a),
- (2) Semifields with  $ax = x$  for all  $x \in K$  (called type II semifields w.r.t. a),
- (3) Semifield with  $a^2 \neq a$  and  $ae \neq a$  where  $e$  is the identity of  $(K \setminus \{a\}, \cdot)$  (called type III semifield w.r.t. a).

Note that Example 2.2(1),(2) and Example 2.3 are semifields of type I, Example 2.4 is a semifield of type II, Example 2.2(3) and Example 2.5 are semifields of type III.

We see that a semifield of type I is a semifield in P.Sinutoke's definition and it has been already studied in [4].

Proposition 2.7 Let  $K$  be a semifield and  $a \in K$  be such that  $(K \setminus \{a\}, \cdot)$  is a group. Then  $K$  is a semifield of type III w.r.t.  $a$  iff there exists a unique  $d$  in  $K \setminus \{a\}$  such that  $ax = dx$  for all  $x \in K$ .

Proof Assume that  $K$  is a semifield of type III. Let  $e$  be the identity of  $(K \setminus \{a\}, \cdot)$ . Then  $ae \neq a$  and  $a^2 \neq a$ . Let  $d = ae$ , so  $d \in K \setminus \{a\}$ . Let  $x \in K \setminus \{a\}$  then  $ax = a(ex) = (ae)x = dx$ . Thus  $ax = dx$  for all  $x \in K \setminus \{a\}$ . Since  $a^2 \neq a$ ,  $a^2 = a^2e = a(ae) = ad$ , so  $aa = ad$ . So we get that  $ax = dx$  for all  $x \in K$ . To show the uniqueness of  $d$ , let  $d' \in K \setminus \{a\}$  be such that  $ax = d'x$  for all  $x \in K$ . Then  $d' = d'e = ae = de = d$ . Thus  $d' = d$ .

Conversely assume that  $\exists ! d$  in  $K \setminus \{a\}$  such that  $ax = dx$  for all  $x \in K$ . Then  $ae = de = d \neq a$  and  $a^2 = aa = da = dd = d^2 \neq a$  since  $d \in K \setminus \{a\}$ , which is a group. Thus  $ae \neq a$  and  $a^2 \neq a$ . Therefore  $K$  is a semifield of type III. #

Remark 2.8 Let  $K = \{a, e\}$ . Define  $\cdot$  and  $+$  on  $K$  as the following tables.

$$\begin{array}{l}
 (1) \quad \begin{array}{c|cc} \cdot & a & e \\ \hline a & a & a \\ e & a & e \end{array} \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{array}{c|cc} + & a & e \\ \hline a & a & a \\ e & a & a \end{array} \\
 (2) \quad \begin{array}{c|cc} \cdot & a & e \\ \hline a & a & e \\ e & e & e \end{array} \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{array}{c|cc} + & a & e \\ \hline a & a & e \\ e & e & e \end{array}
 \end{array}$$

Clearly (1) is a semifield of type I w.r.t.  $a$  and (2), a semifield of type II w.r.t.  $a$ . In these cases there does not exist a unique  $b$  in  $K$  such that  $(K \setminus \{b\}, \cdot)$  is a group. However if  $K$  is a semifield of type I or type II and  $|K| > 2$  then we get uniqueness as the following Theorem shows.

Theorem 2.9 Let  $(K, +, \cdot)$  be a semifield of type I or type II w.r.t.  $a$  of order  $> 2$ . If there is an element  $b$  in  $K$  such that  $(K \setminus \{b\}, \cdot)$  is a group then  $b = a$ .

Proof. Let  $e$  denote the identity of  $(K \setminus \{a\}, \cdot)$ . Suppose that  $b \neq a$ . Since  $K$  is a semifield of type I or type II,  $a^2 = a$ . Thus  $a^2 = a \in K \setminus \{b\}$ , so  $a$  is the identity of  $(K \setminus \{b\}, \cdot)$ . Let  $x \in K \setminus \{b, a\}$ . Then  $\exists y \in K \setminus \{b\}$  such that  $xy = a$ . If  $y = a$  then  $a = xy = xa = x$ , a contradiction. Hence  $y \neq a$ , so we have that  $x \neq a$ ,  $y \neq a$  but  $xy = a$  which contradicts the fact that  $(K \setminus \{a\}, \cdot)$  is a group. Thus  $b = a$ . #

Theorem 2.10 Let  $K$  be a semifield of type III w.r.t.  $a$ . If there exists an element  $b$  in  $K$  such that  $(K \setminus \{b\}, \cdot)$  is a group then  $b = a$ .

Proof. Let  $e$  be the identity of  $(K \setminus \{a\}, \cdot)$  and  $f$  be the identity of  $(K \setminus \{b\}, \cdot)$ . Suppose that  $b \neq a$ . Then  $a \in K \setminus \{b\}$ , so  $af = a$ . Since  $K$  is a type III semifield,  $a^2 \neq a$ . Thus  $e$  is the only idempotent of  $K$ . Since  $f^2 = f$ ,  $f = e$ . Thus  $a = af = ae$ , a contradiction. Therefore  $b = a$ . #

Let  $K$  be a semifield of type I w.r.t.  $a$  then by Theorem 1.20, we know that there are two types of semifields of this type. If  $a$  is additive identity, then we call  $K$  a semifield of zero type and if  $a$  is an additive zero, then we call  $K$  a semifield of infinity type.

The following theorems will prove the most basic properties of a semifield of type I.

Proposition 2.11 Let  $K$  be a semifield of type I w.r.t.  $a$  and let  $x, y \in K$ . Then  $xy = a$  iff  $x = a$  or  $y = a$ .

Proof Let  $x, y \in K$  be such that  $xy = a$ . Suppose that  $x \neq a$ . We must show that  $y = a$ . If  $y \neq a$ , then we have that  $x \neq a, y \neq a$  but  $xy = a$  which is a contradiction because  $(K \setminus \{a\}, \cdot)$  is a group. Hence  $y = a$ .

Conversely if  $x = a$  or  $y = a$ , then obviously  $xy = a$ . #

Definition 2.12 Let  $S$  be a semiring with multiplicative zero  $a$ . Then  $S$  is said to be zero multiplicatively cancellative (0-M.C.) iff for all  $x, y, z \in S$ ,  $xy = xz$  and  $x \neq a$  imply  $y = z$ .

Proposition 2.13 If  $S$  is a finite 0-M.C. semiring, then  $S$  must be a semifield of type I.

Proof Let  $a$  be the multiplicative zero of  $S$ . Since  $S$  is 0-M.C.,  $(S \setminus \{a\}, \cdot)$  is a finite cancellative semigroup. By Theorem 1.19,  $(S \setminus \{a\}, \cdot)$  is a group. So we get  $a \in S$  and  $(S \setminus \{a\}, \cdot)$  is a group. Therefore  $S$  is a semifield and clearly  $S$  is a semifield of type I. #

Definition 2.14 Let  $S$  be a semifield with  $\infty$ . Let  $y \in S$ . Then  $z \in S$  is said to be a complement of  $y$  iff  $y+z = \infty$ .

Definition 2.15 Let  $S$  be a semifield with  $\infty$ . Let  $y \in S$ . Then  $y$  is said to be limited iff the only complement of  $y$  is  $\infty$ . If every non-infinity element of  $S$  is limited then  $S$  is called limited.

Definition 2.16 Let  $S$  be a semifield with  $\infty$ . Then  $S$  is said to be infinity additively cancellative ( $\infty$ -A.C.) iff for all  $x, y, z \in S$ ,  $x+y = x+z$  and  $x \neq \infty$  imply  $y = z$ .

Proposition 2.17 Let  $K$  be a semifield of infinity type. If  $K$  is  $\infty$ -A.C., then  $K$  is limited.

Proof Let  $x \in K \setminus \{\infty\}$  and  $y$  be a complement of  $x$ . Thus  $x+y = \infty$ . Then  $x+y = x+\infty$ , so  $y = \infty$  since  $K$  is  $\infty$ -A.C. Hence  $x$  is limited. Thus  $K$  is limited. #

Corollary 2.18 Let  $K$  be a semifield of infinity type. If  $K$  is  $\infty$ -A.C., then  $(K \setminus \{\infty\}, +, \cdot)$  is a ratio semiring.

Proof By Proposition 2.17,  $K$  is limited. Thus  $x+y \neq \infty \forall x, y \in K \setminus \{\infty\}$ . Hence  $(K \setminus \{\infty\}, +)$  is a semigroup. Since  $(K \setminus \{\infty\}, \cdot)$  is a group, so  $(K \setminus \{\infty\}, +, \cdot)$  is a ratio semiring. #

Definition 2.19 Let  $K$  be a semifield of infinity type and let  $x \in K$ . The core of  $x$ , denoted by  $\text{Cor}(x) = \{y \in K \mid x+y = \infty\}$ .

Theorem 2.20 Let  $K$  be a semifield of infinity type and  $e$  be the identity of  $(K \setminus \{\infty\}, \cdot)$ . Then

- (1)  $\infty \in \text{Cor}(x)$  for all  $x \in K$ .
- (2) For all  $x \in K$ ,  $\text{Cor}(x)$  is an additive ideal of  $K$ .
- (3) For all  $x, y \in K \setminus \{\infty\}$ ,  $y \in \text{Cor}(x)$  iff  $yx^{-1} \in \text{Cor}(e)$ .
- (4) For all  $x, y \in K$ ,  $x \in \text{Cor}(y)$  iff  $y \in \text{Cor}(x)$ .
- (5) For all  $x \in K \setminus \{\infty\}$ ,  $\text{Cor}(x) = \text{Cor}(e) \cdot x$ .
- (6) For all  $x \in K$ ,  $x \in \text{Cor}(y)$  implies  $xz \in \text{Cor}(yz)$  for all  $z \in K$ . The converse is true if  $z \neq \infty$ .
- (7) For all  $x, y, z \in K$ ,  $x \in \text{Cor}(y+z)$  iff  $x+y \in \text{Cor}(z)$ .

009349

117961620

Proof (1) Since  $x+\infty = \infty$  for all  $x \in K$ ,  $\infty \in \text{Cor}(x)$  for all  $x \in K$ .

(2) Let  $x \in K$ . Let  $y \in \text{Cor}(x)$  and  $z \in K$ . We must show that  $y+z \in \text{Cor}(x)$ . Since  $y \in \text{Cor}(x)$ ,  $x+y = \infty$ . Then  $x+(y+z) = (x+y)+z = \infty+z = \infty$ . Thus  $y+z \in \text{Cor}(x)$ . Hence  $\text{Cor}(x)$  is an additive ideal of  $K$ .

(3) Let  $x, y \in K \setminus \{\infty\}$ . Assume  $y \in \text{Cor}(x)$ . Thus  $x+y = \infty$ . Then  $e+yx^{-1} = ex^{-1} + yx^{-1} = (x+y)x^{-1} = \infty x^{-1} = \infty$ . Thus  $yx^{-1} \in \text{Cor}(e)$ .

Conversely, assume that  $yx^{-1} \in \text{Cor}(e)$ . Thus  $e+yx^{-1} = \infty$ . Then  $x+y = ex+ey = ex+y(x^{-1}x) = ex+(yx^{-1})x = (e+yx^{-1})x = \infty x = \infty$ . Thus  $y \in \text{Cor}(x)$ .

(4) Obvious.

(5) Let  $x \in K$ . To show  $\text{Cor}(x) \subseteq \text{Cor}(e) \cdot x$ , let  $y \in \text{Cor}(x)$ . By (3),  $yx^{-1} \in \text{Cor}(e)$ . Thus  $y = (yx^{-1})x \in \text{Cor}(e) \cdot x$ . Conversely, let  $z \in \text{Cor}(e)$ . Thus  $e+z = \infty$ . Then  $x+zx = (e+z)x = \infty x = \infty$ , so  $zx \in \text{Cor}(x)$ . Hence  $\text{Cor}(e) \cdot x \subseteq \text{Cor}(x)$ .

(6) Let  $x \in K$ . Let  $y \in K$  be such that  $x \in \text{Cor}(y)$  and  $z \in K$ . Thus  $y+x = \infty$ , so  $yz+xz = (y+x)z = \infty z = \infty$ . Thus  $xz \in \text{Cor}(yz)$ .

Conversely, assume that  $x, y \in K, z \in K \setminus \{\infty\}$  and  $xz \in \text{Cor}(yz)$ . Thus  $yz+xz = \infty$ . So  $y+x = (y+x)zz^{-1} = (yz+xz)z^{-1} = \infty z^{-1} = \infty$ . Thus  $x \in \text{Cor}(y)$ .

(7) Let  $x, y, z \in K$ .  $x \in \text{Cor}(y+z) \Leftrightarrow (y+z)+x = \infty \Leftrightarrow (z+y)+x = \infty \Leftrightarrow z+(y+x) = \infty \Leftrightarrow z+(x+y) = \infty \Leftrightarrow x+y \in \text{Cor}(z)$ . #

Theorem 2.21 Let  $K$  be a semifield of infinity type and let  $x, y \in K \setminus \{\infty\}$ . Then the cardinality of  $\text{Cor}(x)$  equals the cardinality of  $\text{Cor}(y)$  and each one is a multiplicative translate of the other.

Proof Let  $e$  be the identity of  $(K \setminus \{a\}, \cdot)$



For  $z \in \text{Cor}(x)$ , by Theorem 2.20(5), there is a  $u \in \text{Cor}(e)$  such that  $z = ux$ . Define  $f: \text{Cor}(x) \rightarrow \text{Cor}(y)$  by  $f(z) = uy$ . By Theorem 2.20(5),  $uy \in \text{Cor}(y)$ . To show  $f$  is well-defined, let  $z_1 = z_2 \in \text{Cor}(x)$ . Let  $u_1, u_2 \in \text{Cor}(e)$  be such that  $z_1 = u_1x$  and  $z_2 = u_2x$ . Thus  $u_1x = u_2x$ . Since  $x \neq \infty$  so  $u_1 = u_2$ . Thus  $u_1y = u_2y$ . To show  $f$  is one-to-one, let  $z_1, z_2 \in \text{Cor}(x)$  be such that  $f(z_1) = f(z_2)$ . Let  $u_1, u_2 \in \text{Cor}(e)$  be such that  $z_1 = u_1x$  and  $z_2 = u_2x$ . Thus  $u_1y = u_2y$ . Since  $y \neq \infty$ ,  $u_1 = u_2$ . Thus  $z_1 = z_2$ . To show  $f$  is onto, Let  $w \in \text{Cor}(y)$ . Let  $v \in \text{Cor}(e)$  be such that  $w = vy$ . Then  $v \cdot x \in \text{Cor}(x)$ . Thus  $f(vx) = vy = w$ . Therefore  $f$  is one-to-one and onto. To show  $\text{Cor}(x)$  is a multiplication translate of  $\text{Cor}(y)$ , let  $z \in \text{Cor}(x)$ . By Theorem 2.20(3),  $zx^{-1} \in \text{Cor}(e)$ . By Theorem 2.20(5),  $zx^{-1}y \in \text{Cor}(y)$ . Thus  $z = (zx^{-1}y)y^{-1}x \in \text{Cor}(y) \cdot y^{-1}x$ . Hence  $\text{Cor}(x) \subseteq \text{Cor}(y) \cdot y^{-1}x$ . Now let  $w \in \text{Cor}(y)$ . By Theorem 2.20(3),  $wy^{-1} \in \text{Cor}(e)$ . By Theorem 2.20(5),  $wy^{-1}x \in \text{Cor}(x)$ . Thus  $\text{Cor}(y) \cdot y^{-1}x \subseteq \text{Cor}(x)$ . Therefore  $\text{Cor}(x) = \text{Cor}(y) \cdot y^{-1}x$ . #

Proposition 2.22 Let  $K$  be a semifield of zero type and let  $B = \{x \in K \mid x \text{ is A.C.}\}$ . Then  $B$  is an ideal of  $(K, \cdot)$  and  $B$  is an additive subsemigroup of  $K$ .

Proof Since  $0 \in B$ ,  $B \neq \emptyset$ . To show  $B$  is an ideal of  $(K, \cdot)$ , let  $x \in K$  and  $z \in B$ . Let  $z_1, z_2 \in K$  be such that  $zx + z_1 = zx + z_2$ . If  $x = 0$ , then  $z_1 = z_2$ . Assume that  $x \neq 0$ . Thus  $z + z_1x^{-1} = (zx + z_1)x^{-1} = (zx + z_2)x^{-1} = z + z_2x^{-1}$ . Since  $z \in B$ ,  $z_1x^{-1} = z_2x^{-1}$ . Thus  $z_1 = z_2$ , so  $zx \in B$ . Thus  $BK \subseteq B$ . Therefore  $B$  is an ideal of  $(K, \cdot)$ . By proposition 1.25,  $B$  is an additive subsemigroup of  $K$ . #

Proposition 2.23 Let  $K$  be a semifield of infinity type and let  $B = \{x \in K \mid x \text{ is A.C.}\}$ . If  $x \in B$  and  $y \in K \setminus \{\infty\}$ , then  $xy \in B$ .

Proof Let  $x \in B$  and  $y \in K \setminus \{\emptyset\}$ . Let  $z_1, z_2 \in K$  be such that  $xy + z_1 = xy + z_2$ . Then  $x + z_1 y^{-1} = (xy + z_1) y^{-1} = (xy + z_2) y^{-1} = x + z_2 y^{-1}$ . Since  $x \in B$ ,  $z_1 y^{-1} = z_2 y^{-1}$ . Thus  $z_1 = z_2$ , so  $xy \in B$ . #

Proposition 2.24 Let  $K$  be a semifield of type I. Then if one nonzero element of  $K$  is additively cancellative, then all nonzero elements are additively cancellative.

Proof Let  $a$  be a zero of  $K$  and  $e$  the identity of  $(K \setminus \{a\}, \cdot)$ . Let  $x \in K \setminus \{a\}$  be additively cancellative. Let  $y$  be an element in  $K \setminus \{a\}$  and  $z_1, z_2 \in K$  be such that  $y + z_1 = y + z_2$ . Then  $e + z_1 y^{-1} = (y + z_1) y^{-1} = (y + z_2) y^{-1} = e + z_2 y^{-1}$ , so  $x + z_1 y^{-1} x = x + z_2 y^{-1} x$ . By assumption,  $z_1 y^{-1} x = z_2 y^{-1} x$ . Since  $y^{-1} x \neq a$ ,  $z_1 \cdot e = z_2 \cdot e$ .

If  $z_1 = a$ , then  $a = a \cdot e = z_1 \cdot e = z_2 \cdot e$ . Thus  $z_2 \cdot e = a$ . By Proposition 2.11,  $z_2 = a$ . Hence  $z_1 = z_2$ .

If  $z_1 \neq a$ , then  $z_1 = z_1 \cdot e = z_2 \cdot e$ . Thus  $z_2 \cdot e \neq a$ . By Proposition 2.11,  $z_2 \neq a$ . Then  $z_1 = z_1 \cdot e = z_2 \cdot e = z_2$ . Thus  $z_1 = z_2$ . Therefore  $y$  is additively cancellative. #

Proposition 2.25 Let  $K$  be a semifield of zero type. If  $x \in K \setminus \{0\}$  is such that  $x$  has an additive inverse, then every element in  $K$  has an additive inverse and  $K$  is a field.

Proof See [4], page 22. #

~~X~~ Proposition 2.26 Let  $K$  be a semifield of zero type which is not a field. Then  $(K \setminus \{0\}, +, \cdot)$  is a ratio semiring.

Proof Since  $(K \setminus \{0\}, \cdot)$  is a group, so we only show that  $(K \setminus \{0\}, +)$  is a semigroup. Let  $x, y \in K \setminus \{0\}$ . Must show that  $x + y \neq 0$ . Suppose  $x + y = 0$ . Thus  $x$  is a nonzero element which has an additive inverse.

By Proposition 2.25,  $K$  is a field, a contradiction. Hence  $x+y \neq 0$ .  
Therefore  $(K \setminus \{0\}, +, \cdot)$  is a ratio semiring. #

Note that  $\mathcal{Q}^+ \cup \{0\}$  with the usual addition and multiplication is a semifield of zero type which is not a field and we see that  $\mathcal{Q}^+$  is a ratio semiring.

From now we shall study semifields of types II and III.

Proposition 2.27 Let  $K$  be a semifield of type II w.r.t.  $a$  and let  $x, y \in K$ . Then  $xy = a$  iff  $x = a$  and  $y = a$ .

Proof Suppose that  $xy = a$ . If  $y = a$ , then  $a = xy = xa = x$  since  $K$  is a semifield of type II w.r.t.  $a$ . Thus  $a = x = y$ .

Conversely if  $x = a$  and  $y = a$ , then obviously  $xy = a$ . #

Proposition 2.28 Let  $K$  be a semifield of type III w.r.t.  $a$ . Then  $xy \neq a$  for all  $x, y \in K$ .

Proof Let  $e$  be the identity of  $(K \setminus \{a\}, \cdot)$ . We want to show that  $xy \neq a$  for all  $x, y \in K$ . Let  $x, y \in K$ . Since  $K$  is a type III semifield,  $a^2 \neq a$  and  $ae \neq a$ . If  $x \neq a$  and  $y = a$  then  $xy = xa = (xe)a = x(ea) \neq a$  since  $x, ea \in K \setminus \{a\}$ , which is a group. Hence  $xy \neq a$  for all  $x, y \in K$ . #

Theorem 2.29 Let  $K$  be a semifield of type II w.r.t.  $a$ . Then  $(K \setminus \{a\}, +, \cdot)$  is a ratio semiring.

Proof Let  $e$  be the identity of  $(K \setminus \{a\}, \cdot)$ . Let  $x, y \in K \setminus \{a\}$ . Then  $xy \in K \setminus \{a\}$ . We must show that  $x+y \in K \setminus \{a\}$ . Suppose not. Then  $x+y = a$ . So  $a = x+y = xe+ye = (x+y)e = ae = e$ , a contradiction. Thus  $x+y \in K \setminus \{a\}$ . Hence  $(K \setminus \{a\}, +, \cdot)$  is a ratio semiring. #

Theorem 2.30 Let  $K$  be a semifield of type II w.r.t.a. and  $e$  the identity of  $(K \setminus \{a\}, \cdot)$ . Then the following hold :

- (1) If  $a+a = a$  then  $(K, +)$  is a band.
- (2) If  $a+a \neq a$  then  $a+a = e+e$  and for all  $x, y \in K \setminus \{a\}$   
 $x+x = y+y$  iff  $x = y$ .
- (3)  $a+x = a$  or  $a+x = e+x$  for all  $x \neq a$ .

Proof (1) Suppose that  $a+a = a$ . Then  $x+x = ax+ax = (a+a)x = ax = x$  for all  $x \in K$ . Thus  $(K, +)$  is a band.

(2) Suppose that  $a+a \neq a$ . Then  $a+a = (a+a)e = ae+ae = e+e$ . Thus  $a+a = e+e$ . Let  $x, y \in K \setminus \{a\}$  be such that  $x+x = y+y$ . Then  $(a+a)x = ax+ax = x+x = y+y = ay+ay = (a+a)y$ . Thus  $(a+a)x = (a+a)y$ . Since  $a+a \neq a$ ,  $x = y$ .

(3) Let  $x \in K \setminus \{a\}$ . If  $a+x \neq a$ , then  $a+x = (a+x)e = ae+xe = e+x$ . Thus  $a+x = e+x$ . #

Theorem 2.31 Let  $K$  be a semifield of type II w.r.t.a and  $e$  the identity  $(K \setminus \{a\}, \cdot)$ . Define  $D = K \setminus \{a\}$  and  $S = \{x \in D \mid a+x = a\}$ .

Then

- (1)  $S = \emptyset$  or  $S$  is an additive subsemigroup of  $I_D(e)$ .
- (2) If  $e \in S$  then  $S = I_D(e)$ .
- (3)  $D \setminus S = \emptyset$  or  $D \setminus S$  is an ideal of  $(D, +)$ .

Proof (1) Suppose that  $S \neq \emptyset$ . Let  $x \in S$ , then  $a+x = a$ . Then  $e = ae = (a+x)e = ae+xe = e+x$ . Thus  $x \in I_D(e)$ , so  $S \subseteq I_D(e)$ . Let  $x, y \in S$ . Then  $a+(x+y) = (a+x)+y = a+y = a$ , so  $x+y \in S$ . Hence  $S$  is an additive subsemigroup of  $I_D(e)$ .

(2) Suppose that  $e \in S$ . Let  $x \in I_D(e)$ . Then  $e+x = e$ . Hence  $a = a+e = a+(e+x) = (a+e)+x = a+x$ . Thus  $a+x = a$ , so  $x \in S$ . Therefore  $I_D(e) \subseteq S$ . From (1),  $S \subseteq I_D(e)$ . Hence  $S = I_D(e)$ .

(3) Suppose that  $D \setminus S \neq \emptyset$ . Let  $x \in D \setminus S$ ,  $y \in D$ . We want to show that  $x+y \in D \setminus S$ . By Theorem 2.29,  $(K \setminus \{a\}, +, \cdot)$  is a ratio semiring, so  $(a+x)+y \in K \setminus \{a\}$ . Since  $a+(x+y) = (a+x)+y$ ,  $a+(x+y) \neq a$ . Thus  $x+y \in D \setminus S$ . #

Proposition 2.32 Let  $K$  be a semifield of type II w.r.t.a. If  $a+x = a$  for all  $x \neq a$  then  $|K| = 2$ .

Proof Suppose that  $a+x = a$  for all  $x \neq a$ . Let  $D = K \setminus \{a\}$  and  $S = \{x \in D \mid a+x = a\}$ . Then  $S = K \setminus \{a\}$ . By Theorem 2.31,  $S \subseteq I_D(e)$  where  $e$  is the identity of  $(K \setminus \{a\}, \cdot)$ . Thus  $I_D(e) = K \setminus \{a\}$ , so  $e$  is an additive zero of  $K \setminus \{a\}$  which is a ratio semiring. By Proposition 1.15 and Theorem 1.13,  $|K \setminus \{a\}| = 1$ . Therefore  $|K| = 2$ . #

Proposition 2.33 Let  $K$  be a finite semifield of type II. Then  $|K| = 2$ .

Proof By Theorem 2.29,  $K \setminus \{a\}$  is a ratio semiring. Since  $K$  is finite so is  $K \setminus \{a\}$ . By Theorem 1.13,  $|K \setminus \{a\}| = 1$ . Thus  $|K| = 2$ . #

Proposition 2.34 Let  $K$  be a semifield of type II w.r.t.  $a$ ,  $D = K \setminus \{a\}$  and  $S = \{x \in D \mid a+x = a\}$ . If  $y \in D \setminus S$  then  $y$  is not A.C..

Proof Let  $e$  be the identity of  $(K \setminus \{a\}, \cdot)$ . Suppose that  $y \in D \setminus S$ . By Theorem 2.30(3),  $a+y = e+y$ . Since  $a \neq e$ ,  $y$  is not A.C.. #

Corollary 2.35 Let  $K$  be an infinite semifield of type II w.r.t.a. Then  $K$  contains an element  $y \in K \setminus \{a\}$  such that  $y$  is not A.C..

Proof Let  $D = K \setminus \{a\}$  and  $S = \{x \in D \mid a+x = a\}$ . By Proposition 2.32 we have that  $D \setminus S \neq \emptyset$ . Let  $y \in D \setminus S$ , then by Proposition 2.34,  $y$  is not A.C., #

Proposition 2.36 Let  $K$  be a semifield of type II w.r.t.  $a$  and  $e$  the identity of  $(K \setminus \{a\}, \cdot)$ . Then  $K$  is A.C. iff  $K = \{a, e\}$  with  $a^2 = a$ ,

$a \cdot e = e \cdot a = e$ ,  $e^2 = e$  and  $+$  is defined by

$+$	$a$	$e$
$a$	$e$	$a$
$e$	$a$	$e$

Proof Assume that  $K$  is A.C. By Corollary 2.35,  $|K| = 2$ . Hence  $K = \{a, e\}$  with  $a^2 = a$ ,  $a \cdot e = e \cdot a = e$  and  $e^2 = e$ . By Theorem 2.29,  $K \setminus \{a\}$  is a ratio semiring, so  $e+e = e$ . By Proposition 2.34,  $a+e = a$ . By Theorem 2.30(2),  $a+a = a$  or  $a+a = e+e$ . Thus  $a+a = a$  or  $a+a = e$ . If  $a+a = a$ , then  $a+a = a+e$  but  $a \neq e$  which is a contradiction. Thus  $a+a = e$ . Therefore  $K = \{a, e\}$  with the above structure.

Conversely, assume that  $K = \{a, e\}$  with the above structure. It is easy to show that  $K$  is A.C. since  $a+a \neq a+e$  and  $e+a \neq e+e$ . #

~~X~~ Theorem 2.37 Let  $K$  be an infinite semifield of type II. Then  $K$  contains no additive zero.

Proof Let  $a \in K$  be such that  $(K \setminus \{a\}, \cdot)$  is a group.

Suppose that  $z$  is an additive zero of  $K$ . By Theorem 2.29,  $K \setminus \{a\}$  is a ratio semiring. Thus  $K \setminus \{a\}$  is an infinite ratio semiring. By Proposition 1.15,  $z = a$ . Then by Proposition 2.32,  $|K| = 2$ , a contradiction. Hence  $K$  contains no additive zero. #

Theorem 2.38 Let  $K$  be an infinite semifield of type II. Then  $K$  contains no additive identity.

Proof Let  $a \in K$  be such that  $(K \setminus \{a\}, \cdot)$  is a group.

Suppose that  $z$  is an additive identity of  $K$ . By Theorem 2.29,  $K \setminus \{a\}$  is a ratio semiring. Thus  $K \setminus \{a\}$  is an infinite ratio semiring. By Proposition 1.14,  $z = a$ . Then  $a+x = x$  for all  $x \in K$ . Let  $e$  be the identity of  $(K \setminus \{a\}, \cdot)$ . By Theorem 2.30(3),  $a+x = a$  or  $a+x = e+x$  for all  $x \neq a$ . Thus  $x = a+x = e+x$  for all  $x \neq a$ , so  $e$  is an additive identity of  $K \setminus \{a\}$  which contradicts Proposition 1.14. Hence  $K$  contains no additive identity. #

Theorem 2.39 Let  $D$  be a ratio semiring,  $a$  a symbol not representing any element in  $D$  and let  $S \subseteq I_D(1)$  have the property that either  $S = \emptyset$  or  $S$  is an additive subsemigroup of  $I_D(1)$  such that  $D \setminus S$  is an ideal of  $(D, +)$  if  $D$  is infinite. Then we can extend the binary operations of  $D$  to  $K = D \cup \{a\}$  making  $K$  into a semifield of type II such that

$$(1) \quad ax = xa = x \quad \text{for all } x \in K,$$

$$(2) \quad a+x = x+a = a \quad \text{for all } x \in S \text{ and}$$

$$a+x = x+a = 1+x \quad \text{for all } x \in D \setminus S,$$

$$(3) \quad a+a = \begin{cases} a \text{ or } 1 & \text{if } 1+1 = 1, \\ 1+1 & \text{if } 1+1 \neq 1. \end{cases}$$

Proof Suppose that  $S = \emptyset$ . Extend  $+$  and  $\cdot$  from  $D$  to  $K = D \cup \{a\}$  as in (1), (2) and (3) above. Then  $ax = xa = x$  for all  $x \in K$ ,  $a+x = 1+x$  for all  $x \in D$  and

$$a+a = \begin{cases} a \text{ or } 1 & \text{if } 1+1 = 1, \\ 1+1 & \text{if } 1+1 \neq 1. \end{cases}$$

To show  $K$  is a semifield, we must show that (a)  $(xy)z = x(yz)$  for all  $x, y \in K$ , (b)  $(x+y)+z = x+(y+z)$  for all  $x, y, z \in K$  and (c)  $(x+y)z = xz+yz$  for all  $x, y \in K$ . To show (a), we will consider the

following cases :

Case 1  $z = a$ .

$$(xy)z = (xy)a = xy = x(ya) = x(yz).$$

Case 2  $z \neq a, x = a$ .

$$(xy)z = (ay)z = yz = a(yz) = x(yz).$$

Case 3  $z \neq a, y = a$ .

$$(xy)z = (xa)z = xz = x(az) = x(yz).$$

Case 4  $z \neq a, x \neq a, y \neq a$ . Then  $x, y, z \in D$ , so  $(xy)z = x(yz)$ .

To show (b), we will consider the following cases :

Case 1  $x = y = z = a$ .

$$(x+y)+z = (a+a)+a = a+(a+a) = x+(y+z) \text{ since } u+v = v+u \text{ for all } u, v \in K.$$

Case 2  $x = y = a, z \neq a$ .

Subcase 2.1  $a+a = a$ . Then  $1+1 = 1$ .

$$\begin{aligned} (x+y)+z &= (a+a)+z = a+z = 1+z, \quad x+(y+z) = a+(a+z) = a+(1+z) = 1+(1+z) \\ &= (1+1)+z = 1+z. \end{aligned}$$

Subcase 2.2  $a+a = 1$ . Then  $1+1 = 1$ .

$$\begin{aligned} (x+y)+z &= (a+a)+z = 1+z, \quad x+(y+z) = a+(a+z) = a+(1+z) = 1+(1+z) \\ &= (1+1)+z = 1+z. \end{aligned}$$

Subcase 2.3  $a+a = 1+1$ .

$$\begin{aligned} (x+y)+z &= (a+a)+z = (1+1)+z, \quad x+(y+z) = a+(a+z) = a+(1+z) = 1+(1+z) \\ &= (1+1)+z \text{ since } 1, z \in D. \end{aligned}$$

Case 3  $x = z = a, y \neq a$ .

$$\begin{aligned} (x+y)+z &= (a+y)+a = (1+y)+a = (1+y)+1, \quad x+(y+z) = a+(y+a) = a+(y+1) \\ &= 1+(y+1) = (1+y)+1 \text{ since } 1, y \in D. \end{aligned}$$



Case 4  $y = z = a, x \neq a.$

$$(x+y)+z = (x+a)+a = (a+x)+a = a+(x+a) = a+(a+x) = (a+a)+x = x+(a+a) \\ = x+(y+z) \text{ by case 2 and case 3 and since } u+v = v+u \forall u, v \in K.$$

Case 5  $x = a, y \neq a, z = a.$

$$(x+y)+z = (x+y)+a = (x+y)+1, x+(y+z) = x+(y+a) = x+(y+1) = (x+y)+1 \\ \text{since } x, y, 1 \in D.$$

Case 6  $x \neq a, y = a, z \neq a.$

$$(x+y)+z = (x+a)+z = (x+1)+z, x+(y+z) = x+(a+z) = x+(1+z) = (x+1)+z \\ \text{since } x, z, 1 \in D.$$

Case 7  $x = a, y \neq a, z \neq a.$

$$(x+y)+z = (a+y)+z = (1+y)+z, x+(y+z) = a+(y+z) = 1+(y+z) = (1+y)+z \\ \text{since } y, z, 1 \in D.$$

Case 8  $x \neq a, y \neq a, z \neq a.$  Then  $x, y, z \in D$ , so  $(x+y)+z = x+(y+z).$

To show (c), we will consider the following cases :

Case 1  $z = a.$

$$(x+y)z = (x+y)a = x+y = xa+ya = xz+yz.$$

Case 2  $z \neq a, x = a, y \neq a.$

$$(x+y)z = (a+y)z = (1+y)z = 1z+yz = z+yz = az+yz = xz+yz \text{ since } y, z, \\ 1 \in D.$$

Case 3  $z \neq a, x \neq a, y = a.$

$$(x+y)z = (x+a)z = (a+x)z = az+xz = xz+az = xz+yz \text{ by Case 2.}$$

Case 4  $z \neq a, x = y = a.$

Subcase 4.1  $a+a = a.$  Then  $1+1 = 1$ , so  $u+u = u$  for all  $u \in K.$

$$(x+y)z = (a+a)z = az = z = z+z = az+az = xz+yz.$$

Subcase 4.2  $a+a = 1$ . Then  $1+1 = 1$ , so  $u+u = u$  for all  $u \neq a$ .

$$(x+y)z = (a+a)z = 1z = z = z+z = az+az = xz+yz.$$

Subcase 4.3  $a+a = 1+1$ .

$$(x+y)z = (a+a)z = (1+1)z = 1z+1z = z+z = az+az = xz+yz.$$

Case 5  $z \neq a, x \neq a, y \neq a$ . Then  $x, y, z \in D$ , so  $(x+y)z = xz+yz$ .

Therefore  $K = D \cup \{a\}$  is a semifield of type II.

Suppose that  $S \neq \Phi$  and  $|D| = 1$ . Then  $S$  is an additive subsemigroup of  $I_D(1)$  and  $D \setminus S = \Phi$ . Thus  $S = D = \{1\}$ , so  $1+1 = 1$ . Extend  $+$  and  $\cdot$  from  $D$  to  $K = D \cup \{a\}$  as in (1), (2) and (3), then  $a^2 = a$ ,  $a1 = 1a = 1$ ,  $1 \cdot 1 = 1$ ,  $a+a = a$  or  $1$  and  $a+1 = 1+a = a$ . Thus we have two cases to consider. They are given by the following tables :

$$(1) \quad \begin{array}{c|cc} + & a & 1 \\ \hline a & a & a \\ 1 & a & 1 \end{array} \quad \text{or} \quad (2) \quad \begin{array}{c|cc} + & a & 1 \\ \hline a & 1 & a \\ 1 & a & 1 \end{array}$$

It is easy to show that they are all semifields of type II.

Suppose that  $S$  is an additive subsemigroup of  $I_D(1)$  and  $D \setminus S$  is an ideal of  $(D,+)$ . Extend  $+$  and  $\cdot$  from  $D$  to  $K = D \cup \{a\}$  as in (1), (2) and (3) above. Then  $ax = xa = x$  for all  $x \in K$ ,  $a+x = a$  for all  $x \in S$ ,  $a+x = 1+x$  for all  $x \in D \setminus S$  and

$$a+a = \begin{cases} a \text{ or } 1 & \text{if } 1+1 = 1, \\ 1+1 & \text{if } 1+1 \neq 1. \end{cases}$$

To show  $K = D \cup \{a\}$  is a semifield of type II, we must show that

(á)  $(xy)z = x(yz)$  for all  $x, y, z \in K$ , (b')  $(x+y)+z = x+(y+z)$  for all  $x, y, z \in K$  and (c')  $(x+y)z = xz+yz$  for all  $x, y, z \in K$ . The proof of (á) is the same as the proof of (a) in the case  $S = \Phi$ .

To show (b') , we will consider the following cases :

Case 1  $x = y = z = a$ .

$$(x+y)+z = (a+a)+a = a+(a+a) = x+(y+z) \text{ since } u+v = v+u \text{ for all } u, v \in K.$$

Case 2  $x = y = a, z \neq a$ .

Subcase 2.1  $a+a = a$  and  $z \in S$ .

$$(x+y)+z = (a+a)+z = a+z = a, x+(y+z) = a+(a+z) = a+a = a.$$

Subcase 2.2  $a+a = a$  and  $z \in D \setminus S$ .

Since  $z \in D \setminus S$ , which is an ideal of  $(D,+)$ ,  $1+z \in D \setminus S$ . Thus  $(x+y)+z$   
 $= (a+a)+z = a+z = 1+z, x+(y+z) = a+(a+z) = a+(1+z) = 1+(1+z) = (1+1)+z$   
 $= 1+z$  (since  $1+1 = 1$ ).

Subcase 2.3  $a+a = 1$  and  $z \in S$ .

$$(x+y)+z = (a+a)+z = 1+z = 1 \text{ (since } z \in S \subseteq I_D(1)).$$

$$x+(y+z) = a+(a+z) = a+a = 1.$$

Subcase 2.4  $a+a = 1, z \in D \setminus S$ .

Since  $z \in D \setminus S$ , which is an ideal of  $(D,+)$ ,  $1+z \in D \setminus S$ . Thus  
 $(x+y)+z = (a+a)+z = 1+z, x+(y+z) = a+(a+z) = a+(1+z) = 1+(1+z)$   
 $= (1+1)+z = 1+z$  (since  $1+1 = 1$ ).

Subcase 2.5  $a+a = 1+1, z \in S$ .

$$(x+y)+z = (a+a)+z = (1+1)+z = 1+(1+z) = 1+1 \text{ since } z \in S \subseteq I_D(1).$$

$$x+(y+z) = a+(a+z) = a+a = 1+1.$$

Subcase 2.6  $a+a = 1+1, z \in D \setminus S$ .

Since  $z \in D \setminus S$ , which is an ideal of  $(D,+)$ ,  $1+z \in D \setminus S$ . Thus  
 $(x+y)+z = (a+a)+z = (1+1)+z, x+(y+z) = a+(a+z) = a+(1+z) = 1+(1+z)$   
 $= (1+1)+z.$

Case 3  $x = z = a, y \neq a$ .

Subcase 3.1  $y \in S$ .

$$(x+y)+z = (a+y)+a = a+a, x+(y+z) = a+(y+a) = a+a.$$

Subcase 3.2  $y \in D \setminus S$ .

Since  $y \in D \setminus S$ , which is an ideal of  $(D, +)$ ,  $1+y \in D \setminus S$ . Thus  
 $(x+y)+z = (a+y)+a = (1+y)+a = (1+y)+1$ ,  $x+(y+z) = a+(y+a) = a+(y+1)$   
 $= 1+(y+1) = (1+y)+1$ .

Case 4  $y = z = a$ ,  $x \neq a$ .

$(x+y)+z = (x+a)+a = a+(x+a) = a+(a+x) = (a+a)+x = x+(a+a) = x+(y+z)$   
 by Case 2 and since  $u+v = v+u$  for all  $u, v \in K$ .

Case 5  $x \neq a$ ,  $y \neq a$ ,  $z = a$ .Subcase 5.1  $x, y \in S$ . Then

$(x+y)+z = (x+y)+a = a$  since  $S$  is an additive subsemigroup of  $I_D(1)$ .  
 $x+(y+z) = x+(y+a) = x+a = a$ .

Subcase 5.2  $x \in S$ ,  $y \in D \setminus S$ .

Since  $y \in D \setminus S$ , which is an ideal of  $(D, +)$ ,  $x+y \in D \setminus S$ . Thus  
 $(x+y)+z = (x+y)+a = (x+y)+1$ ,  $x+(y+z) = x+(y+a) = x+(y+1) = (x+y)+1$   
 (since  $x, y, 1 \in D$ ).

Subcase 5.3  $x \in D \setminus S$ ,  $y \in S$ . Then  $x+y \in D \setminus S$ . Thus

$(x+y)+z = (x+y)+a = (x+y)+1 = x+(y+1) = x+1$  since  $x, y, 1 \in D$  and  
 $y \in S \subseteq I_D(1)$ .  $x+(y+z) = x+(y+a) = x+a = x+1$ .

Subcase 5.4  $x \in D \setminus S$ ,  $y \in D \setminus S$ . Then  $x+y \in D \setminus S$ . Thus

$(x+y)+z = (x+y)+a = (x+y)+1$ ,  $x+(y+z) = x+(y+a) = x+(y+1) = (x+y)+1$   
 (since  $x, y, 1 \in D$ ).

Case 6  $x = a$ ,  $y \neq a$ ,  $z \neq a$ .

$(x+y)+z = (a+y)+z = z+(a+y) = z+(y+a) = (z+y)+a = a+(z+y) = a+(y+z)$   
 $= x+(y+z)$  by Case 5 and since  $u+v = v+u$  for all  $u, v \in K$ .

Case 7  $x \neq a$ ,  $y = a$ ,  $z \neq a$ .

$(x+y)+z = (x+a)+z = (a+x)+z = a+(x+z) = (x+z)+a = x+(z+a) = x+(a+z)$

$= x+(y+z)$  by Case 5, Case 6 and since  $u+v = v+u \forall u, v \in K$ .

Case 8  $x \neq a, y \neq a, z \neq a$ . Then  $x, y, z \in D$ , so  $(x+y)+z = x+(y+z)$ .

To show (c'), we will consider the following cases :

Case 1  $z = a$ .  $(x+y)z = (x+y)a = x+y = xa+ya = xz+yz$ .

Case 2  $z \neq a, x = y = a$ .

Subcase 2.1  $a+a = a$ . Then  $1+1 = 1$ , so  $u+u = u$  for all  $u \in K$ .

$(x+y)z = (a+a)z = az = z = z+z = az+az = xz+yz$ .

Subcase 2.2  $a+a = 1$ . Then  $1+1 = 1$ , so  $u+u = u$  for all  $u \neq a$ .

$(x+y)z = (a+a)z = 1z = z = z+z = az+az = xz+yz$ .

Subcase 2.3  $a+a = 1+1$ .

$(x+y)z = (a+a)z = (1+1)z = 1z+1z = z+z = az+az = xz+yz$  (since 1 and  $z \in D$ ).

Case 3  $z \neq a, x = a, y \neq a$ .

Subcase 3.1  $y \in S$ .

$(x+y)z = (a+y)z = az = z = 1z = (1+y)z = 1z+yz = z+yz = az+yz = xz+yz$

(since  $y \in S \subseteq I_D(1)$  and  $1, y, z \in D$ ).

Subcase 3.2  $y \in D \setminus S$ .

$(x+y)z = (a+y)z = (1+y)z = 1z+yz = z+yz = az+yz = xz+yz$  (since 1,  $y, z \in D$ ).

Case 4  $z \neq a, x \neq a, y = a$ .

$(x+y)z = (x+a)z = (a+x)z = az+xz = xz+az = xz+yz$  by Case 3.

Case 5  $z \neq a, x \neq a, y \neq a$ . Then  $x, y, z \in D$ , so  $(x+y)z = xz+yz$ .

Therefore  $K$  is a semifield of type II. #

Example 2.40 Let  $\mathbb{Q}^+$  have the usual multiplication. Define  $+$  on  $\mathbb{Q}^+$  by  $x+y = \max\{x, y\}$ . Then  $(\mathbb{Q}^+, +, \cdot)$  is a ratio semiring and we see that

$I_{\mathbb{Q}^+}(1) = \{x \in \mathbb{Q}^+ \mid x \leq 1\}$ . Let  $S = \{x \in \mathbb{Q}^+ \mid x < \frac{1}{2}\}$ . Clearly  $S$  is an additive subsemigroup of  $I_{\mathbb{Q}^+}(1)$  and  $\mathbb{Q}^+ \setminus S$  is an ideal of  $(\mathbb{Q}^+, +)$ . Let  $a$  be a symbol not representing any element in  $\mathbb{Q}^+$ . Extend  $+$  and  $\cdot$  from  $\mathbb{Q}^+$  to  $K = \mathbb{Q}^+ \cup \{a\}$  by

- (1)  $ax = xa = x$  for all  $x \in K$ ,
- (2)  $a+x = x+a = a$  for all  $x \in S$  and  
 $a+x = x+a = 1+x$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{Q}^+ \setminus S$ ,
- (3)  $a+a = a$  or  $1$ .

By Theorem 2.39,  $K = \mathbb{Q}^+ \cup \{a\}$  is a semifield of type II.

Theorem 2.41 Let  $K$  be a semifield of type III w.r.t.a. Then  $(K \setminus \{a\}, +, \cdot)$  is a ratio semiring.

Proof Let  $e$  be the identity of  $(K \setminus \{a\}, \cdot)$ . Then  $ae \neq a$ . Let  $x, y \in K \setminus \{a\}$ . Then  $xy \in K \setminus \{a\}$  because  $(K \setminus \{a\}, \cdot)$  is a group. We want to show that  $x+y \in K \setminus \{a\}$ . Suppose that  $x+y=a$ . Then  $a = x+y = xe+ye = (x+y)e = ae$ . Thus  $ae = a$  which is a contradiction. So  $x+y \neq a$ . Therefore  $(K \setminus \{a\}, +, \cdot)$  is a ratio semiring. #

Corollary 2.42 Let  $K$  be a finite semifield of type III. Then  $|K| = 2$ .

Proof Let  $a \in K$  be such that  $(K \setminus \{a\}, \cdot)$  is a group. Then by Theorem 2.41,  $K \setminus \{a\}$  is a ratio semiring. Since  $K$  is finite, so is  $K \setminus \{a\}$ . By Theorem 1.13,  $|K \setminus \{a\}| = 1$ . Hence  $|K| = 2$ . #

Theorem 2.43 Let  $K$  be a semifield of type III and  $a \in K, d \in K \setminus \{a\}$  be such that  $(K \setminus \{a\}, \cdot)$  is a group and  $ax = dx$  for all  $x \in K$ . Then

- (1) If  $a+a = a$  then  $(K, +)$  is a band.

(2) If  $a+a \neq a$  then  $a+a = d+d$  and for all  $x, y \in K \setminus \{a\}$   
 $x+x = y+y$  iff  $x = y$ .

(3)  $a+x = a$  or  $a+x = d+x$  for all  $x \neq a$ .

Proof Let  $e$  be the identity of  $(K \setminus \{a\}, \cdot)$ .

(1) If  $a+a = a$ . Let  $x \in K \setminus \{a\}$ . Since  $ae \neq a$ ,  $\exists y \in K \setminus \{a\}$   
 such that  $(ae)y = e$ . Since  $(ae)y = a(ey) = ay$ ,  $ay = e$ . Then  $x+x =$   
 $ex+ex = (ay)x+(ay)x = a(yx)+a(yx) = (a+a)yx = a(yx) = (ay)x = ex = x$ ,  
 so  $x+x = x$ . Hence  $(K, +)$  is a band.

(2) If  $a+a \neq a$ , then  $a+a = (a+a)e = ae+ae = de+de = d+d$ .  
 Thus  $a+a = d+d$ . Let  $x, y \in K \setminus \{a\}$ . Since  $ae \neq a$ ,  $\exists z \in K \setminus \{a\}$  such  
 that  $(ae)z = e$ . Since  $(ae)z = a(ez) = az$ ,  $az = e$ . Then  $x+x = ex+ex$   
 $= (az)x+(az)x = a(zx)+a(zx) = (a+a)zx$ . Thus  $x+x = (a+a)zx$ . Similarly,  
 $y+y = (a+a)zy$ . Thus if  $x+x = y+y$ , then  $(a+a)zx = (a+a)zy$ . Since  
 $a+a \neq a$  and  $(K \setminus \{a\}, \cdot)$  is a group,  $x = y$ .

(3) If  $a+x \neq a$ , then  $a+x = (a+x)e = ae+xe = de+x = d+x$ .

Thus  $a+x = d+x$ . #

Theorem 2.44 Let  $K$  be a semifield of type III and  $a \in K$ ,  $d \in K \setminus \{a\}$   
 be such that  $(K \setminus \{a\}, \cdot)$  is a group and  $ax = dx \forall x \in K$ . Let  $D = K \setminus \{a\}$   
 and  $S = \{x \in D \mid a+x = a\}$ . Then

(1)  $S = \emptyset$  or  $S$  is an additive subsemigroup of  $I_D(d)$ .

(2) If  $d \in S$ , then  $S = I_D(d)$ .

(3)  $D \setminus S = \emptyset$  or  $D \setminus S$  is an ideal of  $(D, +)$ .

Proof Let  $e$  be the identity of  $(K \setminus \{a\}, \cdot)$

(1) Suppose that  $S \neq \emptyset$ . Let  $x \in S$ , then  $a+x = a$ . Then  $d = de$

$= ae = (a+x)e = ae+xe = de+x = d+x$ , so  $x+d = d$ . Thus  $x \in I_D(d)$ .  
Hence  $S \subseteq I_D(d)$ . Let  $x, y \in S$ , then  $a+(x+y) = (a+x)+y = a+y = a$ .  
Thus  $x+y \in S$ . Hence  $S$  is an additive subsemigroup of  $I_D(d)$ .

(2) Assume that  $d \in S$ . Then  $a+d = a$ . Let  $x \in I_D(d)$ , then  $d+x = d$ . Then  $a = a+d = a+(d+x) = (a+d)+x = a+x$ , so  $a+x = a$ . Thus  $x \in S$ . Hence  $I_D(d) \subseteq S$ . From (1),  $S \subseteq I_D(d)$ , so we get that  $S = I_D(d)$ .

(3) Suppose that  $D \setminus S \neq \emptyset$ . Let  $x \in D \setminus S$  and  $y \in D$ . By Theorem 2.41,  $K \setminus \{a\}$  is a ratio semiring, so  $(a+x)+y \in K \setminus \{a\}$ . Since  $a+(x+y) = (a+x)+y$ ,  $a+(x+y) \neq a$ . Thus  $x+y \in D \setminus S$ . #

Proposition 2.45 Let  $K$  be a semifield of type III and  $a \in K$ ,  $d \in K \setminus \{a\}$  be such that  $(K \setminus \{a\}, \cdot)$  is a group and  $ax = dx$  for all  $x \in K$ . If  $a+x = a$  for all  $x \neq a$  then  $|K| = 2$ .

Proof Suppose that  $a+x = x$  for all  $x \neq a$ . Let  $D = K \setminus \{a\}$  and  $S = \{x \in D \mid a+x = a\}$ . Then  $S = K \setminus \{a\}$ . By Theorem 2.44,  $S \subseteq I_D(d)$ . Thus  $I_D(d) = K \setminus \{a\}$ , so  $d$  is an additive zero of  $K \setminus \{a\}$  which is a ratio semiring. By Proposition 1.15 and Theorem 1.13,  $|K \setminus \{a\}| = 1$ . Therefore  $|K| = 2$ . #

Theorem 2.46 Let  $K$  be an infinite semifield of type III. Then  $K$  has no additive zero.

Proof Let  $a \in K$  be such that  $(K \setminus \{a\}, \cdot)$  is a group. Suppose that  $z$  is an additive zero of  $K$ . By Theorem 2.41,  $K \setminus \{a\}$  is a ratio semiring. Thus  $K \setminus \{a\}$  is an infinite ratio semiring. By Proposition 1.15,  $z = a$ . Then by Proposition 2.45,  $|K| = 2$ , a contradiction. Hence  $K$  has no additive zero. #



Theorem 2.47 Let  $K$  be an infinite semifield of type III. Then  $K$  has no additive identity.

Proof Let  $a \in K$  be such that  $(K \setminus \{a\}, \cdot)$  is a group and  $d \in K \setminus \{a\}$  be such that  $ax = dx$  for all  $x \in K$ .

Suppose that  $z$  is an additive identity of  $K$ . By Theorem 2.41,  $K \setminus \{a\}$  is a ratio semiring. Thus  $K \setminus \{a\}$  is an infinite ratio semiring. By Proposition 1.14,  $z = a$ . Then  $a+x = x$  for all  $x \in K$ . By Theorem 2.43(3),  $a+x = a$  or  $a+x = d+x$  for all  $x \neq a$ . Thus  $x = a+x = d+x$  for all  $x \neq a$ , so  $d$  is an additive identity of  $K \setminus \{a\}$  which contradicts Proposition 1.14. Hence  $K$  has no additive identity. #

Proposition 2.48 Let  $K$  be a semifield of type III and  $a \in K$  be such that  $(K \setminus \{a\}, \cdot)$  is a group. Let  $D = K \setminus \{a\}$  and  $S = \{x \in D \mid a+x = a\}$ . If  $y \in D \setminus S$  then  $y$  is not A.C. .

Proof Let  $e$  be the identity of  $(K \setminus \{a\}, \cdot)$  and  $d \in K \setminus \{a\}$  such that  $ax = dx \forall x \in K$ . Assume that  $y \in D \setminus S$ . By Theorem 2.43(3),  $a+y = d+y$ . Since  $a \neq d$ ,  $y$  is not A.C. . #

Corollary 2.49 Let  $K$  be an infinite semifield of type III. Then  $K$  contains an element  $y \in K \setminus \{a\}$  such that  $y$  is not A.C. .

Proof Let  $a \in K$  be such that  $(K \setminus \{a\}, \cdot)$  is a group and let  $D = K \setminus \{a\}$ ,  $S = \{x \in D \mid a+x = a\}$ . By Proposition 2.45, we have that  $D \setminus S \neq \emptyset$ . Let  $y \in D \setminus S$ , then by Proposition 2.48, we get that  $y$  is not A.C. . #

Proposition 2.50 Let  $K$  be a semifield of type III and  $a \in K$  be such that  $(K \setminus \{a\}, \cdot)$  is a group and  $e$  the identity of  $(K \setminus \{a\}, \cdot)$ . Then  $K$  is A.C. iff  $K = \{a, e\}$  with  $a^2 = e$ ,  $a \cdot e = e \cdot a = e$ ,  $e \cdot e = e$  and  $+$  is defined by

+	a	e
a	e	a
e	a	e

Proof Assume that  $K$  is A.C. By Corollary 2.49,  $|K| = 2$ . Hence  $K = \{a, e\}$ . Since  $K$  is a semifield of type III,  $a^2 \neq a$  and  $a \cdot e = e \cdot a \neq a$ . Thus  $a^2 = e$  and  $a \cdot e = e \cdot a = e$ . By Theorem 2.41,  $K \setminus \{a\}$  is a ratio semiring, so  $e+e = e$ . By Proposition 2.48,  $a+e = a$ . Since  $K = \{a, e\}$ , either  $a+a = a$  or  $a+a = e$ . If  $a+a = a$ , then  $a+a = a+e$  but  $a \neq e$  which is a contradiction. Thus  $a+a = e$ . So we obtain  $K = \{a, e\}$  with the above structure.

Conversely assume that  $K = \{a, e\}$  with the above structure.

Then  $K$  is A.C. since  $a+a \neq a+e$  and  $e+a \neq e+e$ . #

Theorem 2.51 Let  $D$  be a ratio semiring,  $a$  a symbol not representing any element of  $D$ ,  $d \in D$  and let  $S \subseteq I_D(d)$  have the property that either  $S = \emptyset$  or  $S$  is an additive subsemigroup of  $I_D(d)$  such that  $D \setminus S$  is an ideal of  $(D, +)$  if  $D$  is infinite. Then we can extend the binary operations of  $D$  to  $K = D \cup \{a\}$  making  $K$  into a semifield of type III such that

$$(1) \quad ax = xa = dx \quad \text{for all } x \in D \text{ and } a^2 = d^2,$$

$$(2) \quad a+x = x+a = a \quad \text{for all } x \in S \quad \text{and}$$

$$a+x = x+a = d+x \quad \text{for all } x \in D \setminus S,$$

$$(3) \quad a+a = \begin{cases} a \text{ or } 1 & \text{if } 1+1 = 1, \\ d+d & \text{if } 1+1 \neq 1. \end{cases}$$

Proof Suppose that  $S = \emptyset$ . Extend  $+$  and  $\cdot$  from  $D$  to  $K = D \cup \{a\}$  as in (1), (2) and (3) above. Then  $ax = xa = dx$  for all  $x \in D$ ,  $a^2 = d^2$ ,

$$a+x = d+x \quad \text{for all } x \in D \text{ and } a+a = \begin{cases} a \text{ or } 1 & \text{if } 1+1 = 1, \\ d+d & \text{if } 1+1 \neq 1. \end{cases}$$

To show  $K = D \cup \{a\}$  is a semifield, we must show that (a)  $(xy)z = x(yz)$  for all  $x, y, z \in K$ , (b)  $(x+y)+z = x+(y+z)$  for all  $x, y, z \in K$  and (c)  $(x+y)z = xz+yz$  for all  $x, y, z \in K$ . To show (a), we will consider the following cases :

Case 1  $x = y = z = a$ .

$$(xy)z = (aa)a = a(aa) = x(yz) \quad (\text{since } uv = vu \text{ for all } u, v \in K).$$

Case 2.  $x = y = a, z \neq a$ .

$$(xy)z = (aa)z = (da)z = (dd)z = d(dz) = a(dz) = a(az) = x(yz)$$

(since  $d, z \in D$ ).

Case 3  $x = z = a, y \neq a$ .

$$(xy)z = (ay)a = (dy)a = (dy)d = d(yd) = a(yd) = a(ya) = x(yz)$$

(since  $d, y \in D$ ).

Case 4  $y = z = a, x \neq a$ .

$$(xy)z = (xa)a = a(xa) = a(ax) = (aa)x = x(aa) = x(yz) \quad (\text{since } uv = vu$$

for all  $u, v \in K$  and by case 2).

Case 5  $x \neq a, y \neq a, z = a$ .

$$(xy)z = (xy)a = (xy)d = x(yd) = x(ya) = x(yz) \quad (\text{since } x, y, d \in D).$$

Case 6  $x \neq a, y = a, z \neq a$ .

$$(xy)z = (xa)z = (xd)z = x(dz) = x(az) = x(yz) \quad (\text{since } x, z, d \in D).$$

Case 7  $x = a, y \neq a, z \neq a$ .

$$(xy)z = (ay)z = (dy)z = d(yz) = a(yz) = x(yz) \quad (\text{since } y, z, d \in D).$$

Case 8  $x \neq a, y \neq a, z \neq a$ . Then  $x, y, z \in D$ , so  $(xy)z = x(yz)$ .

To show (b), we will consider the following cases :

Case 1  $x = y = z = a$ .

$$(x+y)+z = (a+a)+a = a+(a+a) = x+(y+z) \quad (\text{since } u+v = v+u).$$

Case 2  $x = y = a, z \neq a$ .

Subcase 2.1  $a+a = a$ . Then  $1+1 = 1$ , so  $u+u = u$  for all  $u \in K$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Thus } (x+y)+z &= (a+a)+z = a+z = d+z, \quad x+(y+z) = a+(a+z) = a+(d+z) \\ &= d+(d+z) = (d+d)+z = d+z. \end{aligned}$$

Subcase 2.2  $a+a = d$ . Then  $1+1 = 1$ , so  $u+u = u$  for all  $u \neq a$ . Thus  $(x+y)+z = (a+a)+z = d+z$ ,  $x+(y+z) = a+(a+z) = a+(d+z) = d+(d+z) = (d+d)+z = d+z$ .

Subcase 2.3  $a+a = d+d$ .

$$\begin{aligned} (x+y)+z &= (a+a)+z = (d+d)+z, \quad x+(y+z) = a+(a+z) = a+(d+z) = d+(d+z) \\ &= (d+d)+z \quad (\text{since } d, z \in D). \end{aligned}$$

Case 3  $x = z = a, y \neq a$ .

$$\begin{aligned} (x+y)+z &= (a+z)+a = (d+y)+a = (d+y)+d, \quad x+(y+z) = a+(y+a) = a+(y+d) \\ &= d+(y+d) = (d+y)+d \quad (\text{since } d, y \in D). \end{aligned}$$

Case 4  $y = z = a, x \neq a$ .

$$\begin{aligned} (x+y)+z &= (x+a)+a = a+(x+a) = a+(a+x) = (a+a)+x = x+(a+a) = x+(y+z) \\ &(\text{since } u+v = v+u \text{ for all } u, v \in K \text{ and by case 2}). \end{aligned}$$

Case 5  $x \neq a, y \neq a, z = a$ .

$$\begin{aligned} (x+y)+z &= (x+y)+a = (x+y)+d = x+(y+d) = x+(y+a) = x+(y+z) \\ &(\text{since } u+v = v+u \text{ for all } u, v \in K \text{ and } x, y, d \in D). \end{aligned}$$

Case 6  $x = a, y \neq a, z \neq a$ .

$$\begin{aligned} (x+y)+z &= (a+y)+z = (d+y)+z = d+(y+z) = a+(y+z) = x+(y+z) \\ &(\text{since } y, z, d \in D). \end{aligned}$$

Case 7  $x \neq a, y = a, z \neq a.$

$$(x+y)+z = (x+a)+z = (x+d)+z = x+(d+z) = x+(a+z) = x+(y+z)$$

(since  $x, z, d \in D$ ).

Case 8  $x \neq a, y \neq a, z \neq a.$  Then  $x, y, z \in D$ , so  $(x+y)+z = x+(y+z).$

To show (c), we will consider the following cases :

Case 1  $x = y = a.$

Subcase 1.1  $a+a = a.$  Then  $1+1 = 1$ , so  $u+u = u$  for all  $u \in K.$

$$\text{Thus } (x+y)z = (a+a)z = az = az+az = xz+yz.$$

Subcase 1.2  $a+a = d.$  Then  $1+1 = 1$ , so  $u+u = u$  for all  $u \neq a.$

$$\text{Thus } (x+y)z = (a+a)z = dz = dz+dz = az+az = xz+yz.$$

Subcase 1.3  $a+a = d+d.$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{If } z = a, \text{ then } (x+y)z &= (a+a)a = (d+d)a = (d+d)d = dd + dd = aa+aa \\ &= xz+yz \text{ (since } d \in D). \text{ If } z \neq a, \text{ then } (x+y)z = (a+a)z = (d+d)z \\ &= dz+dz = az+az = xz+yz \text{ (since } d, z \in D). \end{aligned}$$

Case 2  $x = z = a, y \neq a.$

$$(x+y)z = (a+y)a = (d+y)a = (d+y)d = dd+yd = aa+ya = xz+yz.$$

(since  $d, y \in D$ ).

Case 3  $y = z = a, x \neq a.$

$$(x+y)z = (x+a)a = (x+d)a = (x+d)d = xd+dd = xa+aa = xz+yz$$

(since  $x, d \in D$ ).

Case 4  $x = a, y \neq a, z \neq a.$

$$(x+y)z = (a+y)z = (d+y)z = dz+yz = az+yz = xz+yz \text{ (since } d, y, z \in D).$$

Case 5  $x \neq a, y = a, z \neq a.$

$$(x+y)z = (x+a)z = (x+d)z = xz+dz = xz+az = xz+yz \text{ (since } x, z, d \in D).$$

case 6  $x \neq a, y \neq a, z = a.$

$$(x+y)z = (x+y)a = (x+y)d = xd+yd = xa+ya = xz+yz \quad (\text{since } x, y, d \in D).$$

Case 7  $x \neq a, y \neq a, z \neq a.$  Then  $x, y, z \in D,$  so  $(x+y)z = xz+yz.$

Therefore  $K$  is a semifield of type III.

We now assume that  $S \neq \emptyset$  and  $|D| = 1.$  Then  $D \setminus S = \emptyset.$  Thus  $S = D = \{1\}.$  Extend  $+$  and  $\cdot$  from  $D$  to  $K = D \cup \{a\}$  as in (1), (2) and (3). Then  $a+1 = 1+a = a.$  Since  $D = \{1\}$  is a ratio semiring,  $1+1 = 1.$  Thus  $a+a = a$  or  $1.$  And by (1), we have that  $a \cdot a = 1, a \cdot 1 = 1 \cdot a = 1 \cdot 1 = 1$  and  $1 \cdot 1 = 1.$  So we get that  $K = \{a, 1\}$  has two structures ;

$$(1) \quad \begin{array}{c|cc} \cdot & a & 1 \\ \hline a & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{array} \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{array}{c|cc} + & a & 1 \\ \hline a & a & a \\ 1 & a & 1 \end{array}$$

$$(2) \quad \begin{array}{c|cc} \cdot & a & 1 \\ \hline a & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{array} \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{array}{c|cc} + & a & 1 \\ \hline a & 1 & a \\ 1 & a & 1 \end{array}$$

It is easy to show that they are all semifields.

Suppose that  $S$  is an additive subsemigroup of  $I_D(d)$  and  $D \setminus S$  is an ideal of  $(D,+).$  Extend  $+$  and  $\cdot$  from  $D$  to  $K = D \cup \{a\}$  as in (1), (2) and (3). Then  $a+x = x+a = a$  for all  $x \in S,$   $a+x = x+a = d+x$  for all

$$x \in D \setminus S, \quad a+a = \begin{cases} a & \text{or } d & \text{if } 1+1 = 1 \\ d+d & & \text{if } 1+1 \neq 1 \end{cases}, \quad ax = xa = dx \quad \forall x \in D \text{ and } a^2 = d^2$$

We must show that  $K = D \cup \{a\}$  is a semifield. As in the case  $S = \emptyset,$  we can show that  $(xy)z = x(yz)$  for all  $x, y, z \in K.$  So we have to show that (a)  $(x+y)+z = x+(y+z)$  for all  $x, y, z \in K$  and (b)  $(x+y)z = xz+yz.$

To show (a), we will consider the following cases :

Case 1  $x = y = z = a.$

$$(x+y)+z = (a+a)+a = a+(a+a) = x+(y+z) \quad (\text{since } u+v = v+u \text{ for all } x \in K).$$

Case 2  $x = y = a, z \neq a$ .

Subcase 2.1  $a+a = a$ . Then  $1+1 = 1$ , so  $u+u = u$  for all  $u \in K$ .

If  $z \in S$ , then  $(x+y)+z = (a+a)+z = a+z = a$ ,  $x+(y+z) = a+(a+z) = a+a = a$ .

If  $z \in D \setminus S$ , then  $d+z \in D \setminus S$ . since  $D \setminus S$  is an ideal of  $(D,+)$ .

Thus  $(x+y)+z = (a+a)+z = a+z = d+z$  and  $x+(y+z) = a+(a+z) = a+(d+z)$   
 $= d+(d+z) = (d+d)+z = d+z$ .

Subcase 2.2  $a+a = d$ . Then  $1+1 = 1$ , so  $u+u = u$  for all  $u \neq a$ .

If  $z \in S$ , then  $(x+y)+z = (a+a)+z = d+z = d$  (since  $z \in S \subseteq I_D(d)$ ),

$x+(y+z) = a+(a+z) = a+a = d$ .

If  $z \in D \setminus S$ , then  $d+z \in D \setminus S$  since  $D \setminus S$  is an ideal of  $(D,+)$ . Thus

$(x+y)+z = (a+a)+z = d+z$  and  $x+(y+z) = a+(a+z) = a+(d+z) = d+(d+z)$   
 $= (d+d)+z = d+z$ .

Subcase 2.3  $a+a = d+d$ .

If  $z \in S$ , then  $(x+y)+z = (a+a)+z = (d+d)+z = d+(d+z) = d+d$  (since  $d, z \in D$  and  $z \in S \subseteq I_D(d)$ ).

If  $z \in D \setminus S$ , then  $d+z \in D \setminus S$ . Thus  $(x+y)+z = (a+a)+z = (d+d)+z$  and  
 $x+(y+z) = a+(a+z) = a+(d+z) = d+(d+z) = (d+d)+z$  (since  $d, z \in D$ ).

Case 3  $x = z = a, y \neq a$ .

Subcase 3.1  $y \in S$ .

$(x+y)+z = (a+y)+a = a+a$  and  $x+(y+z) = a+(y+a) = a+a$

Subcase 3.2  $y \in D \setminus S$ .

Since  $D \setminus S$  is an ideal of  $(D,+)$ ,  $d+y \in D \setminus S$ . Thus  $(x+y)+z = (a+y)+a$   
 $= (d+y)+a = (d+y)+d$  and  $x+(y+z) = a+(y+a) = a+(y+d) = d+(y+d) = (d+y)+d$   
(since  $d, y \in D$ ).

Case 4  $y = z = a, x \neq a$ .

$(x+y)+z = (x+a)+a = a+(x+a) = a+(a+x) = (a+a)+x = x+(a+a) = x+(y+z)$

(by case 2 and the fact that  $u+v = v+u$  for all  $u, v \in K$ ).

Case 5  $x \neq a, y \neq a, z = a$ .

Subcase 5.1  $x, y \in S$ .

Since  $S$  is an additive subsemigroup of  $I_D(d)$ ,  $x+y \in S$ . Thus  $(x+y)+z = (x+y)+a = a$  and  $x+(y+z) = x+(y+a) = x+a = a$ .

Subcase 5.2  $x \in S, y \in D \setminus S$ . Then  $x+y \in D \setminus S$ . Thus

$(x+y)+z = (x+y)+a = (x+y)+d$  and  $x+(y+z) = x+(y+a) = x+(y+d) = (x+y)+d$  (since  $x, y, d \in D$ ).

Subcase 5.3  $x \in D \setminus S, y \in S$ . Then  $x+y \in D \setminus S$ . Thus

$(x+y)+z = (x+y)+a = (x+y)+d = x+(y+d) = x+d$  (since  $x, y, d \in D$  and  $y \in S \subseteq I_D(d)$ ).  $x+(y+z) = x+(y+a) = x+a = x+d$ .

Subcase 5.4  $x, y \in D \setminus S$ . Then  $x+y \in D \setminus S$ . Thus  $(x+y)+z =$

$(x+y)+a = (x+y)+d$  and  $x+(y+z) = x+(y+a) = x+(y+d) = (x+y)+d$  (since  $x, y, d \in D$ ).

Case 6  $x = a, y \neq a, z \neq a$ .

$(x+y)+z = (a+y)+z = z+(a+y) = z+(y+a) = (z+y)+a = a+(z+y) = a+(y+z) = x+(y+z)$  (by case 5 and the fact that  $u+v = v+u$  for all  $u, v \in K$ ).

Case 7  $x \neq a, y = a, z \neq a$ .

$(x+y)+z = (x+a)+z = (a+x)+z = a+(x+z) = (x+z)+a = x+(z+a) = x+(a+z) = x+(y+z)$  (by case 5, case 6 and the fact that  $u+v = v+u$  for all  $u, v \in K$ ).

Case 8  $x \neq a, y \neq a, z \neq a$ . Then  $x, y, z \in D$ , so  $(x+y)+z = x+(y+z)$ .

To show (b), we will consider the following cases :

Case 1  $x = y = a, z \in K$ . The proof is similar to case 1 of the case  $S = \emptyset$ .



Case 2  $x = z = a, y \neq a$ .

Subcase 2.1  $y \in S$ . Since  $S \subseteq I_D(d)$ ,  $d+y = d$ . Thus

$$(x+y)z = (a+y)a = aa = dd = (d+y)d = dd+yd = aa+ya = xz+yz \quad (\text{since } d, y \in D).$$

Subcase 2.2  $y \in D \setminus S$ .

$$(x+y)z = (a+y)a = (d+y)a = (d+y)d = dd+yd = aa+ya = xz+yz \quad (\text{since } a, y \in D).$$

Case 3  $y = z = a, x \neq a$ .

$$(x+y)z = (x+a)a = (a+x)a = aa+xa = xa+aa = xz+yz \quad (\text{by case 2 and the commutativity of } K).$$

Case 4  $x \neq a, y \neq a, z = a$ .

$$(x+y)z = (x+y)a = (x+y)d = xd+yd = xa+ya = xz+yz \quad (\text{since } x, y, d \in D).$$

Case 5  $x \neq a, y = a, z \neq a$

Subcase 5.1  $x \in S$ . Then  $x \in I_D(d)$ , so  $x+d = d$ . Thus

$$(x+y)z = (x+a)z = az = dz = (x+d)z = xz+dz = xz+az = xz+yz \quad (\text{since } x, d, z \in D).$$

Subcase 5.2  $x \in D \setminus S$ .

$$(x+y)z = (x+a)z = (x+d)z = xz+dz = xz+az = xz+yz \quad (\text{since } x, d, z \in D).$$

Case 6  $x = a, y \neq a, z \neq a$ .

$$(x+y)z = (a+y)z = (y+a)z = yz+az = az+yz = xz+yz$$

(by case 5 and the commutativity of  $K$ ).

Case 7  $x \neq a, y \neq a, z \neq a$ . Then  $x, y, z \in D$ , so  $(x+y)z = xz+yz$ .

Therefore  $K$  is a semifield and clearly it is a type III semifield. #

Example 2.52 Let  $\mathbb{Q}^+$  have the usual multiplication. Define  $+$  on  $\mathbb{Q}^+$  by  $x+y = \min\{x, y\}$ . Then  $(\mathbb{Q}^+, \cdot)$  is a ratio semiring. Let  $d \in \mathbb{Q}^+$  and

$a$  a symbol not representing any element in  $\mathcal{Q}^+$ . Then  $I_{\mathcal{Q}^+}(d)$   
 $= \{x \in \mathcal{Q}^+ \mid x > d\}$ . Let  $S = \{x \in \mathcal{Q}^+ \mid x > 2d\}$ . Clearly  $S$  is an additive  
 subsemigroup of  $I_{\mathcal{Q}^+}(d)$  and  $\mathcal{Q}^+ \setminus S$  is an ideal of  $(\mathcal{Q}^+, +)$ . Then by Theorem  
 2.51, we can extend the binary operations of  $\mathcal{Q}^+$  to  $K = \mathcal{Q}^+ \cup \{a\}$  making  
 $K$  into a semifield of type III by

- (1)  $ax = xa = dx$  for all  $x \in \mathcal{Q}^+$  and  $a^2 = d^2$ ,
- (2)  $a+x = x+a = a$  for all  $x \in S$  and  
 $a+x = x+a = d+x$  for all  $x \in \mathcal{Q}^+ \setminus S$ ,
- (3)  $a+a = d+d$ .