HW₁

- Give an example of an interesting binary operation that is NOT associative.
- Prove that matrix multiplication (over a semiring) is associative. Which semiring axioms are required?
- When is matrix multiplication commutative?
- Prove Fact 1 (last slide of Lecture 3).
- Prove Fact 2 (last slide of Lecture 3).
- Let

$$A = \left(\begin{array}{cc} A_{1,1} & A_{1,2} \\ A_{2,1} & A_{2,2} \end{array}\right).$$

Prove that A* is

$$\left(\begin{array}{cc} (A_{1,1} \oplus A_{1,2}A_{2,2}^*A_{2,1})^* & A_{1,1}^*A_{1,2}(A_{2,2} \oplus A_{2,1}A_{1,1}^*A_{1,2})^* \\ A_{2,2}^*A_{2,1}(A_{1,1} \oplus A_{1,2}A_{2,2}^*A_{2,1})^* & (A_{2,2} \oplus A_{2,1}A_{1,1}^*A_{1,2})^* \end{array}\right).$$

