

# Part IA - Numbers and Sets

## Definitions

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### **Introduction to number systems and logic**

Overview of the natural numbers, integers, real numbers, rational and irrational numbers, algebraic and transcendental numbers. Brief discussion of complex numbers; statement of the Fundamental Theorem of Algebra.

Ideas of axiomatic systems and proof within mathematics; the need for proof; the role of counter-examples in mathematics. Elementary logic; implication and negation; examples of negation of compound statements. Proof by contradiction. [2]

### **Sets, relations and functions**

Union, intersection and equality of sets. Indicator (characteristic) functions; their use in establishing set identities. Functions; injections, surjections and bijections. Relations, and equivalence relations. Counting the combinations or permutations of a set. The Inclusion-Exclusion Principle. [4]

### **The integers**

The natural numbers: mathematical induction and the well-ordering principle. Examples, including the Binomial Theorem. [2]

### **Elementary number theory**

Prime numbers: existence and uniqueness of prime factorisation into primes; highest common factors and least common multiples. Euclids proof of the infinity of primes. Euclids algorithm. Solution in integers of  $ax + by = c$ .

Modular arithmetic (congruences). Units modulo  $n$ . Chinese Remainder Theorem. Wilson's Theorem; the Fermat-Euler Theorem. Public key cryptography and the RSA algorithm. [8]

### **The real numbers**

Least upper bounds; simple examples. Least upper bound axiom. Sequences and series; convergence of bounded monotonic sequences. Irrationality of  $\sqrt{2}$  and  $e$ . Decimal expansions. Construction of a transcendental number. [4]

### **Countability and uncountability**

Definitions of finite, infinite, countable and uncountable sets. A countable union of countable sets is countable. Uncountability of  $\mathbb{R}$ . Non-existence of a bijection from a set to its power set. Indirect proof of existence of transcendental numbers. [4]

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# 1 Sets, functions and relations

## 1.1 Sets

**Definition** (Set). A *set* is a collection of stuff, without regards to order. Elements in a set are only counted once. e.g. If  $a = 2, b = c = 1$ , then  $A = \{a, b, c\}$  has only two members.

**Definition** (Equality of sets).  $A$  is equal to  $B$ , written as  $A = B$ , if  $\forall x(x \in A \Leftrightarrow x \in B)$ , i.e. two sets are equal if they have the same elements.

**Definition** (Subsets).  $A$  is a *subset* of  $B$ , written as  $A \subseteq B$  or  $A \subset B$ , if all elements in  $A$  are in  $B$ . i.e.  $\forall x(x \in A \Rightarrow x \in B)$ .

**Definition** (Intersection, union, set difference, symmetric difference and power set). Given two sets  $A$  and  $B$ , we define the following:

- Intersection:  $A \cap B = \{x : x \in A \text{ and } x \in B\}$
- Union:  $A \cup B = \{x : x \in A \text{ or } x \in B\}$
- Set difference:  $A \setminus B = \{x \in A : x \notin B\}$
- Symmetric difference:  $A \Delta B = \{x : x \in A \text{ xor } x \in B\}$ , i.e. the elements in exactly one of the two sets
- Power set:  $\mathcal{P}(X) = \{X : X \subseteq P\}$ , i.e. the set of all subsets

**Definition** (Ordered pair). An *ordered pair*  $(a, b)$  is a pair of two items in which order matters. Formally, it is defined as  $\{a, \{a, b\}\}$ . We have  $(a, b) = (a', b')$  iff  $a = a'$  and  $b = b'$ .

**Definition** (Cartesian product). Given two sets  $A, B$ , the *Cartesian product* of  $A$  and  $B$  is  $A \times B = \{(a, b) : a \in A, b \in B\}$ . This can be extended to  $n$  products, e.g.  $\mathbb{R}^3 = \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} = \{(x, y, z) : x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}\}$

## 1.2 Functions

**Definition** (Function/map). A *function* (or *map*)  $f : A \rightarrow B$  is a “rule” that assigns, for each  $a \in A$ , precisely one element  $f(a) \in B$ . We can write  $a \mapsto f(a)$ . Formally, we say  $f \subseteq A \times B$  such that  $\forall a \in A$ , there exists a unique  $b \in B$  such that  $(a, b) \in f$ .

**Definition** (Injective function). A function  $f$  is *injective* if it hits everything at most once, i.e.

$$\forall x, y \in X (f(x) = f(y) \Rightarrow x = y)$$

**Definition** (Surjective function). A function is *surjective* if it hits everything at least once, i.e.

$$\forall y \in Y (\exists x \in X (f(x) = y))$$

**Definition** (Bijective function). A function is *bijective* if it is both injective and surjective. i.e. it hits everything exactly once. Note that a function has an inverse iff it is bijective.

**Definition** (Permutation (function)). A *permutation* of  $A$  is a bijection  $A \rightarrow A$ .

**Definition** (Composition of functions). The *composition* of two functions is a function you get by applying one after another. In particular, if  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  and  $G : Y \rightarrow Z$ , then  $g \circ f : X \rightarrow Z$  with  $g \circ f(x) = g(f(x))$ . Note that function composition is associative.

**Definition** (Image of function). If  $f : A \rightarrow B$  and  $U \subseteq A$ , then  $f(U) = \{f(u) : u \in U\}$ .

$f(A)$  is the *image* of  $A$ . We have  $f$  is surjective iff  $f(A) = B$ .

**Definition** (Pre-image of function). If  $f : A \rightarrow B$  and  $V \subseteq B$ , then  $f^{-1}(V) = \{a \in A : f(a) \in V\}$ .

**Definition** (Identity map). The *identity map*  $\text{id}_A : A \rightarrow A$  is defined as the map  $a \mapsto a$ .

**Definition** (Left inverse of function). Given  $f : A \rightarrow B$ , a *left inverse* of  $f$  is a function  $g : B \rightarrow A$  such that  $g \circ f = \text{id}_A$ .

**Definition** (Right inverse of function). Given  $f : A \rightarrow B$ , a *right inverse* of  $f$  is a function  $g : B \rightarrow A$  such that  $f \circ g = \text{id}_B$ .

**Definition** (Inverse of function). An *inverse* of  $f$  is a function that is both a left inverse and a right inverse. It is written as  $f^{-1} : B \rightarrow A$ . It exists if  $f$  is bijective.

### 1.3 Relations

**Definition** (Relation). A *relation*  $R$  on  $A$  specifies that some elements of  $A$  are related to some others. Formally,  $R \subseteq A \times A$ . We write  $aRb$  iff  $(a, b) \in R$ .

**Definition** (Reflective relation). A relation  $R$  is *reflective* if  $\forall a(aRa)$ .

**Definition** (Symmetric relation). A relation  $R$  is *symmetric* iff  $\forall a, b(aRb \Leftrightarrow bRa)$ .

**Definition** (Transitive relation). A relation  $R$  is *transitive* iff  $\forall a, b, c(aRb \vee bRc \Rightarrow aRc)$ .

**Definition** (Equivalence relation). A relation is an *equivalence relation* if it is reflexive, symmetric and transitive. e.g. (i) and (vi) in the above examples are equivalence relations.

**Definition** (Partition of set). A *partition* of a set  $X$  is a collection of subsets  $A_\alpha$  of  $X$  such that each element of  $X$  is in exactly one of  $A_\alpha$ .

**Definition** (Equivalence class). If  $\sim$  is an equivalence relation, then the *equivalence class*  $[x]$  is the set of all elements that are related via  $\sim$  to  $x$ .

**Definition** (Quotient map). The *quotient map*  $q$  maps each element in  $A$  to the equivalence class containing  $a$ , i.e.  $a \mapsto [a]$ . e.g.  $q(8\heartsuit) = \{\heartsuit\}$ .

## 2 Division

### 2.1 Euclid's Algorithm

**Definition** (Factor of integers). Given  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ , we say  $a$  *divides*  $b$ ,  $a$  is a *factor* of  $b$  or  $a|b$  if  $\exists c \in \mathbb{Z}(b = ac)$ . For any  $b$ ,  $\pm 1$  and  $\pm b$  are always factors of  $b$ . The other factors are called *proper factors*

**Definition** (Common factor of integers). A *common factor* of  $a$  and  $b$  is a number  $c \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $c|a$  and  $c|b$ .

**Definition** (Highest common factor/greatest common divisor). The *highest common factor* or *greatest common divisor* of two numbers  $a, b \in \mathbb{N}$  is a number  $d \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $d$  is a common factor of  $a$  and  $b$ , and if  $c$  is also a common factor,  $c|d$ .

Clearly if the hcf exists, it must be the largest common factor, since all other common factors divide it, and thus necessarily unique.

### 2.2 Primes

**Definition** (Prime number).  $p \in \mathbb{N}$  is a *prime* if  $p > 1$  and the only factors of  $p$  are  $\pm 1$  and  $\pm p$ .

**Definition** (Coprime numbers). We say  $a, b$  are *coprime* if  $(a, b) = 1$ .

### 3 Counting and Integers

**Definition** (Indicator function/characteristic function). Let  $X$  be a set. For each  $A \subseteq X$ , the *indicator function* or *characteristic function* of  $A$  is the function  $i_A : X \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$  with  $i_A(x) = 1$  if  $x \in A$ , 0 otherwise. It is sometimes written as  $\chi_A$ .

#### 3.1 Combinations

**Definition** (Combination  $\binom{n}{r}$ ). There are  $\binom{n}{r}$  subsets of  $\{1, 2, 3, \dots, n\}$  of size  $r$ . The symbol is pronounced as “ $n$  choose  $r$ ”.

*Note:* This is a definition of  $\binom{n}{r}$ , and does not specify the value of it.

#### 3.2 Well-ordering and induction

**Definition** (Partial order). A *partial order* on a set is a reflexive, antisymmetric  $((aRb) \wedge (bRa) \Leftrightarrow a = b)$  and transitive relation.

**Definition** (Total order). A *total order* is a partial order where  $\forall a \neq b$ , exactly one of  $aRb$  or  $bRa$  holds.

**Definition** (Well-ordered total order). A total order is *well-ordered* if every non-empty subset has a minimal element, i.e. if  $S \neq \emptyset$ , then  $\exists m \in S$  such that  $x < m \Rightarrow x \notin S$ .

## 4 Modular arithmetic

**Definition** (Modulo). If  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$  have the same remainder after division by  $m$ , i.e.  $n|(a - b)$ , we say  $a$  and  $b$  are *congruent modulo  $m$* , and write

$$a \equiv b \pmod{m}$$

We can also interpret as  $a$  and  $b$  have the same last digit when written in base  $m$ .

**Definition** (Unit (modular arithmetic)).  $u$  is a *unit* if  $\exists v$  such that  $uv \equiv 1 \pmod{m}$ .

### 4.1 Multiple moduli

**Definition** (Euler's totient function). We denote by  $\phi(m)$  the number of integers  $a$ ,  $0 \leq a \leq m$ , such that  $(a, m) = 1$ , i.e.  $a$  is a unit  $\pmod{m}$ . Note  $\phi(1) = 1$ .

### 4.2 Prime moduli

**Definition** (Quadratic residues). The *quadratic residues* are the “squares” mod  $p$ , i.e.  $1^2, 2^2, \dots, (p-1)^2$ .

## 4.3 Public-key (Asymmetric) cryptography

### 4.3.1 RSA encryption

## 5 Real numbers

### 5.1 Construction of natural numbers

**Definition** (Natural numbers). Formally,  $\mathbb{N}$  is defined by Peano's axioms.  $\mathbb{N}$  is a set with a special element 1 and a map  $S : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  that maps  $n$  to its "successor" (intuitively, it is  $+1$ ) such that:

- (i)  $\forall n(S(n) \neq 1)$
- (ii)  $\forall n, m(n \neq m \Rightarrow S(n) \neq S(m))$
- (iii)  $\forall A \subseteq \mathbb{N} \{[(1 \in A) \wedge (n \in A \Rightarrow S(n) \in A)] \Rightarrow (A = \mathbb{N})\}$  (Equivalent to weak induction)

Then write  $2 = S(1)$ ,  $3 = S(2)$  etc. We can define addition and multiplication recursively and show all rules of arithmetic are satisfied by induction.

This can be explicitly constructed by defining  $1 = \emptyset$ ,  $2 = \{1\}$ ,  $3 = \{1, 2\}$  etc. and  $S(n) = \{n\} \cup n$  in general.

### 5.2 Construction of integers

**Definition** (Integers).  $\mathbb{Z}$  is obtained from  $\mathbb{N}$  by allowing subtraction. Formally, we can have  $\mathbb{Z}$  to be the equivalence classes of  $\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$  with  $(a, b) \sim (c, d)$  iff  $a + d = b + c$ .

We write  $a$  for  $[(a, 0)]$  and  $-a$  for  $[(0, a)]$ <sup>1</sup>, and define  $(a, b) + (c, d) = (a + c, b + d)$  and  $(a, b) \times (c, d) = (ac + bd, bd + ad)$  (since  $(a - b)(c - d) = (ac + bd) - (bd + ad)$ ). We can check that these are well-defined.

### 5.3 Construction of rationals

**Definition** (Rationals).  $\mathbb{Q}$  is obtained from  $\mathbb{Z}$  by allowing division. Formally, we can have  $\mathbb{Q}$  to be the equivalence classes of  $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{N}$  with  $(a, b) \sim (c, d)$  iff  $ad = bc$ .

We write  $\frac{a}{n}$  for  $[(a, b)]$ . We can define  $(a, b) + (c, d) = (ad + bc, bd)$  and  $(a, b) \times (c, d) = (ac, bd)$ . We can check that these are well-defined and satisfies the usual properties.

**Definition** (Totally ordered field).  $F$  with  $+, \times, \leq$  is a totally ordered field if

- (i)  $F$  is an additive abelian group with identity 0.
- (ii)  $F \setminus \{0\}$  is a multiplicative abelian group with identity 1.
- (iii) Multiplication is distributed over addition:  $a(b + c) = ab + ac$ .
- (iv)  $\leq$  is a total order.
- (v)  $\forall p, q, r \in F, p \leq q \Rightarrow p + r \leq q + r$
- (vi)  $\forall p, q, r \in F, p \leq q, 0 \leq r \Rightarrow pr \leq qr$

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<sup>1</sup>Someone pointed out to me that according to the above definition of natural numbers, 0 doesn't exist. This problem can be solved either by defining  $\mathbb{N}$  to contain 0, or write  $a$  as  $[(a + 1, 0)]$  etc. However, for the sake of consistency and clarity of expression, I'll keep the definitions this way.



*Note:* In any ordered field,  $0 < 1$ , since we know that  $0 \neq 1$  by definition and if  $1 < 0$ , adding  $-1$  to both sides, we obtain  $0 < -1$ . Since  $0 < -1$  and  $0 < -1$ , then  $0 < (-1)^2 = 1$ . Contradiction.

## 5.4 Construction of real numbers

**Definition** (Least upper bound/supremum and greatest lower bound/infimum).  $s \in X$  is a *least upper bound* (or *supremum*) for the set  $S \subseteq X$ , denoted as  $s = \sup X$ , if

- (i)  $s$  is an upper bound for  $S$ , i.e.  $\forall x \in S (x \leq s)$ .
- (ii) if  $t$  is any upper bound for  $S$ , then  $s \leq t$ .

Similarly,  $s \in X$  is a *greatest lower bound* (or *infimum*) if  $s$  is a lower bound and any lower bound  $t \leq s$ .

**Definition** (Real numbers). The *real numbers* is a totally ordered field containing  $\mathbb{Q}$  that satisfies the least upper bound axiom.

**Definition** (Dedekind cut). A *Dedekind cut* of  $\mathbb{Q}$  is a set of partition of  $\mathbb{Q}$  into  $L$  and  $R$  such that  $\forall l \in L, r \in R (l < r)$  and  $R$  has no minimum, i.e. a partition that splits  $\mathbb{Q}$  into a “left” and “right” sets.

**Definition** (Closed and open intervals). A *closed interval*  $[a, b]$  with  $a \leq b \in \mathbb{R}$  is the set  $\{x \in \mathbb{R} : a \leq x \leq b\}$ . An *open interval*  $(a, b)$  with  $a \leq b \in \mathbb{R}$  is the set  $\{x \in \mathbb{R} : a < x < b\}$ .

## 5.5 Sequences

**Definition** (Sequence). A *sequence* is a function  $\mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . If  $a$  is a sequence, instead of  $a(1), a(2), \dots$ , we usually write  $a_1, a_2, \dots$ .

**Definition** (Limit of sequence). The sequence  $(a_n)_{n=1}^{\infty}$  *tends to*  $l \in \mathbb{R}$  as  $n$  tends to infinity if and only if

$$\forall \epsilon > 0 \{ \exists N \in \mathbb{N} [\forall n \geq N (|a_n - l| < \epsilon)] \}$$

If  $a_n$  tends to  $l$  as  $n$  tends to infinity, we write  $a_n \rightarrow l$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ;  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = l$ ; or  $a_n$  converges to  $l$ .

**Definition** (Convergence of sequence). The sequence  $a_n$  *converges* if there exists an  $l$  such that  $a_n \rightarrow l$ . The sequence *diverges* if it doesn't converge.

**Definition** (Subsequence). A *subsequence* of  $(a_n)$  is  $a_{g(n)}$  where  $g : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  is strictly increasing. e.g.  $a_2, a_3, a_5, a_7 \dots$  is a subsequence of  $a_n$ .

## 5.6 Series

**Definition** (Series and partial sums). Let  $a_n$  be a sequence. Then  $s_m = \sum_{n=1}^m a_n$  is the *mth partial sum* of the *series* whose *nth* term is  $a_n$ . We write

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n = \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} s_m$$

If the limit exists.

### 5.6.1 Decimal expansions

**Definition** (Decimal expansion). Let  $(d_n)$  be a sequence with  $d_n \in \{0, 1, \dots, 9\}$ . Then  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{d_n}{10^n}$  converges to a limit  $r$  with  $0 \leq r \leq 1$  since the partial sums  $s_m$  are increasing and bounded by  $\sum \frac{9}{10^n} \rightarrow 1$  (geometric series). We say  $r = 0.d_1d_2d_3\cdots$ , the *decimal expansion* of  $r$ .

### 5.7 Irrational numbers

**Definition** (Irrational number). Numbers in  $\mathbb{R} \setminus \mathbb{Q}$  are *irrational*.

**Definition** (Periodic number). A decimal is *periodic* if after a finite number  $\ell$  of digits, it repeats in blocks of  $k$  for some  $k$ , i.e.  $d_{n+k} = d_n$  for  $n > \ell$ .

### 5.8 Euler's number

**Definition** (Euler's number).

$$e = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{j!} = 1 + \frac{1}{1!} + \frac{1}{2!} + \frac{1}{3!} + \cdots$$

### 5.9 Algebraic numbers

**Definition** (Algebraic and transcendental numbers). An *algebraic number* is a root of a polynomial with integer coefficients (or rational coefficients). A number is *transcendental* if it is not algebraic.

## 6 Countability

**Definition** (Finite set and cardinality of set). The set  $A$  is *finite* if there exists some  $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$  and a bijection  $A \rightarrow [n]$ . The *cardinality* or *size* of  $A$ , written as  $|A|$ , is  $n$ . By corollary, this is well-defined.

**Definition** (Countable set). A set  $A$  is *countable* if  $A$  is finite or there is a bijection between  $A$  and  $\mathbb{N}$ . A set  $A$  is *uncountable* if  $A$  is not countable.