

# Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Review of Propositional Logic</b>	<b>2</b>
1.1	Connectives . . . . .	2
1.1.1	Truth Table of the Connectives . . . . .	2
1.2	Important Tautologies . . . . .	2
1.3	Indirect Arguments/Proofs by Contradiction/Reductio as absurdum . . . . .	3
<b>2</b>	<b>Predicate logic and Quantifiers</b>	<b>3</b>
2.1	Introduce quantifiers . . . . .	4
2.1.1	$\exists$ existential quantifier . . . . .	4
2.1.2	$\forall$ universal quantifier . . . . .	4
2.1.3	$\exists!$ for one and only one . . . . .	4
2.2	Alternation of Quantifiers . . . . .	4
2.3	Negation of Quantifiers . . . . .	4
<b>3</b>	<b>Set Theory</b>	<b>4</b>
3.1	Two Ways to Describe Sets . . . . .	5
<b>4</b>	<b>Set Operations</b>	<b>6</b>
4.1	Venn Diagrams . . . . .	7
4.2	Properties of Set Operations . . . . .	8
4.3	Example Proof in Set Theory . . . . .	9
<b>5</b>	<b>The Power Set</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Cartesian Products</b>	<b>10</b>
6.1	Cardinality (number of elements) in a Cartesian product . . . . .	10
<b>7</b>	<b>Relations</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Equivalence Relations</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>Equivalence Relations and Partitions</b>	<b>13</b>

# 1 Review of Propositional Logic

**Task:** Recall enough propositional logic to see how it matches up with set theory.

**Definition:** A proposition is any declarative sentence that is either true or false.

## 1.1 Connectives

	<u>Connectives</u>	<u>Notation in Maths</u>
and	$\wedge$	
or	$\vee$	"Inclusive or"
not	$\neg$	Sometimes denoted $\sim$
implies	$\rightarrow$	if/then; called implication $\Rightarrow$
if and only if	$\leftrightarrow$	Called equivalence $\Leftrightarrow$

### 1.1.1 Truth Table of the Connectives

Let P, Q be propositions:

P	Q	$P \wedge Q$	P	Q	$P \vee Q$	P	$\neg P$	P	Q	$P \rightarrow Q$	P	Q	$P \leftrightarrow Q$
F	F	F	F	F	F	F	T	F	F	T	F	F	T
F	T	F	F	T	T	F	T	F	T	T	F	T	F
T	F	F	T	F	T	T	F	T	F	F	T	F	F
T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T

### Priority of the Connectives

**Highest to Lowest:**  $\neg, \wedge, \vee, \rightarrow, \leftrightarrow$

## 1.2 Important Tautologies

$$\begin{array}{ll}
 (P \rightarrow Q) & \leftrightarrow (\neg P \vee Q) \\
 (P \leftrightarrow Q) & \leftrightarrow [(P \rightarrow Q) \wedge (Q \rightarrow P)] \\
 \neg(P \wedge Q) & \leftrightarrow (\neg P \vee \neg Q) \\
 \neg(P \vee Q) & \leftrightarrow (\neg P \wedge \neg Q)
 \end{array}
 \left. \vphantom{\begin{array}{l} (P \rightarrow Q) \\ (P \leftrightarrow Q) \\ \neg(P \wedge Q) \\ \neg(P \vee Q) \end{array}} \right\} \text{De Morgan Laws}$$

As a result,  $\neg$  and  $\vee$  together can be used to represent all of  $\neg, \wedge, \vee, \rightarrow, \leftrightarrow$ .

**Less obvious:** One connective called the sheffer stroke  $P|Q$  (which stands for "not both P and Q" or "P nand Q") can be used to represent all of  $\neg, \wedge, \vee, \rightarrow, \leftrightarrow$  since  $\neg P \leftrightarrow P|P$  and  $P \vee Q \leftrightarrow (P|P) | (Q|Q)$ .

**Recall** is  $P \rightarrow Q$  is a given implication,  $Q \rightarrow P$  is called the converse or  $P \rightarrow Q$ .  
 $\neg Q \rightarrow \neg P$ .

### 1.3 Indirect Arguments/Proofs by Contradiction/Reductio as absurdum

Based on the tautology  $(P \rightarrow Q) \leftrightarrow (\neg Q \rightarrow \neg P)$

**Example:** Famous argument that  $\sqrt{2}$  is irrational.

**Proof:**

**Suppose**  $\sqrt{2}$  is rational, then it can be expressed as fraction form  $\frac{a}{b}$ . Let us **assume** that our fraction is in the lowest term, **i.e.** their only common divisor is 1.

Then,

$$\sqrt{2} = \frac{a}{b}$$

Squaring both sides, we have

$$2 = \frac{a^2}{b^2}$$

Multiplying both sides by  $b^2$  yields

$$2b^2 = a^2$$

Since  $a^2 = 2b^2$ , we can conclude that  $a^2$  is even because whatever the value of  $b^2$  has to be multiplied by 2. If  $a^2$  is even, then  $a$  is also even. Since  $a$  is even, no matter what the value of  $a$  is, we can always find an integer that if we divide  $a$  by 2, it is equal to that integer. If we let that integer be  $k$ , then  $\frac{a}{b} = k$  which means that  $a = 2k$ .

Substituting the value of  $2k$  to  $a$ , we have  $2b^2 = (2k)^2$  which means that  $2b^2 = 4k^2$ . dividing both sides by 2 we have  $b^2 = 2k^2$ . That means that the value  $b^2$  is even, since whatever the value of  $k$  you have to multiply it by 2. Again, if  $b^2$  is even, then  $b$  is even.

This implies that both  $a$  and  $b$  are even, which means that both the numerator and the denominator of our fraction are divisible by 2. This contradicts our **assumption** that  $\frac{a}{b}$  has no common divisor except 1. Since we found a contradiction, our assumption is, therefore, false. Hence the theorem is true.

qed

## 2 Predicate logic and Quantifiers

**Task:** Understand enough predicate logic to make sense of quantified statements.

In predicate logic, propositions depend on variable  $x, y, z$ , so their truth value may change depending on which values these variables assume:  
 $P(x), Q(x, y), R(x, y, z)$

## 2.1 Introduce quantifiers

### 2.1.1 $\exists$ existential quantifier

**Syntax:**  $\exists xP(x)$

**Definition:**  $\exists xP(x)$  is true if  $P(x)$  is true for some value of  $x$ ; it is false otherwise.

### 2.1.2 $\forall$ universal quantifier

**Syntax:**  $\forall xP(x)$

**Definition:**  $\forall xP(x)$  is true if  $P(x)$  is true for all allowable values of  $x$ . It is false otherwise.

### 2.1.3 $\exists!$ for one and only one

**Syntax:**  $\exists! xP(x)$

**Definition:**  $\exists! xP(x)$  is true if  $P(x)$  is true for exactly one value of  $x$  and false for all other values of  $x$ ; otherwise,  $\exists! xP(x)$  is false.

## 2.2 Alternation of Quantifiers

$$\forall x \exists y \forall z \quad P(x, y, z)$$

**NB:** The order cannot be exchanged as it might modify the truth values of the statement (think of examples with two quantifiers).

## 2.3 Negation of Quantifiers

$$\begin{aligned}\neg(\exists xP(x)) &\leftrightarrow \forall x\neg P(x) \\ \neg(\forall xP(x)) &\leftrightarrow \exists x\neg P(x)\end{aligned}$$

## 3 Set Theory

**Task:** Understand enough set theory to make sense of other mathematical objects in abstract algebra, graph theory, etc. Set theory started around 1870's  $\rightarrow$  late development in mathematics but now taught early in one's maths education due to Bourbaki school.

**Definition:** A set is a collection of objects.  $x \in A$  means the element  $x$  is in the set  $A$  (**i.e.** belongs to  $A$ ).

**Examples:**

1. All students in a class.
2.  $\mathbb{N}$  the set of natural numbers starting at 0.

$\mathbb{N}$  is defined via the following two axioms:

- (a)  $0 \in \mathbb{N}$
- (b) if  $x \in \mathbb{N}$  then  $x + 1 \in \mathbb{N}$  ( $x \in \mathbb{N} \rightarrow X + A \in \mathbb{N}$ )
- 3.  $\mathbb{R}$  set of real numbers also introduced axiomatically
  - $\mathbb{R}$  the set of real numbers.
  - (a) Additive closure:  $\forall x, y \exists z (x + y = z)$
  - (b) Multiplicative closure:  $\forall x, y, \exists z (x \times y = z)$
  - (c) Additive associativity:  $x + (y + z) = (x + y) + z$
  - (d) Multiplicative associativity:  $x \times (y \times z) = (x \times y) \times z$
  - (e) Additive commutativity:  $x + y = y + x$
  - (f) Multiplicative commutativity:  $x \times y = y \times x$
  - (g) Distributivity:  $x \times (y + z) = (x \times y) + (x \times z)$  and  $(y + z) \times x = (y \times x) + (z \times x)$
  - (h) Additive identity: There is a number, denoted 0, such that or all  $x, x + 0 = x$
  - (i) Multiplicative identity: There is a number, denoted 1, such that for all  $x, x \times 1 = 1 \times x = x$
  - (j) Additive inverses: For every  $x$  there is a number, denoted  $-x$ , such that  $x + (-x) = 0$
  - (k) Multiplicative inverses: For every nonzero  $x$  there is a number, denoted  $x^{-1}$ , such that  $x \times x^{-1} = x^{-1} \times x = 1$
  - (l)  $0 \neq 1$
  - (m) Irreflexivity of  $<$ :  $\sim (x < x)$
  - (n) Transitivity of  $<$ : If  $x < y$  and  $y < z$ , then  $x < z$
  - (o) Trichotomy: Either  $x < y, y < x$ , or  $x = y$
  - (p) If  $x < y$ , then  $x + y < y + z$
  - (q) If  $x < y$  and  $0 < z$ , then  $x \times z < y \times z$  and  $z \times x < z \times y$
  - (r) Completeness: If a nonempty set of real numbers has an upper bound, then it has a *least* upper bound.
- 4.  $\emptyset$  is the empty set (The set with no elements).

**Definition:** Let A, B be sets.  $A=B$  if and only if all elements of A are elements of B and all elements of B are elements of A,  
 i.e.  $A = B \leftrightarrow [\forall x(x \in A \rightarrow x \in B)] \cap [\forall y(y \in B \rightarrow y \in A)]$

### 3.1 Two Ways to Describe Sets

1. The enumeration/roster method: list all elements of the set.  
**NB:** order is irrelevant.  
 $A = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5\} = \{5, 0, 2, 3, 1, 4\}$
2. The formulaic/set builder method: give a formula that generates all elements of the set.  
 $A = \{x \in \mathbb{N} \mid 0 \leq x \leq 5\} = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5\} = \{x \in \mathbb{N} : 0 \leq x \wedge x \leq 5\}$

Using  $\mathbb{N}$  and the set-builder method, we can define:

$$\mathbb{Z} = \{m - n \mid \forall m, n \in \mathbb{N}\}$$

$n = 0$  in any natural numbers  $\Rightarrow$  we generate all of  $\mathbb{N}$

$m = 0$  in any natural number  $\Rightarrow$  we generate all negative integers

$$\mathbb{Q} = \{\frac{p}{q} \mid p, q \in \mathbb{Z} \wedge q \neq 0\}$$

**Definition:** A set  $A$  is called finite if it has a finite number of elements; otherwise it is called infinite.

## 4 Set Operations

**Task:** Understand how to represent sets by Venn diagrams. Understand set union, intersection, complement and difference.

**Definition:** Let  $A, B$  be sets.  $A$  is a subset of  $B$ . If all elements of  $A$  are elements of  $B$ , **i.e.**  $\forall x(x \in A \rightarrow x \in B)$ . We denote that  $A$  is a subset of  $B$  by  $A \subseteq B$

**Example:**  $\mathbb{N} \subseteq \mathbb{Z}$

**Definition:** Let  $A, B$  be sets.  $A$  is a proper subset of  $B$  if  $A \subseteq B \wedge A \neq B$ , **i.e.**  $A \subseteq B \wedge \exists x \in B \text{ s.t. } x \notin A$ .

A proper subset is always a subset, but a subset is not always a proper subset.

**Notation:**  $A \subset B$

**Example:**  $\mathbb{N} \subset \mathbb{Z}$  since  $\exists -1 \in \mathbb{Z}$

**NB:**  $\forall A$  a set  $\emptyset \subseteq A$

**Recall:**  $B \subseteq C$  means  $\forall x(x \in B \rightarrow x \in C)$ , but  $\emptyset$  has no elements so in  $\emptyset \subseteq A$  the quantifier  $\forall$  operates on a domain with no elements. Clearly, we need to give meaning to  $\exists$  and  $\forall$  on empty sets.

Boolean Convention

$\forall$  is true on the empty set  
 $\exists$  is false on the empty set

} Consistent with common sense

**Definition:** Let  $A, B$  be two sets. The union  $A \cup B = \{x \mid x \in A \vee x \in B\}$

**Definition:** Let  $A, B$  be two sets. The intersection  $A \cap B = \{x \mid x \in A \wedge x \in B\}$

**Definition:** Let  $A, B$  be sets.  $A$  and  $B$  are called disjoint if  $A \cap B = \emptyset$

**Definition** Let  $A, B$  be two sets.  $A - B = A \setminus B = \{a \mid x \in A \wedge x \notin B\}$

**Examples:**

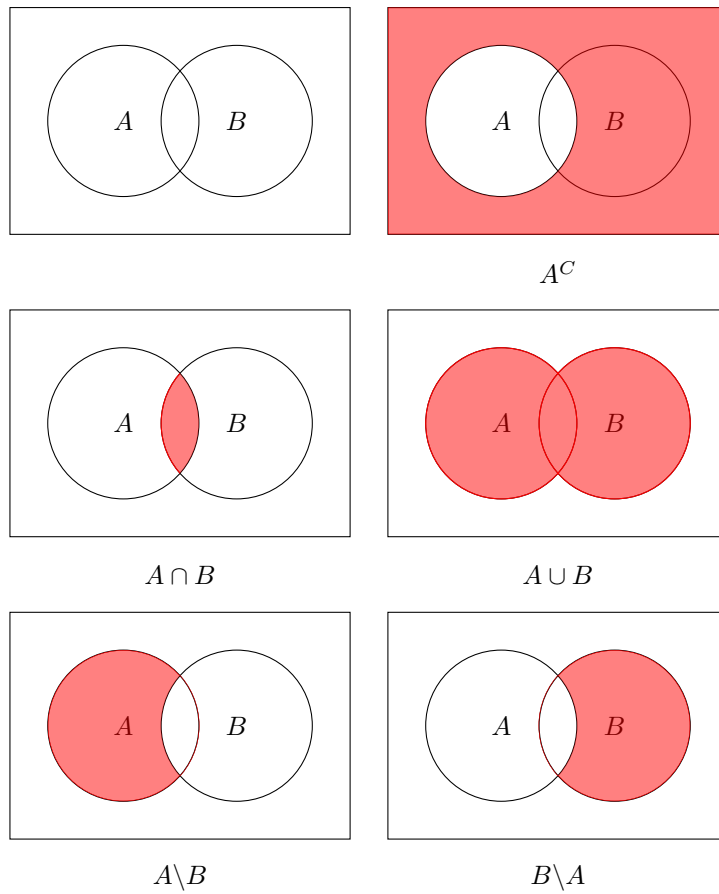
$A = \{1, 2, 5\}$	$B = \{1, 3, 6\}$
$A \cup B = \{1, 2, 3, 5, 6\}$	$A \cap B = \{1\}$
$A \setminus B = \{2, 5\}$	$B \setminus A = \{3, 6\}$

**Definition:** Let  $A, U$  be sets s.t.  $A \subseteq U$ . The complement of  $A$  in  $U = U \setminus A = A^C = \{x \mid x \in U \wedge x \notin A\}$

**Remark:** The notation  $A^C$  is unambiguous only if the universe  $U$  is clearly defined or understood.

## 4.1 Venn Diagrams

Schematic representation of set operations.



## 4.2 Properties of Set Operations

Correspondence between Logic and Set Theory

Logical Connective	Set operation
$\wedge$	intersection $\cap$
$\vee$	union $\cup$
$\neg$	complement $( )^C$

As a result, various properties of set operations become obvious:

- Commutativity
  - $A \cap B = B \cap A$
  - $A \cup B = B \cup A$
- Associativity
  - $(A \cup B) \cup C = A \cup (B \cup C)$
  - $(A \cap B) \cap C = A \cap (B \cap C)$
- Distributivity
  - $A \cap (B \cup C) = (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$
  - $A \cup (B \cap C) = (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C)$
- De Morgan Laws in Set Theory
  - $(A \cap B)^C = A^C \cup B^C$
  - $(A \cup B)^C = A^C \cap B^C$
- Involutivity of the Complement
  - $(A^C)^C = A$

**NB:** An involution is a map such that applying it twice gives the identity. Familiar examples: reflecting across the x-axis, the y-axis, or the origin in the plane.

- Transitivity of Inclusion
  - $A \subseteq B \wedge B \subseteq C \rightarrow A \subseteq C$
- Criterion for proving equality of sets
  - $A = B \leftrightarrow A \subseteq B \wedge B \subseteq A$
- Criterion for proving non-equality of sets
  - $A \neq B \leftrightarrow (A \setminus B) \cup (B \setminus A) \neq \emptyset$



### 4.3 Example Proof in Set Theory

**Proposition:**  $\forall A, B$  sets.  $(A \cap B) \cup (A \setminus B) = A$

**Proof:** Use the criterion for proving equality of sets from above, **i.e.** inclusion in both directions.

Show  $(A \cap B) \cup (A \setminus B) \subseteq A$ :  $\forall x \in (A \cap B) \cup (A \setminus B), x \in (A \cap B)$  or  $x \in A \setminus B$ .

If  $x \in (A \cap B)$  then clearly  $x \in A$  as  $A \cap B \subseteq A$  by definition. If  $x \in A \setminus B$ , then by definition  $x \in A$  and  $x \notin B$  so definitely  $x \in A$ . In both cases,  $x \in A$  as needed.

Show  $A \subseteq (A \cap B) \cup (A \setminus B)$ :  $\forall x \in A$ , we have two possibilities, namely  $x \in B$

or  $x \notin B$ . If  $x \in B$ , then  $x \in A$  and  $x \in B$ , so  $x \in A \cap B$ . If  $x \notin B$ , then  $x \in A$  and  $x \notin B$ , so  $x \in A \setminus B$ . In both cases,  $x \in (A \cap B)$  or  $x \in (A \setminus B)$  so  $x \in (A \cap B) \cup (A \setminus B)$  as needed.

qed

## 5 The Power Set

**Task:** Understand what the power set of a set  $A$  is.

**Definition:** Let  $A$  be a set. The power set of  $A$  denoted  $P(A)$  is the collection of all the subsets of  $A$ .

**Recall:**  $\emptyset \subseteq A$ . It is also clear from the definition of a subset that  $A \subseteq A$ .

**Examples:**

1.  $A = \{0, 1\}$   
 $P(A) = \{\emptyset, \{0\}, \{1\}, \{0, 1\}\}$
2.  $A = \{a, b, c\}$   
 $P(A) = \{\emptyset, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{c\}, \{a, b\}, \{a, c\}, \{b, c\}, \{a, b, c\}\}$
3.  $A = \emptyset$   
 $P(A) = \{\emptyset\}$   
 $P(P(A)) = \{\emptyset, \{\emptyset\}\}$

**NB:**  $\emptyset$  and  $\{\emptyset\}$  are different objects.  $\emptyset$  has no elements, whereas  $\{\emptyset\}$  has one element.

**Remark:**  $P(A)$  and  $A$  are viewed as living in separate worlds to avoid phenomena like Russell's paradox.

**Q:** If  $A$  has  $n$  elements, how many elements does  $P(A)$  have?

**A:**  $2^n$

**Theorem:** Let  $A$  be a set with  $n$  elements, then  $P(A)$  contains  $2^n$  elements.

**Proof:** Based on the on/off switch idea.

$\forall x \in A$ , we have two choices: either we include  $x$  in the subset or we don't (on vs off switch).  $A$  has  $n$  elements  $\Rightarrow$  we have  $2^n$  subsets of  $A$ .

**qed**

**Alternate Proof:** Using mathematical induction.

**NB:** It is an axiom of set theory (in the ZFC standard system) that every set has a power set, which implies no set consisting of all possible sets could limit, else what would its power set be?

## 6 Cartesian Products

**Task:** Understand sets like  $\mathbb{R}^1$  in a more theoretical way.

**Recall from Calculus:**

$$\mathbb{R} = \mathbb{R}^1 \ni x$$

$$\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} = \mathbb{R}^2 \ni (x_1, x_1)$$

$\vdots$

$$\underbrace{\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}}_{n \text{ times}} = \mathbb{R}^n \ni (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$$

These are examples of Cartesian products.

**Definition:** Let  $A, B$  be sets. The Cartesian product denoted by  $A \times B$  consists of all ordered pairs  $(x, y)$  s.t.  $x \in A \wedge y \in B$ , i.e.  $A \times B = \{(x, y) \mid x \in A \wedge y \in B\}$

**Further Examples:**

$$1. A = \{1, 3, 7\}$$

$$B = \{1, 5\}$$

$$A \times B = \{(1, 1), (1, 5), (3, 1), (3, 5), (7, 1), (7, 5)\}$$

**NB:** The order in which elements in a pair matters:  $(7, 1)$  is different from  $(1, 7)$ . This is why we call  $(x, y)$  an ordered pair.

$$2. A = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid x^2 + y^2 = 1\} \leftarrow \text{circle of radius 1}$$

$$B = \{z \in \mathbb{R} \mid -2 \leq z \leq 2\} = [-2, 2] \leftarrow \text{closed interval}$$

$$A \times B \leftarrow \text{cylinder of radius 1 and height 4}$$

### 6.1 Cardinality (number of elements) in a Cartesian product

If  $A$  has  $n$  elements and  $B$  has  $p$  elements,  $A \times B$  has  $np$  elements.

**Example:**

1.  $\#(A) = 3$        $A = \{1, 3, 7\}$   
     $\#(B) = 2$        $B = \{1, 5\}$   
     $\#(A \times B) = 3 \times 2 = 6$
2. Both  $A$  and  $B$  are infinite sets, so  $A \times B$  is infinite as well.

**Remark:** We can define Cartesian products of any length, **e.g.**  $A \times A \times B \times A$ ,  $B \times A \times B \times A \times B$ , etc. If all sets are finite, the number of elements is the product of the numbers of elements of each factor. If  $\#(A) = 3$  and  $\#(B) = 2$  as above,  $\#(A \times B \times A) = 3 \times 3 \times 3 = 27$  and  $\#(B \times A \times B) = 2 \times 3 \times 2 = 12$ .

## 7 Relations

**Task:** Define subsets of Cartesian products with certain properties. Understand the predicates " $=$ " (equality) and other predicates in predicate logic in a more abstract light.

Start with  $x = y$ . The elements  $x$  is some notation  $R$  to  $y$  (equality in this case). We can also denote it as  $xRy$  or  $(x, y) \in E$

Let  $x, y$  in  $\mathbb{R}$ , then  $E = \{(x, x) \mid x \in \mathbb{R}\} \subset \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$ .

The "diagonal" in  $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$  gives exactly the elements equal to each other.

More generally:

**Definition:** Let  $A, B$  be sets. A subset of the Cartesian product  $A \times B$  is called a relations between  $A$  and  $B$ . A subset of the Cartesian product  $A \times A$  is called a relations on  $A$ .

**Remark:** Note how general this definition is. To make it useful for understanding predicates, we will need to introduce key properties relations can satisfy.

**Example:**  $A = \{1, 3, 7\}$        $B = \{1, 2, 5\}$

We can define a relation  $S$  on  $A \times B$  by  $S = \{(1, 1), (1, 5), (3, 2)\}$ . This means  $1S1$ ,  $1S5$  and  $3S2$  and no other ordered pairs in  $A \times B$  satisfy  $S$ .

**Remark:** The relations we defined involve 2 elements, so they are often called binary relations in the literature.

## 8 Equivalence Relations

**Task:** Define the most useful kind of relation.

**Definition:** A relation  $R$  on a set  $A$  is called

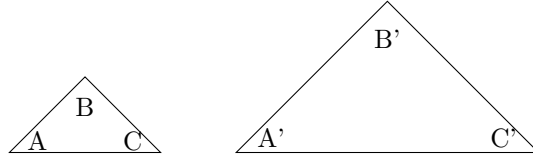
1. reflexive iff (if and only if)  $\forall x \in A, xRx$
2. symmetric iff  $\forall x, y \in A, xRy \rightarrow yRx$
3. transitive iff  $\forall x, y, z \in A, xRy \wedge yRz \rightarrow xRz$

An equivalence relation on  $A$  is a relation that is reflexive, symmetric and transitive.

**Notation:** Instead of  $xRy$ , an equivalence relation is often denoted by  $x \equiv y$  or  $x \sim y$ .

**Examples:**

1. "=" equality is an equivalence relation.
  - (a)  $x = x$  reflexive
  - (b)  $x = y \Rightarrow y = x$  symmetric
  - (c)  $x = y \wedge y = z \Rightarrow x = z$  transitive
2.  $A = \mathbb{N}$   
 $x \equiv y \pmod{3}$  is an equivalence relation.  $x \equiv y \pmod{3}$  means  $x - y = 3m$  for some  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ , **i.e.**  $x$  and  $y$  have the same remainder when divided by 3. The set of all possible remainders is  $\{0, 1, 2\}$   
**NB:** In correct logic notation,  $x \equiv y \pmod{3}$  if  $\exists m \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ s.t. } x - y = 3m$ 
  - (a)  $x \equiv x \pmod{3}$  since  $x - x = 0 = 3 \times 0 \rightarrow$  reflexive
  - (b)  $x \equiv y \pmod{3} \Rightarrow y \equiv x \pmod{3}$  because  $x \equiv y \pmod{3}$  means  $x - y = 3m$  for some  $m \in \mathbb{Z} \Rightarrow y - x = -3m = 3 \times (-m) \Rightarrow y \equiv x \pmod{3} \rightarrow$  symmetric
  - (c) Assume  $x \equiv y \pmod{3}$  and  $y \equiv z \pmod{3}$   
 $x \equiv y \pmod{3} \Rightarrow \exists m \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ s.t. } x - y = 3m \Rightarrow y = x - 3m$   
 $y \equiv z \pmod{3} \Rightarrow \exists p \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ s.t. } y - z = 3p \Rightarrow y = z + 3p$   
Therefore,  $x - 3m = z + 3p \Leftrightarrow x - z = 3p + 3m = 3(p + m)$   
Since  $p, m \in \mathbb{Z}, p + m \in \mathbb{Z} \Rightarrow x \equiv z \pmod{3} \rightarrow$  transitive.
3. Let  $f : A \rightarrow A$  be any function on a non empty set  $A$ . We define the relation  $R = \{(x, y) \mid f(x) = f(y)\}$ 
  - (a)  $\forall x \in A, f(x) = f(x) \Rightarrow (x, x) \in R \rightarrow$  reflexive
  - (b) If  $(x, y) \in R$ , then  $f(x) = f(y) \Rightarrow f(y) = f(x)$ , **i.e.**  $(y, x) \in R \rightarrow$  symmetric
  - (c) If  $(x, y) \in R$  and  $(y, z) \in R$ , then  $f(x) = f(y)$  and  $f(y) = f(z)$ , which by the transitivity of equality implies  $f(x) = f(z)$ , **i.e.**  $(x, z) \in R$  as needed, so  $R$  is transitive as well.  
 $f(x)$  can be  $e^x, \sin x, (x)$ , etc.



4. Let  $\lambda$  be the set of all triangles in the plane.  $ABC \sim A'B'C'$  if  $ABC$  and  $A'B'C'$  are similar triangles, **i.e.** have equal angles.

(a)  $\forall ABC \in \lambda, ABC \sim ABC$  so  $\sim$  is reflexive

(b)  $ABC \sim A'B'C' \Rightarrow A'B'C' \sim ABC$  so  $\sim$  is symmetric

(c)  $ABC \sim A'B'C'$  and  $A'B'C' \sim A''B''C'' \Rightarrow ABC \sim A''B''C''$ ,  
so  $\sim$  is transitive

Clearly (a), (b), (c) use the fact that equality of angles is an equivalence relation.

**Exercise:** For various predicates you've encountered, check whether reflexive, symmetric or transitive. Examples of predicates include  $\neq, <, >, \leq, \geq, \subseteq$

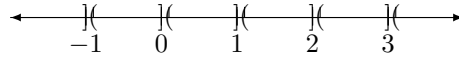
## 9 Equivalence Relations and Partitions

**Task:** Understand how equivalence relations divide sets.

**Definition:** Let  $A$  be a set. A partition of  $A$  is a collection of non empty sets, any two of which are disjoint such that their union is  $A$ , **i.e.**  $\lambda = \{A_\alpha \mid \alpha \in I\}$  s.t.  $\forall \alpha, \alpha' \in I$  satisfy  $\alpha \neq \alpha', A_\alpha \cap A_{\alpha'} = \emptyset$  and  $\bigcup_{\alpha \in I} A_\alpha = A$

Here  $I$  is an indexing act (may be infinite).  $A_\alpha$  is the union of all the  $A_\alpha$ 's  
(possibly an infinite union)

**Example**  $\{(n, n+1) \mid n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$  is a partition of  $\mathbb{R}$



$$\bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} (n, n+1] = \mathbb{R}$$

$$(n, n+1] \cap (m, m+1] = \emptyset \text{ if } n \neq m$$

**Definition:** If  $R$  is an equivalence relations on a set  $A$  and  $x \in A$ , the equivalence class of  $x$  denoted  $[x]_R$  is the set  $\{y \mid xRy\}$ . The collection of all equivalence classes is called  $A$  modulo  $R$  and denoted  $A/R$ .

**Examples:**

1.  $A = \mathbb{N} \quad x \equiv y \pmod{3}$

We have the equivalence classes  $[0]_R, [1]_R$  and  $[2]_R$  given by the then possible remainders under division by 3.

$$[0]_R = \{0, 3, 6, 9, \dots\}$$

$$[1]_R = \{1, 4, 7, 10, \dots\}$$

$$[2]_R = \{2, 5, 8, 11, \dots\}$$

Clearly  $[0]_R \cup [1]_R \cup [2]_R = \mathbb{N}$  and they are mutually disjoint  $\Rightarrow R$  gives a partition of  $\mathbb{N}$ .

2.  $ABC \sim A'B'C'$

$$[ABC] = \{\text{The set of all triangles with angles of magnitude } \angle ABC, \angle BAC, \angle ACB\}$$

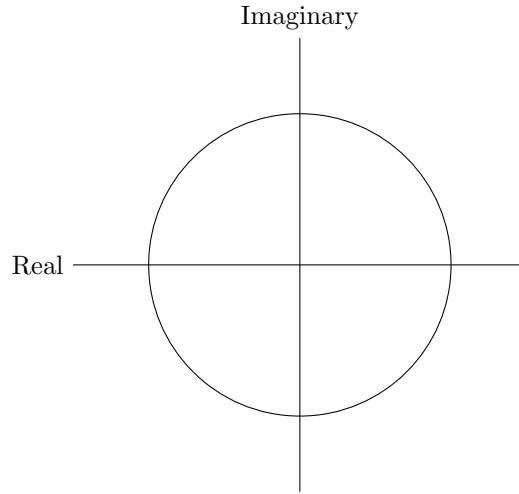
The union over the set of all  $[ABC]$  is the set of all triangles and

$[ABC] \cap [A'B''] = \emptyset$  if  $ABC \neq^* A'B'C'$  since it means these triangles have at least one angle that if difference.

\* In the original notes, not  $\sim$  is used (a tilde with a slash going through it) but I couldn't find this symbol in latex.

3.  $A = \mathbb{C} \quad x \cap y \text{ if } |x| = |y| \quad \text{equivalence relation}$   
 $[x] = \{y \in \mathbb{C} \mid |x| = |y|\} = [r] \text{ for } r \in [0, +\infty) \wedge (r \geq 0)$

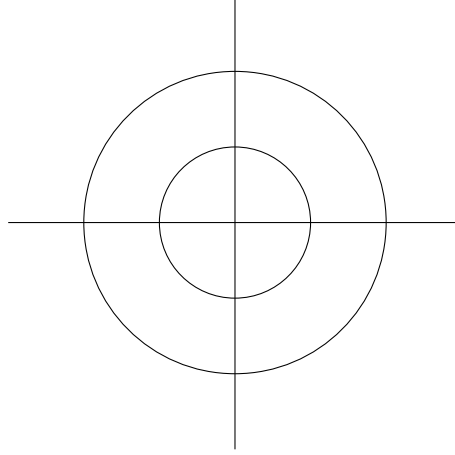
circle of radius  $|x|$



$$\bigcup_{r \in [0, +\infty)} [r] = \mathbb{C}$$

$[r_1] \cap [r_2] \neq \emptyset$  if  $r_1 \neq r_2$  since two distinct circles in  $\mathbb{C} \simeq \mathbb{R}^2$  with empty intersection.

circles  $r_1 \wedge r_2$



**Theorem:** For any equivalence relation  $R$  on a set  $A$ , its equivalence classes form a partition of  $A$ , **i.e.**

1.  $\forall x \in A, \exists y \in A$  s.t.  $x \in [y]$  (every element of  $A$  sits somewhere)
2.  $xRy \Leftrightarrow [x] = [y]$  (all elements related by  $R$  belong to the same equivalence class)
3.  $\neg(xRy) \Leftrightarrow [x] \cap [y] = \emptyset$  (if two elements are not related by  $R$ , the they belong to disjoint equivalence classes)

**Proof:**

1. Trivial. Let  $y = x$ .  $x \in [x]$  because  $R$  is an equivalence relation. Hence reflexive, so  $xRx$  holds.
2. We will prove  $xRy \Leftrightarrow [x] \subseteq [y]$  and  $[y] \subseteq [x]$   
 $\Rightarrow$  Fix  $x \in A, [x] = \{z \in A \mid xRz\} \Rightarrow \forall y \in A$  s.t.  $xRy, y \in [x]$ .  
Furthermore,  $[y] = \{w \in A \mid yRw\}$   
 $\Rightarrow \forall w \in [y], yRw$  but  $xRy \Rightarrow xRw$  by transitivity. Therefore,  $w \in [x]$ . We have shown  $[y] \subseteq [x]$ .  
Since  $R$  is an equivalence relation, it is also symmetric. **i.e.**  $xRy \Leftrightarrow yRx$ . So by the same argument with  $x$  and  $y$  swapped  $yRx \Rightarrow [x] \subseteq [y]$ . Thus  $xRy \Rightarrow [x] = [y]$ .  
 $\Rightarrow [x] = [y] \Rightarrow y \in [x]$  but  $[x] = \{y \in A \mid xRy\}$
3.  $\Rightarrow$  We will prove the contrapositive. Assume  $[x] \cap [y] \neq \emptyset \Rightarrow \exists z \in [x] \cap [y]. z \in [x]$  means  $xRz$ , whereas  $z \in [y]$  means  $yRz \Leftrightarrow zRy$  by symmetric of  $R$ . We thus have  $xRz$  and  $zRy \Rightarrow xRy$  by transitivity of  $R$ .  $xRy$  contradicts  $\neg(xRy)$  so indeed  $\neg(xRy) \Rightarrow [x] \cap [y] = \emptyset$   
 $\Leftarrow$  Once again we use the contrapositive.  
Assume  $\neg(\neg(xRy)) \Leftrightarrow xRy$ . By part (b)  $xRy \Rightarrow [x] = [y] \Rightarrow [x] \cap [y] \neq \emptyset$

$[y] \neq \emptyset$  since  $x \in [x]$  and  $y \in [y]$ , **i.e.** These equivalence classes are non empty. We have obtained the needed contradiction.

**qed**

**Q:** What partition does " $=$ " impose on  $\mathbb{R}$ ?

**A:**  $[x] = \{x\}$  since  $E = \{(x, x) \mid x \in \mathbb{R}\}$  the diagonal.

The one element equivalence class is the smallest equivalence class possible (by definition, an equivalence class cannot be empty as it contains  $x$  itself).

We call such a partition the finest possible partition.

**Remark:** The theorem above shows how every equivalence relations partitions a set. It turns out every partition of a set can be used to define an equivalence relation:  $xRy$  is  $x$  and  $y$  belong to the same subset of the partition (check this is indeed an equivalence relations!). Therefore, there is a 1-1 correspondence between partitions and equivalence relations: to each equivalence relation there corresponds a partition and vice versa.