

01 Course Information and Overview

CS201 Discrete Mathematics

Instructor: Shan Chen

Course Information

- **Instructor:**

CHEN Shan 陈杉

Office: Room 614, South Tower, CoE Building

Email: chens3@sustech.edu.cn

- **Q&As:**

Office hours: [3pm-5pm, Tuesdays, at my office](#)

QQ group chat (with all TAs) for online Q&A: [328476025](#)

- **Platform:**

Blackboard: bb.sustech.edu.cn → “Discrete Mathematics Fall 2024”

Please ask questions in class and your classmates will appreciate that!

希望大家课堂上练习用英语交流 (不会的部分用中文代替)

Course Information

- **Grading Scheme:**

Assignments (~6)	20%
Quizzes (~2, open-book)	10%
Midterm (close-book)	30%
Final (close-book)	40%
Project (optional)	-1% ~ +5%

- **Clarification:**

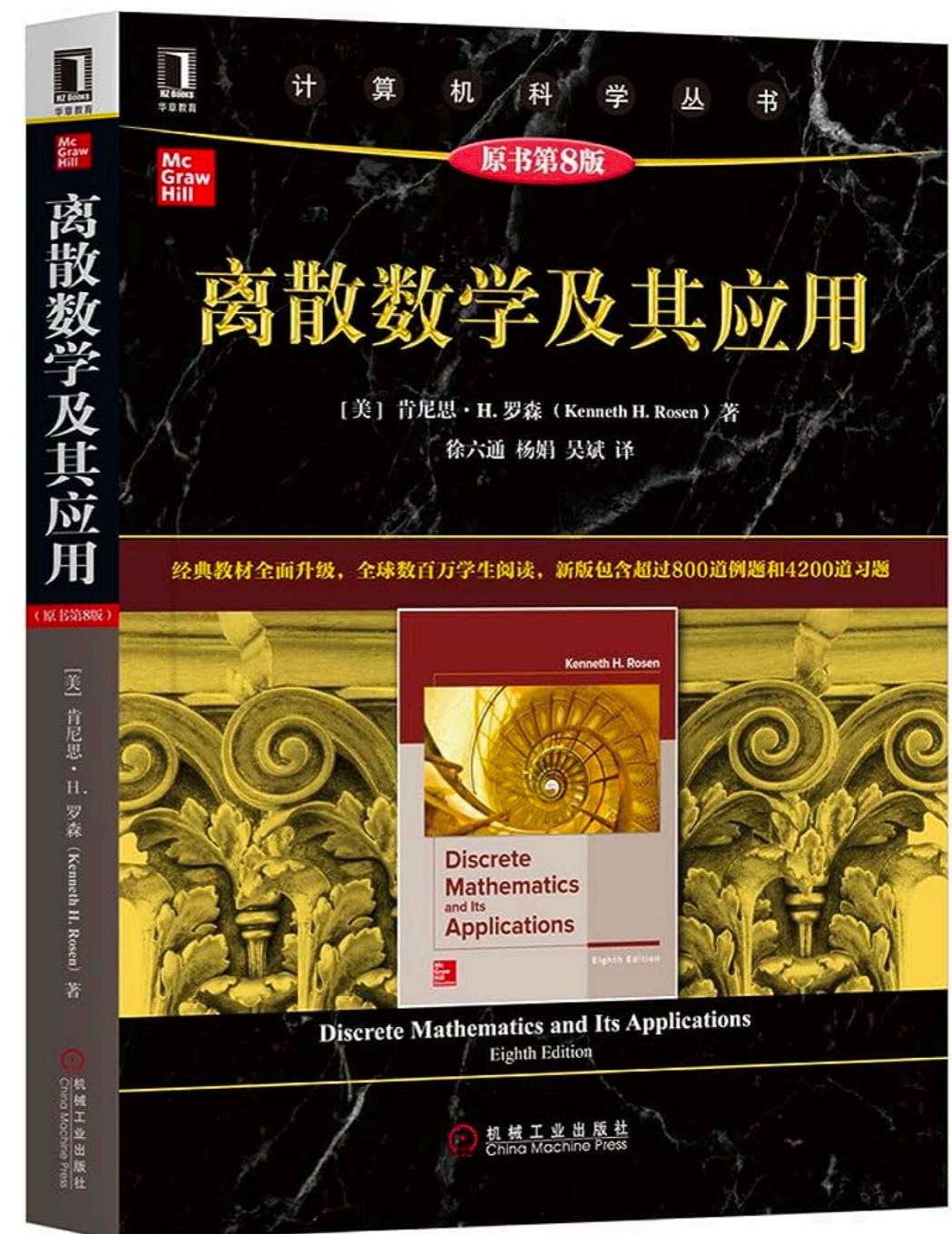
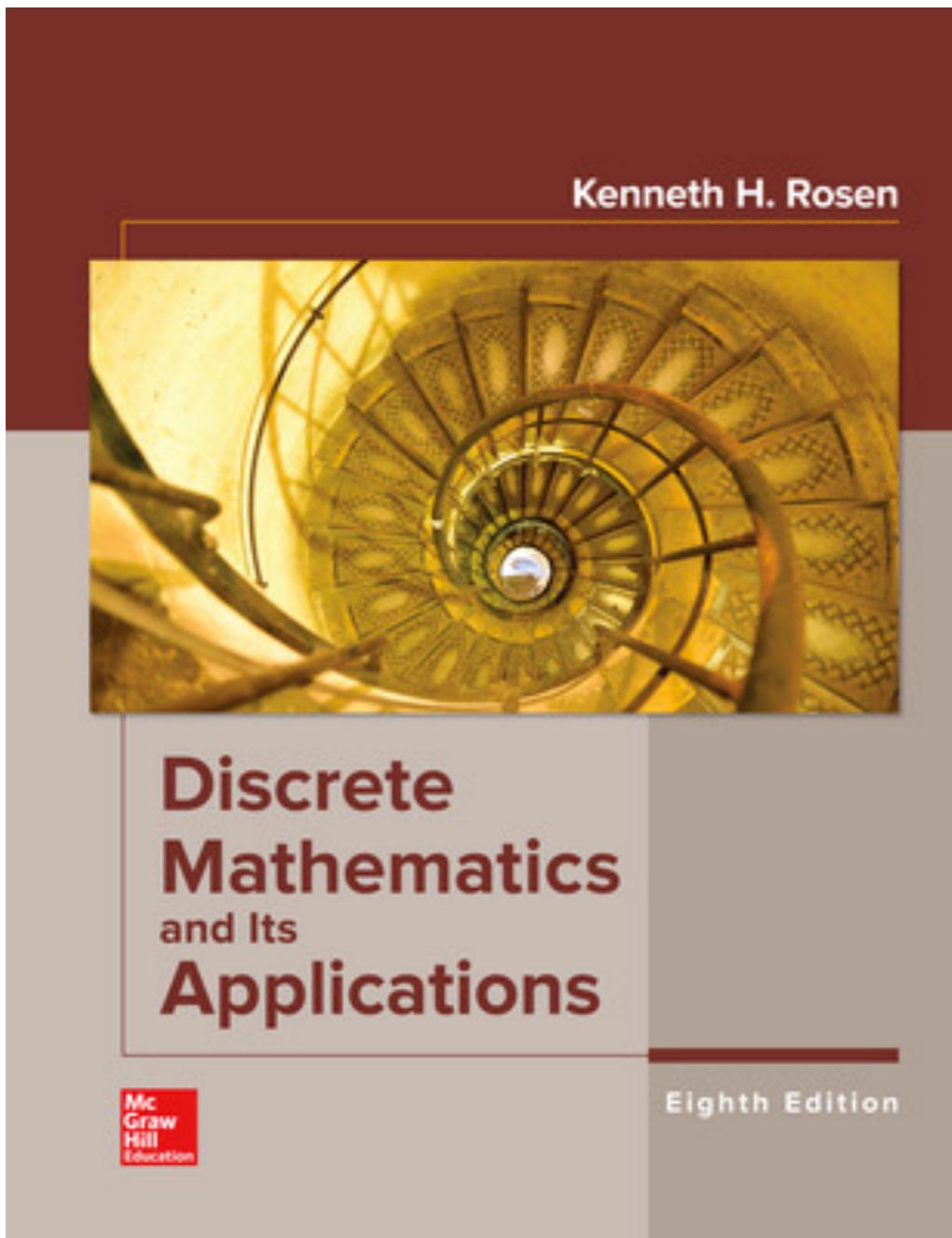
Most material will be covered in class, but some details might be omitted. You are responsible for learning **all content** in the assigned sections of the textbook, **even for those not explicitly taught in class.**

- **Grade consistency:**

Average course grade roughly **aligns with** CS201 in other semesters.

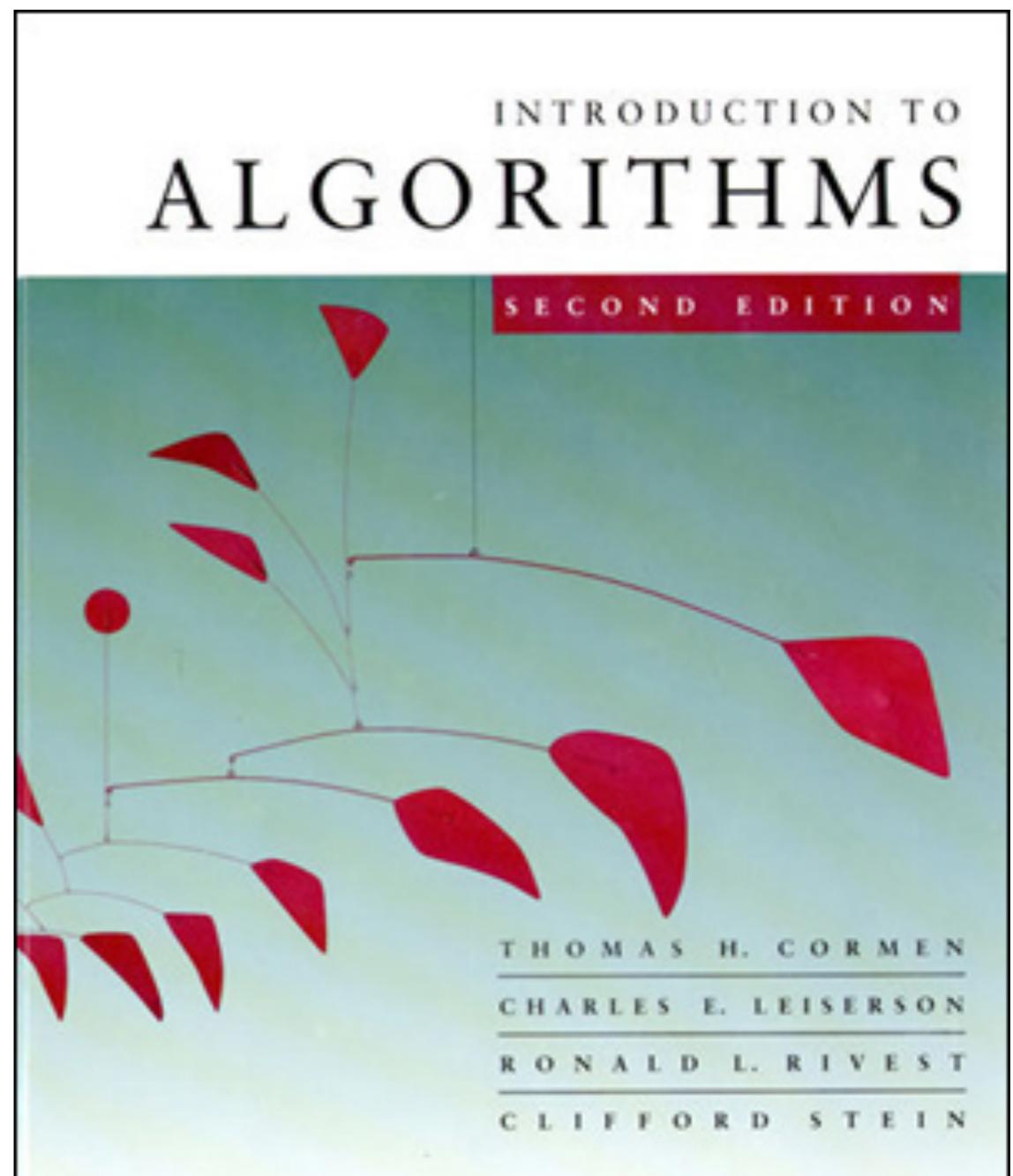
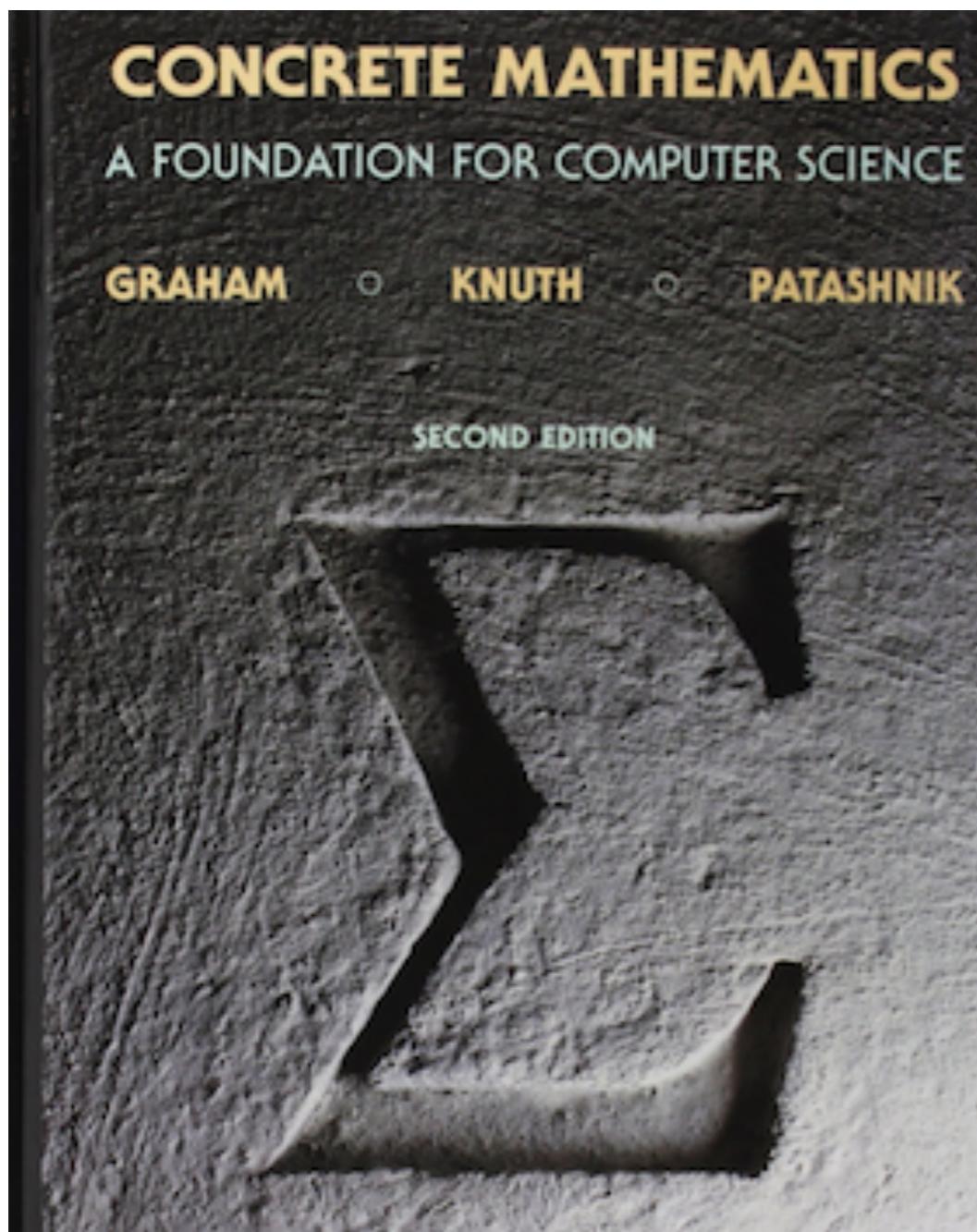
Course Information

- **Textbooks:**



Course Information

- Reference Books:



Plagiarism

- **Plagiarism Policy:**

- If plagiarism is found in a student's assignments, course projects, or exams, the corresponding assignment, course project, or exam will receive a **score of 0**; If the same student is found to have plagiarized for the second time in the same course, the grade for that **course will be 0 points**.
- If a student **does not sign the Declaration Form** or **cheats in the course**, including regular assignments, midterms, final exams, etc., in addition to the grade penalty, the student will not be allowed to enroll in the two CS majors through 1+3 mode, and cannot receive any recommendation for postgraduate admission exam exemption and all other academic awards.
- As it may be difficult to determine who actually wrote it when two assignments are identical or nearly identical, the policy will apply to **BOTH students**, unless one confesses having copied without the other knowing (**uploading your code to public sites like GitHub is considered as one having the knowledge**).

Plagiarism

- **What is OK, and What is not OK?**

- It's OK to work on an assignment with a friend, and think together about the program/solution structure, share ideas and even the global logic. At the time of actually writing the code or assignment, **you should write it alone**.
- It's OK to use in an assignment a piece of code or other resources found on the web, as long as **you indicate in a comment/reference where it was found and don't claim it as your own work**.
- It's OK to **help friends debug their programs** (you'll probably learn a lot yourself by doing so).
- It's OK to show your code/assignment to friends to **explain the logic**, as long as the **friends write their code/assignment on their own later**.
- It's NOT OK to take the code/assignment of a friend, make a few **cosmetic changes (comments, some variable names)** and pass it as your own work.

Assignment 0

- Please fill out the [Undergraduate Students Declaration Form](#), submit it on [Blackboard](#) with your handwritten signature. Otherwise, **your course grade will be 0**.
 - You can sign on a tablet, but DO NOT simply type in your name!



南方科技大学
SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

计算机科学与工程系
Department of Computer Science and Engineering

Undergraduate Students Declaration Form

This is _____ (student ID: _____), who has enrolled in _____ course of the Department of Computer Science and Engineering. I have read and understood the regulations on courses according to "Regulations on Academic Misconduct in courses for Undergraduate Students in the Department of Computer Science and Engineering". I promise that I will follow these regulations during the study of this course.

Course Overview

Acknowledgements

- **My lecture slides are edited from the slides used in CS201 Fall 2021 instructed by Prof. Qi Wang at CSE SUSTech**
- **Some slides from the above course are further based on lecture materials used in the following institutions:**



香港科技大學
THE HONG KONG
UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE
AND TECHNOLOGY



Massachusetts
Institute of
Technology



STANFORD
UNIVERSITY



Let me know if you find mistakes on the slides :)

Discrete Mathematics

- **What is Discrete Mathematics?**

It studies mathematical structures that are **discrete** (or **countable**):

- e.g., integers, graphs, statements in logic, etc.

It does not focus on “continuous” mathematics:

- e.g., real numbers, calculus, etc.

- **Why is it important for us?**

It provides an **essential foundation** for studying and describing objects and problems in almost every area of **computer science**:

- since computers operate in “**discrete**” steps and store data in “**discrete**” memory

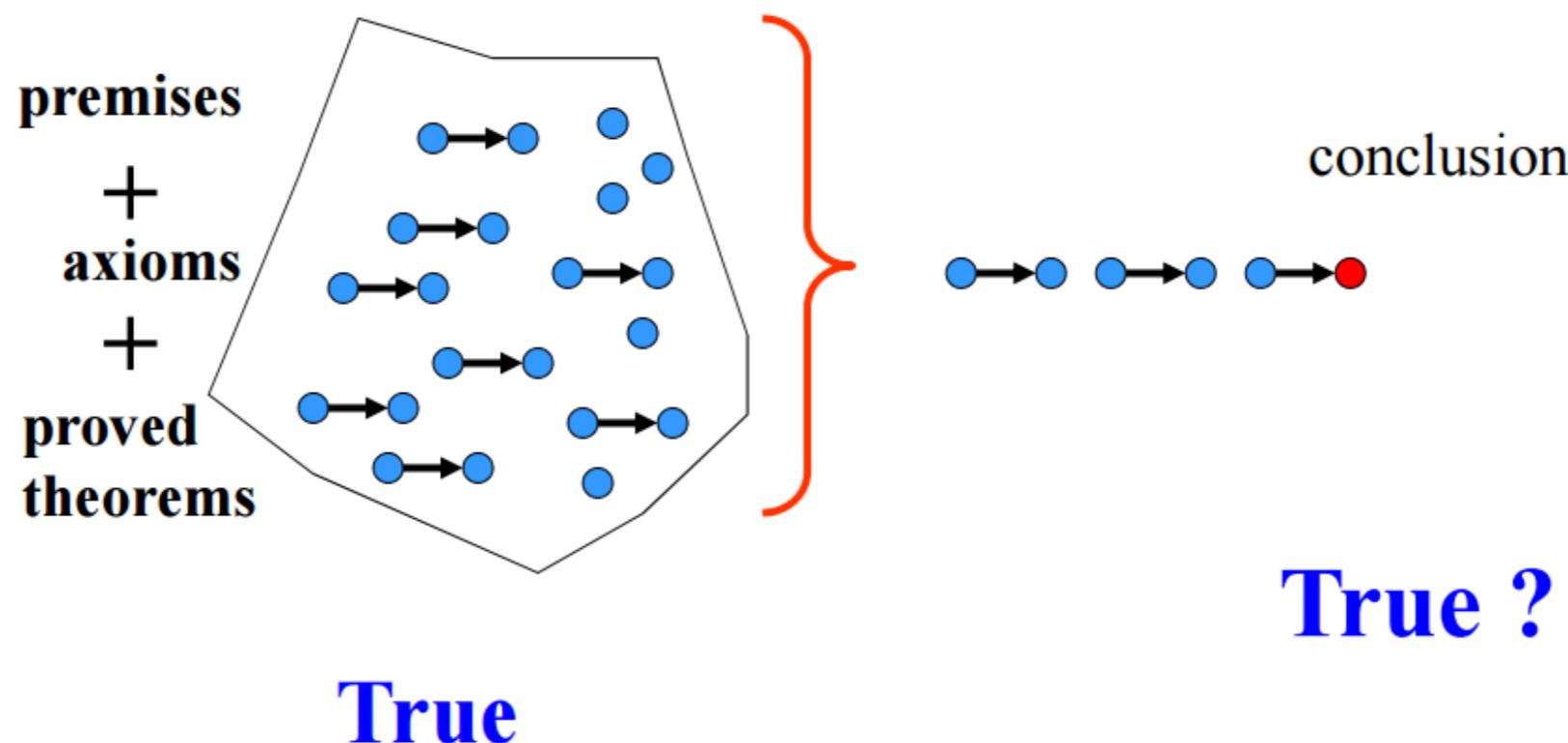
Now let's look at some example topics...

Example Topics

- **Logic and Proofs** (logical formulas are discrete structures)
translates statements from natural language to **symbolic language**

p : I am interested in Discrete Math
 q : I am taking CS201 this semester

$p \rightarrow q$: represents “ p implies q ”

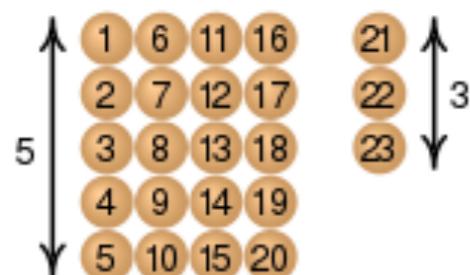


Example Topics

- Number Theory (mainly focusing on integers)

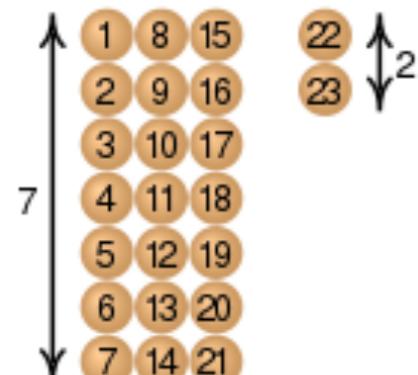


How many soldiers in the group? ($x = ?$)



**Chinese
Remainder
Theorem**

$$\begin{aligned}x &\equiv 2 \pmod{3} \\x &\equiv 3 \pmod{5} \\x &\equiv 2 \pmod{7}\end{aligned}$$



recorded in ***Sunzi Suanjing*** (200s~400s, China)

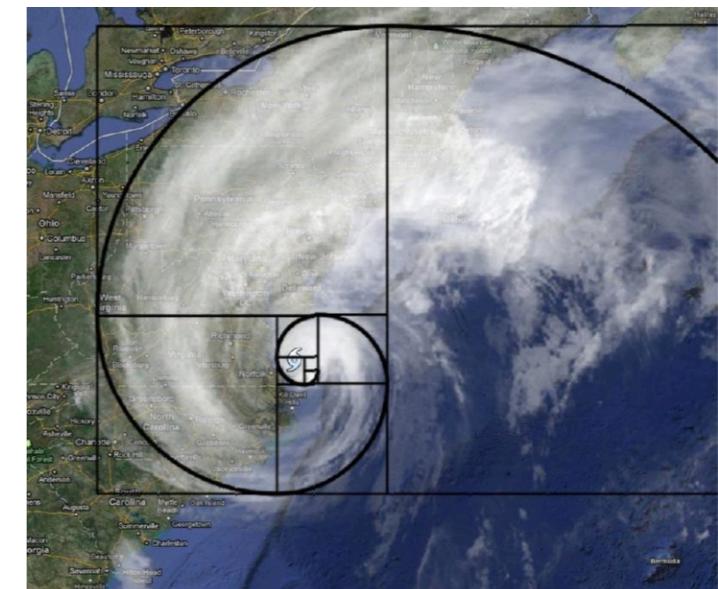
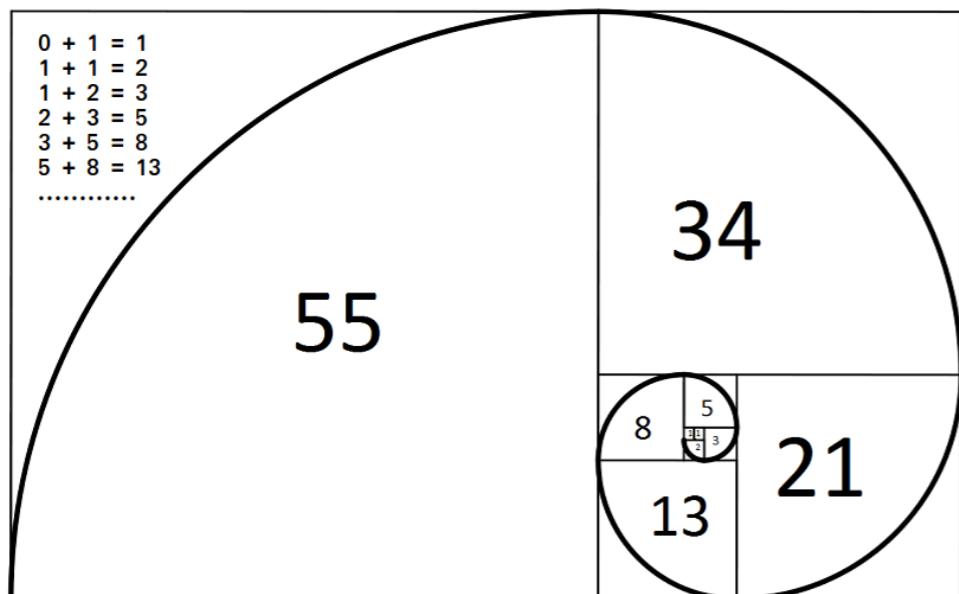
* not ***Sun Tzu*** that wrote ***The Art of War***

Example Topics

- **Recursion** (many involving functions defined on integers)

Fibonacci sequence:

$$F_0 = 0, F_1 = 1, \forall n \geq 2 : F_n = F_{n-1} + F_{n-2}$$



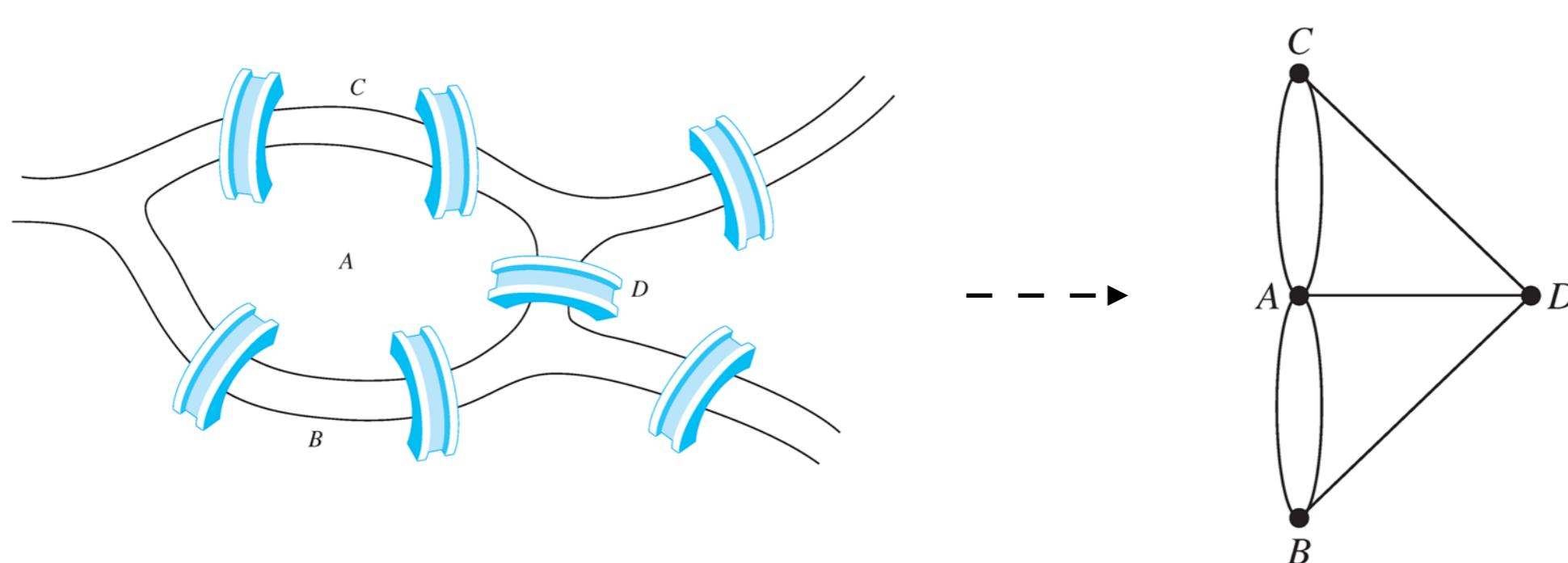
Fibonacci spiral \approx golden spiral (growth factor: golden ratio)

What is the closed-form expression $F_n = ?$

Example Topics

- **Graph Theory** (“discrete” model of real-world problems)

Seven Bridges of Königsberg Problem: People wondered whether it was possible to start at some location in the town, travel across **all the bridges once** without crossing any bridge twice.



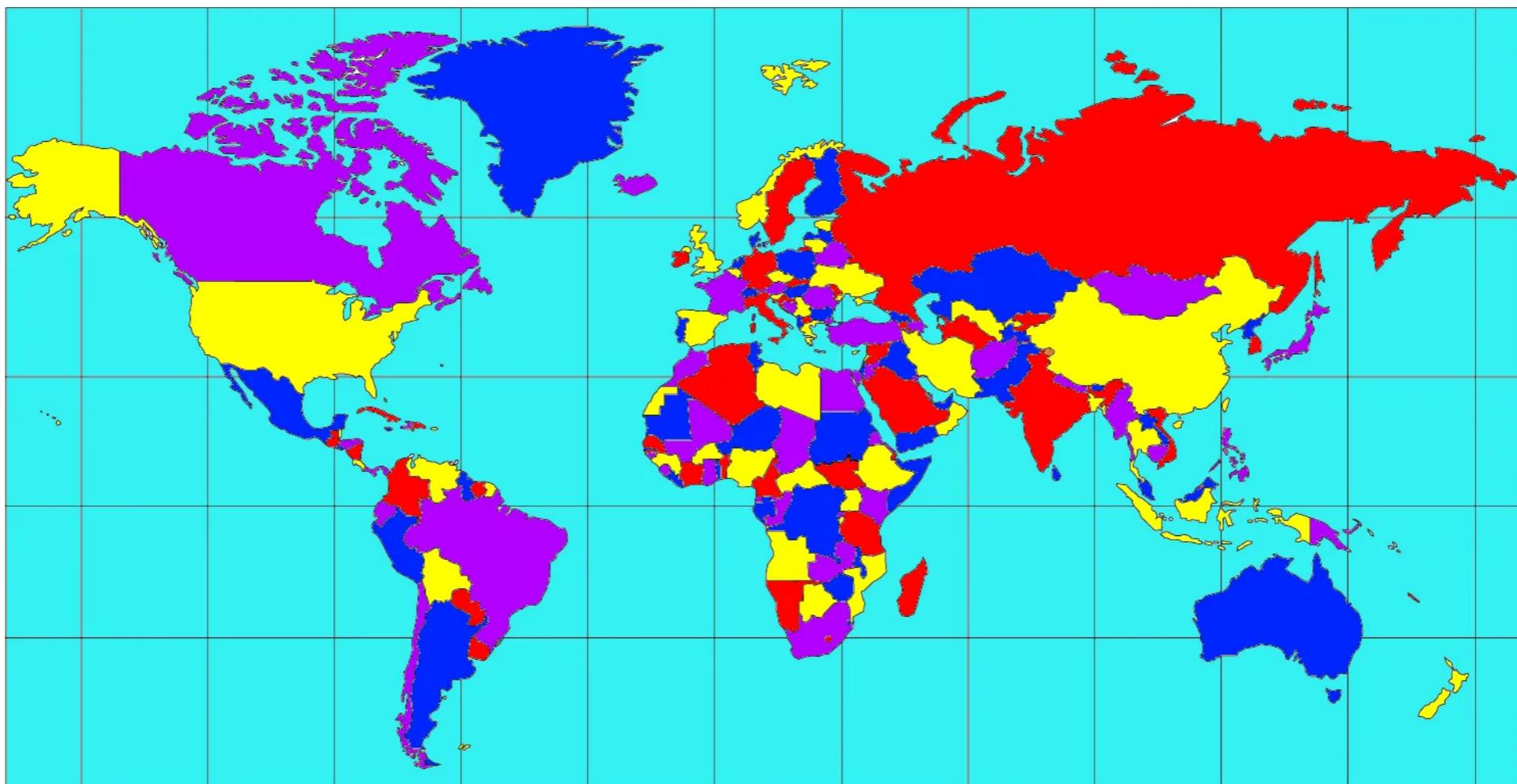
In 1736, **Leonhard Euler** proved this problem has no solution:

- An **Euler walk** (traversing each edge once) exists if and only if the graph is **connected** and it has exactly **0 or 2 nodes of odd degree**.

Example Topics

- **Graph Theory** (“discrete” model of real-world problems)

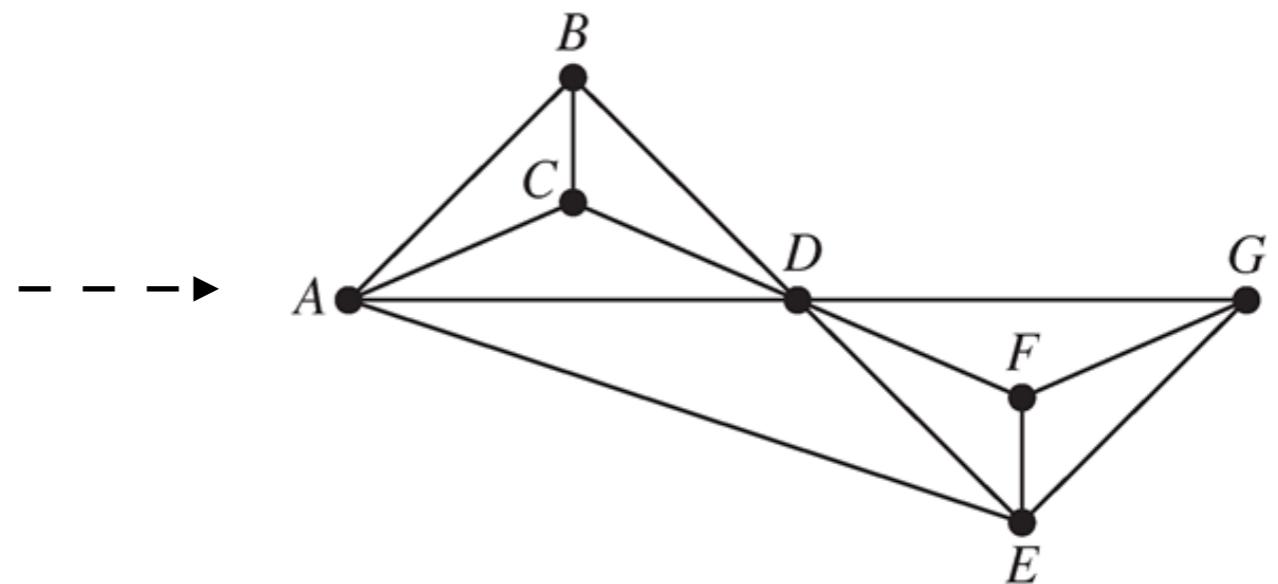
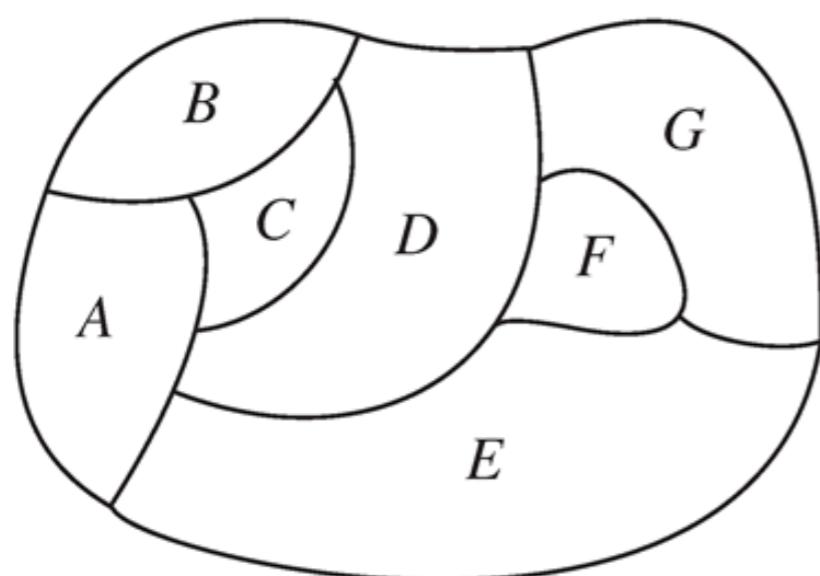
Four-Color Theorem: Given any separation of a plane into contiguous regions, producing a figure called a **map**, **no more than four** colors are required to color the regions of the map so that no two adjacent regions have the same color.



Example Topics

- **Graph Theory** (“discrete” model of real-world problems)

Four-Color Theorem: Given any separation of a plane into contiguous regions, producing a figure called a **map**, **no more than four** colors are required to color the regions of the map so that **no two adjacent regions have the same color**.



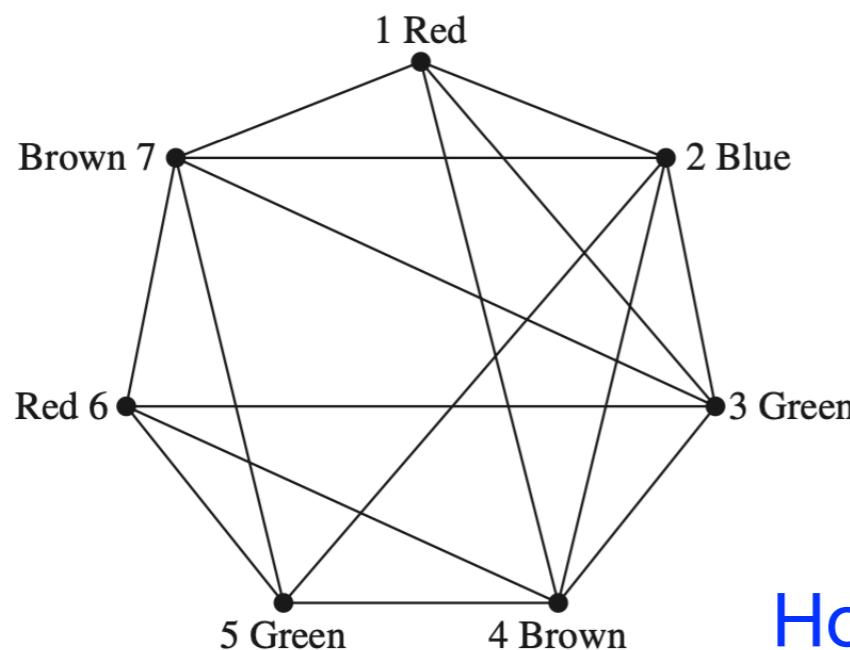
In 1976, **Kenneth Appel** and **Wolfgang Haken** proved it by case-by-case analysis using a computer — **the first computer-aided proof**.

Example Topics

- **Complexity of Algorithms** (measuring discrete time and space)

Scheduling Final Exams: How to schedule the final exams at a university such that **no student has two exams at the same time?**

- **Vertices** represent **courses**, and there is an **edge** between two vertices if these courses have a **common student**.
- This becomes a **graph coloring** problem: use min number of colors to color all vertices such that adjacent vertices are colored differently.



Time Period	Courses
I	1, 6
II	2
III	3, 5
IV	4, 7

How difficult is graph coloring in general?

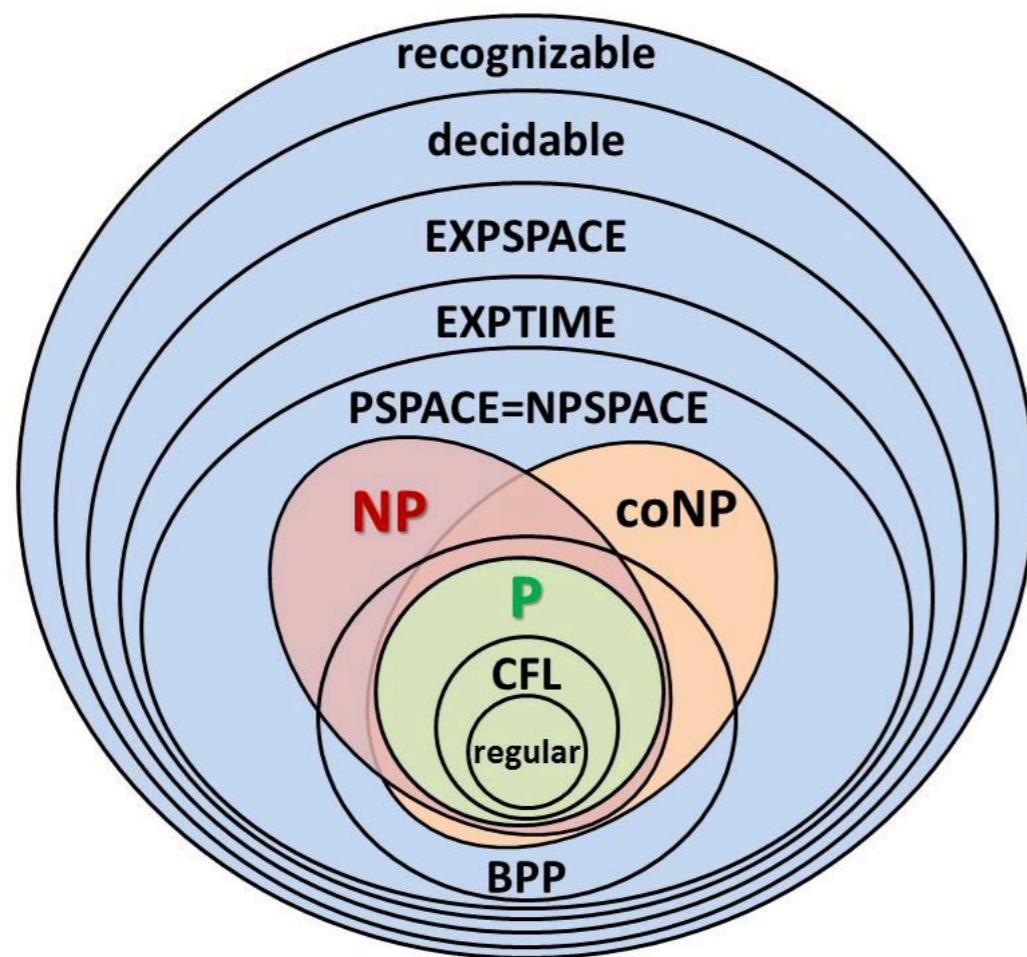
Example Topics

- **Complexity of Algorithms** (measuring discrete time and space)

Graph Coloring Problem: What is the **minimum** number of colors such that no two adjacent vertices have the same color?

- This problem is **computationally very hard**.

How to **measure computational hardness**?



P: e.g., sort n numbers

NP: e.g., graph coloring problem

A **literal million-dollar question**:

$P = NP?$

Example Topics

- Combinatorics (counting)

What are the odds?

Odds of winning the Mega Millions jackpot:



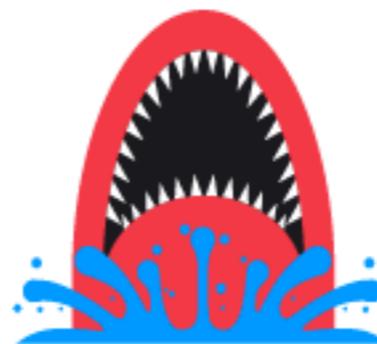
**1 in
302,575,350**

Odds of being struck by lightning in your lifetime:



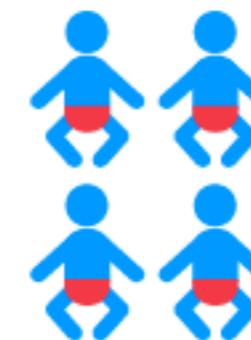
**1 in
14,600**

Odds of being attacked by a shark:



**1 in
11,500,000**

Odds of a woman giving birth to identical quadruplets:



**1 in
700,000**

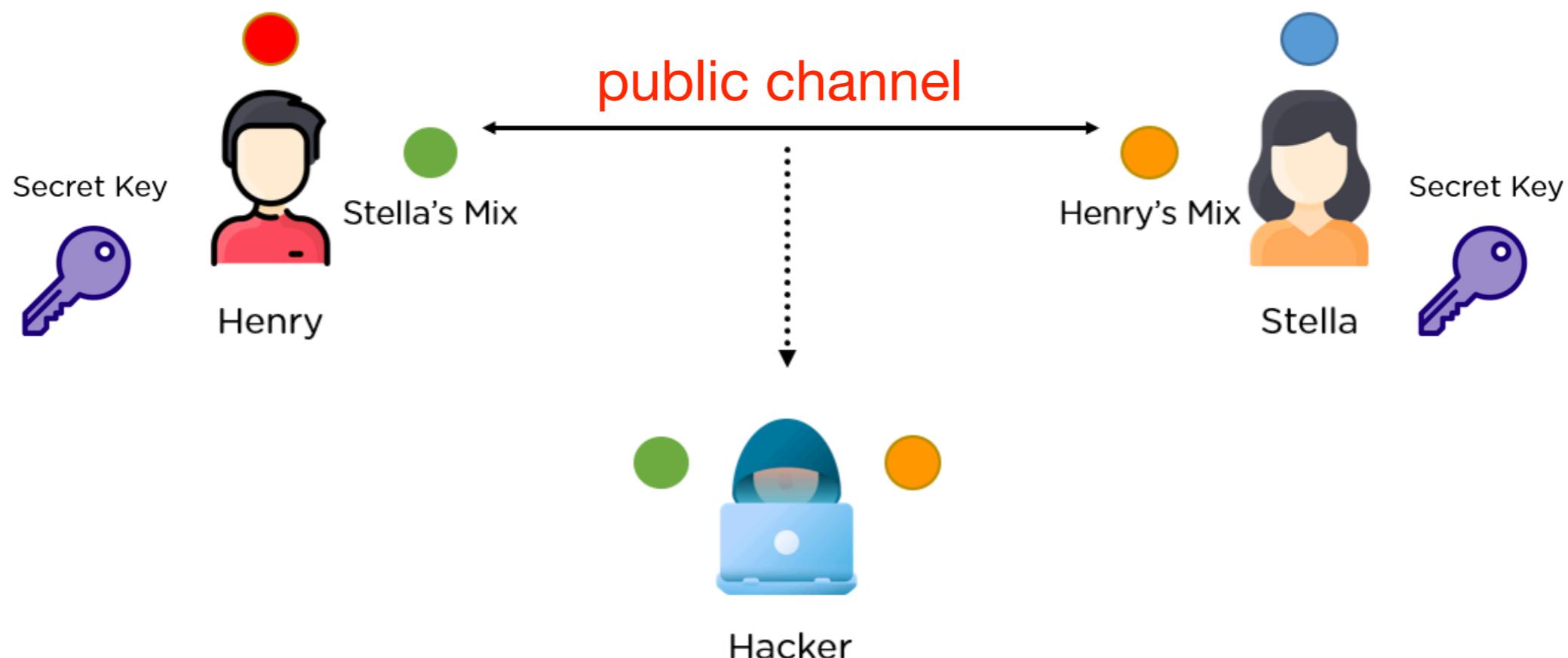
SOURCE megamillions.com; weather.gov; floridamuseum.ufl.edu; Froedtert & The Medical College of Wisconsin

Example Topics

- **Cryptography** (often using number theory) * *my research area :)*

How to establish a shared secret key?

The color mixtures are then exchanged among the users over the insecure channel, which allows hackers to capture them.



Lecture Schedule (Tentatively)

- Logic and Proofs
- Sets and Functions
- Quiz 1 (around week 4)
- Complexity of Algorithms
- Number Theory
- Cryptography
- Midterm Exam
- Induction and Recursion
- Counting
- Quiz 2 (around week 12)
- Relations
- Graphs
- Trees
- Final Exam

Learning Objectives

- Be able to read, understand, and construct mathematical arguments and proofs.
- Understand the formulations of common problems in several areas of discrete mathematics, including logic and proofs, number theory, cryptography, recursions, counting, relations, graphs and trees, etc.
- Learn a number of discrete mathematical tools.
- Apply discrete mathematical tools to solve certain problems in computer science and engineering.



ARE YOU
READY?

02 Logic and Proofs

To be continued...