

COMP9020 Foundations of Computer Science

- Textbook (R & W) - Ch. 1, Sec. 1.1-1.4
Ch. 2, Sec. 2.1
- Problem set 1
- Supplementary Exercises Ch. 1 (R & W)
- Mock Quiz (due Monday week 2)

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Course Aims

The course aims to increase your level of mathematical maturity to assist with the fundamental problem of **finding, formulating, and proving** properties of programs.

The actual content is taken from a list of subjects that constitute the basis of the tool box of every serious practitioner of computing:

- numbers, sets, formal languages week 1
- logic week 2
- function and relation theory week 3–4
- graph theory week 5
- **mid-session test, break** week 6
- induction, recursion, program analysis week 7
- counting and probability week 8–9

NB

“universitas” (Lat.) = sum of all things, a whole
 By acquiring knowledge and enhancing your problem-solving skills, you’re preparing yourself for the future

Course Material

All course information is placed on the WebCMS3 course website

www.cse.unsw.edu.au/~cs9020/

Need to login to access course materials.

Textbook:

- KA Ross and CR Wright: [Discrete Mathematics](#)

Supplementary textbook:

- E Lehman, FT Leighton, A Meyer: [Mathematics for Computer Science](#)

Lectures, Problem Sets, Quizzes

Lectures will:

- present theory
- demonstrate problem-solving methods

Lecture slides will be made available before lecture

Feel free to ask questions, but [No Idle Chatting](#)

The weekly **homework** and **quizzes** aim to:

- clarify any problems with lecture material
- work through exercises related to lecture topics

Homework (problem sets) made available before the lecture

Sample solutions will be posted in the following week

[Do them yourself!](#) and [Don't fall behind!](#)

NB: Quizzes may refer to the current problem set!



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The online quizzes are:

- released after the Wednesday lecture in weeks 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9
- due **Monday, 11:00am** in the following week

You get your own individual questions for each quiz.

- each quiz is worth 3 marks
- max. quiz mark = 20 (i.e. you can lose 1 mark and still achieve maximum)

NB

To pass the course, your overall score must be 50 or higher **and** your mark for the final exam must be 25 or higher.

Students who do not meet these requirements but achieve an overall score ≥ 47 are offered “compassion” supplementary exam, in which they have to achieve $\geq 50\%$ in order to get 50 (PS).



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Assessment Summary

- 1 online quizzes (weeks 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9) — max. marks 20
- 2 online mid-term test (1 hour in week 6) — max. marks 20
- 3 written exam (2 hours in the exam period) — max. marks 60

NB

Your **overall score** for this course will be the **maximum** of

- quizzes + mid-term + exam
- quizzes + $80 * (\text{exam}/60)$
- mid-term + $80 * (\text{exam}/60)$
- $100 * (\text{exam}/60)$

⇒ If you do better in the final exam, your quizzes and/or mid-term test result will be ignored

⇒ The quizzes and mid-term test can only improve your final mark



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Mid-term Test, Weekly Help Session

NB

Online test in week 6

(1 hour on Wednesday, 27 March, between 2:30pm and 3:30pm).

You get your own individual questions:

- some multiple-choice questions
- some descriptive/analytical questions with open answers

max. mid-term test marks = 20

A tutorial-style help session:

- aims to help if you have difficulties with the weekly homework
- ... and have any questions about the solutions to the quizzes

Mondays 1-2pm in Room G31, Bldg K15 (starting in week 2)

Attendance is entirely voluntary



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Notation for Numbers

Definition

Integers $\mathbb{Z} = \{\dots - 2, -1, 0, 1, 2, \dots\}$

Reals \mathbb{R}

$\lfloor \cdot \rfloor : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ — **floor** of x , the greatest integer $\leq x$

$\lceil \cdot \rceil : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ — **ceiling** of x , the least integer $\geq x$

Example

$$\lfloor \pi \rfloor = 3 = \lceil e \rceil \quad \pi, e \in \mathbb{R}; \lfloor \pi \rfloor, \lceil e \rceil \in \mathbb{Z}$$

Simple properties

- $\lfloor -x \rfloor = -\lceil x \rceil$, hence $\lceil x \rceil = -\lfloor -x \rfloor$
- $\lfloor x + t \rfloor = \lfloor x \rfloor + t$ and $\lceil x + t \rceil = \lceil x \rceil + t$, for all $t \in \mathbb{Z}$

Fact

Let $k, m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $k > 0$ and $m \geq n$. The number of multiples of k in the interval $[n, m]$ is

$$\left\lfloor \frac{m}{k} \right\rfloor - \left\lfloor \frac{n-1}{k} \right\rfloor$$

Exercise

1.1.4

(b) $2 \lfloor 0.6 \rfloor - \lfloor 1.2 \rfloor = -1$

$2 \lceil 0.6 \rceil - \lceil 1.2 \rceil = 0$

(d) $\lceil \sqrt{3} \rceil - \lfloor \sqrt{3} \rfloor = 1$; the same for every non-integer

1.1.19(a)

Give x, y s.t. $\lfloor x \rfloor + \lfloor y \rfloor < \lfloor x + y \rfloor$

$$\lfloor 3\pi \rfloor + \lfloor e \rfloor = 9 + 2 = 11 < 12 = \lfloor 9.42\dots + 2.71\dots \rfloor = \lfloor 3\pi + e \rfloor$$

Exercise

1.1.4

(b) $2 \lfloor 0.6 \rfloor - \lfloor 1.2 \rfloor = -1$

$2 \lceil 0.6 \rceil - \lceil 1.2 \rceil = 0$

(d) $\lceil \sqrt{3} \rceil - \lfloor \sqrt{3} \rfloor = 1$; the same for every non-integer

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Divisibility

Let $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$.

' $m|n$ ' — m is a **divisor** of n , defined by $n = k \cdot m$ for some $k \in \mathbb{Z}$
Also stated as: ' n is divisible by m ', ' m divides n ', ' n multiple of m '

$m \nmid n$ — negation of $m|n$

Notion of divisibility applies to all integers — positive, negative and zero.

$1|m$, $-1|m$, $m|m$, $m|-m$, for every m
 $n|0$ for every n ; $0 \nmid n$ except $n = 0$

Numbers > 1 divisible only by 1 and itself are called **prime**.

Greatest common divisor $\gcd(m, n)$

Numbers m, n s.t. $\gcd(m, n) = 1$ are said to be **relatively prime**.

Least common multiple $\text{lcm}(m, n)$

NB

$\gcd(m, n)$ and $\text{lcm}(m, n)$ are always taken as positive, even if m or n is negative.

$$\begin{aligned}\gcd(-4, 6) &= \gcd(4, -6) = \gcd(-4, -6) = \gcd(4, 6) = 2 \\ \text{lcm}(-5, -5) &= \dots = 5\end{aligned}$$

NB

Number theory (the study of prime numbers, divisibility etc.) is important in cryptography, for example.

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Absolute Value

$$|x| = \begin{cases} x & , \text{ if } x \geq 0 \\ -x & , \text{ if } x < 0 \end{cases}$$

Fact

$$\gcd(m, n) \cdot \text{lcm}(m, n) = |m| \cdot |n|$$

Exercise

1.2.2 True or False. Explain briefly.

- (a) $n|1$
- (b) $n|n$
- (c) $n|n^2$

1.2.7(b) $\gcd(0, n) \stackrel{?}{=}$

1.2.12 Can two even integers be relatively prime?

1.2.9 Let m, n be positive integers.

- (a) What can you say about m and n if $\text{lcm}(m, n) = m \cdot n$?
- (b) What if $\text{lcm}(m, n) = n$?

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Euclid's gcd Algorithm

$$f(m, n) = \begin{cases} m & \text{if } m = n \\ f(m - n, n) & \text{if } m > n \\ f(m, n - m) & \text{if } m < n \end{cases}$$

Fact

For $m > 0, n > 0$ the algorithm always terminates. (Proof?)

Fact

For $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$, if $m > n$ then $\gcd(m, n) = \gcd(m - n, n)$

Proof.

For all $d \in \mathbb{Z}$, $(d|m \text{ and } d|n)$ if, and only if, $(d|m - n \text{ and } d|n)$:
 “ \Rightarrow ”: if $d|m$ and $d|n$ then $m = a \cdot d$ and $n = b \cdot d$, for some a, b
 then $m - n = (a - b) \cdot d$, hence $d|m - n$
 “ \Leftarrow ”: if $d|m - n$ and $d|n$ then ... $d|m$ (why?)

Exercise

1.2.2 True or False. Explain briefly.

- (a) $n|1$ — only if $n = 1$ (for $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ also $n = -1$)
- (b) $n|n$ — always
- (c) $n|n^2$ — always

1.2.7(b) $\gcd(0, n) = |n|$

1.2.12 Can two even integers be relatively prime? No. (why?)

1.2.9 Let m, n be positive integers.

(a) What can you say about m and n if $\text{lcm}(m, n) = m \cdot n$?

They must be relatively prime since always $\text{lcm}(m, n) = \frac{mn}{\gcd(m, n)}$

(b) What if $\text{lcm}(m, n) = n$?

m must be a divisor of n

Sets

A set is defined by the collection of its elements.

Sets are typically described by:

(a) Explicit enumeration of their elements

$$S_1 = \{a, b, c\} = \{a, a, b, b, b, c\} \\ = \{b, c, a\} = \dots \quad \text{three elements}$$

$$S_2 = \{a, \{a\}\} \quad \text{two elements}$$

$$S_3 = \{a, b, \{a, b\}\} \quad \text{three elements}$$

$$S_4 = \{\} \quad \text{zero elements}$$

$$S_5 = \{\{\}\} \quad \text{one element}$$

$$S_6 = \{\{\}, \{\{\}\}\} \quad \text{two elements}$$

$x \in S$ — object x is an element of (or: belongs to) set S

(b) Specifying the properties their elements must satisfy; the elements are taken from some ‘universal’ domain. A typical description involves a **logical** property $P(x)$

$$S = \{x : x \in X \text{ and } P(x)\} = \{x \in X : P(x)\}$$

We distinguish between an element and the set comprising this single element. Thus always $a \neq \{a\}$.

Set $\{\}$ is empty (no elements);

set $\{\{\}\}$ is nonempty — it has one element.

There is only one empty set; only one set consisting of a single a ; only one set of all natural numbers.

(c) Constructions from other sets (already defined)

- Union, intersection, set difference, symmetric difference, complement
- **Power set** $\text{Pow}(X) = \{ A : A \subseteq X \}$
- Cartesian product (below)
- Empty set \emptyset
 $\emptyset \subseteq X$ for all sets X .

$S \subseteq T$ — S is a **subset** of T ; includes the case of $T \subseteq T$

$S \subset T$ — a **proper** subset: $S \subseteq T$ and $S \neq T$

NB

An element of a set and a subset of that set are two different concepts

$$a \in \{a, b\}, \quad a \not\subseteq \{a, b\}; \quad \{a\} \subseteq \{a, b\}, \quad \{a\} \notin \{a, b\}$$

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Cardinality

Number of elements in a set X (various notations):

$$|X| = \#(X) = \text{card}(X)$$

Fact

$$\text{Always } |\text{Pow}(X)| = 2^{|X|}$$

$$\begin{array}{lll} |\emptyset| = 0 & \text{Pow}(\emptyset) = \{\emptyset\} & |\text{Pow}(\emptyset)| = 1 \\ \text{Pow}(\text{Pow}(\emptyset)) = \{\emptyset, \{\emptyset\}\} & & |\text{Pow}(\text{Pow}(\emptyset))| = 2 \quad \dots \end{array}$$

$$|\{a\}| = 1 \quad \text{Pow}(\{a\}) = \{\emptyset, \{a\}\} \quad |\text{Pow}(\{a\})| = 2 \quad \dots$$

$[m, n]$ — interval of integers; it is empty if $n < m$

$$|[m, n]| = n - m + 1, \text{ for } n \geq m$$

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Exercise

1.3.2 Find the cardinalities of sets

- 1 $|\{ \frac{1}{n} : n \in [1, 4] \}| \stackrel{?}{=}$
- 2 $|\{ n^2 - n : n \in [0, 4] \}| \stackrel{?}{=}$
- 3 $|\{ \frac{1}{n^2} : n \in \mathbb{P} \text{ and } 2|n \text{ and } n < 11 \}| \stackrel{?}{=}$
- 4 $|\{ 2 + (-1)^n : n \in \mathbb{N} \}| \stackrel{?}{=}$

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Exercise

1.3.2 Find the cardinalities of sets

- 1 $|\{ \frac{1}{n} : n \in [1, 4] \}| = 4$ — four 'indices', no repetitions of values
- 2 $|\{ n^2 - n : n \in [0, 4] \}| = 4$ — one 'repetition' of value
- 3 $|\{ \frac{1}{n^2} : n \in \mathbb{P} \text{ and } 2|n \text{ and } n < 11 \}| = 5$
- 4 $|\{ 2 + (-1)^n : n \in \mathbb{N} \}| = 2$ — what are the two elements?

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Sets of Numbers

Natural numbers $\mathbb{N} = \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$

Positive integers $\mathbb{P} = \{1, 2, \dots\}$

Common notation $\mathbb{N}_{>0} = \mathbb{Z}_{>0} = \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0\}$

Integers $\mathbb{Z} = \{\dots, -n, -(n-1), \dots, -1, 0, 1, 2, \dots\}$

Rational numbers (fractions) $\mathbb{Q} = \left\{ \frac{m}{n} : m, n \in \mathbb{Z}, n \neq 0 \right\}$

Real numbers (decimal or binary expansions) \mathbb{R}

$r = a_1 a_2 \dots a_k . b_1 b_2 \dots$

In $\mathbb{P} \subset \mathbb{N} \subset \mathbb{Z}$ different symbols denote different numbers.

In \mathbb{Q} and \mathbb{R} the standard representation is not necessarily unique.

NB

Proper ways to **introduce reals** include Dedekind cuts and Cauchy sequences, neither of which will be discussed here. Natural numbers etc. are either axiomatised or constructed from sets ($0 \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{\}, n+1 \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} n \cup \{n\}$)

NB

If we need to emphasise that an object (expression, formula) is defined through an equality we use the symbol $\stackrel{\text{def}}{=}$. It denotes that the object on the left is defined by the formula/expression given on the right.

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Number sets and their containments

$$\mathbb{P} \subset \mathbb{N} \subset \mathbb{Z} \subset \mathbb{Q} \subset \mathbb{R}$$

Derived sets of positive numbers

$$\mathbb{P} = \mathbb{N}_{>0} = \mathbb{Z}_{>0} = \{n : n \geq 1\} \subset \mathbb{Q}_{>0} = \{r : r = \frac{k}{j} > 0\} \subset \mathbb{R}_{>0}$$

Derived sets of integers

$$\begin{aligned} 2\mathbb{Z} &= \{2x : x \in \mathbb{Z}\} && \text{the even numbers} \\ 3\mathbb{Z} + 1 &= \{3x + 1 : x \in \mathbb{Z}\} \end{aligned}$$

Intervals of numbers (applies to any type)

$$[a, b] = \{x | a \leq x \leq b\}; \quad (a, b) = \{x | a < x < b\}$$

$$[a, b] \supseteq [a, b], \quad (a, b) \supseteq (a, b)$$

NB

$(a, a) = (a, a] = [a, a) = \emptyset$; however $[a, a] = \{a\}$.

Intervals of $\mathbb{P}, \mathbb{N}, \mathbb{Z}$ are finite: if $m \leq n$

$$[m, n] = \{m, m+1, \dots, n\} \quad |[m, n]| = n - m + 1$$

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Exercise

1.3.10 Number of elements in the sets

- ① $\{-1, 1\}$
- ② $[-1, 1]$
- ③ $(-1, 1)$
- ④ $\{n \in \mathbb{Z} : -1 \leq n \leq 1\}$

Exercise

1.3.10 Number of elements in the sets

- ① $\{-1, 1\} \quad \text{---} \quad 2$
- ② $[-1, 1] \quad \text{---} \quad 3 \text{ (if over } \mathbb{Z}\text{); } \infty \text{ (if over } \mathbb{Q} \text{ or } \mathbb{R}\text{)}$
- ③ $(-1, 1) \quad \text{---} \quad 1 \text{ (if over } \mathbb{Z}\text{); } \infty \text{ (if over } \mathbb{Q} \text{ or } \mathbb{R}\text{)}$
- ④ $\{n \in \mathbb{Z} : -1 \leq n \leq 1\} \quad \text{---} \quad 3$

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Set Operations

Union $A \cup B$; Intersection $A \cap B$

Note that there is a correspondence between set operations and logical operators (to be discussed in Week 3):

One can match set A with that subset of the universal domain, where the property a holds, then match B with the subset where b holds. Then

$$A \cup B \Leftrightarrow a \text{ or } b; \quad A \cap B \Leftrightarrow a \text{ and } b$$

We say that A, B are **disjoint** if $A \cap B = \emptyset$

NB

$$A \cup B = B \Leftrightarrow A \subseteq B \quad A \cap B = B \Leftrightarrow A \supseteq B$$

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Other set operations

- $A \setminus B$ — **difference**, set difference, relative complement
It corresponds (logically) to a but not b
- $A \oplus B$ — **symmetric difference**

$$A \oplus B \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (A \setminus B) \cup (B \setminus A)$$

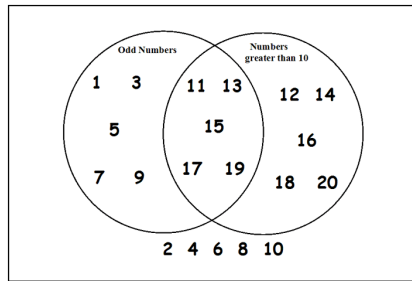
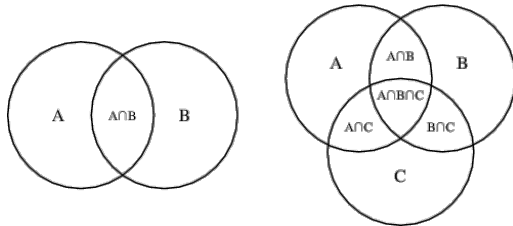
It corresponds to a and not b or b and not a ; also known as **xor (exclusive or)**

- A^c — set **complement** w.r.t. the 'universe'
It corresponds to 'not a '

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Venn Diagrams

p23–26: are a simple graphical tool to reason about the algebraic properties of set operations.



Laws of Set Operations

Commutativity

$$A \cup B = B \cup A$$

Associativity

$$A \cap B = B \cap A$$

Distribution

$$(A \cup B) \cup C = A \cup (B \cup C)$$

$$(A \cap B) \cap C = A \cap (B \cap C)$$

Idempotence

$$A \cup (B \cap C) = (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C)$$

$$A \cap (B \cup C) = (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$$

Identity

$$A \cup A = A$$

$$A \cap A = A$$

Double Complementation

$$A \cup \emptyset = A$$

$$A \cap \emptyset = \emptyset$$

De Morgan laws

$$(A^c)^c = A$$

$$(A \cup B)^c = A^c \cap B^c$$

$$(A \cap B)^c = A^c \cup B^c$$

Exercise

1.4.4 $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$

(d) All subsets of Σ ?

(e) $|\text{Pow}(\Sigma)| = ?$

1.4.7 $A \oplus A \stackrel{?}{=} \quad A \oplus \emptyset \stackrel{?}{=}$

1.4.8 Relate the cardinalities $|A \cup B|$, $|A \cap B|$, $|A \setminus B|$, $|A \oplus B|$, $|A|$, $|B|$

Exercise

1.4.4 $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$

(d) All subsets of Σ ? $\emptyset, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{a, b\}$

(e) $|\text{Pow}(\Sigma)| = 4$

1.4.7 $A \oplus A = \emptyset, \quad A \oplus \emptyset = A$ for all A

1.4.8 Relate the cardinalities:

$$|A \cup B| = |A| + |B| - |A \cap B|$$

$$\text{hence } |A \cup B| + |A \cap B| = |A| + |B|$$

$$|A \setminus B| = |A| - |A \cap B|$$

$$|A \oplus B| = |A| + |B| - 2|A \cap B|$$

Cartesian Product

Functions

$S \times T \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{ (s, t) : s \in S, t \in T \}$ where (s, t) is an **ordered** pair

$\times_{i=1}^n S_i \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{ (s_1, \dots, s_n) : s_k \in S_k, \text{ for } 1 \leq k \leq n \}$

$S^2 = S \times S, \quad S^3 = S \times S \times S, \dots, \quad S^n = \times_1^n S, \dots$

$\emptyset \times S = \emptyset$, for every S

$|S \times T| = |S| \cdot |T|, \quad |\times_{i=1}^n S_i| = \prod_{i=1}^n |S_i|$

We deal with functions as a set-theoretic concept, it being a special kind of correspondence (between two sets)

$f : S \longrightarrow T$ describes pairing of the sets: it means that f assigns to every element $s \in S$ a unique element $t \in T$

To emphasise that a specific element is sent, we can write $f : x \mapsto y$, which means the same as $f(x) = y$

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Formal Languages

Σ — **alphabet**, a finite, nonempty set

Examples (of various alphabets and their intended uses)

$\Sigma = \{a, b, \dots, z\}$ for single words (in lower case)

$\Sigma = \{\sqcup, -, a, b, \dots, z\}$ for composite terms

$\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$ for binary integers

$\Sigma = \{0, 1, \dots, 9\}$ for decimal integers

The above cases all have a natural ordering; this is not required in general, thus the set of all Chinese characters forms a (formal) alphabet.

Definition

word — any finite string of symbols from Σ

empty word — λ

Example

$\omega = aba, \omega = 01101 \dots 1$, etc.

$\text{length}(\omega)$ — # of symbols in ω

$\text{length}(aaa) = 3, \text{length}(\lambda) = 0$

The only operation on words (discussed here) is **concatenation**, written as juxtaposition $\nu\omega, \omega\nu\omega, ab\omega, \omega b\nu, \dots$

NB

$\lambda\omega = \omega = \omega\lambda$

$\text{length}(\nu\omega) = \text{length}(\nu) + \text{length}(\omega)$

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Notation: Σ^k — set of all words of length k

We often identify $\Sigma^0 = \{\lambda\}$, $\Sigma^1 = \Sigma$

Σ^* — set of all words (of all lengths)

Σ^+ — set of all nonempty words (of any positive length)

$$\Sigma^* = \Sigma^0 \cup \Sigma^1 \cup \Sigma^2 \cup \dots; \quad \Sigma^{\leq n} = \bigcup_{i=0}^n \Sigma^i$$

$$\Sigma^+ = \Sigma^1 \cup \Sigma^2 \cup \dots = \Sigma^* \setminus \{\lambda\}$$

A **language** is a subset of Σ^* . Typically, only the subsets that can be formed (or described) according to certain rules are of interest. Such a collection of 'descriptive/formative' rules is called a **grammar**.

Examples: Programming languages, Database query languages

Examples

1.3.10 Number of elements in the sets (cont'd)

(e) Σ^* where $\Sigma = \{a, b, c\}$ — $|\Sigma^*| = \infty$

(f) $\{\omega \in \Sigma^* : \text{length}(\omega) \leq 4\}$ where $\Sigma = \{a, b, c\}$

$$|\Sigma^{\leq 4}| = 3^0 + 3^1 + \dots + 3^4 = \frac{3^5 - 1}{3 - 1} = \frac{243 - 1}{2} = 121$$

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Elementary Logic

Exercise

Claim:

A *necessary* condition for the program to terminate is to input a positive number.

Suppose you want to formally verify this claim. Which would be the correct logical statement to formalise and prove this?

- $\text{Terminates} \Rightarrow \text{Positive_Input}$ **correct**
- $\text{Positive_Input} \Rightarrow \text{Terminates}$

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Elementary Logic

Exercise

Claim:

A *necessary* condition for the program to terminate is to input a positive number.

Suppose you want to formally verify this claim. Which would be the correct logical statement to formalise and prove this?

- $\text{Terminates} \Rightarrow \text{Positive_Input}$ **correct**
- $\text{Positive_Input} \Rightarrow \text{Terminates}$

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Proofs

A **mathematical proof** of a proposition p is a chain of logical deductions leading to p from a base set of axioms.

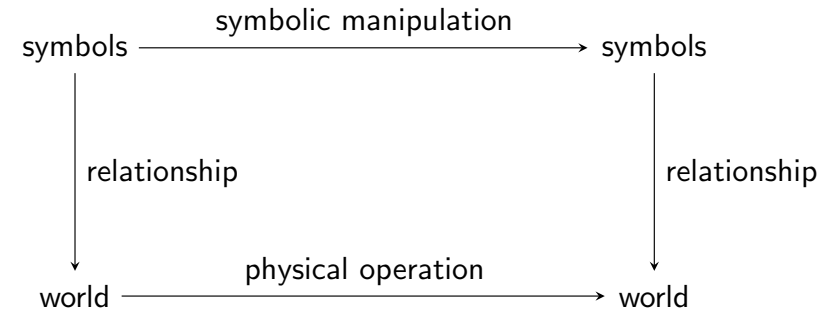
Example

Proposition: Every group of 6 people includes a group of 3 who each have met each other or a group of 3 who have not met a single other person in that group.

Proof: by case analysis.

But what are propositions, logical deductions, and axioms? And what is a sound case analysis?

The Real World vs Symbols



NB

"Essentially, all models are wrong. But some are useful."

(George Box)

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The main relationship between symbols and the world of concern in logic is that of a *sentence of a language* being *true* in the world. A sentence of a natural language (like English, Cantonese, Warlpiri) is *declarative*, or a *proposition*, if it can be meaningfully be said to be either true or false.

Examples

- Richard Nixon was president of Ecuador.
- A square root of 16 is 4.
- Euclid's program gets stuck in an infinite loop if you input 0.
- Whatever list of numbers you give as input to this program, it outputs the same list but in increasing order.
- $x^n + y^n = z^n$ has no nontrivial integer solutions for $n > 2$.

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The following are *not* declarative sentences of English:

- Gubble gimble goo
- For Pete's sake, take out the garbage!
- Did you watch MediaWatch last week?
- Please waive the prerequisites for this subject for me.

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Declarative sentences in natural languages can be *compound* sentences, built out of other sentences.

Propositional Logic is a formal representation of some constructions for which the truth value of the compound sentence can be determined from the truth value of its components.

- Lists L and M contain the same elements *and* M is ordered.
- Either you have a passport *or* you cannot travel abroad.
- *It is not the case that* this program always halts.

Not all constructions of natural language are truth-functional:

- *Trump believes that* Iran is developing nukes.
- This program always halts *because* it contains no loops.
- The disk crashed *after* I saved my file.

NB

Various **modal logics** extend classical propositional logic to represent, and reason about, these and other constructions.

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Formal Logic

symbol	text
\wedge	"and", "but", ":", ":",
\vee	"or", "either ... or ..."
\neg	"not", "it is not the case that"

Truth tables:

A	B	$A \wedge B$
F	F	F
F	T	F
T	F	F
T	T	T

A	B	$A \vee B$
F	F	F
F	T	T
T	F	T
T	T	T

A	$\neg A$
F	T
T	F

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Applications I: Program Logic

Example

if $x > 0$ or $(x \leq 0$ and $y > 100)$:

Let $p \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (x > 0)$ and $q \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (y > 100)$

$p \vee (\neg p \wedge q)$

p	q	$p \vee (\neg p \wedge q)$
F	F	F
F	T	T
T	F	T
T	T	T

This is equivalent to $p \vee q$. Hence the code can be simplified to

if $x > 0$ or $y > 100$:

Navigation icons

Somewhat more controversially, consider the following constructions:

- if A then B
- A only if B
- B if A
- A implies B
- it follows from A that B
- whenever A, B
- A is a sufficient condition for B
- B is a necessary condition for A

Each has the property that if true, and A is true, then B is true.

Example

If you are from England *then* you are from the UK.

We can *approximate* the English meaning of these by “not (A and not B)”, written $A \Rightarrow B$, which has the following truth table:

A	B	$A \Rightarrow B$
F	F	T
F	T	T
T	F	F
T	T	T

While only an approximation to the English, 100+ years of experience have shown this to be adequate for capturing *mathematical reasoning*.

(Moral: mathematical reasoning does not need all the features of English.)

Exercise

LLM: Problem 3.2

- p = “you get an HD on your final exam”
 q = “you do every exercise in the book”
 r = “you get an HD in the course”

Translate into logical notation:

- (a) You get an HD in the course although you do not do every exercise in the book.
 (c) To get an HD in the course, you must get an HD on the exam.
 (d) You get an HD on your exam, but you don’t do every exercise in this book; nevertheless, you get an HD in this course.

Exercise

LLM: Problem 3.2

- p = “you get an HD on your final exam”
 q = “you do every exercise in the book”
 r = “you get an HD in the course”

Translate into logical notation:

- (a) You get an HD in the course although you do not do every exercise in the book. $r \wedge \neg q$
 (c) To get an HD in the course, you must get an HD on the exam. $r \Rightarrow p$
 (d) You get an HD on your exam, but you don’t do every exercise in this book; nevertheless, you get an HD in this course. $p \wedge \neg q \wedge r$

Unless

A unless B can be approximated as $\neg B \Rightarrow A$

E.g.

I go swimming unless it rains = If it is not raining I go swimming.

Correctness of the translation is perhaps easier to see in:

I don't go swimming unless the sun shines = If the sun does not shine then I don't go swimming.

Note that "I go swimming unless it rains, but sometimes I swim even though it is raining" makes sense, so the translation of "A unless B" should not imply $B \Rightarrow \neg A$.

Just in case

A just in case B usually means A if, and only if, B ; written $A \Leftrightarrow B$

The program terminates just in case the input is a positive number.
= The program terminates if, and only if, the input is positive.

I will go swimming just in case I won't play soccer.
= If I play soccer I will not go swimming and vice versa.

It has the following truth table:

A	B	$A \Leftrightarrow B$
F	F	T
F	T	F
T	F	F
T	T	T

Same as $(A \Rightarrow B) \wedge (B \Rightarrow A)$

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The Formal Language of Propositional Logic

Let $Prop = \{p, q, r, \dots\}$ be a set of basic propositional letters.
Consider the *alphabet*

$$\Sigma = Prop \cup \{\top, \perp, \neg, \wedge, \vee, \Rightarrow, \Leftrightarrow, (,)\}$$

The set of **formulae of propositional logic** is the smallest set of words over Σ such that

- \top , \perp and all elements of $Prop$ are formulae
- If ϕ is a formula, then so is $\neg\phi$
- If ϕ and ψ are formulae, then so are $(\phi \wedge \psi)$, $(\phi \vee \psi)$, $(\phi \Rightarrow \psi)$, and $(\phi \Leftrightarrow \psi)$.

Convention: we often drop parentheses when there is no ambiguity.
 \neg binds more tightly than \wedge and \vee , which in turn bind more tightly than \Rightarrow and \Leftrightarrow .

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Finally... Supplementary Exercises

Exercise

1.8.2(b) When is $(A \setminus B) \setminus C = A \setminus (B \setminus C)$?

1.8.9 How many third powers are $\leq 1,000,000$ and end in 9?
(Solve without calculator!)

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Finally... Supplementary Exercises

Exercise

1.8.2(b) When is $(A \setminus B) \setminus C = A \setminus (B \setminus C)$?

From Venn diagram

$$(A \setminus B) \setminus C = A \cap B^c \cap C^c; \quad A \setminus (B \setminus C) = (A \cap B^c) \cup (A \cap C).$$

Equality would require that $A \cap C \subseteq A \cap B^c \cap C^c$; however, these two sets are disjoint, thus $A \cap C = \emptyset$ is a necessary condition for the equality.

One verifies that $A \cap C = \emptyset$ is also a sufficient condition and that, in this case, both set expressions simplify to $A \setminus B$.

1.8.9 How many third powers are $\leq 1,000,000$ and end in 9?

(Solve without calculator!)

$n^3 = 9 \pmod{10}$ only when $n = 9 \pmod{10}$, and $n^3 \leq 1,000,000$ when $n \leq 100$. Hence all such n are 9, 19, ..., 99.

Try the same question for n^4 .

Quiz Rules

Mock Quiz due Mon, 25 Feb, 12noon

Do ...

- use your own best judgement to understand & solve questions
- email me if you think Moodle is wrong (question or answer)
- discuss quizzes on the forum only **after** the deadline

Do not ...

- post specific questions about the quiz **before** the deadline
- ask me to check your answers before you submit
- agonise too much about a question that you find too difficult

NB

- 1 Quizzes are for you to demonstrate your ability to understand and solve problems (like an exam)
- 2 They give you feedback on how well you have understood the contents (to prepare you for the exam)

Summary

- Notation for numbers
 $\lfloor m \rfloor$, $\lceil m \rceil$, $m|n$, $|a|$, $[a, b]$, (a, b) , gcd, lcm
- Sets and set operations
 $|A|$, \in , \cup , \cap , \setminus , \oplus , A^c , $\text{Pow}(A)$, \subseteq , \subset , \times
- Formal languages: alphabets and words
 λ , Σ^* , Σ^+ , Σ^1 , $\Sigma^2, \dots, \Sigma^{\leq k}$
- Language of propositional logic
 \wedge , \vee , \neg , \Rightarrow , \Leftrightarrow , \top , \perp , truth tables