

## Table of Contents

0.1 About Me .....	3
0.2 Important info .....	3
0.3 Tips for Solving Exercises .....	3
1 Mathematical Writing, Proofs and Rigour .....	4
1.1 Note-Taking .....	4
1.1.1 Personal recommendations .....	4
1.1.2 Formatting Lecture Components .....	4
1.2 Mathematical Symbols .....	5
1.3 Proofs .....	7
1.3.1 Formatting .....	7
1.3.2 Proof Types .....	7

# Class Plan

Date	Plan	Completed
24.09	0.1, 0.2, 0.3, 1.1 (maybe 1.2)	
26.09	Finish 1.2, 1.3, preparation sheet 1	

## 0.1 About Me

- Name: Toby Lane
- Languages: Native English & French, Working Proficiency in German (enough to answer questions in German, albeit with mistakes)
- In final year of physics bachelor's
- Had Prof. Figalli in Analysis I as well
- Email: [tolane@ethz.ch](mailto:tolane@ethz.ch)
- If you *really* want to know more, you can go look at my LinkedIn page

## 0.2 Important info

- Class Document: TODO
- Exercise classes on Wednesdays and Fridays
- You can change groups until the 1<sup>st</sup> October, so you can try out multiple TAs and see what style you like
  - The course organisers request that you go to the class you signed up for, but you don't have to
- My class in English, others in English or German, one in Italian
- From 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> week: quizzes on Friday mornings (don't be late!)
  - you will get a bonus of up to 0.25 on your final AI grade
  - you won't need 100% correct to get the full bonus
  - MC questions or short calculations (like in 1st part of exam)
  - more info to come
- Plan (⚠ may (probably will) be subject to change):

Week	Week $n$	Week $n + 1$		Week $n + 2$	
Day	Friday	Wednesday	Friday	Wednesday	Friday
Sheets	$n$ released	$n - 1$ due	$n + 1$ released	$n$ due	$n + 2$ released
Class plan	Quiz Correction $n - 2$ Preperation $n - 1$	Theory	Quiz Correction $n - 1$ Preparation $n$	Theory	Quiz Correction $n$ Preparation $n + 1$

- You can find past papers on <https://exams.vmp.ethz.ch>
- You can find the script from 2 years ago on Metaphor (pretty much the same one as yours, but complete)

## 0.3 Tips for Solving Exercises

- Don't worry if you can't solve all of them! This is normal; they are meant to challenge you... The exams will be easier (go look at past papers to get an idea!)
- The important part is to try them all, see how far you can get, and make sure you understand the corrections. I'm always available for questions if need be!
- Use the internet to help! You are expected to, some exercises will be on topics not 100% covered in the lecture
- Generative AI (e.g. ChatGPT) can also be a great help if used correctly...
  - Ask for help solving a smaller part of the exercise you are stuck on
  - Ask for hints to solve an exercise if you're stuck (quite good at this)
  - Ask to look for mistakes (less good)
  - Don't ask the AI to solve it *for you*... Unless you're *really* stuck. But then make sure to understand what it says!

# 1 Mathematical Writing, Proofs and Rigour

## 1.1 Note-Taking

### 1.1.1 Personal recommendations

- Taking notes: I use an iPad or tablet (apps: GoodNotes, etc.) → lecturers often make mistakes or have to come back and modify things, it's much easier to manage!
- If you want to use a computer: LaTeX is OK, but Typst much quicker! (under no circumstances attempt to take maths notes e.g. in Word)... But ⚠ much more time-consuming to do drawings
- I personally like to type up my notes after the course as part of my exam preparation -> I use Typst for this

### 1.1.2 Formatting Lecture Components

- Theorems:

(H) Hypotheses: what you assume to hold

(T) Thesis (or theses): what holds if (H) is true (what you want to prove)

(P) Proof

(Identical for lemmas, propositions, statements, etc.)

Example (we will go over the symbols again later):

#### Theorem 1.1.2.1: Property of a Group

(H)  $G$  a group  
 $g \in G$

(T<sub>1</sub>)  $\exists! a^{-1}$

(T<sub>2</sub>)  $(a^{-1})^{-1} = a$

(P<sub>1</sub>) ...

(P<sub>2</sub>) ...

Also works for other types, e.g.:

#### Definition 1.1.2.2: Cartesian Product

(H)  $X, Y$  sets

(D)  $X \times Y := \{(x, y) \mid x \in X, y \in Y\}$

Will make things much easier to follow and understand!

## 1.2 Mathematical Symbols

Don't worry about learning them all of by heart now, this will come naturally when you do exercises!

Symbol	Meaning	Example	Remarks
Logic			
$\Rightarrow, \Leftarrow$	implication	I am in ZH $\Rightarrow$ I am in CH	
$\Leftrightarrow$	equivalence	You can board a plane $\Leftrightarrow$ you have a ticket	
$\nRightarrow$ , etc.	doesn't imply	I am wet $\nRightarrow$ it is raining	⚠ not same as implies not
$\neg$	logical negation		
$\wedge, \vee$	logical and / or		
$\exists \dots ( \$ \dots )$	exists ... such that ...	$\exists$ habitable planet	
$\exists ! \dots ( \$ \dots )$	exists ... such that ... and it is unique	$\exists !$ habitable planet \$ we are on it	
$\nexists \dots ( \$ \dots )$	exists no ... such that ...	$\nexists !$ person \$ person on mars	
$\forall \dots, \dots$	for all ..., ... holds	$\forall$ person, person in Solar System	
Set Theory			
$x \in A$	the <b>element</b> $x$ is in the <b>set</b> $A$	peter rabbit $\in$ mammals	
$X \subset A$ (also $\supset, \not\subset, \subsetneq, \subseteq$ , etc.)	for all element $x$ in the <b>set</b> $X$ , $x$ is in $A$	rabbits $\subset$ mammals	
$\{A \mid B\}$	the set of $A$ such that $B$	mammals = {animals   produce milk}	
$\cap, \cup$	set of elements in $A$ or / and $B$ ("intersection" / "union")	animals = vertebrates $\cup$ invertebrates	Also called set and / or – Notice similarity to logical and / or
$A \setminus B$	set of elements in $A$ that are not in $B$	invertebrates = animals $\setminus$ vertebrates	
$\emptyset$	set of nothing	birds that produce milk	
$[a, b]$	real numbers $a \leq x \leq b$		Intervals are sets
$[a, b[$ or $[a, b)$	real numbers $a \leq x < b$		
$\mathbb{N} (\mathbb{N}_0)$	Natural numbers (0 inclusive)		
$\mathbb{Z}$	Integers		
$\mathbb{Q}$	Rationals		
$\mathbb{R}$	Irrationals		
$\mathbb{C}$	Complex numbers		
$\mathbb{I}$	Pure imaginary numbers		
$\mathbb{F}, \mathbb{K}$	General field		
$A^*, A^\times$	Remove 0		

$A_+, A_-$	Only positive/negative		Typically 0 included, but not in some conventions
Proof markings			
$\overset{?}{=}, \overset{?}{\Leftrightarrow}$	An assertion yet to be proven		
$\overset{!}{=}, \overset{!}{\Leftrightarrow}$	An assertion that must hold due to (H) or other results		
$:=, =:, :\Leftrightarrow, \Leftrightarrow:$	Defining objects / statements		⚠ : always go next to object being defined: $X := A$ defines $X$ as $A$ $X =: A$ defines $A$ as $X$
$\Downarrow$	contradiction, use at the end of proofs by contradiction	$[\text{your proof}] \Rightarrow A \Downarrow B$ , where $A$ and $B$ are logically incompatible	
$\#, \square, \text{QED, etc.}$	used to mark the end of a proof		
WTS (“Want To Show”)	State what remains to be proven	WTS $x = y$	
WLOG (“Without Loss Of Generality”)	used to reduce a symmetrical argument to a single case	WTS: for $a, b > 0$ , $\frac{a+b}{2} \geq \sqrt{ab}$ Wlog, assume $a > b$ (if not, rename $a \leftrightarrow b$ )	(ideally) requires justification But very powerful!

Any many more to come!

Use them, they’ll make note-taking quicker and your notes easier to read! (See proof examples below)

## 1.3 Proofs

### 1.3.1 Formatting

#### Theorem 1.3.1.1: Triangle Inequality

$$(H) \quad x, y \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$(T) \quad |x + y| \leq |x| + |y|$$

$$\begin{aligned} (|x| + |y|)^2 &= |x|^2 + |y|^2 + 2|x||y| = x^2 + y^2 + 2|x||y| \quad (z^2 = |z|^2) \\ |x + y|^2 &= (x + y)^2 = x^2 + y^2 + 2xy \\ (|x| + |y|)^2 - |x + y|^2 &= 2(|x||y| - xy) = 2(|xy| - xy) \quad (\text{property of } |\cdot|) \\ |z| \geq z &\Rightarrow |xy| \geq xy \\ \Rightarrow (|x| + |y|)^2 - |x + y|^2 &= 2(|xy| - xy) \geq 0 \\ \Rightarrow (|x| + |y|)^2 &\geq |x + y|^2 \\ \Rightarrow |x| + |y| = \sqrt{|x| + |y|} \geq |x + y| & \quad (\text{property of } \sqrt{\cdot}) \end{aligned}$$

Let  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$

We observe:

$$\begin{aligned} 1. \quad (|x| + |y|)^2 &= |x|^2 + |y|^2 + 2|x||y| \\ &= x^2 + y^2 + 2|x||y| \quad (z^2 = |z|^2) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 2. \quad |x + y|^2 &= (x + y)^2 \\ &= x^2 + y^2 + 2xy \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (1) - (2) : \quad (|x| + |y|)^2 - |x + y|^2 &= 2(|x||y| - xy) \\ &= 2(|xy| - xy) \quad (\text{property of } |\cdot|) \end{aligned}$$

Now we know  $|z| \geq z \Rightarrow |xy| \geq xy$

$$\Rightarrow (|x| + |y|)^2 - |x + y|^2 = 2(|xy| - xy) \geq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (|x| + |y|)^2 \geq |x + y|^2$$

$$\Rightarrow |x| + |y| = \sqrt{|x| + |y|} \geq |x + y| \quad (\text{property of } \sqrt{\cdot})$$

Let  $x, y$  real numbers. Using  $(z^2 = |z|^2)$ , we observe that, first of all,  $(|x| + |y|)^2 = |x|^2 + |y|^2 + 2|x||y| = x^2 + y^2 + 2|x||y|$ . In addition, we also see that  $|x + y|^2 = (x + y)^2 = x^2 + y^2 + 2xy$ . Subtracting the second equation from the first, using the fact that  $|xy| = |x||y|$  we obtain that  $(|x| + |y|)^2 - |x + y|^2 = 2(|x||y| - xy) = 2(|xy| - xy)$ . Now we know that  $|z| \geq z$ ; so it follows that  $|xy| \geq xy$  and also  $(|x| + |y|)^2 - |x + y|^2 = 2(|xy| - xy) \geq 0$ . We can deduce from this that  $(|x| + |y|)^2 \geq |x + y|^2$  and so also, using the properties of the square function,  $|x| + |y| = \sqrt{|x| + |y|} \geq |x + y|$

Notes:

- Align your equals and equivalence signs!
- Try to be as rigorous as possible

### 1.3.2 Proof Types

Type	Description	Use Cases
Direct	Directly prove the thesis	No better ideas
Contradiction	To show $A$ holds, show that $\neg A$ leads to an impossible result	If it looks easier than direct proof

Contraposition	Instead of showing $A \Rightarrow B$ , show $\neg B \Rightarrow \neg A$	If it looks easier than direct proof
Induction	1. Show holds for $n = 0$ or $1$ 2. Show if it holds for $n$ , then also for $n + 1$	Something holds for every $n \in \mathbb{N}$ or $\mathbb{Z}$

And others to come!

⚠ disclaimer: “uses cases” are hints as to when it could be a good idea to use them... But there are always exceptions!

Can also be used together to form a larger proof!

### Examples:

#### • Direct:

**Theorem 1.3.2.1: The sum of two even integers is even**

$$\textcircled{\text{H}} \quad n, m \in 2\mathbb{Z}$$

$$\textcircled{\text{T}} \quad n + m \in 2\mathbb{Z}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \textcircled{\text{P}} \quad & \text{Let } n, m \in 2\mathbb{Z} \\ & \text{Then } \exists k, l \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ } \$ \text{ } n = 2k, m = 2l \\ & \Rightarrow m + n = 2k + 2l = 2(k + l) = 2j, \quad j \in \mathbb{Z} \\ & \Rightarrow m + n \in 2\mathbb{Z} \quad \# \end{aligned}$$

#### • Contradiction:

**Theorem 1.3.2.2: There is no largest real**

$$\textcircled{\text{T}} \quad \text{There is no largest real number}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \textcircled{\text{P}} \quad & \text{WTS: } \forall x \in \mathbb{R}, \exists y \in \mathbb{R} \text{ } \$ \text{ } y > x \\ & \text{By contradiction, assume } \exists X \in \mathbb{R} \text{ largest} \\ & \text{But then by prop. of } \mathbb{R}, X + 1 \in \mathbb{R} \\ & \text{Yet } X + 1 > X \not\vdash X \text{ largest real} \quad \# \end{aligned}$$

#### • Contraposition

**Theorem 1.3.2.3: The product of odd numbers is odd**

$$\textcircled{\text{H}} \quad m, n \in 2\mathbb{Z} + 1$$

$$\textcircled{\text{T}} \quad mn \in 2\mathbb{Z} + 1$$

$$\begin{aligned} \textcircled{\text{P}} \quad & \text{We will show the contraposition:} \\ & \text{WTS: if } m \in 2\mathbb{Z} \text{ or } n \in 2\mathbb{Z}, \text{ then } m, n \in 2\mathbb{Z} \\ & \text{Wlog, assume } m \in 2\mathbb{Z} \text{ (if not, rename } n \text{ to } m) \\ & \text{Then } m = 2l, l \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ so } mn = 2ln \in 2\mathbb{Z} \quad \# \end{aligned}$$

#### • Induction



**Theorem 1.3.2.4: Sum of odd numbers**

$$\textcircled{\text{H}} \quad n \in \mathbb{N}^*$$

$$\textcircled{\text{T}} \quad \sum_{k=1}^n (2k-1) = \underbrace{1 + \dots + (2n-1)}_n = n^2$$

$$\textcircled{\text{P}} \quad \bullet \text{ Holds for } n = 1:$$

$$1 = 1^2 \quad \checkmark$$

$$\bullet \text{ } (n) \Rightarrow (n+1):$$

$$\underbrace{1 + \dots + (2(n+1)-1)}_{n+1} = 1 + \dots + (2n-1) + (2n+1)$$

$$= n^2 + (2n+1) \quad (\text{induction step})$$

$$= (n+1)^2 \quad \#$$

Theorem: 6  
Definition: 1  
Lemma: 0  
Corrolary: 0  
Remark: 0  
Property: 0  
Example: 0  
Statement: 0  
Method: 0  
Notation: 0  
Result: 0  
Formula: 0