

New York University, GSAS, CIMS, CS, Course CSCI-GA.3140-001, Spring 2024

“Abstract Interpretation”

Ch. 2, Basic set theory

Patrick Cousot

pcousot@cs.nyu.edu cs.nyu.edu/~pcousot

Class preliminaries to be studied before Monday, January 22nd, 2024

These slides are available at

[http://cs.nyu.edu/~pcousot/courses/spring24/CSCI-GA.3140-001/slides/00--2023-01-00-preliminaries/
/slides-02--set-theory-AI.pdf](http://cs.nyu.edu/~pcousot/courses/spring24/CSCI-GA.3140-001/slides/00--2023-01-00-preliminaries/slides-02--set-theory-AI.pdf)

Chapter 2

Ch. 2, Basic set theory

Numbers

Numbers

- \mathbb{N} : set of all natural numbers (e.g.¹ 0, 1, 7, 42)
- \mathbb{N}^+ : set of all strictly positive natural numbers (e.g. 1, 7, 42)
- \mathbb{Z} : set of all integer numbers (e.g. -42, -7, -1, 0, 1, 7, 42)
- \mathbb{R} : set of all real numbers (e.g. -3.14, 0, 1, 2.5, π)

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Natural_number

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Integer

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Real_number

¹e.g. stands for Latin *exempli gratia* or example given.

Terms

- **Terms** are numerical expressions with constants, variables x , y , etc., numerical operators $+$, $-$, \times , etc.
- **Mathematical variables** x , x' , y , etc. denote immutable but unknown entities
- This is *very different* from **computer science variables** x , y , etc. denoting memories which content is a mutable value
- We write $x \triangleq \text{DEF}$ to mean that the mathematical variable x *denotes* or *is defined as* the term **DEF**
- For example $2 \triangleq 0 + 1 + 1$

[en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Term_\(logic\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Term_(logic))

Predicate logic

Predicates

- $\mathbb{B} \triangleq \{\text{tt}, \text{ff}\}$: set of booleans (tt: true, ff: false)
 - **Predicates** P, Q , etc. are statements that are true or false made out of
 - booleans tt, ff
 - boolean variables $b, b', \dots \in \mathbb{B}$
 - relations ($=, \leq, <$, etc.) between terms with variables
 - boolean operators $P \vee Q$ (disjunction), $P \wedge Q$ (conjunction), $\neg P$ (negation), $P \Rightarrow Q$ or $Q \Leftarrow P$ (implication), $P \Leftrightarrow Q$ (if and only if)
 - quantifiers over variables
 - $\exists x . P(x)$, existential quantifier \exists
 - $\forall x . P(x)$, universal quantifier \forall
- (where $P(x)$ makes clear that predicate P depends upon variable x)

[en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Predicate_\(mathematical_logic\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Predicate_(mathematical_logic))

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Propositional_calculus

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/First-order_logic

Sets

Sets

- Set S are collections of elements $x \in S$ that *belong to* the set (denoted \in)
- \emptyset : empty set
- Definition of sets
 - in extension: $S \triangleq \{a, b, c\}$
 - in intention: $S \triangleq \{x \mid p(x)\}$ (or $S' \triangleq \{x \in S \mid q(x)\}$ for subsets)
- We consider a set theory² such that
 - sets are built out of an implicitly defined universe \mathbb{U} ³
 - contradictions (like $S \triangleq \{x \mid x \notin S\}$) are forbidden
- $[\ell, u]$: closed interval (similarly $] \ell, u]$, $[\ell, u[$, and $] \ell, u[$)

[en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Set_\(mathematics\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Set_(mathematics))

²en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tarski-Grothendieck_set_theory

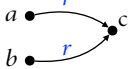
³en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grothendieck_universe

Operations on sets

- \in : “belongs to”
- \subseteq : inclusion, which can be strict \subsetneq (\supsetneq , \varsubsetneq)
- $|S|$: cardinality of S (number of elements if S is finite)
- $\wp(S)$: powerset (all subsets), $\wp_f(S)$: finite powerset (all finite subsets)
- $S \cup S'$: union or join of sets
- $S \cap S'$: intersection or meet of sets
- $S \setminus S'$: difference of sets
- $\neg S$: complement of a set S with respect to a set U (generally understood from the context) is
 $\neg S \triangleq U \setminus S$
- \times : cartesian product to build tuples $\langle x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \rangle$
[en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Set_\(mathematics\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Set_(mathematics))
en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cartesian_product

Relations

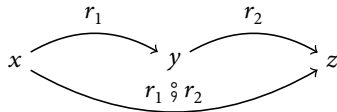
Binary relation

- A *binary relation* is $r \in \wp(S \times S')$ a set of pairs $\langle x, y \rangle \in r$ of related elements $x \in S$ and $y \in S'$
- Example: $r = \{\langle a, c \rangle, \langle b, c \rangle\}$ is represented by a graph 
- In $\langle x, y \rangle \in r$, x is called the *origin* and y the *extremity*
- $x r y$ or $x \xrightarrow{r} y$ denotes $\langle x, y \rangle \in r$ e.g. $1 \leq 2$
- $\mathbb{1}_S \triangleq \{\langle x, x \rangle \mid x \in S\}$: identity on the set S
- $\text{dom}(r) \triangleq \{x \in S_1 \mid \exists y \in S_2 . \langle x, y \rangle \in r\}$: domain of relation r
- $\text{cod}(r) \triangleq \{y \in S_2 \mid \exists x \in S_1 . \langle x, y \rangle \in r\}$: codomain of r
- $\text{fld}(r) \triangleq \text{dom}(r) \cup \text{cod}(r)$: field of r

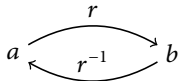
en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Binary_relation
[simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Relation_\(mathematics\)](https://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Relation_(mathematics))

Operations on binary relations $r \in \wp(S_1 \times S_2)$

- All operations defined on sets
- $r \restriction S \triangleq \{\langle x, y \rangle \in r \mid x \in S\}$: left restriction of r to S
- $r \restriction S \triangleq \{\langle x, y \rangle \in r \mid y \in S\}$: right restriction
- $r_1 \circ r_2 \triangleq \{\langle x, z \rangle \mid \exists y. \langle x, y \rangle \in r_1 \wedge \langle y, z \rangle \in r_2\}$: composition of relations



- $r^{-1} \triangleq \{\langle y, x \rangle \mid \langle x, y \rangle \in r\}$: inverse of relation r



en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Composition_of_relations
en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Converse_relation

Mathematical structure of relations

- $\langle \wp(S \times S), \circ, 1_S \rangle$ is an example of *monoid*
- A *monoid* is a mathematical structure $\langle \mathcal{S}, \oplus, 1 \rangle$ where \oplus is a binary relation on the set \mathcal{S} which is associative (i.e. $(x \oplus y) \oplus z = x \oplus (y \oplus z)$) with neutral element 1 (i.e. $1 \oplus x = x \oplus 1 = x$).

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Monoid

Properties of relations

- A binary relation $r, \leq \in \wp(S \times S)$ is
 - *reflexive* iff $\forall x \in S . x r x$
 - *symmetric* iff $\forall x, y \in S . (x r y) \Leftrightarrow (y r x)$
 - *antisymmetric* iff $\forall x, y \in S . (x \leq y \wedge y \leq x) \Rightarrow (x = y)$
 - *transitive* iff $\forall x, y, z \in S . (x r y \wedge y r z) \Rightarrow (x r z)$
- A relation $r \in \wp(S_1 \times S_2)$ is
 - *functional* iff $\forall x \in S_1 . \forall y, y' \in S_2 . (\langle x, y \rangle \in r \wedge \langle x, y' \rangle \in r) \Rightarrow (y = y')$
In that case we write $r \in \wp_F(S_1 \times S_2)$
 - *total* iff $\forall x \in S_1 . \exists y \in S_2 . \langle x, y \rangle \in r$

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Binary_relation

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reflexive_relation

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Symmetric_relation

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Antisymmetric_relation

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Transitive_relation

Equivalence relation

- An *equivalence relation* \equiv on a set S is reflexive, symmetric and transitive.
- The equivalence class of a element $x \in S$ is the set $[x]_{\equiv} \triangleq \{y \in S \mid y \equiv x\}$ of all elements of S that are equivalent to x .
- The equivalence classes form a *partition* of S
- The quotient $S|_{\equiv} \triangleq \{[x]_{\equiv} \mid x \in S\}$ is the set of all equivalence classes.

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Equivalence_relation

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Equivalence_class

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Partition_of_a_set

Partial order

- A *partial order* \leq on a set S is reflexive, antisymmetric, and transitive.
- The *strict* partial order is $x < y \triangleq (x \leq y) \wedge (x \neq y)$.
- An order is *total* if and only if any two elements of S are comparable ($\forall a, b \in S . (a \leq b) \vee (b \leq a)$).
- A set S equipped with a partial order \leq is called a *poset* $\langle S, \leq \rangle$.

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Partially_ordered_set

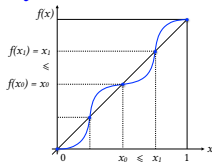
en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Total_order

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Partially_ordered_set

Functions

Partial functions

- A *partial function* $f \in S_1 \rightarrow S_2$ of S_1 into S_2 is a functional relation r on sets S_1 and S_2 where $f(x)$ denote the unique y such that $\langle x, y \rangle \in r$, if it exists.
- If $\forall y \in S_2 . \langle x, y \rangle \notin r$ then f is said to be *undefined* at x
- We sometimes use $f x$ or the subscript notation f_x for $f(x)$.
- The set of pairs $\{\langle x, f(x) \rangle \mid x \in \text{dom}(f)\}$ is the *function graph*



- We write $f \triangleq x \mapsto e(x)$ when $\forall x \in \text{dom}(f) . f(x) \triangleq e(x)$
- We write $f \triangleq x \in S \mapsto e(x)$ when $S = \text{dom}(f)$.

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Partial_function

Total functions

- A *total function* $f \in S_1 \rightarrow S_2$ has $\text{dom}(f) = S_1$
- It is everywhere defined on S_1 which we write $x \in S_1 \mapsto f(x)$.
- If $S_1 = S_2 = S$ then $f \in S \rightarrow S$ is often called an *operator* on S or an *S-transformer*.
- A function $F \in (S_1 \rightarrow S_2) \rightarrow (S'_1 \rightarrow S'_2)$ taking functions as parameters is called a *functional*.

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Higher-order_function

Dependent functions

- We write $f \in x \in S_1 \rightarrow S_2(x)$ where S_2 maps each $x \in S_1$ to a set $S_2(x)$
- This means that the returned value $f(x)$ of the function f always belong to the $S_2(x)$ set which depends upon one of its parameters x
- Formally, this denotes the set of functions $f \in x \in S_1 \rightarrow \bigcup_{x \in S_1} S_2(x)$ such that $\forall x \in S_1 . f(x) \in S_2(x)$
- Up to an isomorphism $f \in \prod_{x \in S_1} S_2(x)$
- This is called dependent types in computer science
- For example $f \in n \in \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \{k \in \mathbb{N} \mid k \geq n\}$ specifies a function $f \in \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ such that $\forall n \in \mathbb{N} . f(n) \geq n$

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dependent_type

Characteristic function

- The characteristic function \mathbb{C}_S of a set S is

$$\mathbb{C}_S \triangleq x \in \mathbb{U} \mapsto (x \in S \text{ ? tt : ff})$$

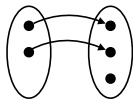
where $(\dots \text{ ? } \dots \parallel \dots \text{ ? } \dots \parallel \dots \text{ ? } \dots \text{ : } \dots)$ is the conditional expression (as in C)

- The characteristic function of $\{a, b\}$ is $x \in \mathbb{U} \mapsto (x = a \text{ ? tt } \parallel x = b \text{ ? tt : ff})$

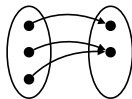
en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Characteristic_function

Properties of functions

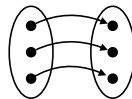
- A total function $f \in S_1 \rightarrow S_2$ is
 - *injective/one-to-one* iff $\forall x_1 \in S_1 . \forall x_2 \in S_2 . x_1 \neq x_2 \Rightarrow f(x_1) \neq f(x_2)$ (written $f \in S_1 \rightarrowtail S_2$).
 - *surjective/onto* iff $\forall y \in S_2 . \exists x \in S_1 . f(x) = y$ (written $f \in S_1 \twoheadrightarrow S_2$).
 - *bijective* iff both injective and surjective (written $f \in S_1 \xrightarrow{\sim} S_2$).



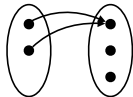
injective



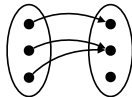
surjective



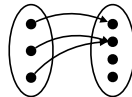
bijective



not injective



not surjective



not bijective

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Surjective_function
en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Injective_function
en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bijection

Isomorphism

- Sets S_1 and S_2 are *isomorphic* when there exists a bijection of S_1 onto S_2 .
- Isomorphic sets have the same *cardinality* (by def. cardinality)
- A set S is *enumerable*, or *denumerable*, or *countable* if and only iff there exists a bijection $\iota \in S \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ between S and the naturals.

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Isomorphism

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cardinality

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Countable_set

Operations on functions

- The *right image* of a relation $r \in \wp(S_1 \times S_2)$ is the function $x \in S_1 \mapsto \{y \in S_2 \mid \langle x, y \rangle \in r\} \in S_1 \rightarrow \wp(S_2)$.
- The *composition* of partial functions is $f \circ g = x \mapsto f(g(x))$.
- Considered are relations, this is $g \circ f$.

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Function_composition

Pointwise definitions

- A *pointwise* definition of a relation is

$$\dot{r} \triangleq f, g \mapsto \forall x . r(f(x), g(x))$$

- For example, $f \dot{\sqsubseteq} g$ is $\forall x . f(x) \sqsubseteq g(x)$

- A *functional pointwise definition* is

$$\begin{aligned}\ddot{r} &\triangleq f, g \mapsto \forall X . \dot{r}(f(X), g(X)) \\ &= f, g \mapsto \forall X . \forall x . r(f(X)x, g(X)x)\end{aligned}$$

- For example, $F \ddot{\sqsubseteq} G$ is $\forall f . \forall x . F(f)x \sqsubseteq G(f)x$
- etc.

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pointwise

Families

Family

- A *family* $F \in \Delta \rightarrow S$ of elements of S *indexed by* Δ is a map from a set Δ (called the domain or index set, which may be infinite) into a set S .
- A family defines a set $\{F(i) \mid i \in \Delta\}$ (where $F(i)$ is often denoted F_i with an index $i \in \Delta$).
- A family defines a cartesian product $\prod_{i \in \Delta} F_i$
- A family defines a sequence $\langle F_i, i \in \Delta \rangle$ when Δ is totally ordered.

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Family_of_sets

Componentwise order

- If $\langle \langle L_i, \sqsubseteq_i \rangle, i \in \Delta \rangle$ is a family of posets then the *componentwise order* (or *product order*) $\dot{\sqsubseteq}$ on the cartesian product $\prod_{i \in \Delta} L_i$ is

$$\prod_{i \in \Delta} x_i \dot{\sqsubseteq} \prod_{i \in \Delta} y_i \quad \triangleq \quad \forall i \in \Delta . x_i \sqsubseteq_i y_i$$

- The componentwise order $\dot{\sqsubseteq}$ is sometimes denoted $\prod_{i \in \Delta} \sqsubseteq_i$ or $\sqsubseteq_1 \times \sqsubseteq_2$ when $\Delta = \{1, 2\}$.

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Product_order
en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pointwise

Recursive definitions

Recursive definition

- A *recursive object* is defined in terms of itself
- Example of factorial $!0 \triangleq 1$ and $!n \triangleq n \times !(n-1)$
- More generally, $f \in \mathbb{N} \rightarrow S$ where S is a set has the form
 - $f(0) \triangleq c$ where $c \in S$
 - $f(n) \triangleq F(n, f(n-1))$ where $F \in \mathbb{N} \times S \rightarrow S$

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Recursion

[en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Recursion_\(computer_science\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Recursion_(computer_science))

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Recursive_definition

Well-definedness of definitions

- Recursive definitions may be *ill defined*
- Example: $f(0) \triangleq 0$ and $f(n) \triangleq f(n + 1)$ when $n \neq 0$.

We have

- $f(n) = 0$ for $n \leq 0$
 - $f(n)$ is undefined when $n > 0$.
-
- For programs “undefined” means “does not terminate” or “terminates with a runtime error” (such as Stack overflow or Segmentation fault, etc.).
-
- So recursive definitions must be proved to be *well-defined* (e.g. $! \in \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$)

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Well-defined

Properties

Properties (predicates, assertions, statements, etc.) as sets

- We understand properties as the set of mathematical objects that have this property
- “to be an even integer” is $\{x \in \mathbb{Z} \mid \exists k \in \mathbb{Z} . x = 2k\}$
- Formally, $P \in \wp(\mathbb{U})$ is called a *property*
- if P is a property then
 - $x \in P$ means “ x has property P ”
 - $x \notin P$ means “ x does not have property P ”

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Property

[en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Property_\(mathematics\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Property_(mathematics))

[en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Predicate_\(mathematical_logic\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Predicate_(mathematical_logic))

Properties are sets

- When considering properties as sets, *logical implication* \Rightarrow is *subset inclusion* \subseteq .
- For example “to be greater than 42 implies to be positive” is $\{x \in \mathbb{Z} \mid x > 42\} \subseteq \{x \in \mathbb{Z} \mid x \geq 0\}$.
- With characteristic functions:

$$P \subseteq Q \Leftrightarrow \mathbb{C}_P \Rightarrow \mathbb{C}_Q$$

- If $P \subseteq Q$ then P is said to be *stronger/more precise* than Q and Q is said to be *weaker/less precise* than P .
- Stronger/more precise properties are satisfied by *less* elements while weaker/less precise properties are satisfied by *more* elements.
- **ff** i.e. \emptyset is the strongest property while **tt** i.e. \mathbb{Z} is the weakest property of integers.

Proofs

Proofs

- Given an hypothesis P and a conclusion R , a mathematical proof that $P \Rightarrow R$ is a succession of intermediate results $P \Rightarrow Q_0 \Rightarrow Q_1 \Rightarrow \dots \Rightarrow Q_n \Rightarrow R$ based on arguments considered true in mathematics (axioms, rules of inference, previously proved lemmas, etc.)
- Example (Peano arithmetics): proof that $0 + 1 + 1 \in \mathbb{N}$

• $0 \in \mathbb{N}$	axiom
• $\frac{n \in \mathbb{N}}{n + 1 \in \mathbb{N}}$	rule of inference
tt	
$\Rightarrow 0 \in \mathbb{N}$	{ axiom }
$\Rightarrow 0 + 1 \in \mathbb{N}$	{ rule of inference }
$\Rightarrow 0 + 1 + 1 \in \mathbb{N}$	{ rule of inference } Q.E.D.

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mathematical_proof
en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peano_axioms

Proof by contraposition

- A proof of $P \Rightarrow Q$ by *contraposition* consists in proving the contrapositive $\neg Q \Rightarrow \neg P$.

Proof

If P is true then $\neg P$ is false

Since $\text{ff} \Rightarrow \text{ff}$ but $\text{tt} \not\Rightarrow \text{ff}$, $\neg Q \Rightarrow \neg P$ and $\neg P$ is false, implies $\neg Q$ is false

Therefore Q is true.

□

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Contraposition

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Proof_by_contrapositive

Proof by reductio ad absurdum or by contradiction

- A proof of P by *reductio ad absurdum* consists in finding a property Q which is known to be true and proving that $\neg P \Rightarrow \neg Q$.
- By contraposition $Q \Rightarrow P$ that is $\neg Q \Rightarrow \neg P$ and so P is true.

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Proof_by_contradiction

Proof by recurrence

Theorem 2.13

To prove that a property P holds for all natural numbers i.e. $\mathbb{N} \subseteq P$ (equivalently $\forall n \in \mathbb{N} . n \in P$), the *proof by recurrence* consists in proving

- $0 \in P$

basis

- $\forall n \in \mathbb{N} . (n \in P) \Rightarrow (n + 1 \in P)$

induction step

$n \in P$ is called the induction hypothesis or recurrence hypothesis.

So $n + 1 \in P$ must be proved assuming this induction hypothesis.

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mathematical_induction

Soundness of the proof by recurrence

□ If you made a proof by recurrence then $\mathbb{N} \subseteq P$

- Assume that we have made the proof by recurrence and $\mathbb{N} \not\subseteq P$.
- Then $\exists n \in \mathbb{N} . n \notin P$.
- The case $n = 0$ is impossible since we proved $0 \in P$.
- So $n > 0$ hence $n = (n - 1) + 1$.
- We proved that $\forall m \in \mathbb{N} . (m \in P) \Rightarrow (m + 1 \in P)$ so $\neg(m + 1 \in P) \Rightarrow \neg(m \in P)$.
- For $m = n - 1$ we have $n - 1 \notin P$.
- Going on this way, $n - 2 \notin P, n - 3 \notin P, \dots, 0 \notin P$
- But $0 \notin P$ is in contradiction with the proof that $0 \in P$.
- By reductio ad absurdum $\neg(\exists n \in \mathbb{N} . n \notin P)$
i.e. $\forall n \in \mathbb{N} . n \in P$.

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Soundness

Completeness of the proof by recurrence

□ If $\mathbb{N} \subseteq P$ then this can always be proved by recurrence.

- Assume, by hypothesis, that $\mathbb{N} \subseteq P$
- Let $Q \triangleq P \cap \mathbb{N}$, so $Q \subseteq \mathbb{N}$
- Moreover $\mathbb{N} \subseteq P$, so $\mathbb{N} \subseteq P \cap \mathbb{N} = Q$
- By antisymmetry, $Q = \mathbb{N}$
- So trivially, $0 \in Q$ and $\forall n \in Q. n + 1 \in Q$.
- Therefore we have $\mathbb{N} \subseteq Q = P \cap \mathbb{N} \subseteq P$.

So $\mathbb{N} \subseteq P$ can be proved by recurrence (maybe with a stronger recurrence hypothesis Q and an additional implication $Q \subseteq P$).

[en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Completeness_\(logic\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Completeness_(logic))

Fermat's proof by infinite descent

$$\forall n \in \mathbb{N} . \neg P(n)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \neg P(0) \wedge \forall n \in \mathbb{N} . (\forall m \in [0, n[. \neg P(m)) \Rightarrow \neg P(n) \quad \{ \text{generalized recurrence} \}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \neg P(0) \wedge \forall n \in \mathbb{N}^+ . (\neg \neg P(n)) \Rightarrow \neg(\forall m \in [0, n[. \neg P(m)) \quad \{ \text{contraposition} \}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \neg P(0) \wedge \forall n \in \mathbb{N}^+ . P(n) \Rightarrow \exists m \in [0, n[. \neg \neg P(m)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \neg P(0) \wedge \forall n \in \mathbb{N}^+ . P(n) \Rightarrow \exists m \in [0, n[. P(m)$$

By contradiction, if $\exists k . P(k)$ then there is $k_n > k_{n-1} > \dots > k_1 > k_0$ s.t. $P(k_i), i = n, \dots, 0$, in contradiction with $\neg P(0)$

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Proof_by_infinite_descent

Conclusion

Conclusion

- [Set theory](#) is the logical basis for all mathematics and computer science.
- [Additional topics in set theory](#) will be covered later in the course, when needed.
- For a more [formal introduction to set theory](#), see e.g. the *Introduction to Set Theory* [Monk, 1969] of Don Monk or the more recent [Devlin, 1994]

Bibliography

Bibliography

Devlin, Keith (June 24, 1994). *The Joy of Sets: Fundamentals of Contemporary Set Theory*. 2nd ed.

Undergraduate Texts in Mathematics. Springer.

Monk, James Donald (1969). *Introduction to Set Theory*. McGraw-Hill.

<http://euclid.colorado.edu/~monkd/monk11.pdf>.

The End, Thank you