

# Netflix intro

What data should we encode about each Netflix account holder to help us make effective recommendations?

In machine learning, clustering can be used to group similar data for prediction and recommendation. For example, each Netflix user’s viewing history can be represented as a  $n$ -tuple indicating their preferences about movies in the database, where  $n$  is the number of movies in the database. People with similar tastes in movies can then be clustered to provide recommendations of movies for one another. Mathematically, clustering is based on a notion of distance between pairs of  $n$ -tuples.

# Data types

Term	Examples:
	(add additional examples from class)
<b>set</b> unordered collection of elements <i>repetition doesn't matter</i> <i>Equal sets agree on membership of all elements</i>	$7 \in \{43, 7, 9\}$ $2 \notin \{43, 7, 9\}$
<b><math>n</math>-tuple</b> ordered sequence of elements with $n$ “slots” ( $n > 0$ ) <i>repetition matters, fixed length</i> <i>Equal <math>n</math>-tuples have corresponding components equal</i>	
<b>string</b> ordered finite sequence of elements each from specified set (called the alphabet over which the string is defined) <i>repetition matters, arbitrary finite length</i> <i>Equal strings have same length and corresponding characters equal</i>	

*Special cases:*

When  $n = 2$ , the 2-tuple is called an **ordered pair**.

A string of length 0 is called the **empty string** and is denoted  $\lambda$ .

A set with no elements is called the **empty set** and is denoted  $\{\}$  or  $\emptyset$ .

# Set operations

To define a set we can use the roster method, set builder notation, a recursive definition, and also we can apply a set operation to other sets.

## New! Cartesian product of sets and set-wise concatenation of sets of strings

**Definition:** Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be sets. The **Cartesian product** of  $X$  and  $Y$ , denoted  $X \times Y$ , is the set of all ordered pairs  $(x, y)$  where  $x \in X$  and  $y \in Y$

$$X \times Y = \{(x, y) \mid x \in X \text{ and } y \in Y\}$$

Conventions: (1) Cartesian products can be chained together to result in sets of  $n$ -tuples and (2) When we form the Cartesian product of a set with itself  $X \times X$  we can denote that set as  $X^2$ , or  $X^n$  for the Cartesian product of a set with itself  $n$  times for a positive integer  $n$ .

**Definition:** Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be sets of strings over the same alphabet. The **set-wise concatenation** of  $X$  and  $Y$ , denoted  $X \circ Y$ , is the set of all results of string concatenation  $xy$  where  $x \in X$  and  $y \in Y$

$$X \circ Y = \{xy \mid x \in X \text{ and } y \in Y\}$$

**Pro-tip:** the meaning of writing one element next to another like  $xy$  depends on the data-types of  $x$  and  $y$ . When  $x$  and  $y$  are strings, the convention is that  $xy$  is the result of string concatenation. When  $x$  and  $y$  are numbers, the convention is that  $xy$  is the result of multiplication. This is (one of the many reasons) why is it very important to declare the data-type of variables before we use them.

*Fill in the missing entries in the table:*

Set	Example elements in this set and their data type:			
$B$	A	C	G	U
	(A, C)		(U, U)	
$B \times \{-1, 0, 1\}$				
$\{-1, 0, 1\} \times B$				
	(0, 0, 0)			
$\{A, C, G, U\} \circ \{A, C, G, U\}$				
	GGGG			

# Defining functions

**New! Defining functions** A function is defined by its (1) domain, (2) codomain, and (3) rule assigning each element in the domain exactly one element in the codomain.

The domain and codomain are nonempty sets.

The rule can be depicted as a table, formula, piecewise definition, or English description.

The notation is

“Let the function FUNCTION-NAME: DOMAIN  $\rightarrow$  CODOMAIN be given by  
FUNCTION-NAME( $x$ ) = ...for every  $x \in DOMAIN$ ”.

or

“Consider the function FUNCTION-NAME: DOMAIN  $\rightarrow$  CODOMAIN defined as  
FUNCTION-NAME( $x$ ) = ...for every  $x \in DOMAIN$ ”.

Example: The absolute value function

**Domain**

**Codomain**

**Rule**

## Defining functions recursively

When the domain of a function is a *recursively defined set*, the rule assigning images to domain elements (outputs) can also be defined recursively.

Recall: The set of RNA strands  $S$  is defined (recursively) by:

Basis Step:  $\mathbf{A} \in S, \mathbf{C} \in S, \mathbf{U} \in S, \mathbf{G} \in S$   
Recursive Step: If  $s \in S$  and  $b \in B$ , then  $sb \in S$

where  $sb$  is string concatenation.

**Definition** (Of a function, recursively) A function  $rnalen$  that computes the length of RNA strands in  $S$  is defined by:

Basis Step: If  $b \in B$  then  $rnalen(b) = 1$   
Recursive Step: If  $s \in S$  and  $b \in B$ , then  $rnalen(sb) = 1 + rnalen(s)$

The domain of  $rnalen$  is

The codomain of  $rnalen$  is

Example function application:

$$rnalen(\mathbf{ACU}) =$$

*Example:* A function  $basecount$  that computes the number of a given base  $b$  appearing in a RNA strand  $s$  is defined recursively:

$basecount : S \times B \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$

Basis Step: If  $b_1 \in B, b_2 \in B$   $basecount((b_1, b_2)) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{when } b_1 = b_2 \\ 0 & \text{when } b_1 \neq b_2 \end{cases}$

Recursive Step: If  $s \in S, b_1 \in B, b_2 \in B$   $basecount((sb_1, b_2)) = \begin{cases} 1 + basecount((s, b_2)) & \text{when } b_1 = b_2 \\ basecount((s, b_2)) & \text{when } b_1 \neq b_2 \end{cases}$