

Discrete Mathematics Memorandum

1 Sets

- **Definition:** A **set** is an **unordered** collection of **distinct** objects. The objects in the set are called its **elements** or **members**.
- **Definition:** A is a **subset** of B ($A \subseteq B$) if every member of A is also a member of B . In the same circumstances we also say that B is a **superset** of A ($B \supseteq A$).
- **Definition:** A is a **proper subset** of B ($A \subset B$) if every member of A is also a member of B and some members of B are not member of A . In the same circumstances we also say that B is a **proper superset** of A ($B \supset A$).
- **Definition:** Two sets are **equal** ($A = B$) if they have exactly the same members.
- **Operations on sets:**
 1. **Union:** $A \cup B = \{x | x \in A \text{ or } x \in B\}$
 2. **Intersection:** $A \cap B = \{x | x \in A \text{ and } x \in B\}$
 3. **Relative complement:** $A \setminus B = \{x | x \in A \text{ and } x \notin B\}$
 4. **Symmetric difference:** $A \oplus B = \{x | (x \in A \text{ and } x \notin B) \text{ or } (x \notin A \text{ and } x \in B)\}$
 5. **Complement:** when there is a **universe** U , a set which contains all other sets we are interested in, we can also define $\overline{A} = U \setminus A$
 6. **Cartesian product:** $A \times B = \{(x, y) | x \in A \text{ and } y \in B\}$
 7. **Power set:** $P(A) = \{B | B \subseteq A\}$
- **Generalized operations:**
 1. **Union:** $\bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i = \{x | x \in A_i \text{ for some } i\}$
 2. **Intersection:** $\bigcap_{i=1}^n A_i = \{x | x \in A_i \text{ for all } i\}$
 3. **Product:** $\times_{i=1}^n = \{(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) | x_i \in A_i \text{ for each } i\}$
- **Algebraic laws:**
 1. **Idempotence laws:**
$$A \cup A = A \quad A \cap A = A$$
 2. **Commutativity laws:**
$$A \cup B = B \cup A \quad A \cap B = B \cap A$$
 3. **Associativity laws:**
$$(A \cup B) \cup C = A \cup (B \cup C) \quad (A \cap B) \cap C = A \cap (B \cap C)$$
 4. **Distributivity laws:**
$$A \cup (B \cap C) = (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C) \quad A \cap (B \cup C) = (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$$

5. **Zero and one laws:**

$$A \cup \emptyset = A \quad A \cap \emptyset = \emptyset$$

6. **Cancellation laws:**

$$A \setminus A = \emptyset \quad A \setminus \emptyset = A$$

7. **Involution law:**

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

8. **De Morgan's laws:**

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

9. **Right-distributivity laws:**

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

10. **Distributivity laws:**

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

- **Definition:** The **size** of a set is called its **cardinality** ($|A|$ or $\#A$). For finite sets, this is just the number of elements in the set. For infinite sets, cardinality is more difficult to define.
- **Definition:** A **bag** is an **unordered** collection of objects (**not necessarily distinct**).

2 Functions

- **Definition:** An **interval** is a subset I of \mathbb{R} with the **interval property**:

$$\text{If } x, z \in I \text{ and } x < y < z \text{ then } y \in I$$

- **Definition:**

- Intervals which do not contain their endpoints are called **open** intervals.
- Intervals which do contain their endpoints are called **closed** intervals.
- Intervals which do contain one of their endpoints and do not contain the other are called **half-open** intervals.

- A **function** ($f : A \rightarrow B$). associates elements of one set with another. It consists of:
 - A set A called the **domain**,
 - A set B called the **codomain**,
 - A **map** which associates exactly one element of B to each element of A .

Two functions are **equal** if **all 3 components** are the same.

- **Definition:** A **partial function** is a function that associates exactly **zero or one** elements of the codomain to each element of the domain.
- **Definition:** Let $f : A \rightarrow B$ be a function. We define the **image** of f to be

$$Im(f) = \{b \in B | f(a) = b \text{ for some } a \in A\}$$

- **Definition:** f is **onto** (or **surjective**) if

$$\forall b \in B, \exists a \in A \text{ such that } f(a) = b$$

- **Definition:** f is **1-1** (or **injective**) if

$$\forall a_1, a_2 \in A, a_1 \neq a_2, \text{ then } f(a_1) \neq f(a_2)$$

- **Definition:** f is **bijective** if it is both onto and 1-1.

- **Theorem:** If $f : A \rightarrow B$ is bijective, then $|A| = |B|$.

- **Definition:** If $f : A \rightarrow B$ and $g : B \rightarrow C$, then we define the **composition** of f and g to be

$$(g \circ f) : A \rightarrow C, \quad (g \circ f)(x) = g(f(x))$$

- **Definition:** If $f : A \rightarrow B$ and $g : B \rightarrow A$ satisfy both

$$g \circ f = id_A$$

$$f \circ g = id_B$$

, then g is the **inverse** of f and we write $g = f^{-1}$.

- **Theorem:** f has an inverse $\iff f$ is bijective

- **Definition:** If $f : A \rightarrow B$ and $A' \subseteq A$, then we can define the **restriction** of f to A' to be

$$f|_{A'} : A' \rightarrow B, \quad f|_{A'}(a) = f(a) \text{ for } a \in A'$$

- **Definition:** A function $f : A \times A \rightarrow A$ is called a **binary operator** on A .

- **Definition:** A binary operator \cdot on A :

- is **idempotent** if $x \cdot x = x$,

$$\forall x \in A$$

- is **commutative** if $x \cdot y = y \cdot x$

$$\forall x, y \in A$$

- is **associative** if $(x \cdot y) \cdot z = x \cdot (y \cdot z)$

$$\forall x, y, z \in A$$

- has an **identity element** e if $e \cdot x = x \cdot e = x$

$$\forall x \in A$$

- **Proof of the contrapositive:** Instead of proving $P \implies Q$, one can prove $\neg Q \implies \neg P$.

- **Proof by contradiction:** To prove P , assume $\neg P$ and reach a contradiction (\perp).

3 Counting

- **Law of sum:** Let P_1 and P_2 be properties of objects which are **exclusive**. The number of objects with **either** property is the number with property P_1 **plus** the number with property P_2 .

$$A \cap B = \emptyset \implies |A \cup B| = |A| + |B|$$

- **Law of subtract:** Let P_1 and P_2 be properties, such that P_1 is true at least whenever P_2 is true. Then the number of objects with property P_1 **but not** P_2 is the number with property P_1 **minus** the number with property P_2 .

$$B \subseteq A \implies |A \setminus B| = |A| - |B|$$

- **Law of product:** If counting the number of ways of making a sequence of choices and the choices are **independent**, then the total number of ways of making the sequence of choices is the **product** of the number of choices at each stage.

$$|A \times B| = |A| \cdot |B|$$

- **Double counting:** Instead of counting each element of a set once, one can count each of them m times, and then divide the result by m .

- **Definition:** The **factorial** of n is defined by

$$n! = 1 \cdot 2 \cdot \dots \cdot n$$

- **Definition:** The **binomial coefficient** is defined by

$$\binom{n}{k} = \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!}$$

- **Definition:** The **multinomial coefficient** is defined by

$$\binom{n}{n_1 n_2 \dots n_g} = \frac{n!}{n_1! n_2! \dots n_g!}$$

with $n_1 + n_2 + \dots + n_g = n$

- **Theorem:**

$$\sum_{i=0}^n \binom{n}{i} = 2^n$$

- **Inclusion-Exclusion principle:**

$$|\bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i| = \sum_{k=0}^n (-1)^k \sum_{I \subseteq \{1,2,\dots,n\}, |I|=k} \bigcap_{i \in I} A_i$$

- **Definition:** The **floor function** rounds down real numbers to integers:

$$\lfloor - \rfloor : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z} \quad \lfloor x \rfloor = \max\{n \in \mathbb{Z} | n \leq x\}$$

- **Definition:** The **ceil function** rounds up real numbers to integers:

$$\lceil - \rceil : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z} \quad \lceil x \rceil = \min\{n \in \mathbb{Z} | n \geq x\}$$

4 Relations

- **Definition:** A relation on a set A is a subset of $A \times A$. More generally, a relation on sets A and B is a subset of $A \times B$.

- **Definition:** We say that a relation R is:

- **reflexive** if aRa $\forall a \in A$
- **symmetric** if $aRb \implies bRa$ $\forall a, b \in A$
- **antisymmetric** if $aRb, bRa \implies a = b$ $\forall a, b \in A$
- **transitive** if $aRb, bRc \implies aRc$ $\forall a, b, c \in A$
- **irreflexive** if $a \not R a$ $\forall a \in A$
- **serial** if $\exists b \in A$ such that aRb $\forall a \in A$
- **total** if aRb or bRa $\forall a, b \in A$

- **Definition:** An **equivalence relation** on A is a relation which is reflexive, symmetric and transitive. If \sim is an equivalence relation on A , then for each $a \in A$ we write

$$[a] = \{a' \in A | a' \sim a\}$$

. This is called the **equivalence class** of a .

- **Definition:** A **partition** of a set A is a collection of subsets $\{B_i | i \in I\} \subseteq P(A)$ satisfying

- $\bigcup_{i \in I} B_i = A$
- $B_i \cap B_j = \emptyset \quad \forall i \neq j$
- $B_i \neq \emptyset \quad \forall i$

- **Definition:** If R is a relation on A , we define the **converse** relation by

$$aR^{-1}b \quad \text{if} \quad bRa$$

- **Definition:** If R and S are both relations on A , we define their **composition** $S \circ R$ by

$$a(S \circ R)b \quad \text{if} \quad \exists x \in A \text{ such that } aRx \text{ and } xSb$$

- **Definition:** If R is a relation on A , we define the **transitive closure** of R by

$$aR^+b \quad \text{if} \quad \exists x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n \in A, n \geq 1 \text{ such that } a = x_0, x_0Rx_1, x_1Rx_2, \dots, x_{n-1}Rx_n, x_n = b$$

- **Definition:** If R is a relation on A , we define the **reflexive transitive closure** of R by

$$aR^*b \quad \text{if} \quad \exists x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n \in A, n \geq 0 \text{ such that } a = x_0, x_0Rx_1, x_1Rx_2, \dots, x_{n-1}Rx_n, x_n = b$$

- **Definition:** A **directed graph** consists of a set of **nodes** N and a set of **edges** $E \subseteq N \times N$. We say that there is an edge from n_1 to n_2 if $(n_1, n_2) \in E$.

5 Sequences

- **Definition:** A **sequence** is a function whose domain is \mathbf{N} or \mathbf{N}_+ : (x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots)
- **Definition:** A **recurrence relation** is a **recursive definition** of a sequence.
- **The principle of induction:** If $S(n)$ is a statement involving a natural number n , and we want to prove $S(n)$ for all n , we can:

- prove $S(0)$
- prove that, if $S(k)$, then $S(k+1)$.

Then we may deduce that $S(n)$ is true, $\forall n \in \mathbf{N}$

- **The principle of strong induction:** If $S(n)$ is a statement involving a natural number n , and we want to prove $S(n)$ for all n , we can:

- prove $S(0)$
- prove that, if $S(j), \forall j \leq k$, then $S(k+1)$.

Then we may deduce that $S(n)$ is true, $\forall n \in \mathbf{N}$

- **The minimal counterexample:** If we want to prove $S(n)$ for all natural numbers n , we suppose that it is not, and define m to be the smallest natural number for which $S(m)$ is false, and then prove that $S(m')$ must also be false for some smaller natural number m' .

- **Bell numbers:** The sequence (B_n) , known as the **Bell numbers**, has the following recurrence relation:

$$B_0 = 1, \quad B_{n+1} = \sum_{i=0}^n \binom{n}{i} B_i$$

. Also,

$$B_n = \frac{1}{e} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{k^n}{k!}$$

6 Modular arithmetic

- **Definition:** For a fixed positive integer n , we can define an equivalence relation \equiv on \mathbb{Z} by

$$x \equiv y \pmod{n} \quad \text{if} \quad n \mid (x - y)$$

- **Method of repeated squaring:** An efficient way of computing x^y is:

$$x^y = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } y = 0 \\ x \cdot (x^2)^{\frac{y-1}{2}} & \text{if } y \text{ is odd} \\ (x^2)^{\frac{y}{2}} & \text{if } y > 0 \text{ is even} \end{cases}$$

- **Definition:** The **greatest common divisor** $\gcd(m, n)$ is the largest integer dividing both m and n :
 $g = \gcd(n, m)$ if

- $g \mid m$
- $g \mid n$
- $l \mid m, l \mid n \implies l \mid g$

- **Euclid's algorithm:**

```

0. a := m; b := n;
1. q := a DIV b;
   r := a MOD b;
2. If r==0 return(b);
   else a := b;
      b := r;
      goto 1;

```

Computes $\gcd(m, n)$.

- **Euclid's extended algorithm:**

```

0. a := m; b := n;   x := 0; y := 1; x' := 1; y' := 0;
1. q := a DIV b;      x := x' - (q * x);   x' := x;
   r := a MOD b;      y := y' - (q * y);   y' := y;
2. If r==0 return(b, x', y');
   else a := b;
      b := r;
      goto 1;

```

Computes $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $\gcd(m, n) = mx + ny$

- **Definition:** Fix a modulus n and let $x \in \mathbb{Z}$. A **multiplicative inverse** for x is an integer y satisfying

$$xy \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$$

and we write $y \equiv x^{-1} \pmod{n}$

- **Theorem:** If p is prime, every x with $x \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ has a multiplicative inverse \pmod{p} .
- **The pigeonhole principle:** You can't put more than n objects into n boxes without having at least two objects in the same box.

7 Asymptotic notation

- **Definition:** Suppose that f and g are both real-valued functions with domain \mathbb{N} . We write $f(n) = O(g(n))$ if there is a real number c and an integer N with

$$|f(n)| \leq c|g(n)|, \forall n \geq N$$

and say that f is **asymptotically bounded** by g .

- **Theorem:** $f(n) = O(g(n))$ is equivalent to existing a real number c such that

$$|f(n)| \leq c|g(n)|, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$$

- **Definition:** We write $f(n) = \Omega(g(n))$ if $g(n) = O(f(n))$
We write $f(n) = \Theta(g(n))$ if $g(n) = O(f(n))$ and $f(n) = O(g(n))$

8 Orders

- **Definition:**

- A **preorder** is a reflexive, transitive relation.
- A **partial order** is a reflexive, antisymmetric, transitive relation.
- A **linear order** (or **total order**) is an antisymmetric, transitive, total relation.

- **Definition:** For a set A , $a, b \in A$ and an order \preceq on A , we say that a and b are **comparable** if $a \preceq b$ or $b \preceq a$.

- **Definition:** A **chain** is a subset of A of which all pairs are comparable.

- **Definition:** An **antichain** is a subset of A of which no pairs are comparable.

- **Definition:** For a set A and an order \preceq on A , we can create the following orders on $A \times A$:

- The **product order**: $(x, y) \preceq_P (x', y') \iff x \preceq x' \text{ and } y \preceq y'$
- The **lexicographic order**: $(x, y) \preceq_L (x', y') \iff x \prec x' \text{ or } (x \simeq x' \text{ and } y \preceq y')$

- **Theorem:**

- If \preceq is a preorder/partial order/linear order on A , then \preceq_L is a preorder/partial order/linear order on $A \times A$.
- If \preceq is a preorder/linear order on A , then \preceq_P is a preorder/linear order on $A \times A$.

- **Definition:** A **Hasse diagram** is a graph, drawn in the plane, with vertices corresponding to the elements of A and an edge going from a to b if $a \prec b$ and there is no element x with $a \prec x \prec b$. This construction, which removes reflexive loops and all edges which follow by transitivity, is known as the **cover relation**.

- **Definition:** Let A be a set ordered by a partial order \preceq and let $S \subseteq A$.

- An element $m \in A$ is an **upper bound** for S if $x \preceq m, \forall x \in S$.
- An element $m \in A$ is a **lower bound** for S if $m \preceq x, \forall x \in S$.
- m is the **maximum** of S if it is an upper bound and $m \in S$.
- m is the **minimum** of S if it is a lower bound and $m \in S$.
- m is a **least upper bound** (lub) for S if
 - m is an upper bound for S
 - if m' is any other upper bound for S , then $m \preceq m'$.
- m is a **greatest lower bound** (glb) for S if
 - m is a lower bound for S
 - if m' is any other lower bound for S , then $m' \preceq m$.

- **Definition:** If every pair of a set has a lub and glb, the the order is called a **lattice**.

If every subset has a lub and glb, then the order is called a **complet lattice**.

- **Definition:** Let A and B be sets, with orders \preceq_A and \preceq_B . An **order isomorphism** between A and B is a bijection $f : A \rightarrow B$ satisfying

$$a \preceq_A a' \iff f(a) \preceq_B f(a')$$

.

- **Theorem:** If \preceq is a linear order on A , these are equivalent definitions to lub/glub:

- m is a **least upper bound** (lub) for S if
 - m is an upper bound for S

- if $a \prec m$ then there is an element $x \in S$ with $a \prec x$
- m is a **greatest lower bound** (glb) for S if
 - m is a lower bound for S
 - if $m \prec a$ then there is an element $x \in S$ with $x \prec a$
- **Theorem:** If there is an order isomorphism between A with \preceq_A and B with \preceq_B , then, if \preceq_A is a partial order/linear order/lattice, then so is \preceq_B (and vice versa).