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Cyber Insurance

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Abstract

Hello, here is some text without a meaning. This text should show what a printed text will look like at this place. If you read this text, you will get no information. Really? Is there no information? Is there a difference between this text and some nonsense like “Huardest gefburn”? Kjift – not at all! A blind text like this gives you information about the selected font, how the letters are written and an impression of the look. This text should contain all letters of the alphabet and it should be written in of the original language. There is no need for special content, but the length of words should match the language.

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Preface

Hello, here is some text without a meaning. This text should show what a printed text will look like at this place. If you read this text, you will get no information. Really? Is there no information? Is there a difference between this text and some nonsense like “Huardest gefburn”? Kjift – not at all! A blind text like this gives you information about the selected font, how the letters are written and an impression of the look. This text should contain all letters of the alphabet and it should be written in of the original language. There is no need for special content, but the length of words should match the language.

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Chapter 1

Current market

Carriers in London, New York, Zurich, Bermuda, Europe, the U.S. and elsewhere developing cyber-security insurance products for their clients. In UK there are 9 insurers with specialists in cyber divisions, in the US it is 30-40. [?] There are lots of challenges both for buyers and sellers. Buyers face tremendous confusion about cyber risks and their potential impacts on business. People don't know or understand what kinds of risk cyber includes, how large losses can be and why should they care about externalities? [PpD12]

Despite the widespread awareness of cyber crimes, cyber attacks occur frequently. The companies studied in [Ins11] experienced successful every week. A successful cyber attack can result in serious financial consequences. And the longer it takes to resolve the attack, the more costly it gets. This paper found that the median cost of cyber crime is \$5.9 million per year, ranging from \$1.5 million to \$36.5 million per company, which is an 56 percent increase from the last year. This was in the US market only. With these numbers in mind, cyber insurance should be a very attracting security investment. More and more insurance companies offering cyber protection, but there are still many companies not utilizing them, in a survey of 13000 companies, 46 percent said they had a cyber insurance. [Pra]

Another paper [?] collected statistics in the UK, which said it costs £27 billion a year, and it is one of UK's biggest emerging threats. They found similar results as in US, the number of security breaches continue to increase. It is not only large companies like Google and Playstation that suffer from attacks, but also smaller businesses but despite these numbers there were only 35 percent of the companies in the survey who purchased cyber insurance.

A lot of companies are trusting their own IT-department to handle cyber risk, and do not think they need a cyber insurance, despite the increasing cyber threats. [?]

2 1. CURRENT MARKET

Travelers cyber insurance:

– Liability insurance.

1. Network and Information Security Liability
2. communications and Media Liability
3. Regulatory Defense Expenses

– First party insuring agreements:

1. Crisis management event expenses
2. Security breach remediation and notification expenses
3. computer program and electronic data restoration expenses
4. computer fraud
5. fund transfer fraud
6. e-commerce extortion
7. business interruption and additional expenses

Chapter 2

Relatedwork

2.1 Towards Insurable Network Architectures

A trusted component or system is one you can insure. Cyber insurance gives an incentive to better secure your network, and will thus reduce the overall threat for both first and third parties. It will also promote gathering and sharing of information related to security incidents. All in all this will increase the social welfare by decreasing the variance of losses. But even if cyber insurance seems very profitable for everyone, it has failed to evolve as much as expected. Some reasons for this, could be:

- lack of data to calculate premium.
- Underdeveloped demand due to missing awareness for cyber risks.
- legal and procedural hurdles in substantiating claim.

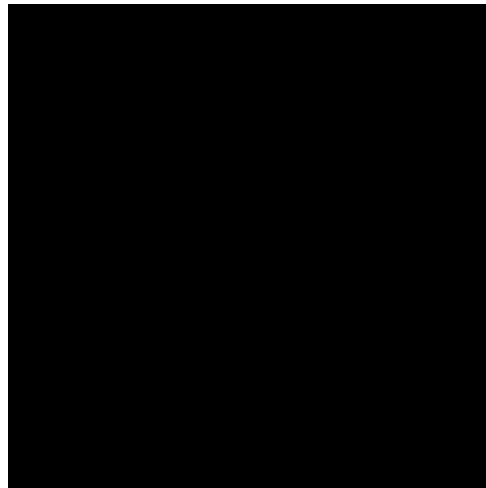


Figure 2.1: A figure

A more economic model to describe why cyber insurance is still such a niche market.

Interdependent security Expected loss due to security breach at one agent is not only dependent on this agents lvl of security, but also by other agents security investment. A good example is spam, it is dependent of number of compromised computers. This also generates an externality and encourages to free riding. which then leads to underinvestment in security.

Correlated risks Many systems share common vulnerabilities, which can be exploited at the same time. This leads to a more likely occurrence of extreme and catastrophic events, which will result in uneconomical supply of cyber insurance.

information asymmetry Since measuring security strength is very hard, people have a high incentive for hiding info. This leads to information asymmetry. All these three form a triple obstacle, which eliminates the market in evolving. All these obstacles evolve from what makes ICT succeed, distribution, interconnection, universality and reuse. This is why Architecture matters. The obstacles does not arrive from properties of individual agents, but from integration and interaction in networking. Networking is not just physical, but a abstract structure mapping physical, logical and social interconnection. A good example is development tool chains. A web-browser is not just dependent of the security the developers have implemented, but also the security in the tools used, such as libraries. These three problems have never been analysed together, this is what this paper contributes with. Uses GT to model incentives of the different agents.

2.2 Cyber insurance as an Incentive for Internet Security

so far the risk management on the internet has involved methods to reduce the risks(firewalls, ids, prevention etc.) but not eliminate risk. Is it logical to buy insurance to protect the internet and its users. An important thing to notice when insuring internet, is that the entities on the internet are correlated, which means insurance claims will likely be correlated. Risks are interdependent, decision by an entity to invest in security affects the risks of others. Key result: using insurance would increase the overall security. Act as an powerful incentive, which pushes entities over the threshold where they invest in self-protection. Insurance should be an important component of risk management in the internet.

Four typical options available in the face of risks. 1. avoid the risk 2. retain 3. self protect and mitigate 4. transfer the risk. Most entities in the internet have choses a mix of 2 and 3. This has lead to lots of systems trying to detect threats and anomalies(both malicious and accidental) and to protect the users and the structure from these. but this does not eliminate risk, threats evolve over time and there is

always accidents. How to handle this residual risk? Option 4, transfer the risk to another entity who willingly accept it(hedging), insure in exchange for a fee. Allows for predictable payouts for uncertain events. But does this makes sense for the internet, benefits, to whom? and to what extent?

How to model insurance and computing premiums. avoid ruin the insurer. Actuarial approach. Economic approach: premium should be negative correlated to the amount invested in security by the entity. Users can chose to invest c or not in security solutions. Shown that in the 2 user case in absence of insurance, there is a NE in a good state, if c is low enough. These result have been extended to a network setting. This paper starts out by adding insurance to the two person game, then the n -users network, where damages spread among the users. They show that if premium discriminates about investment in protection. Insurance is a strong incentive to invest in security. Also show how insurance can be a mechanism to facilitate the deployment of security investments by taking advantage network effects such as treshold or tipping point dynamics. Uses simple models.

Using cyber insurance as a way to handle residual risk started out early in the 90's. Software and insurance sold as packages. More recently insurance companies started offering standalone products. A challenging problem is the correlation between risks, interdependent risks(risk that depend on the behavior of others).

2.2.1 Classical model for insurance

agents try to maximize some kind of expected utility function, and are risk averse. $u[w_0 - \pi] = E[u[w_0 + X]]$

Investments for an agent is either self protect and or insurance. If insurance premium is not negatively correlated to the self protection, we get moral hazard. Because if not, insurance will discourage self protection. In this way insurance can co-exist with selfprotection.

2.2.2 Interdependent security and insurance

In presence of interdependent risks, the reward for a user investing in self-protection depends on the security in the rest of the network. Discrete choice, invest or not. loss occurs directly or indirectly. Cost of investing is c . This avoids the direct loss completely. In summary, insurance provides incentives for a small fraction of the population to invest in self-protection, which in turn induces the rest of the population to invest in self-protection as well, leading to the desirable state where all users in the network are self-protected. Furthermore, the parameter y provides a way to multiply the benets of insurance, by lowering the initial fraction of the self-protected population needed to reach the desirable state. This paper shows that insurance

provides significant benefits to network of users facing correlated, interdependent risks. Insurance is a powerful mechanism to promote network-wide changes, i.e lead to self protection. How to estimate damage? This is very hard on the internet. This paper shows how it is economical rational for entities to prefer a relatively insecure system to a more secure, and that the adoption of security investments follows threshold/tipping point dynamics. And that insurance is a powerful incentive to push the users over the treshhold.

2.3 Modeling cyber-insurance: towards a unifying Framework

proposes a framework to classify models of cyber-insurance. Uses a common terminology, and deals with cyber-risk in a unified way.(combines the three risk properties, interdepenendent security , correlated risk, information asymmetri.) The paper studies other existing models, and reveals a discrepancy(AVIK) between informal arguments in favor of cyber-insurance and analytical results questioning the viability of a cyber-insurance market. Cyberinsurance, the transfer of financial risk associated with network and computers incidents to a third party, has been researched for several years. But reality continues to disappoint. Sets back by physical accidents such as 9/11 Y2K etc. Clients are for the most SMBs, limited market. Conservative forecast predicted cyber-insurance worth \$2.5 billion in 2005. Jonas found a paper from 2012 that said the market was \$800million.

All three obstacles has to be overcome at the same time to fix the market, to do this we need a comprehensiv framework for modelling cyber-risk and cyber-insurance. many researchers have lost their optimism about cyberinsurance, but this paper has not. Goal is that this unifying framework will help navigating the literature and stimulates research that results in a more formal basis for policy recommendations involving cyber-risk reallocation. Framework can also be used to standardize tcyber-insurance papers.

Breaks the modeling down to five key components:

- network environment(nodes controlled by agents, who extract utility. The risk comes from here
- demand side(agents)
- supply side(insurers)
- information structure, distribution of knowledge among the players.
- organizational environment. public and private entities whose actions affect network security and agents security decisions.

what can be answered with models of cyber insurance markets?

1. Breadth of the market: Looking at equilibrium we can determine under which conditions will a market for cyber-insurance thrive? or what are the reasons for failure, and how can we overcome this?
2. Network security: What is the effect of an insurance market on aggregate network security? Will the internet become more secure?
3. Social welfare: What are the contributions to social welfare?

2.3.1 Network Environment: Connected nodes

Two properties distinguish cyber-insurance from regular insurance.

1. Interconnected devices in a network, this generates value, therefore risk and loss analysis must take this into account.
2. Dual nature. if operational: generate value, else loss sources. When abused generate threat to other nodes.

network is not necessarily a physical connection, also includes logical link or ties in social networks.

Defense function Defense function D describes how security investment affects the probability of loss p and the size of the loss l for individual nodes. In most general its a probability distribution. An agent i only chooses s_i and takes the the vector of all other nodes level of security as given. This is how we model interdependent security.

network topology G Describes the relation between elements of an ordered set of nodes.(connectivity)

- star-shaped
- tree shaped
- ER
- Structured clusters

There are no literature using scale-free graphs, even this topology is a good fit with real world networks. Network topology shapes the risk arrival process, or defines the information structure when asymmetric information is considered.

Layers of multiple topologies for different properties of cyber-risk ar conceivable, i.e to model the specific influence of social and physical connections. But this will complicate the model.

Risk arrival defined by the relation between network topology G and the value of the defense function D Two cases:

1. no risk propagation, easy to tract analytically.
2. risk propagation, this is harder, need recursive methods or approximations, and may lead to a dynamic equilibria. both interdependent and correlated risk is modelled.

Cyber risk is characterized by both interdependent security and correlated risk, which both have a common root cause: interconnected nodes. Interdependent risk is usually modeled on the demand side, in contrast correlated risk is just a supply-side problem.

Attacker model existing literature assume attacks are performed by "nature" rather than strategic players. But attackers react to agents and insurers decisions. this paper models attackers as players. but it might be hard to choose reasonable assumptions and parameters for their capability. They could be modeled as an additional class of players or a special type of agents.

2.3.2 Demand side agents

Make security decisions for one or more nodes. When buying full coverage of risks, permits the agent to exchange uncertain future costs with a predictable premium.

Node control Agents have node control, mapping one to one, or one to many. Agents choose security investments for the nodes.

Heterogeneity Agents(and associated nodes) are either heterogen or homogenous in:

- their size of the loss
- their wealth
- their defense function
- their risk aversion and this utility function.

agents are homogenous if all of the above statements are identical for them.

Risk Aversion They only seek insurance if they are risk averse(accept lower expected income if they can reduce uncertainty).

Action space Established models differ in the action space for agents purchasing insurance. Options are:

Full or partial. Full, the only choice is between full coverage of the potential loss or no insurance at all, i.e. binary choice. A contract is called fair if the expected profit from it is zero (insurers point of view). If premiums are actuarially fair, risk averse agents strictly prefer full over partial coverage. If premium is above fair level, partial insurance is demanded.

Security investment: agents can self-protect by choosing $s_i > 0$, which result in less expected loss. Selfprotection creates an externality, i.e. interdependent security. Second kind of security investment, i.e. selfinsurance, this does not generate externality, it only reduces your own size of potential loss.

Exogenous network formation: changes to the network topology as operable actions for agents is not yet explored by literature. For example, agents could destroy/create links to other nodes with the goal of reduce their expected loss. A simple first step would be to consider platform diversity and switching (between OS) as an endogenous network formation problem.

Time Simple models, single shot. i.e. all choices are set only once by all agents (not necessarily at the same time.) This may not be enough when risk propagation is present. To avoid ambiguity the order should be specified in the model formulation, from the center of a star-shaped to its leaves.

2.3.3 Supply side, insurers

Modeling decisions: monopoly, oligopoly or competition? Homogenous or heterogeneous? The dominant model used in literature is naive, homogenous and competitive insurer market. It is important to include these as players. Five attributes: market structure, risk aversion, markup, contract design and higher order risk transfer.

Market structure , monopoly, oligopoly or competition. Homogenous or heterogeneous? Competition leads to low MC.

Risk aversion A simplification in economic textbooks is to use risk neutral insurers. But to avoid taking excessive risk and bankruptcy due to profit maximization, need a safety capital. Regulators decide a maximum residual risk.

Markup : insurers profit, admin-costs, cost of safety capital.

Contract design : fixed premium, premium differentiation, contract with fines.

Higher order risk transfer : Insurers need not be the last step in a chain of risk transfer.

Cyber-reinsurance, the usual way to do this is by generating pools of loosely correlated risks, i.e the loss events from the tail of the probability distribution. This is usually done by creating a pool from regional or international diversification. Cyber-reinsurance is virtually not existent, due to the global homogeneity of cyber risk.

catastrophe bonds, financial instrument which pay a decent yield as a risk premium in periods without catastrophic events, but lose their value when such an event occurs. These are inadequate for cyber-risk, because they may generate an incentive for investors, to cause a cyber attack.

exploit derivatives. Links payout of financial instrument to the discovery of vulnerabilities in systems. This is better than cat-bonds.

2.3.4 Information structure

Symmetric and asymmetric. Leads to adverse selection if the insurer can't distinguish between the agents. Moral hazard occurs if agents could undertake actions that affect the probability of loss ex post. Also information about security is hard to gather and evaluate,. . . All this results in two types of contract scenario, pooling or separation (agents sort themselves out).

- adverse selection, if the insurer can't distinguish agents before signing contract.
- moral hazard, if agents can undertake actions that affect the probability of loss after signed contract. i.e. not locking the door.

From classical economics, insurers have two ways of creating the contract when they cannot distinguish the agents, pooling or separating (agents sort themselves out). There is practically understood and observable that strong disincentives keep information sharing below socially optimal levels. Relevant information may not exist, but it is often the case that it exists but is not available to the decision maker.

2.3.5 Organizational Environment (stakeholders)

four relevant attributes: regulator, ICT manufacturers, network intermediaries and security service providers. How to include these into models of cyber-insurance markets?

Regulator Government/governmental authority, with power to impose regulation. Important for policy analysis.

- disclosure requirements, can improve information for agents and insurers.
- Taxes, fines and subsidies to alter agents and insurers costs.
- Mandatory security impositions.
- prudential supervision, the regulator defines the acceptable residual risk, the probability of insurer bankruptcy.

ICT manufacturers vendors of hardware and software equipment.

- system security: ICT manufacturers prioritization of security affects the defence function of nodes using their products.
- System diversity, market structure affects correlation in the risk arrival process.

Network intermediaries Provide network connectivity services, ISP, registrars, and application service providers. they can contribute to distributed defense by sharing info about threats or taking down compromised nodes, reducing risk propagation. They can also shape the network topology, generating a more safe topology. Problems: different incentives for different ISPs, such as large versus small ISP.

security service providers Contribute to network security, in helping to overcome information asymmetries through collection and aggregation of information as a trusted third party, or improve information efficiency in monitoring and enforcing contracts. (Forensic investigations certifying etc.)

2.3.6 Using this framework for a literature survey

This framework accounts for three factors, correlated risks, interdependent security and information asymmetries.

demand side some papers have homogenous agents, others have heterogenous. Contracts with deductibles are standard tools to deal with information asymmetries. These are introduced in 4 papers. All models featuring interdependent security must allow for some kind of security investment via self-protection(binary or continuous choice). Partial insurance is common, or full for simplicity.

Supply side Homogenous and perfectly competitive insurers, and premium markups. Several authors interpret the markup as a reflection of market power.

Organizational Environment Current formal models are not good at capturing parameters of the organizational environment. Do insurance need to be mandatory, or will a simple punishing of agents underinvesting in self-protection be sufficient. Rebates and fines are also discussed in one paper.

Research Question No paper who capture all three obstacles theoretically and link them with social welfare. Only one study evaluates its model from the perspective of all three research questions: breadth of the market, network security, and social welfare. Literature inspired by interdependent security primarily investigates network security, the most natural variable of interest in this setting. By contrast, Correlated risk and information asymmetries are studied from the point of view of explaining a missing market.

Discussion of models The results from the papers are very disappointing, so one may ask what are they good for. They give intuition on specific aspects and help generate a general view.

Despite early optimism about positive effects of cyber-insurance on network security, the existing models find that insurance markets might fail. And if a market exists, it tends to have adverse effects on incentives to improve security. Future research: endogenize parameters that are exogenously given in the existing literature, information structure and or organizational environment. for instance network topology.(This is what we will try to grasp, let the topology be generated endogenously. final observation: researchers write about how insurers will improve information about security, but does not give any examples that reflects this. Affect agents choices of network products, but existing models of contracts do not reflect these choices. aggregate info about security(obtained from claims), but they do not model it parametrically. etc.....

2.4 A novel cyber-insurance Model

eliminate threats which cannot be tackled through traditional means, such as AV. Risks arise due to both security attacks and non-security related failures. This paper analyzes cyber-insurance solutions when a user faces risks due to both of these. Propose a model called "Aegis", user accepts a fraction of loss recovery and transfers the rest. Mathematically show that only under conditions when buying cyber-insurance is mandatory.

2.5 A solution to the information Asymmetry Problem

AV and other security software reduces the risk, but does not remove it completely. Cyber-insurance, residueal risk elimination. But a problem with this is information asymmetry. This paper proposes three mechanisms to resolve this problem. Mechanisms based on the principal agent problem, difficulties in motivating one party (the agent) to act in the best interests of another (the principal) rather than in his or her own interests. Arises in almost every case where a party pays another party to do something. The agent has more information than the principal, asymmetric.

- 1 cyber insurance who only provide partial coverage to the insureds will ensure greater self defense efforts.
- 2 the lvl of deductible per network user contract increases in a concave manner with the topological degree of the user.
- 3 Cyber-insurance market can be made to exist in the presence of monopolistic insurers.

Security experts claim that it is impossible to achieve perfect internet security just via technological advancements.

- 1 there do not always exist fool-proof ways to detect and identify. Even the best software available have false-positive, false-negative. And threats evolve automatically in response to AV-software being deployed.
- 2 The internet is a distributed system, different security interests and incentives pr user. Might spend money to protect their own hard drive, but not on prevent its computer being used by an attacker for a DOS attack on a wealthy corporation.
- 3 Correlated and interdependent risks. As a result, a user who invest in security generates positive externality for others. Which will result in a free rider problem.
- 4 Network externalities due to lock-in and first mover effects of security software vendors affect the adoption of more advanced technology.
- 5 Security software suffer from lemons market.

Cyber-insurance and asymmetry insurers are unable to distinguish high and low risk users, i.e adverse selection. users undertaking actions, i.e moral hazard.

Difficult for insurers to gather information about applications, software installed, security habits etc. and users can hide information.

Users in general invest too little in self-defense relative to the socially efficient level due to the free-rider problem (externalities). Thus the challenge to improving overall network security lies in incentivizing end users to invest in sufficient amount of self defense.

2.6 Cyber-insurance for cyber-security, A topological Take on Modulating Insurance Premiums

Adopts a topological perspective in proposing a mechanism that accounts for the positive externalities, network location of users, and provide appropriate way to proportionally allocate fines/rebates on user premiums. Uses GT to prove. Consider a monopolistic cyber-insurer, providing full coverage. Each client is risk averse. A user's investment and location in network determines his risk type. Each user has a utility function dependent on the rest of the users. Node centrality, maps to the externality effects a node has on other network nodes. Uses eigenvectors and Bonacich papers. Both these assign relative importance scores to all nodes, based on the concept of connections.

2.7 Differentiating Cyber-insurance Contracts, a topological Perspective

Important to discriminate network users on insurance contracts. prevent adverse selection, partly internalizing the negative externalities of interdependent security, achieving maximum social welfare, helping a risk-averse insurer to distribute costs of holding safety capital among its clients, and insurers sustaining a fixed amount of profit per contract. Important to find a way to properly discriminate. The paper proposes a technique based on the topological location of users that allows cyber-insurers to appropriately contract discriminate their clients. Consider single cyber-insurer providing full or partial coverage. Insurer has complete information about the topology. Discriminates on Bonacich/eigenvector centralities.

Chapter 3

Related work 2

Virus and worm propagation on the Internet can be modeled as epidemic spreads. When we look a 2-agent model we can observe correlation between one agents choice of investing in protection. If agent 1 has a connection to agent 2, the probability of agent 2 being contagion is strongly correlated to the choice of agent 1. In the case where agent 1 invests in protection, agent 2 will not be infected. However, if chooses not to invest in protection, the probability of infection for agent 2 is p . After a number of equations the authors conclude that in presence of insurance, the optimal strategy for all users is to invest in self-protecting services as long as this cost is low enough.

Further the authors looks at the situation where the cost of selv-protection is different for different agents (heterogeneous users) in a complete graph (n - n). The conclusion states that insurance increase the adoption for a fraction of the users, which creates the cascading effect that the rest of the users also gains benefit from investing in insurance. We end up in a state where everyone in the network are self-protected.

Related work 2. TEST TEST TEST Here is an example of how to use acronyms such as Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU). The second time only NTNU is shown and if there were several you would write NTNUs. And here is an example¹ of citation [?].

This is the second paragraph. Hello, here is some text without a meaning. This text should show what a printed text will look like at this place. If you read this text, you will get no information. Really? Is there no information? Is there a difference between this text and some nonsense like “Huardest gefburn”? Kjift – not at all! A blind text like this gives you information about the selected font, how the letters are written and an impression of the look. This text should contain all letters of the

¹A footnote

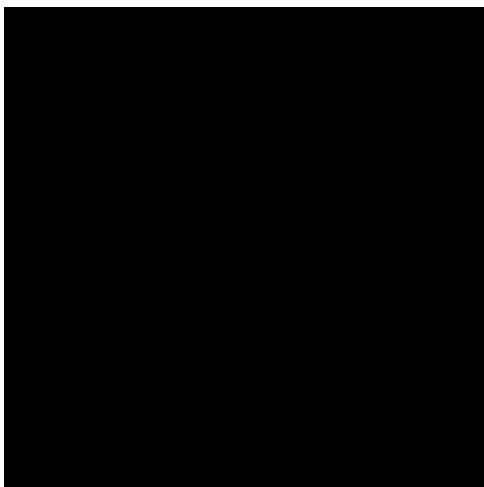


Figure 3.1: A figure

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Table 3.1: A table

a	b	c	d	e
f	g	h	i	j
k	l	m	n	o
p	q	r	s	t
u	v	w	x	y
z	æ	ø	å	

3.1 First section

3.1.1 First subsection with some *Math* symbol

Hello, here is some text without a meaning. This text should show what a printed text will look like at this place. If you read this text, you will get no information. Really? Is there no information? Is there a difference between this text and some nonsense like “Huardest gefburn”? Kjift – not at all! A blind text like this gives you information about the selected font, how the letters are written and an impression of the look. This text should contain all letters of the alphabet and it should be written in of the original language. There is no need for special content, but the length of words should match the language.

- item1
- item2
- ...

3.1.2 Mathematics

Hello, here is some text without a meaning. This text should show what a printed text will look like at this place. $\sin^2(\alpha) + \cos^2(\beta) = 1$. If you read this text, you will get no information $E = mc^2$. Really? Is there no information? Is there a difference between this text and some nonsense like “Huardest gefburn”? Kjift – not at all! A blind text like this gives you information about the selected font, how the letters are written and an impression of the look. $\sqrt[n]{a} \cdot \sqrt[n]{b} = \sqrt[n]{ab}$. This text should contain all letters of the alphabet and it should be written in of the original language. $\frac{\sqrt[n]{a}}{\sqrt[n]{b}} = \sqrt[n]{\frac{a}{b}}$. There is no need for special content, but the length of words should match the language. $a \sqrt[n]{b} = \sqrt[n]{a^n b}$.

Proposition 3.1. *A proposition... (similar environments include: theorem, corollary, conjecture, lemma)*

Proof. And its proof.

□

3.1.3 Source code example

Algorithm 3.1 The Hello World! program in Java.

```
class HelloWorldApp {  
    public static void main(String[] args) {  
        //Display the string  
        System.out.println("Hello World!");  
    }  
}
```

You can refer to figures using the predefined command like Figure 3.1, to pages like page 16, to tables like Table 3.1, to chapters like Chapter ?? and to sections like Section 3.1 and you may define similar commands to refer to proposition, algorithms etc.

[Jr06] [•] [Jonow] [asd] [hey00]

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