

# Middle School Math in Brief with Python MSMiB - Version 0.1

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Available on GitHub at: <https://GitHub.com/nicholaskarlson/MSMiB>



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# Preface

As a quick start to Middle School Math in Brief with Python, *Middle School Math in Brief with Python - MSMiB - Version 0.1* aspires to be a true living and morphing document. This book strives to foster collaborative book writing and invite readers to be active participants. With this preface, we look at a potential starting point for all users of MSMiB. Note that this book has very few references. The reader is encouraged to use resources available on the Web to fact-check. This book's view on “causation” and facts is heavily influenced by Mosteller and Tukey [MT77]. This book also hopes that students have the opportunity to take an active and explorative approach to learning math as encouraged by such classic texts as [P645]. Python is a free and widely used programming language that can add excitement to learning math, and hence it is included in MSMiB.

## Redefining the Role of the Reader

MSMiB encourages forking and comments on how to improve. Please fork the LaTeX source code for MSMiB (available on GitHub) and create your own book. Also, starring the MSMiB project on GitHub would be greatly appreciated. Thanks for reading MSMiB!



# Chapter 1

## Introduction to GitHub

### The Hub for Modern Collaboration

#### Harnessing GitHub

At the heart of our collaborative book lies GitHub. This section provides a primer on GitHub.

#### A Brief Introduction to GitHub

Originally conceptualized as a platform for developers, GitHub is a repository hosting service that facilitates version control using Git. At its core, it allows multiple users to work on a project simultaneously, tracking changes and ensuring that the latest version of a project is always accessible. Over the years, GitHub has grown beyond its initial software-centric confines, becoming a hub for all kinds of collaborative projects, including topics from math to data science.

#### More on GitHub

##### Version Control

GitHub's version control ensures that every change made to a document is tracked, enabling writers to see how text evolves over time.

##### Collaborative Writing

Multiple contributors can work on a single book project. This multi-user capability brings in more ideas and more suggestions for improvement.

##### Review and Feedback

Participants can provide feedback on written content. This feature encourages rigorous peer review, ensuring accuracy and credibility.

### **Transparency**

All changes and contributions are logged, providing a clear trail of the evolution of historical narratives. This transparency bolsters the credibility.

### **Community Building**

Beyond just writing, GitHub fosters a community of historians, enthusiasts, and readers who can discuss, debate, and engage.

### **Conclusion: Envisioning a Collaborative Historical Landscape**

Embracing GitHub as a tool for collaborative writing, it heralds an era of inclusivity, transparency, and dynamism.

## Chapter 2

# Encouragement to Fork

### Invitation to Dive Deep and Make It Your Own

MSMiB isn't a static entity. It thrives on evolution, adaptation, and diversification. We encourage readers to "fork" and create their own versions of this book.

### The Concept of Forking: A Brief Overview

In the realm of software development, particularly in platforms like GitHub, "forking" refers to the act of creating a copy of a project, allowing one to make changes independently of the original. In this context, forking MSMiB enables readers to take the base content and adapt, modify, and expand upon it, tailoring the book to their opinions and needs.

### How to Begin Your Forking Journey

**Start Small:** You don't need to rewrite entire chapters.

**Engage with the Community:** Share your forked version with fellow readers. This encourages discourse, debate, and constructive feedback, allowing your text to be refined and enhanced.

**Celebrate Diverse Voices:** Encourage others around you to fork and create their own versions. The more diverse the texts, the richer our knowledge becomes.





## Chapter 3

# More About GitHub

### Discovering the Power of Collaborative Tools

Diving deeper into the world of GitHub, this chapter provides a comprehensive overview. Beyond its technicalities, we explore how GitHub emerged as a revolutionary platform for collaboration and how it can be leveraged for historical research and narrative building.

#### The Genesis of GitHub

GitHub began as a platform designed for software developers to manage and track changes to their codebase. Launched in 2008, it swiftly gained traction due to its user-friendly interface and efficient version control system powered by Git. Over the years, it evolved from a mere repository hosting service to a dynamic hub of collaboration, housing millions of projects and engaging tens of millions of users worldwide.

#### GitHub: More than Just Code

While GitHub's origins are rooted in code collaboration, its adaptable nature has made it a favored platform for various non-code projects. Writers, designers, educators, and researchers have discovered the potential of GitHub as a tool for:

##### Document Collaboration

With its built-in version control, contributors can track changes, revert to previous versions, and seamlessly merge updates.

##### Project Management

With features like "issues" and "milestones," teams can organize tasks, set goals, and monitor progress.

## **Open Access & Transparency**

Public repositories allow for open contributions, ensuring transparency and fostering a sense of collective ownership.

## **Book Research on GitHub**

The potential of GitHub in book research and narrative building is vast:

### **Source Management**

Writers can use repositories to store primary sources, archival documents, and other materials, ensuring organized and accessible data storage.

### **Collaborative Writing**

Multiple contributors can simultaneously work on a single document, with every change being tracked and attributed, facilitating teamwork on extensive projects like books or research papers.

### **Engaging the Public**

With the platform's inherent transparency, researchers can make their work-in-progress accessible to the public, inviting insights, corrections, and contributions.

### **Feedback Loop**

Readers can raise "issues," pointing out inaccuracies, suggesting enhancements, or even recommending new sections or topics.

### **Forking**

As previously discussed, readers can "fork" the repository, creating their unique versions of the book while staying connected to the original.

### **Regular Updates**

With history being dynamic, the book can be regularly updated, with new versions being released when significant changes are incorporated.

## **Challenges and Considerations**

While GitHub offers many advantages, it's essential to understand its limitations:

### **Learning Curve**

For those unfamiliar with Git or version control, there can be an initial learning curve.

### **Data Overwhelm**

With vast amounts of data and contributions, ensuring quality and accuracy can be challenging.

### **Conclusion: GitHub – A Paradigm Shift in Collaboration**

The rise of GitHub marks a significant shift in how we perceive and participate in collaborative projects.



## Chapter 4

# Forking Process

### The Heart of Collaboration on GitHub

Next we demystify the process of "forking" on GitHub, guiding you step-by-step on how to take MSMiB and create a version uniquely yours.

#### Understanding Forking

Before diving into the specifics, it's crucial to understand what "forking" means in the context of GitHub. In the simplest terms, to "fork" a project means to create a personal copy of someone else's project. Forking allows you to freely experiment with changes without affecting the original project. Forking is akin to taking a book you admire and making a copy to write your notes, edits, or additional chapters without altering the original book.

#### Why Fork?

##### Experimentation

It provides a safe space where you can test out ideas, make changes, or introduce new content.

##### Personalization

For projects like MSMiB, it allows readers to customize the content, tailor it to their perspectives, or even localize it for specific audiences.

##### Collaboration

If you believe your changes have broad appeal, you can propose that they be incorporated back into the original project, enriching it with your unique contributions.

## **Step-by-Step Forking Guide**

### **Set Up Your GitHub Account**

If you don't have an account on GitHub, you'll need to create one. Visit GitHub's official site and sign up.

### **Navigate to the MSMiB Repository**

Once logged in, search for the MSMiB project or navigate to its URL directly.

### **Click the 'Fork' Button**

The fork button is located at the top right corner of the repository page; this button will create a copy of MSMiB in your account.

### **Clone Your Forked Repository**

Forking allows you to have a local copy on your computer, making editing and experimentation easier. Use the command: `git clone [URL of your forked repo]`.

### **Make Your Changes**

Using your preferred tools, introduce the edits, additions, or modifications you desire.

### **Commit and Push Changes**

Once satisfied, save these changes (known as a "commit") and then "push" them to your forked repository on GitHub.

### **Optional – Create a Pull Request**

If you believe your changes should be incorporated into the original MSMiB repository, you can create a "pull request." A pull request notifies the original authors of your suggestions.

## **Things to Keep in Mind**

### **Stay Updated**

The original MSMiB project may undergo updates. It's a good practice to regularly "pull" from the original repo to keep your fork up-to-date.

### **Engage with the Community**

Open-source thrives on community interactions. Engage in discussions, seek feedback, and please remain open to constructive criticism.

## **Conclusion: Embracing the Forking Culture**

Forking is more than just a technical process; it symbolizes the ethos of open-source — a world where knowledge is not hoarded but shared, refined, and built upon collectively. By forking MSMiB or any other project, you're not just creating a personal copy; you're becoming a part of a global movement that values collaboration, innovation, and the shared pursuit of knowledge. So, embark on this journey, make your unique mark, and contribute to the ever-evolving corpus of collective wisdom.





## Chapter 5

# Editing and Customizing

### Tailoring Repositories to Suit Your Needs

Now, let's build upon the forking process; this segment looks into the next steps. How can you edit and customize your version of MSMiB? What tools and techniques are available at your disposal?

### Understanding the GitHub Workspace

Before diving into the specifics of editing, it's essential to familiarize yourself with the GitHub workspace. Think of it as a digital toolshed where each tool serves a unique function:

- **Repository (Repo):** This is the project's main folder where all your project's files are stored and where you track all changes.
- **Branches:** These are parallel versions of a repository, allowing you to work on features or edits without altering the main project.
- **Commits:** This is a saved change in the repository, akin to saving a file after making edits.
- **Pull Requests:** This is how you notify the main project of desired changes, proposing that your edits be merged with the original.

### Editing Files Directly on GitHub

For minor changes, you might opt to edit directly on GitHub:

1. **Navigate to the File:** Within your forked MSMiB repository, find the file you want to edit.
2. **Click the Pencil Icon:** This button allows you to edit the file.

3. **Make Your Edits:** Modify the content as needed.
4. **Save and Commit:** Below the editing pane, you'll see a "commit changes" section. Add a brief note summarizing your changes and click 'Commit.'

## Editing Files Locally

For extensive customization:

1. **Clone Your Repository:** Use a tool like Git to clone (download) your forked repo to your local computer.
2. **Edit Using Your Preferred Tools:** This could range from text editors to specialized software, depending on the file type.
3. **Commit and Push:** After making your changes, save them (commit) and then upload (push) them to your GitHub repository.

## Utilizing Branches for Extensive Customization

Branches are especially useful for significant overhauls or when working on different versions:

1. **Create a New Branch:** From your main project page, use the branch dropdown to type in a new branch name and create it.
2. **Switch to Your Branch:** Ensure you're working in this new parallel environment.
3. **Make and Commit Changes:** As you would in the main project.
4. **Merging:** Once satisfied with your edits in the branch, you can merge these changes back into the main project or keep them separate as a different version.

## Exploring Additional Tools and Extensions

GitHub's ecosystem is rich with tools and extensions to enhance your editing experience:

- **GitHub Desktop:** An application that simplifies the process of managing your repositories without using command-line tools.
- **Markdown Editors:** Since many GitHub files (like READMEs) are written in Markdown, tools like StackEdit or Dillinger can be invaluable.
- **Extensions for Browsers:** Tools like Octotree can help in navigating repositories more effortlessly.

## **Conclusion: The Art of Tailored Content**

Editing and customizing on GitHub might seem daunting initially, but with practice, it transforms into a manageable workflow. Many people find that the ability to take a project like MSMiB and mold it into something uniquely theirs is empowering. It's a testament to the open-source community's ethos, where shared knowledge becomes the canvas and our collective edits, the brushstrokes, crafting an ever-evolving masterpiece. As you embark on your customization journey, remember that every edit, no matter how small, contributes to the project potentially in significant ways.



## Chapter 6

# Engaging with the Community

### Joining the Global Conversation

#### The Significance of the GitHub Community

The digital age has bestowed upon us the gift of connectivity. On platforms like GitHub, this connectivity transcends borders, disciplines, and ideologies, culminating in a melting pot of diverse ideas and knowledge.

#### 1. Discussions and Debates

One of the most enriching aspects of the GitHub community is the plethora of discussions that unfold:

- **Issues:** A core feature of GitHub, "issues" allow users to raise questions, report problems, or propose enhancements.
- **GitHub Discussions:** A newer feature, Discussions, acts like a community forum. It's an excellent place for extended conversations, brainstorming, and sharing ideas or resources.

#### 2. Collaborative Content Creation

Beyond solitary endeavors, GitHub shines in its collaborative capabilities:

- **Pull Requests:** If you've made an alteration to a historical narrative or added a new perspective, pull requests are the way to propose these changes to the original repository owner. Pull requests foster a collaborative spirit, where content isn't static but continually evolving with community input.

- **Fork and Merge:** As you've learned, forking allows you to create your version of a repository. Engaging with the Community means you can merge changes from others into your fork, blending a mixture of diverse insights.

### 3. Building and Nurturing Networks

Connections made on GitHub often spill over into lasting professional relationships:

- **Following and Followers:** Like on social media platforms, you can follow contributors whose work resonates with you. Following contributors creates a curated feed of updates and also allows you to be part of a more extensive network.
- **GitHub Stars:** If a particular project or repository impresses you, give it a star! Starring not only bookmarks the project for you but also shows appreciation to the creator.

### 4. Learning and Growing Through Feedback

The Community's feedback is an invaluable asset:

- **Code Reviews:** Although traditionally for software, historians can use this feature to receive feedback on their methodologies or approaches, refining their work.
- **Community Insights:** The "insights" tab on a repository provides analytics.

### 5. Participating in Community Events

GitHub often hosts and sponsors events:

- **Hackathons:** Participants collaboratively tackle projects or themes.
- **Webinars and Workshops:** These events can range from mastering GitHub's technical side to thematic discussions.

### A Project of Collective Engagement

GitHub, with its dynamic Community, offers a space where threads can intertwine and where collaboration can paint a more complete picture. By engaging with this Community, you become an active participant in creation and interpretation.

## Chapter 7

# Introduction to MSMiB and Python

### 7.1 What is Python?

Python is a high-level, interpreted programming language known for its simplicity and readability. It's widely used in various fields, from web development to data science, and is particularly popular in educational contexts due to its straightforward syntax.

Python is an excellent tool for exploring mathematical concepts and solving problems. Its ability to handle calculations, visualize data, and automate repetitive tasks makes it a valuable resource for students and educators alike.

### 7.2 Using Python in Middle School Math

In middle school mathematics, Python can be used to:

- Perform arithmetic operations and explore number properties.
- Solve equations and analyze patterns.
- Visualize mathematical concepts through graphs and simulations.
- Develop computational thinking skills.

### 7.3 Python Examples in Middle School Math

Let's look at some basic examples where Python can be used to solve middle school math problems.

### 7.3.1 Arithmetic Operations

Python can perform basic arithmetic operations like addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division.

```
# Example: Arithmetic operations in Python
a = 10
b = 3

sum = a + b
difference = a - b
product = a * b
quotient = a / b

print("Sum:", sum)
print("Difference:", difference)
print("Product:", product)
print("Quotient:", quotient)
```

### 7.3.2 Solving a Linear Equation

Python can be used to solve equations. For example, solving for  $x$  in the equation  $2x + 3 = 7$ .

```
# Example: Solving 2x + 3 = 7
x = (7 - 3) / 2
print("The value of x is:", x)
```

### 7.3.3 Graphing a Function

Python, with libraries like Matplotlib, can graph functions. Here's how to graph  $y = x^2$ .

```
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import numpy as np

# Example: Graphing y = x^2
x = np.linspace(-10, 10, 100)
y = x ** 2

plt.plot(x, y)
plt.xlabel('x')
plt.ylabel('y')
plt.title('Graph of y = x^2')
plt.grid(True)
plt.show()
```



### 7.3.4 Exploring Number Patterns

Python can generate and explore number patterns, such as a sequence of even numbers.

```
# Example: Generating the first 10 even numbers
even_numbers = [2 * i for i in range(1, 11)]
print("First 10 even numbers:", even_numbers)
```

These examples demonstrate Python's utility in making math interactive and engaging for middle school students. By integrating Python into the curriculum, students can see the practical applications of mathematical concepts and develop a deeper understanding of the subject.





## Chapter 8

# Applying Pólya's Problem-Solving Techniques in Middle School Math

### 8.1 Introduction to Pólya's "How To Solve It"

#### 8.1.1 Overview of the Book

#### 8.1.2 Relevance to Middle School Math

### 8.2 Pólya's Four-Step Problem-Solving Process

#### 8.2.1 Understanding the Problem

#### 8.2.2 Devising a Plan

#### 8.2.3 Carrying Out the Plan

#### 8.2.4 Looking Back

### 8.3 Heuristic Techniques in Problem Solving

#### 8.3.1 Use of Analogy and Visualization

#### 8.3.2 Working Backwards and Logical Reasoning

### 8.4 Fostering Mathematical Creativity

#### 8.4.1 Encouraging Exploration and Curiosity

#### 8.4.2 Overcoming Barriers to Problem Solving

### 8.5 Integrating Pólya's Techniques in Classroom Teaching

#### 8.5.1 Teaching Methods that Embrace Pólya's Ideas

#### 8.5.2 Assessing Problem-Solving Skills



## Chapter 9

# Expanding on Pólya's "How To Solve It" for Middle School Math

### 9.1 Case Studies in Problem Solving

#### 9.1.1 Case Study 1: Algebraic Equations

Problem Description

Applying Pólya's Steps

Solution and Discussion

#### 9.1.2 Case Study 2: Geometry and Spatial Thinking

Problem Description

Applying Pólya's Steps

Solution and Discussion

### 9.2 Grade 8 Lesson Plan: Incorporating Problem Solving

#### 9.2.1 Lesson Objective

#### 9.2.2 Introduction to the Topic

#### 9.2.3 Interactive Problem-Solving Activity

#### 9.2.4 Group Discussion and Reflection

#### 9.2.5 Homework Assignment

### 9.3 Parental Engagement: A Problem-Solving Example at Home

#### 9.3.1 Introduction to the Home Activity

#### 9.3.2 The Problem: Everyday Mathematics

#### 9.3.3 Guided Problem-Solving Steps

## Chapter 10

# Grade 8 Lesson Plan: Applying Pólya's Problem-Solving Techniques

### 10.1 Lesson Overview

10.1.1 Subject: Grade 8 Mathematics

10.1.2 Topic: Solving Quadratic Equations

10.1.3 Duration: 50 minutes

#### 10.1.4 Learning Objectives

- Understand the structure of quadratic equations
- Apply Pólya's four-step method to solve quadratic equations
- Develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills

## 10.2 Lesson Introduction

### 10.2.1 Brief Review of Algebraic Concepts

### 10.2.2 Introduction to Quadratic Equations

## 10.3 Pólya's Four-Step Method in Action

### 10.3.1 Step 1: Understand the Problem

- Identify what a quadratic equation is
- Discuss the standard form of quadratic equations

### 10.3.2 Step 2: Devise a Plan

- Explore methods to solve quadratic equations (factoring, completing the square, quadratic formula)
- Choose an appropriate method for the given problem

### 10.3.3 Step 3: Carry Out the Plan

- Apply the selected method to solve the equation
- Step-by-step demonstration of the chosen method

### 10.3.4 Step 4: Review/Extend the Solution

- Verify the solution
- Discuss alternate methods and solutions

## 10.4 Problem Example and Solution

### 10.4.1 Example Problem

*Solve the quadratic equation  $x^2 - 5x + 6 = 0$*

### 10.4.2 Applying Pólya's Method

1. **Understanding the Problem:** Identify the equation as a quadratic equation.
2. **Devising a Plan:** Choose to solve by factoring.
3. **Carrying Out the Plan:**
  - Factor the equation:  $(x - 2)(x - 3) = 0$



- Set each factor equal to zero and solve for  $x$ :  $x = 2$  and  $x = 3$
4. **Looking Back:** Check the solutions by substituting back into the original equation.

## 10.5 Classroom Activities

### 10.5.1 Group Problem-Solving Exercise

### 10.5.2 Peer Review and Discussion

## 10.6 Conclusion and Homework

### 10.6.1 Lesson Summary

### 10.6.2 Homework Assignment



## Chapter 11

# More on Pólya's "How To Solve It": Relevance in Middle School Math Education

### 11.1 Introduction

#### 11.1.1 The Enduring Impact of Pólya's Techniques

#### 11.1.2 Fostering a Love for Mathematics

### 11.2 The Thrill of Discovery in Mathematics

#### 11.2.1 Discovering New Concepts

- Emphasizing the joy of uncovering new mathematical ideas
- Encouraging exploration and curiosity

#### 11.2.2 Personal Achievement in Problem Solving

- The satisfaction of solving challenging problems
- Building confidence through successful problem-solving experiences

## **11.3 Cultivating an Appreciation for Mathematics**

### **11.3.1 Overcoming Math Anxiety**

- Strategies for reducing fear and building a positive attitude
- The role of educators and parents in changing perceptions

### **11.3.2 Math is for Everyone**

- Debunking the myth that math ability is innate
- Encouraging all students to engage with math

## **11.4 Pólya's Problem-Solving Techniques in Practice**

### **11.4.1 Understanding Before Solving**

- The importance of deeply understanding a problem
- Techniques for analyzing and dissecting mathematical challenges

### **11.4.2 The Value of Perseverance**

- Encouraging persistence in the face of challenging problems
- Learning from failed attempts and mistakes

## **11.5 Integrating Pólya's Vision in the Classroom**

### **11.5.1 Creating a Problem-Solving Culture**

- Techniques for fostering a classroom environment that values inquiry and perseverance
- Using Pólya's techniques as a foundation for daily math activities

### **11.5.2 Celebrating Mathematical Discoveries**

- Recognizing and celebrating students' problem-solving achievements
- Sharing and discussing diverse problem-solving approaches

## Chapter 12

# Domain I: Number Concepts

### 12.1 Competency 001: Structure of Number Systems

#### 12.1.1 Structure of Numeration Systems

#### 12.1.2 Roles of Place Value and Zero

#### 12.1.3 Magnitude of Different Number Types

### 12.2 Competency 001: Structure of Number Systems

#### 12.2.1 Structure of Numeration Systems

This subsection explores the development and structure of different numeration systems, including the Roman numeral system, the Egyptian hieroglyphic system, and the currently prevalent Hindu-Arabic numeral system. Students will learn how different civilizations conceptualized and represented numbers.

**Example:** Compare the representation of the number fifty in Roman numerals (L) and Hindu-Arabic numerals (50), highlighting the differences in structure and ease of use in calculations.

#### 12.2.2 Roles of Place Value and Zero

Place value is a fundamental concept in our number system, where the value of a digit depends on its position. This subsection emphasizes the importance of place value in performing arithmetic operations efficiently. The introduction of

zero as a number and its role as a placeholder in the place value system is also discussed, illustrating its significance in modern mathematics.

**Example:** Demonstrate how the number 205 differs from 250 by changing the position of 0, showing the importance of place value. Additionally, explain how the introduction of zero transformed the way we perform arithmetic operations.

### 12.2.3 Magnitude of Different Number Types

This subsection covers the concept of the magnitude of numbers, comparing and contrasting different types of numbers such as whole numbers, integers, rational numbers, and real numbers. Students will learn to understand the relative size and scope of these number types, including an introduction to the concept of infinity.

**Example:** Use a number line to compare the magnitudes of -3,  $1/2$ , and 4, showing their positions relative to each other and discussing the concept of absolute value to understand their sizes.

## 12.3 Competency 001: Structure of Number Systems

### 12.3.1 Structure of Numeration Systems

This subsection explores different numeration systems, their historical contexts, and their structures. Understanding these systems helps appreciate the evolution of mathematical thought.

**Example:** Compare the representation of the year 2024 in Roman numerals and Hindu-Arabic numerals. In Roman numerals, 2024 is written as MMXXIV, which combines symbols for 1000, 10, and 5 minus 1. In Hindu-Arabic numerals, it is written as 2024, showing a sequential and positional use of numbers.

**Worked Example:**

- Roman numeral MMXXIV is comprised of two M's (each representing 1000), two X's (each representing 10), and IV (representing 4, as 5 minus 1). Thus, MMXXIV represents  $1000 + 1000 + 10 + 10 + (5 - 1) = 2024$ .
- In Hindu-Arabic numerals, the number 2024 is represented positionally, where '2' is in the thousand's place, '0' in the hundred's place, '2' in the ten's place, and '4' in the one's place.

### 12.3.2 Roles of Place Value and Zero

Place value significantly influences the understanding and manipulation of numbers. The role of zero is pivotal as both a placeholder and a numeral.

**Example:** Illustrate the difference between 406 and 460 to demonstrate place value and the role of zero.

### Worked Example:

- In 406, the digit 4 is in the hundreds place, 0 in the tens place, and 6 in the ones place, making it four hundred and six.
- In 460, the digit 4 is in the hundreds place, 6 in the tens place, and 0 in the ones place, making it four hundred and sixty.

### 12.3.3 Magnitude of Different Number Types

Understanding the magnitude of numbers, including whole numbers, integers, rational numbers, and real numbers, is crucial in mathematics.

**Example:** Use a number line to demonstrate the relative positions and magnitudes of -3,  $1/2$ , and 4.

#### Worked Example:

- On a number line, -3 is located three units to the left of 0,  $1/2$  is located halfway between 0 and 1, and 4 is located four units to the right of 0.
- This placement visually represents that -3 is less than  $1/2$ , and  $1/2$  is less than 4. The concept of absolute value can further be used to understand that the magnitude of -3 (which is 3) is less than the magnitude of 4.

## 12.4 Competency 001: Structure of Number Systems

### 12.4.1 Structure of Numeration Systems

Python can be used to explore different numeration systems, like converting decimal numbers to binary.

```
# Example: Converting a decimal number to binary
decimal_number = 25
binary_number = bin(decimal_number)
print(f"Binary representation of {decimal_number} is {binary_number}")
```

### 12.4.2 Roles of Place Value and Zero

Python can demonstrate the concept of place value in numbers.

```
# Example: Understanding place value
number = 1234
place_values = [int(digit) * 10 ** i for i, digit in enumerate(str(number)[:-1])]
print(f"Place values in {number}: {place_values}")
```

### 12.4.3 Magnitude of Different Number Types

Python can be used to compare the magnitude of different types of numbers.

```
# Example: Comparing magnitudes of numbers
num1 = -5
num2 = 4.3
num3 = 7/2

print(f"Absolute magnitude of {num1} is {abs(num1)}")
print(f"Absolute magnitude of {num2} is {abs(num2)}")
print(f"Absolute magnitude of {num3} is {abs(num3)}")
```

## 12.5 Competency 002: Number Operations and Computational Algorithms

### 12.5.1 Operations with Real and Complex Numbers

### 12.5.2 Number Properties, Operations, and Algorithms

### 12.5.3 Error Patterns in Algorithms

## 12.6 Competency 002: Number Operations and Computational Algorithms

### 12.6.1 Operations with Real and Complex Numbers

This subsection delves into the arithmetic of real numbers (including fractions, decimals, and irrational numbers) and introduces the basic operations with complex numbers (addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division).

**Example:** Demonstrate how to add two complex numbers, such as  $1 + 2i$  and  $3 + 4i$ .

**Worked Example:**

$$\begin{aligned}(1 + 2i) + (3 + 4i) &= (1 + 3) + (2i + 4i) \\ &= 4 + 6i.\end{aligned}$$

### 12.6.2 Number Properties, Operations, and Algorithms

This subsection covers the fundamental properties of numbers (like commutativity, associativity, distributivity) and their applications in operations and algorithms. It includes understanding how these properties facilitate various computational strategies.

**Example:** Use the distributive property to simplify the expression  $3(2 + 4)$ .



**Worked Example:**

$$\begin{aligned} 3(2 + 4) &= 3 \cdot 2 + 3 \cdot 4 \\ &= 6 + 12 \\ &= 18. \end{aligned}$$

### 12.6.3 Error Patterns in Algorithms

This subsection is aimed at recognizing and understanding common error patterns that can occur in computational algorithms. It involves analyzing student work to identify misconceptions and procedural mistakes.

**Example:** Examine a common error in long division, such as dividing 123 by 5, where a student forgets to bring down a digit.

**Worked Example:**

- Correct Division:  $123 \div 5 = 24 \text{ R } 3$
- Error Pattern: Student performs  $12 \div 5 = 2$  and then  $3 \div 5 = 0.6$ , resulting in an incorrect answer of 2.6.
- Analysis: The student's mistake is not bringing down the last digit (3) after dividing 12 by 5, leading to a misunderstanding of the long division process.

## 12.7 Competency 002: Number Operations and Computational Algorithms

### 12.7.1 Operations with Real and Complex Numbers

Python can handle operations with real and complex numbers.

```
# Example: Operations with complex numbers
complex_num1 = 1 + 2j
complex_num2 = 3 + 4j

sum = complex_num1 + complex_num2
product = complex_num1 * complex_num2

print(f"Sum of complex numbers: {sum}")
print(f"Product of complex numbers: {product}")
```

### 12.7.2 Number Properties, Operations, and Algorithms

Python can illustrate number properties through operations and algorithms.

```
# Example: Demonstrating commutative property
a = 7
b = 5

print(f"a + b = {a + b}")
print(f"b + a = {b + a}")
```

### 12.7.3 Error Patterns in Algorithms

Python can be used to show common error patterns in mathematical algorithms.

```
# Example: Common error in division algorithm
dividend = 100
divisor = 0

# Handling division by zero error
try:
    result = dividend / divisor
except ZeroDivisionError:
    print("Error: Cannot divide by zero")
```

## 12.8 Competency 003: Number Theory and Problem Solving

### 12.8.1 Number Theory Concepts

### 12.8.2 Using Numbers to Model Problems

## 12.9 Competency 003: Number Theory and Problem Solving

### 12.9.1 Number Theory Concepts

This subsection introduces key concepts of number theory, including prime numbers, divisibility, factors, and prime factorization. These concepts form the foundation for understanding more complex number theory topics and their applications.

**Example:** Demonstrate the prime factorization of 60.

### Worked Example:

$$\begin{aligned} 60 &= 2 \times 30 \\ &= 2 \times 2 \times 15 \\ &= 2 \times 2 \times 3 \times 5 \\ &= 2^2 \times 3 \times 5. \end{aligned}$$

The prime factorization of 60 is  $2^2 \times 3 \times 5$ .

## 12.9.2 Using Numbers to Model Problems

This subsection focuses on the application of number theory concepts in modeling and solving real-world problems. It covers how to use numbers to describe various scenarios and develop problem-solving strategies based on numerical relationships.

**Example:** Use number theory concepts to solve a problem involving divisibility, such as finding the least common multiple (LCM) of two numbers to schedule recurring events.

**Worked Example:** Consider scheduling two activities, one occurring every 4 days and another every 6 days. Find the first day they will occur together.

LCM of 4 and 6 = Prime factorization of 4:  $2^2$   
= Prime factorization of 6:  $2 \times 3$   
=  $2^2 \times 3$  (include each prime factor the greatest number of times it occurs in any one factorization)  
= 12.

## 12.10 Competency 003: Number Theory and Problem Solving

### 12.10.1 Number Theory Concepts

Python can explore number theory concepts like prime factorization.

```
# Example: Prime factorization
def prime_factors(n):
    factors = []
    # Check for even factors
    while n % 2 == 0:
        factors.append(2)
        n //= 2
    # Check for odd factors
    for i in range(3, int(n**0.5) + 1, 2):
        while n % i == 0:
            factors.append(i)
```

```
        n //= i
    if n > 2:
        factors.append(n)
    return factors

number = 60
factors = prime_factors(number)
print(f"Prime factors of {number}: {factors}")
```

### 12.10.2 Using Numbers to Model Problems

Python can be used to model and solve problems using numbers.

```
# Example: Using numbers to solve a problem
# Problem: If a car travels 100 km in 1.5 hours, what is its average
#          speed?
distance = 100 # in kilometers
time = 1.5 # in hours
average_speed = distance / time
print(f"Average speed of the car: {average_speed} km/h")
```

## Chapter 13

# Domain II: Patterns and Algebra

### 13.1 Competency 004: Patterns and Mathematical Reasoning

#### 13.1.1 Inductive Reasoning and Patterns

#### 13.1.2 Sequences and Functions

### 13.2 Competency 004: Patterns and Mathematical Reasoning

#### 13.2.1 Inductive Reasoning and Patterns

Inductive reasoning in mathematics involves observing patterns and making generalizations. This subsection covers how students can identify, analyze, and extend patterns to develop mathematical conjectures.

**Example:** Identify the next number in the pattern 2, 4, 8, 16, ...

**Worked Example:**

- Observe that each number is twice the preceding number.
- The pattern follows the rule  $a_n = 2^n$ , where  $a_n$  is the  $n$ -th term.
- The next number after 16 (which is  $2^4$ ) would be  $2^5 = 32$ .

#### 13.2.2 Sequences and Functions

This subsection introduces sequences and functions as fundamental mathematical concepts. It covers how sequences are formed, how to find terms in a sequence, and the idea of representing relationships through functions.

**Example:** Determine the 10th term in the arithmetic sequence 3, 7, 11, 15, ...

**Worked Example:**

- Identify the common difference between consecutive terms, which is  $7 - 3 = 4$ .
- The  $n$ -th term of an arithmetic sequence is given by  $a_n = a_1 + (n - 1)d$ , where  $a_1$  is the first term and  $d$  is the common difference.
- For the 10th term,  $n = 10$ ,  $a_1 = 3$ , and  $d = 4$ .
- Therefore,  $a_{10} = 3 + (10 - 1) \times 4 = 3 + 36 = 39$ .

## 13.3 Competency 004: Patterns and Mathematical Reasoning

### 13.3.1 Inductive Reasoning and Patterns

Python can be used to identify patterns and apply inductive reasoning.

```
# Example: Identifying a pattern
numbers = [1, 4, 9, 16, 25] # Square numbers
next_number = (len(numbers) + 1) ** 2
print(f"The next number in the pattern is: {next_number}")
```

### 13.3.2 Sequences and Functions

Python can generate sequences and represent functions.

```
# Example: Generating an arithmetic sequence
def arithmetic_sequence(start, diff, n):
    return [start + i * diff for i in range(n)]

sequence = arithmetic_sequence(5, 3, 10)
print(f"Arithmetic sequence: {sequence}")
```

## 13.4 Competency 005: Linear Functions

### 13.4.1 Concept of Linear Function

### 13.4.2 Linear Equations and Graphs

## 13.5 Competency 005: Linear Functions

### 13.5.1 Concept of Linear Function

Linear functions are foundational in algebra and represent a constant rate of change. This subsection introduces the concept of linear functions, their standard form  $y = mx + b$ , where  $m$  is the slope and  $b$  is the y-intercept, and how these functions model real-world situations.

**Example:** Describe a real-world situation that can be modeled by a linear function, such as the relationship between the distance traveled and time at a constant speed.

**Worked Example:**

- Consider a car traveling at a constant speed of 60 km/h.
- The distance traveled  $d$  (in km) in  $t$  hours can be represented by the linear function  $d = 60t$ .
- After 3 hours, the distance traveled would be  $d = 60 \times 3 = 180$  km.

### 13.5.2 Linear Equations and Graphs

This subsection focuses on graphing linear equations and understanding the graphical representation of linear functions. It includes plotting linear equations on the Cartesian plane and interpreting the meaning of the slope and y-intercept in the context of a graph.

**Example:** Graph the linear equation  $y = 2x - 3$  and interpret its slope and y-intercept.

**Worked Example:**

- The slope  $m$  of the equation  $y = 2x - 3$  is 2, indicating that for every unit increase in  $x$ ,  $y$  increases by 2 units.
- The y-intercept  $b$  is -3, meaning the line crosses the y-axis at  $y = -3$ .
- Plot the y-intercept and use the slope to find another point (e.g., from  $y = -3$ , move up 2 units and to the right 1 unit to find the point (1, -1)).
- Draw the line through these points to represent the equation.

## 13.6 Competency 005: Linear Functions

### 13.6.1 Concept of Linear Function

Python can be used to explore the concept of linear functions.

```
# Example: Defining a linear function
def linear_function(x):
    return 2 * x + 3

y = linear_function(5)
print(f"Value of the linear function at x = 5: {y}")
```

### 13.6.2 Linear Equations and Graphs

Python can graph linear equations and explore their properties.

```
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import numpy as np

# Example: Graphing a linear equation y = mx + b
m = 2
b = 1
x = np.linspace(-10, 10, 100)
y = m * x + b

plt.plot(x, y)
plt.xlabel('x')
plt.ylabel('y')
plt.title('Graph of y = 2x + 1')
plt.grid(True)
plt.show()
```

## 13.7 Competency 006: Nonlinear Functions

### 13.7.1 Quadratic Functions and Relations

### 13.7.2 Exponential Growth and Decay

## 13.8 Competency 006: Nonlinear Functions

### 13.8.1 Quadratic Functions and Relations

Quadratic functions, represented as  $y = ax^2 + bx + c$ , are fundamental in algebra and describe parabolic relationships. This subsection explores the structure of



quadratic equations, their graph (parabolas), and applications in real-world scenarios.

**Example:** Graph the quadratic function  $y = x^2 - 4x + 3$  and discuss its features such as the vertex and axis of symmetry.

**Worked Example:**

- The vertex form of a quadratic equation is  $y = a(x - h)^2 + k$ , where  $(h, k)$  is the vertex.
- To find the vertex of  $y = x^2 - 4x + 3$ , complete the square to rewrite it in vertex form.
- The completed square form is  $y = (x - 2)^2 - 1$ , so the vertex is  $(2, -1)$ .
- The axis of symmetry is the line  $x = 2$ .
- Plot the vertex and additional points, then draw the parabola.

## 13.8.2 Exponential Growth and Decay

Exponential functions are characterized by a constant percentage rate of increase or decrease and are modeled by  $y = ab^x$ , where  $a$  is the initial amount,  $b$  is the growth (or decay) factor, and  $x$  is time or another independent variable. This subsection covers their applications in real-life contexts like population growth and radioactive decay.

**Example:** Model a population of bacteria that doubles every hour, starting with 100 bacteria.

**Worked Example:**

- The initial amount of bacteria  $a$  is 100.
- Since the population doubles every hour, the growth factor  $b$  is 2.
- The exponential growth function is  $y = 100 \cdot 2^x$ , where  $x$  is time in hours.
- After 3 hours, the population would be  $y = 100 \cdot 2^3 = 800$  bacteria.

## 13.9 Competency 006: Nonlinear Functions

### 13.9.1 Quadratic Functions and Relations

Python can be used to explore quadratic functions.

```
# Example: Evaluating a quadratic function
def quadratic_function(x):
    return x**2 - 5*x + 6

y = quadratic_function(3)
print(f"Value of the quadratic function at x = 3: {y}")
```

### 13.9.2 Exponential Growth and Decay

Python can model exponential growth and decay.

```
# Example: Modeling exponential growth
initial_population = 100
growth_rate = 0.05 # 5% growth rate
time = 10 # in years

final_population = initial_population * (1 + growth_rate) ** time
print(f"Population after {time} years: {final_population}")
```

## 13.10 Competency 007: Foundations of Calculus

### 13.10.1 Concept of Limit

### 13.10.2 Average and Instantaneous Rate of Change

## 13.11 Competency 007: Foundations of Calculus

### 13.11.1 Concept of Limit

The concept of a limit is a cornerstone in calculus. It describes the behavior of a function as it approaches a certain point. This subsection introduces the basic idea of limits and how they are used to understand the behavior of functions near specific points.

**Example:** Explain the concept of a limit using a simple function, such as  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$ , as  $x$  approaches 0.

**Worked Example:**

- Consider the function  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$ .
- As  $x$  approaches 0 from the positive side, the values of  $f(x)$  become very large. This is observed as the function values increase without bound.
- We say that the limit of  $f(x)$  as  $x$  approaches 0 from the positive side is infinity, symbolically written as  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{1}{x} = \infty$ .

### 13.11.2 Average and Instantaneous Rate of Change

The average rate of change of a function over an interval gives the overall rate at which the function changes over that interval. The instantaneous rate of change, on the other hand, is the rate at a specific moment and is a fundamental concept leading to the derivative in calculus.

**Example:** Calculate the average rate of change of the function  $f(x) = x^2$  from  $x = 1$  to  $x = 4$ .

**Worked Example:**

- The average rate of change of a function  $f(x)$  over an interval  $[a, b]$  is given by  $\frac{f(b)-f(a)}{b-a}$ .
- For  $f(x) = x^2$  from  $x = 1$  to  $x = 4$ :
- Calculate  $f(1) = 1^2 = 1$  and  $f(4) = 4^2 = 16$ .
- The average rate of change is  $\frac{16-1}{4-1} = \frac{15}{3} = 5$ .
- This means that, on average, the function increases by 5 units for each unit increase in  $x$  over this interval.

## 13.12 Competency 007: Foundations of Calculus

### 13.12.1 Concept of Limit

Python can be used to introduce the concept of limits.

```
# Example: Approximating a limit
def f(x):
    return (x**2 - 1) / (x - 1)

limit = f(0.9999)
print(f"Approximate limit: {limit}")
```

### 13.12.2 Average and Instantaneous Rate of Change

Python can calculate the average and instantaneous rate of change.

```
# Example: Average rate of change
def average_rate_of_change(f, a, b):
    return (f(b) - f(a)) / (b - a)

def f(x):
    return 2 * x**2 + 3*x

avg_rate = average_rate_of_change(f, 1, 4)
print(f"Average rate of change: {avg_rate}")
```



## Chapter 14

# Domain III: Geometry and Measurement

### 14.1 Competency 008: Measurement Process

#### 14.1.1 Units of Measurement

#### 14.1.2 Conversions and Dimensional Analysis

### 14.2 Competency 008: Measurement Process

#### 14.2.1 Units of Measurement

This subsection introduces various units of measurement used in different systems, such as the Metric system and the Imperial system. It emphasizes the importance of selecting appropriate units for specific measurements, such as length, mass, volume, and temperature.

**Example:** Discuss the appropriate units to measure the length of a classroom.

**Worked Example:**

- In the Metric system, meters (m) or centimeters (cm) are suitable units for measuring the length of a classroom.
- If the classroom is approximately 10 meters long, it would be measured as 10 m or 1000 cm.

#### 14.2.2 Conversions and Dimensional Analysis

Conversions between different units within the same system or between systems (like Metric to Imperial) are crucial in various fields. Dimensional analysis is a technique used to convert units and ensure that equations make sense in terms of dimensions (such as length, time, mass).

**Example:** Convert 5 kilometers to meters.

**Worked Example:**

- Recognize that 1 kilometer (km) equals 1000 meters (m).
- Therefore, to convert 5 km to meters, multiply 5 by 1000.
- $5 \text{ km} \times 1000 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{km}} = 5000 \text{ m}$ .
- So, 5 km is equivalent to 5000 meters.

## 14.3 Competency 008: Measurement Process

### 14.3.1 Units of Measurement

Python can assist in understanding different units of measurement.

```
# Example: Converting inches to centimeters
inches = 12
centimeters = inches * 2.54
print(f"{inches} inches is equal to {centimeters} centimeters")
```

### 14.3.2 Conversions and Dimensional Analysis

Python can be used for dimensional analysis and unit conversions.

```
# Example: Converting miles to kilometers
miles = 5
kilometers = miles * 1.60934
print(f"{miles} miles is equal to {kilometers} kilometers")
```

## 14.4 Competency 009: Euclidean Geometry

### 14.4.1 Properties of Geometric Figures

### 14.4.2 Geometric Constructions

## 14.5 Competency 009: Euclidean Geometry

### 14.5.1 Properties of Geometric Figures

This subsection focuses on the essential properties of geometric figures such as triangles, quadrilaterals, circles, and polygons. It includes discussions on angles, sides, congruence, similarity, and the Pythagorean theorem.

**Example:** Explain the properties of an isosceles triangle and identify them in a given figure.

**Worked Example:**

- An isosceles triangle has two sides of equal length and two angles of equal measure.
- Given a triangle ABC where  $AB = AC$ , it is identified as an isosceles triangle.
- The angles opposite the equal sides,  $\angle B$  and  $\angle C$ , are of equal measure.

### 14.5.2 Geometric Constructions

Geometric constructions involve creating exact figures using a compass and straightedge. This subsection covers basic constructions such as bisecting a line segment, constructing perpendicular lines, and constructing angles of specific measures.

**Example:** Describe the steps to construct a perpendicular bisector of a given line segment.

**Worked Example:**

- Given a line segment AB, place the compass at point A and draw an arc above and below the line.
- Without changing the compass width, repeat from point B intersecting the previous arcs.
- Draw a line through the intersection points of the arcs. This line is the perpendicular bisector of AB.

## 14.6 Competency 009: Euclidean Geometry

### 14.6.1 Properties of Geometric Figures

Python can help explore the properties of geometric figures.

```
# Example: Calculating the perimeter of a rectangle
length = 10
width = 5
perimeter = 2 * (length + width)
print(f"The perimeter of the rectangle is {perimeter}")
```

### 14.6.2 Geometric Constructions

Python can simulate basic geometric constructions.

```
# Example: Drawing a circle using Matplotlib
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

circle = plt.Circle((0.5, 0.5), 0.4, color='blue', fill=False)
```

```
fig, ax = plt.subplots()
ax.add_artist(circle)
plt.xlim(0, 1)
plt.ylim(0, 1)
plt.title('Circle Construction')
plt.show()
```

## 14.7 Competency 010: Properties of Figures

### 14.7.1 Formulas for Geometric Figures

### 14.7.2 Two- and Three-Dimensional Figures

## 14.8 Competency 010: Properties of Figures

### 14.8.1 Formulas for Geometric Figures

This subsection covers essential formulas used to calculate the area, perimeter, and volume of various geometric shapes such as squares, rectangles, triangles, circles, and more complex figures. Understanding these formulas is crucial for solving a wide range of geometric problems.

**Example:** Provide the formula for the area of a circle and calculate the area of a circle with a radius of 5 cm.

**Worked Example:**

- The area of a circle is given by  $A = \pi r^2$ , where  $r$  is the radius.
- For a circle with a radius of 5 cm, the area is  $A = \pi \times 5^2 = 25\pi \text{ cm}^2$ .

### 14.8.2 Two- and Three-Dimensional Figures

This subsection delves into the properties and relationships between two-dimensional (2D) and three-dimensional (3D) geometric figures. It includes understanding how 2D shapes form the bases or faces of 3D figures and how to calculate surface area and volume of 3D figures.

**Example:** Explain how a rectangle can be a base of a rectangular prism and demonstrate how to calculate the surface area of a rectangular prism with given dimensions.

**Worked Example:**

- A rectangle with length  $l$  and width  $w$  can serve as the base of a rectangular prism. The height of the prism is  $h$ .
- The surface area of a rectangular prism is calculated by  $SA = 2lw + 2lh + 2wh$ .
- For a prism with dimensions  $l = 4 \text{ cm}$ ,  $w = 3 \text{ cm}$ , and  $h = 5 \text{ cm}$ , the surface area is  $SA = 2(4 \times 3) + 2(4 \times 5) + 2(3 \times 5) = 94 \text{ cm}^2$ .



## 14.9 Competency 010: Properties of Figures

### 14.9.1 Formulas for Geometric Figures

Python can calculate areas and volumes of geometric figures.

```
# Example: Area of a triangle
base = 10
height = 5
area = 0.5 * base * height
print(f"The area of the triangle is {area}")
```

### 14.9.2 Two- and Three-Dimensional Figures

Python can be used to explore properties of 2D and 3D figures.

```
# Example: Volume of a cylinder
import math
radius = 3
height = 7
volume = math.pi * radius**2 * height
print(f"The volume of the cylinder is {volume}")
```

## 14.10 Competency 011: Transformational Geometry

### 14.10.1 Transformations and Symmetry

### 14.10.2 Coordinate Plane and Trigonometry

## 14.11 Competency 011: Transformational Geometry

### 14.11.1 Transformations and Symmetry

This subsection explores the concepts of geometric transformations, including translations, rotations, reflections, and dilations. It also covers the principles of symmetry, both line and rotational symmetry, in different geometric figures.

**Example:** Describe a reflection transformation and identify the line of symmetry in a given geometric figure.

**Worked Example:**

- A reflection transformation flips a figure over a line, called the line of symmetry.
- Consider an isosceles triangle with the base horizontal. The line of symmetry would be a vertical line through the apex, bisecting the base.

- Reflecting the triangle over this line results in the same triangle, indicating that the line is indeed a line of symmetry.

### 14.11.2 Coordinate Plane and Trigonometry

This subsection links the concepts of the coordinate plane with trigonometry, focusing on the use of trigonometric ratios (sine, cosine, and tangent) in the context of right-angled triangles and their applications in solving problems involving angles and distances in the coordinate plane.

**Example:** Use trigonometric ratios to find the length of a side in a right-angled triangle given the lengths of the other two sides.

**Worked Example:**

- Consider a right-angled triangle with one leg of 3 units and the hypotenuse of 5 units.
- To find the length of the other leg, let's call it  $b$ , we can use the Pythagorean theorem or the cosine ratio.
- Using the cosine ratio:  $\cos(\theta) = \frac{\text{adjacent}}{\text{hypotenuse}}$ .
- If  $\theta$  is the angle opposite leg  $b$ , then  $\cos(\theta) = \frac{3}{5}$ .
- To find  $b$ , use the Pythagorean theorem:  $b = \sqrt{5^2 - 3^2} = \sqrt{16} = 4$  units.

## 14.12 Competency 011: Transformational Geometry

### 14.12.1 Transformations and Symmetry

Python can demonstrate transformations and symmetry.

```
# Example: Reflection of a point across y-axis
x, y = 5, 3
reflected_point = (-x, y)
print(f"Original point: {(x, y)}")
print(f"Reflected point: {reflected_point}")
```

### 14.12.2 Coordinate Plane and Trigonometry

Python can combine coordinate geometry with trigonometric calculations.

```
# Example: Calculating the distance between two points
def distance(x1, y1, x2, y2):
    return math.sqrt((x2 - x1)**2 + (y2 - y1)**2)

distance_between_points = distance(0, 0, 3, 4)
```

```
print(f"Distance between points: {distance_between_points}")
```



## Chapter 15

# Domain IV: Probability and Statistics

### 15.1 Competency 012: Data Exploration

#### 15.1.1 Data Organization and Display

#### 15.1.2 Describing Data Distributions

### 15.2 Competency 012: Data Exploration

#### 15.2.1 Data Organization and Display

This subsection covers various methods for organizing and visually representing data, such as tables, graphs, charts, and diagrams. It emphasizes the importance of choosing the appropriate form of data display to effectively communicate information.

**Example:** Illustrate how to display survey data about favorite sports of students using a bar graph.

**Worked Example:**

- Suppose a survey was conducted with 100 students about their favorite sports, and the results were: Soccer (30 students), Basketball (25 students), Baseball (15 students), Tennis (10 students), and Others (20 students).
- To display this data, use a bar graph where the x-axis represents the sports and the y-axis represents the number of students.
- Draw bars of different lengths for each sport corresponding to the number of students.

## 15.2.2 Describing Data Distributions

This subsection focuses on understanding and interpreting the distribution of data in a set. It includes concepts such as measures of central tendency (mean, median, mode), measures of spread (range, quartiles, variance, standard deviation), and the shape of the distribution (symmetry, skewness).

**Example:** Describe the distribution of a dataset and calculate its mean, median, and range.

**Worked Example:**

- Consider a dataset: 4, 8, 6, 10, 2, 6, 8.
- To find the mean, sum all numbers and divide by the count: Mean =  $\frac{4+8+6+10+2+6+8}{7} = \frac{44}{7} \approx 6.29$ .
- To find the median, sort the data and find the middle number: Sorted data: 2, 4, 6, 6, 8, 8, 10. Median is the middle number, which is 6.
- The range is the difference between the highest and lowest values: Range =  $10 - 2 = 8$ .

## 15.3 Competency 012: Data Exploration

### 15.3.1 Data Organization and Display

Python can be used to organize data and create visual displays like charts.

```
# Example: Displaying data with a bar chart
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

subjects = ['Math', 'Science', 'English', 'History']
scores = [85, 90, 75, 80]

plt.bar(subjects, scores)
plt.xlabel('Subjects')
plt.ylabel('Scores')
plt.title('Student Scores')
plt.show()
```

### 15.3.2 Describing Data Distributions

Python can describe data distributions, calculate measures of central tendency, and spread.

```
# Example: Calculating mean, median, and mode
import statistics
```

```
data = [1, 2, 2, 3, 4]
mean = statistics.mean(data)
median = statistics.median(data)
mode = statistics.mode(data)

print(f"Mean: {mean}, Median: {median}, Mode: {mode}")
```

## 15.4 Competency 013: Probability Theory

### 15.4.1 Probability Concepts and Models

### 15.4.2 Probability Problems and Solutions

## 15.5 Competency 013: Probability Theory

### 15.5.1 Probability Concepts and Models

This subsection explores the basic concepts of probability, including experimental and theoretical probability, probability models, and the laws of probability. It focuses on understanding how probability quantifies the likelihood of various outcomes in an experiment or real-world situation.

**Example:** Explain the concept of theoretical probability and calculate the probability of rolling a 4 on a standard six-sided die.

**Worked Example:**

- Theoretical probability is calculated as  $P(E) = \frac{\text{Number of favorable outcomes}}{\text{Total number of possible outcomes}}$ .
- In a six-sided die, the number of favorable outcomes for rolling a 4 is 1 (as there is only one face with a 4), and the total number of possible outcomes is 6.
- Therefore,  $P(\text{rolling a 4}) = \frac{1}{6}$ .

### 15.5.2 Probability Problems and Solutions

This subsection covers how to identify and solve different types of probability problems, including compound probability, independent and dependent events, and the use of probability in decision making.

**Example:** Calculate the probability of drawing an ace from a standard deck of cards, then drawing a king, without replacement.

**Worked Example:**

- A standard deck of cards has 52 cards with 4 aces and 4 kings.
- The probability of drawing an ace first is  $P(\text{Ace}) = \frac{4}{52}$ .

- After drawing an ace, there are 51 cards left, including 4 kings. So, the probability of then drawing a king is  $P(\text{King}) = \frac{4}{51}$ .
- The combined probability of both events (without replacement) is  $P(\text{Ace and King}) = P(\text{Ace}) \times P(\text{King}) = \frac{4}{52} \times \frac{4}{51}$ .

## 15.6 Competency 013: Probability Theory

### 15.6.1 Probability Concepts and Models

Python can simulate probability experiments and explore probability concepts.

```
# Example: Simulating a coin toss
import random

outcomes = ['Heads', 'Tails']
result = random.choice(outcomes)
print(f"The coin landed on: {result}")
```

### 15.6.2 Probability Problems and Solutions

Python can be used to solve probability problems.

```
# Example: Probability of rolling a six on a dice
total_rolls = 10000
sixes = 0

for _ in range(total_rolls):
    roll = random.randint(1, 6)
    if roll == 6:
        sixes += 1

probability = sixes / total_rolls
print(f"Probability of rolling a six: {probability}")
```



## 15.7 Competency 014: Statistical Inference

### 15.7.1 Statistical Experiments and Sampling

### 15.7.2 Statistical Inference and Predictions

## 15.8 Competency 014: Statistical Inference

### 15.8.1 Statistical Experiments and Sampling

This subsection explores the design of statistical experiments, the importance of sampling in data collection, and different sampling methods. It covers how to conduct experiments and surveys, and how to ensure that samples are representative of the population.

**Example:** Explain the concept of random sampling and its importance in statistical experiments.

**Worked Example:**

- Random sampling involves selecting a sample from the population in such a way that each member of the population has an equal chance of being chosen.
- Suppose a school wants to survey students' opinions on a new policy. To conduct a random sample, they could use a computer to randomly select 100 students from the school's enrollment list.
- This method ensures that the sample represents the entire student population fairly, allowing conclusions to be generalized to all students.

### 15.8.2 Statistical Inference and Predictions

Statistical inference involves drawing conclusions about a population based on a sample of data. It includes understanding the concepts of population parameters, sample statistics, confidence intervals, and hypothesis testing. This subsection also covers making predictions based on data analysis.

**Example:** Describe how to use a sample mean to estimate the population mean and discuss confidence intervals.

**Worked Example:**

- Assume a sample of 50 students is surveyed about the number of hours they study each week, and the sample mean is found to be 15 hours.
- The sample mean can be used as an estimate of the population mean (the average study hours of all students at the school).
- A confidence interval provides a range within which the true population mean is likely to lie. If the confidence interval is calculated as 15 hours  $\pm$  2, we can be confident that the true mean lies between 13 and 17 hours.

## 15.9 Competency 014: Statistical Inference

### 15.9.1 Statistical Experiments and Sampling

Python can perform statistical experiments and demonstrate sampling techniques.

```
# Example: Random sampling from a population
population = list(range(1, 101)) # Population from 1 to 100
sample = random.sample(population, 10) # Sample 10 numbers

print(f"Random sample: {sample}")
```

### 15.9.2 Statistical Inference and Predictions

Python can be used for statistical inference and making predictions based on data.

```
# Example: Making predictions from sample data
sample_mean = statistics.mean(sample)
population_mean = statistics.mean(population)

print(f"Sample Mean: {sample_mean}, Estimated Population Mean: {
    population_mean}")
```

## Chapter 16

# Domain V: Mathematical Processes and Perspectives

### 16.1 Competency 015: Mathematical Reasoning

#### 16.1.1 Proof and Reasoning

#### 16.1.2 Problem Solving Strategies

### 16.2 Competency 015: Mathematical Reasoning

#### 16.2.1 Proof and Reasoning

This subsection delves into the principles of mathematical proof and reasoning, including direct proof, indirect proof (proof by contradiction), and proof by induction. It emphasizes the importance of logical reasoning in developing and understanding mathematical arguments.

**Example:** Provide an example of a direct proof, such as proving that the sum of two even numbers is even.

**Worked Example:**

- An even number can be represented as  $2n$ , where  $n$  is an integer.
- Consider two even numbers,  $2a$  and  $2b$ , where  $a$  and  $b$  are integers.
- Their sum is  $2a + 2b = 2(a + b)$ .
- Since  $a + b$  is an integer,  $2(a + b)$  is an even number.
- Therefore, the sum of two even numbers is even.

### 16.2.2 Problem Solving Strategies

Problem-solving strategies are essential tools in mathematics. This subsection covers various strategies such as working backwards, making an organized list, guessing and checking, and using diagrams or models. It highlights the importance of selecting appropriate methods for different types of problems.

**Example:** Describe how to use the strategy of working backwards to solve a problem, like finding the original price of an item after a discount.

**Worked Example:**

- Suppose an item is on sale for \$15 after a 25% discount.
- To find the original price, work backwards by considering what price would result in \$15 after a 25% reduction.
- Let the original price be  $P$ . The sale price is given by  $P - 0.25P = 0.75P$ .
- Setting  $0.75P = 15$  and solving for  $P$  gives  $P = \frac{15}{0.75} = 20$ .
- Therefore, the original price of the item was \$20.

## 16.3 Competency 015: Mathematical Reasoning

### 16.3.1 Proof and Reasoning

Python can assist in demonstrating mathematical proofs and reasoning, especially for problems that are iterative or pattern-based.

```
# Example: Verifying if a number is even using Python
def is_even(number):
    return number % 2 == 0

# Test the function with a number
number = 4
print(f"Is {number} even? {is_even(number)}")
```

### 16.3.2 Problem Solving Strategies

Python can be used to implement various problem-solving strategies like trial and error or breaking down complex problems.

```
# Example: Solving a problem using a trial and error strategy
# Problem: Find a number that, when squared, ends in 6
for i in range(10):
    if str(i**2).endswith("6"):
        print(f"A number whose square ends in 6: {i}")
        break
```

## 16.4 Competency 016: Mathematical Connections

### 16.4.1 Multiple Representations of Concepts

### 16.4.2 Mathematics in Other Disciplines

## 16.5 Competency 016: Mathematical Connections

### 16.5.1 Multiple Representations of Concepts

This subsection focuses on the different ways mathematical concepts can be expressed, including numerically, graphically, algebraically, and verbally. It highlights the importance of understanding these various representations and how they interconnect.

**Example:** Explain how the concept of a linear function can be represented in different forms.

**Worked Example:**

- Algebraically, a linear function can be expressed as  $y = mx + b$ , where  $m$  is the slope and  $b$  is the y-intercept.
- Graphically, this function is represented as a straight line on the Cartesian plane.
- Numerically, it can be represented by a table of values showing the input-output relationship.
- Verbally, it could be described as "a constant change in  $y$  for each unit change in  $x$ ".

### 16.5.2 Mathematics in Other Disciplines

Mathematics plays a crucial role in various disciplines including science, engineering, economics, and even art. This subsection discusses how mathematical principles are applied in different fields to solve real-world problems, model systems, and create designs.

**Example:** Describe the use of mathematics in understanding and representing physical phenomena in science.

**Worked Example:**

- In physics, mathematical equations are used to describe laws of motion. For instance, Newton's second law of motion is represented as  $F = ma$ , where  $F$  is force,  $m$  is mass, and  $a$  is acceleration.
- This mathematical representation allows for the precise calculation and prediction of the behavior of moving objects under various forces.

## 16.6 Competency 016: Mathematical Connections

### 16.6.1 Multiple Representations of Concepts

Python can show how mathematical concepts can be represented in multiple ways, such as visually, numerically, or through code.

```
# Example: Representing the concept of a function
def linear_function(x):
    return 2 * x + 3

# Numerical Representation
x_values = [1, 2, 3, 4]
y_values = [linear_function(x) for x in x_values]
print(f"Function values: {y_values}")

# Visual Representation
plt.plot(x_values, y_values)
plt.xlabel('x')
plt.ylabel('f(x)')
plt.title('Linear Function')
plt.grid(True)
plt.show()
```

### 16.6.2 Mathematics in Other Disciplines

Python can illustrate the application of mathematics in other disciplines like physics, biology, or economics.

```
# Example: Using mathematics in physics (Calculating Kinetic Energy)
def kinetic_energy(mass, velocity):
    return 0.5 * mass * velocity**2

# Calculate the kinetic energy of an object
mass = 10 # in kilograms
velocity = 5 # in meters per second
energy = kinetic_energy(mass, velocity)
print(f"The kinetic energy of the object is {energy} Joules")
```

## Chapter 17

# Domain VI: Mathematical Learning, Instruction, and Assessment

### 17.1 Competency 017: Learning Mathematics

#### 17.1.1 Theories of Learning Mathematics

#### 17.1.2 Instructional Strategies

### 17.2 Competency 017: Learning Mathematics

#### 17.2.1 Theories of Learning Mathematics

This subsection examines different theories and models that describe how students learn mathematical concepts. It includes discussions on constructivism, the theory of multiple intelligences, and the role of cognitive development in learning mathematics.

**Example:** Discuss the constructivist approach to learning mathematics, where students build their own understanding.

**Worked Example:**

- In the constructivist approach, learning is seen as an active process where students construct new ideas or concepts based upon their current/past knowledge.
- For instance, when teaching fractions, students might first work with physical objects like pie slices to understand the concept of parts of a whole. They then relate this to numerical fractions and operations involving fractions.

### 17.2.2 Instructional Strategies

This subsection covers a range of instructional strategies that can be employed to teach mathematics effectively. It includes approaches like differentiated instruction, the use of manipulatives, problem-solving methods, and the integration of technology in mathematics education.

**Example:** Explain how manipulatives can be used to teach complex mathematical concepts such as algebra.

**Worked Example:**

- Manipulatives like algebra tiles can help students visualize and understand algebraic concepts.
- For example, to solve the equation  $x + 3 = 7$ , students can use tiles to represent the unknown  $x$  and number tiles for constants. By physically removing 3 tiles from both sides, students can visually see and understand that  $x = 4$ .

## 17.3 Competency 017: Learning Mathematics

### 17.3.1 Theories of Learning Mathematics

Python can be used to demonstrate learning theories in mathematics, such as constructivism, where students build their understanding through exploration.

```
# Example: Exploratory learning with Python
# Exploring number patterns
for i in range(1, 11):
    print(f"Square of {i} is {i**2}")
```

### 17.3.2 Instructional Strategies

Python can support various instructional strategies like differentiated instruction or inquiry-based learning.

```
# Example: Differentiated instruction through Python tasks
# Task for beginner: Add two numbers
# Task for intermediate: Calculate the area of a rectangle
# Task for advanced: Solve a quadratic equation

def beginner_task(a, b):
    return a + b

def intermediate_task(length, width):
    return length * width
```



```
def advanced_task(a, b, c):
    # Solving quadratic equation  $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ 
    discriminant = b**2 - 4*a*c
    x1 = (-b + discriminant**0.5) / (2*a)
    x2 = (-b - discriminant**0.5) / (2*a)
    return x1, x2
```

## 17.4 Competency 018: Instruction and Curriculum

### 17.4.1 Instructional Methods and Tools

### 17.4.2 Instruction and the TEKS

## 17.5 Competency 018: Instruction and Curriculum

### 17.5.1 Instructional Methods and Tools

This subsection explores diverse instructional methods and tools that can enhance mathematics teaching. It includes approaches like collaborative learning, inquiry-based learning, the use of digital tools, and adaptive learning technologies.

**Example:** Describe how inquiry-based learning can be implemented in a mathematics class.

**Worked Example:**

- Inquiry-based learning involves students exploring mathematical concepts through guided questions and problem-solving rather than direct instruction.
- For instance, instead of directly teaching the formula for the area of a circle, the teacher might present a problem where students need to find the best way to determine the area of circular objects using materials like string, rulers, and graph paper.
- This approach encourages exploration, critical thinking, and understanding the 'why' behind mathematical formulas.

### 17.5.2 Instruction and the TEKS

This subsection addresses how instruction can be aligned with the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) for Mathematics. It focuses on designing lessons and assessments that meet state standards, while also addressing the diverse needs of students.

**Example:** Illustrate how a lesson plan can be developed to align with a specific TEKS objective.

**Worked Example:**

- Consider a TEKS objective: "Students will understand the concept of ratios and use ratio language to describe relationships between quantities."
- To align a lesson with this objective, an activity could involve students in creating and analyzing tables of equivalent ratios, thus applying ratio language in a practical context.
- The lesson can include real-life scenarios like recipes or scale maps to make the concept of ratios more relatable and engaging.

## 17.6 Competency 018: Instruction and Curriculum

### 17.6.1 Instructional Methods and Tools

Python can enhance various instructional methods, including collaborative learning and the use of digital tools.

```
# Example: Collaborative problem-solving
# Problem: Find the mean of a set of numbers
numbers = [4, 8, 15, 16, 23, 42]
mean = sum(numbers) / len(numbers)
print(f"Mean of the numbers: {mean}")
```

### 17.6.2 Instruction and the TEKS

Python can help align instruction with curriculum standards like TEKS by providing practical problem-solving experiences.

```
# Example: TEKS-aligned Python activity
# TEKS standard: Apply the Pythagorean theorem to solve problems
def pythagorean_theorem(a, b):
    return (a**2 + b**2)**0.5

c = pythagorean_theorem(3, 4)
print(f"Length of the hypotenuse: {c}")
```

## 17.7 Competency 019: Assessment in Mathematics

## 17.8 Competency 019: Assessment in Mathematics

### 17.8.1 Theories of Assessment in Mathematics

This subsection examines various theories and methodologies behind assessing students' mathematical understanding and skills. It includes discussions on formative and summative assessments, authentic assessment, and the role of feedback in the learning process.

**Example:** Discuss the role of formative assessment in mathematics education.

**Worked Example:**

- Formative assessment is a continuous process that allows teachers to monitor student learning and provide ongoing feedback.
- In a mathematics class, this might involve regular quizzes or in-class activities where students solve problems, allowing the teacher to gauge understanding and address misconceptions in real-time.
- For example, after a lesson on quadratic equations, a teacher might use a short quiz to assess students' ability to apply the quadratic formula and then use the results to guide further instruction.

### 17.8.2 Assessment in Mathematics Strategies

This subsection focuses on practical strategies for assessing mathematical knowledge and skills in the classroom. It covers a variety of assessment techniques, including traditional tests, project-based assessments, peer assessments, and the use of technology in assessments.

**Example:** Explain how project-based assessments can be used to evaluate students' understanding of geometry.

**Worked Example:**

- Project-based assessments involve students in applying their mathematical knowledge to real-world problems or projects.
- For a geometry unit, students could be tasked with designing a plan for a community garden, requiring them to apply their knowledge of area, perimeter, and geometric shapes.
- The assessment would not only evaluate students' understanding of geometric concepts but also their ability to apply these concepts in a practical context.

## 17.9 Competency 019: Assessment in Mathematics

### 17.9.1 Assessment Methods and Tools

Python can be used to develop assessment tools that evaluate students' understanding of mathematical concepts.

```
# Example: Creating a simple math quiz in Python
def math_quiz(question, answer):
    user_answer = float(input(question + " "))
    return user_answer == answer

# Quiz question
question = "What is 7 times 8?"
correct_answer = 56

# Conduct the quiz
if math_quiz(question, correct_answer):
    print("Correct!")
else:
    print("Incorrect!")
```

### 17.9.2 Assessment and the TEKS

Python can assist in creating assessments that align with specific TEKS objectives.

```
# Example: TEKS-aligned assessment
# TEKS objective: Understanding linear functions
def assess_linear_function():
    m = float(input("Enter the slope of the function: "))
    b = float(input("Enter the y-intercept of the function: "))
    return m == 2 and b == 3 # Example condition for a specific function

# Conduct the assessment
if assess_linear_function():
    print("Understanding of linear functions is correct.")
else:
    print("Review the concept of linear functions.")
```



## Chapter 18

# How Parents Can Help with Middle School Math

### 18.1 Introduction

#### 18.1.1 Understanding the Role of Parents in Math Education

### 18.2 Creating a Positive Math Environment at Home

#### 18.2.1 Encouraging a Positive Attitude Towards Math

#### 18.2.2 Setting Up a Conducive Learning Space

### 18.3 Effective Strategies for Parental Involvement

#### 18.3.1 Understanding the Curriculum

#### 18.3.2 Regular Practice and Review

#### 18.3.3 Using Real-Life Examples

### 18.4 Supporting Homework and Study Habits

#### 18.4.1 Helping with Homework

#### 18.4.2 Developing Good Study Habits

### 18.5 Leveraging Technology and Resources

#### 18.5.1 Educational Tools and Apps

#### 18.5.2 Finding Additional Learning Materials

### 18.6 Communication with Teachers

#### 18.6.1 Staying Informed About Progress

#### 18.6.2 Collaborating on Educational Goals

## Chapter 19

# MSMiB Conclusion and Encouragement to Fork

### Invitation to Dive Deep and Make It Your Own

MSMiB isn't a static entity. It thrives on evolution, adaptation, and diversification. We encourage readers to "fork" and create their own versions of this book.

Thanks for reading Middle School Math in Brief!





# Appendix I

## Basic GitHub Guide

### A Quick Start to Your GitHub Journey

Welcome to the fascinating world of GitHub, a platform that has revolutionized the way we collaborate on projects, share code, and build software together. Whether you are a programmer, a writer, or a historian, GitHub provides a set of powerful tools to help you collaborate with others, manage your projects, and contribute to the vast world of open-source software. In this guide, we will walk you through the foundational steps to get started with GitHub, helping you to navigate, contribute, and make the most out of this incredible platform.

### Creating Your GitHub Account

The first step to joining the GitHub community is to create an account. Here's how you can do it:

1. Visit the [GitHub.com](https://github.com) website for a free account.
2. Click on the “Sign up” button.
3. Fill in the required information, including your username, email address, and password.
4. Verify your account and complete the sign-up process.

Once you have created your account, take a moment to explore your new GitHub dashboard. Here, you will find a variety of tools and features that will help you manage your projects, collaborate with others, and discover new and interesting repositories.

### Creating Your First Repository

A repository (or “repo”) is a digital directory where you can store your project files. Here's how you can create your first repository:

1. From your GitHub dashboard, click on the “New” button to create a new repository.
2. Give your repository a name and provide a brief description.
3. Initialize this repository with a README file. (This is an optional step, but it’s a good practice to include a README file in every repository to explain what your project is about.)
4. Click “Create repository.”

Congratulations! You have just created your first GitHub repository. You can now start adding files, collaborating with others, and managing your project right from GitHub.

## Making Changes and Commits

GitHub uses Git, a version control system, to keep track of changes made to your project. Here’s a quick guide on how to make changes and commits:

1. Navigate to your repository on GitHub.
2. Find the file you want to edit, and click on it.
3. Click the pencil icon to start editing.
4. Make your changes and then scroll down to the “Commit changes” section.
5. Provide a commit message that explains the changes you made.
6. Choose whether you want to commit directly to the main branch or create a new branch for your changes.
7. Click “Commit changes.”

Your changes are now saved, and a new commit is created. Every commit has a unique ID, making it easy to track changes, revert to previous versions, and collaborate with others.

## Collaborating with Others

One of the biggest strengths of GitHub is its collaborative nature. Here are some ways you can collaborate with others:

- **Forking:** You can fork a repository, create your own copy, make changes, and then propose those changes back to the original project.
- **Issues:** Use issues to report bugs, request new features, or start a discussion with the community.
- **Pull Requests:** Propose changes to a project by creating a pull request. This allows others to review your changes, discuss them, and eventually merge them into the project.

## **Conclusion: Embarking on Your GitHub Adventure**

Now that you have a basic understanding of GitHub and how it works, you are ready to embark on your GitHub adventure. Explore repositories, contribute to open-source projects, collaborate with others, and build amazing things together. Remember, the GitHub community is vast and supportive, and there is a wealth of knowledge and resources available to help you along the way. Happy coding!



## Appendix II

# Basic LaTeX Guide

### A Quick Start to Your LaTeX Journey

Welcome to the immersive world of LaTeX, a typesetting system widely used for creating scientific and professional documents due to its powerful handling of formulas and bibliographies. This guide is designed to offer you the foundational steps to grasp the basics of LaTeX, enabling you to craft documents of high typographic quality akin to this book.

### Setting Up Your LaTeX Environment

Before you can start creating documents with LaTeX, you need to set up a working LaTeX environment on your computer. Here's how you can do it:

1. Download and install a TeX distribution, which includes LaTeX. For Windows, MiKTeX is a popular choice, while Mac users might prefer MacTeX, and TeX Live is widely used on Linux.
2. Install a LaTeX editor. Some popular options include TeXShop (for Mac), TeXworks (cross-platform), and Overleaf (an online LaTeX editor).
3. Ensure that your TeX distribution and LaTeX editor are properly configured and integrated.

### Creating Your First LaTeX Document

Once your LaTeX environment is set up, you are ready to create your first LaTeX document. Follow these steps:

1. Open your LaTeX editor and create a new document.
2. Insert the following code to set up a basic LaTeX document:

```
\documentclass{article}
\begin{document}
Hello, LaTeX world!
\end{document}
```

3. Save your document with a .tex file extension.
4. Compile your document using your LaTeX editor. This process converts your .tex file into a PDF document.
5. View the output PDF and admire your first LaTeX creation.

## Understanding LaTeX Commands and Environments

LaTeX documents are created using a series of commands and environments. Commands typically start with a backslash `\` and are used to format text, insert special characters, or execute functions. Environments are used to define specific sections of your document that require special formatting.

- **Commands:** For example, `\{italics}` will render the word "italics" in italic font.
- **Environments:** To create a bulleted list, you would use the *itemize* environment:

```
\begin{itemize}
  \item First item
  \item Second item
\end{itemize}
```

## Adding Structure to Your Document

LaTeX makes it easy to structure your documents with sections, subsections, and chapters. Here's how you can add structure:

```
\section{Introduction}
This is the introduction of your document.
\subsection{Background}
This subsection provides background information.
\subsubsection{Details}
This is a subsubsection for more detailed information.
```

## Including Mathematical Formulas

LaTeX excels at typesetting mathematical formulas. Use the *equation* environment or the `$` sign for inline formulas. For example:

The quadratic formula is 
$$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$
.

## Adding Images and Tables

You can also include images and tables in your LaTeX documents:

- **Images:** Use the *graphicx* package and the *includegraphics* command.
- **Tables:** Use the *tabular* environment to create tables.

## Compiling Your Document

LaTeX documents need to be compiled to produce a PDF. This can be done through your LaTeX editor. If your document includes bibliographies or cross-references, you may need to compile multiple times.

## Conclusion: Embracing the Power of LaTeX

Congratulations! You have taken your first steps into the world of LaTeX. With practice, you will discover that LaTeX is a powerful tool for creating professional-quality documents, from simple articles to complex books. Embrace the learning curve, explore the vast array of packages available, and join the community of LaTeX users who are ready to help you on your journey. Happy typesetting!





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