

Midterm #1 Study Guide

Math 181 (Discrete Structures), Spring 2023

1. Sets [§1.1]

- (a) sets of numbers (integers \mathbb{Z} and real numbers \mathbb{R}), set-builder notation, subsets ($A \subseteq B$)
- (b) operations of union ($A \cup B$), intersection ($A \cap B$), difference ($A \setminus B$), complement (A^c)
- (c) representing sets via Venn diagrams

2. Logical propositions [§1.2, 1.3]

- (a) operations of “or” ($p \vee q$), “and” ($p \wedge q$), “not” ($\neg p$)
- (b) truth tables for compound propositions
- (c) conditional a.k.a. implication a.k.a. “if... then...” ($p \rightarrow q$)
- (d) biconditionals ($p \leftrightarrow q$) and logical equivalence (\equiv)
- (e) converse $q \rightarrow p$ and contrapositive $\neg q \rightarrow \neg p$ of an implication $p \rightarrow q$
(contrapositive is logically equivalent to original implication; converse is not!)

3. Logical arguments [§1.4]

- (a) converting an argument from words to symbolic form and vice-versa
- (b) proving validity using truth tables
- (c) proving validity using the rules of inference and logical equivalences
- (d) common forms of invalid arguments a.k.a. fallacies

4. Quantifiers [§1.5, 1.6]

- (a) propositional formulas ($P(x)$) and domains of discourse (D)
- (b) universal ($\forall x P(x)$) and existential ($\exists x P(x)$) quantifiers
- (c) DeMorgan’s Laws: $\neg(\forall x P(x)) \equiv \exists x \neg P(x)$ and $\neg(\exists x P(x)) \equiv \forall x \neg P(x)$
- (d) nested quantifiers and order of quantifiers ($\forall x \exists y P(x, y) \not\equiv \exists y \forall x P(x, y)$)

5. Proofs [§2.1]

- (a) two basic mathematical systems: the theory of integers; the theory of sets
- (b) direct proofs for theorems of form “ $\forall x_1, \dots, x_n$ if $P(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ then $Q(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ ”
- (c) counterexamples to universally quantified statements