

CS 105: Department Introductory Course on Discrete Structures

Instructor : S. Akshay

Jul 29, 2025

Lecture 01 – Introduction

Welcome to CSE@IIT Bombay!

Logistics

Course hours: Slot 10;

Tue 14:00-15:25, Thu 14:00-15:25

Office hours: To be announced.

Problem Solving/Help Session (Optional): One hour per week, run by teaching assistants. (Time and Venue to be decided)

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Attendance

As per Institute rules: [SAFE](#)

More Logistics

Evaluation

- ▶ Quizzes: 30%
- ▶ Midsem: 25%
- ▶ Endsem: 40%
- ▶ Other {participation, pop quizzes, assignments}: 5%

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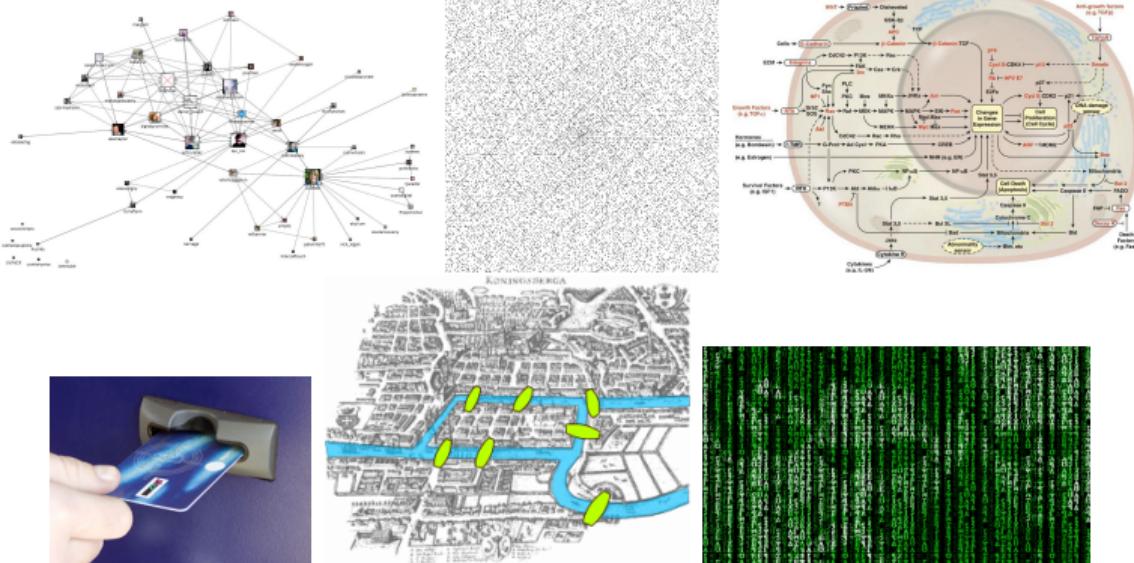
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How to reach me after class?

- ▶ Send a message on piazza
- ▶ Drop by my office...
 - ▶ CS 507 (5th floor of New CSE/CC building)
 - ▶ Temporarily CC 313 (3rd floor!)

Goal



First things first...

- **What** are discrete structures?
- **Why** are we interested in them?

Course Outline

What we will broadly cover in this course

1. Mathematical reasoning: proofs and structures
2. Counting and combinatorics
3. Elements of graph theory
4. If time permits: Selected topics: e.g, abstract algebra and/or number theory

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What we don't cover

1. Logic : predicate, first-order logic– CS228
2. Discrete probability – CS215
3. Algorithms – CS218
4. Data structures – CS213 and CS293
5. Automata theory – CS310
6. Details and applications of everything above – rest of your (academic) life!

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Textbooks

- ▶ Discrete Mathematics and its Applications with Combinatorics and Graph Theory, by Kenneth H Rosen.
- ▶ Discrete Mathematics by Norman Biggs.
- ▶ More will be listed on webpage as we go along.

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- Nothing!

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Prerequisites

- ▶ Nothing! ... Well, high school mathematics
- ▶ Logical mind and critical thinking

Chapter 1: Proofs and Logical reasoning

Outline of next few classes

- ▶ Propositions, statements
- ▶ What/why of proofs and some generic proof strategies
- ▶ Mathematical induction

Propositions

What is a proposition?

- ▶ It is raining
- ▶ $1 + 1 = 2$
- ▶ every odd number is a prime
- ▶ $2^{67} - 1$ is a prime
- ▶ $(n + 1)(n - 1) = (n^2 - 1)$ for any integer n

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What is common between these statements?

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- ▶ $x + 1 = 8$

Propositional calculus

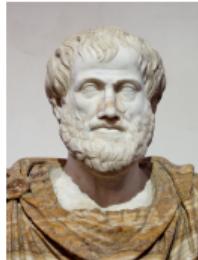


Figure: Aristotle (384 – 322 BCE)

- ▶ propositions are statements that are either true or false.
- ▶ Just as we use variables x, y, \dots for numbers, we will use variables p, q, \dots for propositions.

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- ▶ “if it is raining, it will be wet” : $p \rightarrow q$
- ▶ This is one way to combine propositions!

Propositional calculus and Boolean algebra



Figure: George Boole (1815 – 1864)

Combining propositions

- ▶ $\neg p$: It is not raining

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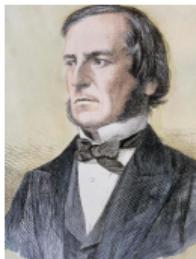


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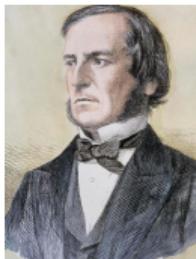


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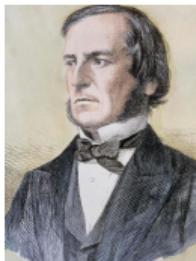


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- ▶ Ex: If it is raining or there is a sprinkler overhead and I dont have an umbrella, then I will get wet: $((p \vee q) \wedge r) \rightarrow s$.

Truth Tables and Logical Equivalence

| p | $\neg p$ |
|-----|----------|
| T | F |
| F | T |

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Logical Equivalence: Truth tables are identical!

- ▶ $p \rightarrow q$ is “same as” or logically equivalent to $\neg p \vee q$

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Warning: English can be imprecise, but logic is precise!

Negation, Converse and Contrapositive

Consider the proposition: If it rains today, the match is cancelled.

1. What is its converse?
2. What is its contra-positive?
3. What is its negation?

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Which of these are equivalent to the original proposition? Why?

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Exercise

Consider the proposition: If I will eat samosa or bhel puri, then I will not eat rice.

1. Write it as a Boolean combination of atomic propositions.
2. Write its converse, negation and contra-positive, both in plain english and formally.