

Discrete Mathematics

Prof Marcelo Fiore

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What are we up to?

- ▶ Learn to read and write, and also work with, mathematical arguments.
- ▶ Doing some basic discrete mathematics.
- ▶ Getting a taste of computer science applications.

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A Zen story

from the Introduction of
Mathematics Made Difficult by C.E. Linderholme

One of the great Zen masters had an eager disciple who never lost an opportunity to catch whatever pearls of wisdom might drop from the master's lips, and who followed him about constantly. One day, deferentially opening an iron gate for the old man, the disciple asked, 'How may I attain enlightenment?' The ancient sage, though withered and feeble, could be quick, and he deftly caused the heavy gate to shut on the pupil's leg, breaking it.

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What is Discrete Mathematics?

from *Discrete Mathematics (second edition)* by N. Biggs

Discrete Mathematics is the branch of Mathematics in which we deal with questions involving finite or countably infinite sets. In particular this means that the numbers involved are either integers, or numbers closely related to them, such as fractions or 'modular' numbers.

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What is it that we do?

In general:

Build mathematical models and apply methods to analyse problems that arise in computer science.

In particular:

Make and study mathematical constructions by means of definitions and theorems. We aim at understanding their properties and limitations.

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Lecture plan

- I. Proofs.
- II. Numbers.
- III. Sets.
- IV. Regular languages and finite automata.

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Application areas

algorithmics - compilers - computability - computer aided verification - computer algebra - complexity - cryptography - databases - digital circuits - discrete probability - model checking - network routing - program correctness - programming languages - security - semantics - type systems

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I. Proofs

1. Preliminaries (pages 11–13) and introduction (pages 14–40).
2. Implication (pages 41–57) and bi-implication (pages 58–66).
3. Universal quantification (pages 66–75) and conjunction (pages 76–83).
4. Existential quantification (pages 83–98).
5. Disjunction (pages 98–108) and a little arithmetic (pages 109–124).
6. Negation (pages 124–141).

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II. Numbers

7. Number systems (pages 142–154).
8. The division theorem and algorithm (pages 155–165) and modular arithmetic (pages 165–171).
9. On sets (pages 171–177), the greatest common divisor (pages 178–185), and Euclid’s algorithm (pages 186–207) and theorem (pages 207–214).
10. The Extended Euclid’s Algorithm (pages 214–227) and the Diffie-Hellman cryptographic method (pages 227–231).
11. The Principle of Induction (pages 231–249), the Principle of Induction from a basis (pages 249–253), and the Principle of Strong Induction from a basis (pages 253–274).

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16. Partial functions, (total) functions, bijections, equivalence relations and set partitions (pages 356–380).
17. Calculus of bijections, characteristic (or indicator) functions, finite and infinite sets, surjections (pages 381–393).
18. Enumerability and countability, choice, injections, Cantor-Bernstein-Schroeder theorem (pages 394–406).
19. Direct and inverse images, replacement and set-indexing, unbounded cardinality, foundation (pages 407–427).

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III. Sets

12. Extensionality, subsets and supersets, separation, Russell’s paradox, empty set, powerset, Hasse and Venn diagrams (pages 275–294).
13. The powerset Boolean algebra, unordered and ordered pairing, products, big unions, big intersections (pages 295–322).
14. Disjoint unions, relations, internal diagrams, relational composition, matrices (pages 323–344).
15. Directed graphs, reachability, preorders, reflexive-transitive closure (pages 345–355).

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Preliminaries

Complementary reading:

- Preface and Part I of *How to Think Like a Mathematician* by K. Houston.

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Some friendly advice

by K. Houston from the Preface of
How to Think Like a Mathematician

- It's up to you.
- Think for yourself.
- Observe.
- Seek to understand.
- Collaborate.
- Be active.
- Question everything.
- Prepare to be wrong.
- Develop your intuition.
- Reflect.

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Proofs

Topics

Proofs in practice. Mathematical jargon: statement, predicate, theorem, proposition, lemma, corollary, conjecture, proof, logic, axiom, definition. Mathematical statements: implication, bi-implication, universal quantification, conjunction, existential quantification, disjunction, negation. Logical deduction: proof strategies and patterns, scratch work, logical equivalences. Proof by contradiction. Divisibility and congruences. Fermat's Little Theorem.

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Study skills

Part I of *How to Think Like a Mathematician*
by K. Houston

- ▶ Reading mathematics
- ▶ Writing mathematics
- ▶ How to solve problems

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Complementary reading:

- ▶ Parts II, IV, and V of *How to Think Like a Mathematician* by K. Houston.
- ▶ Chapters 1 and 8 of *Mathematics for Computer Science* by E. Lehman, F. T. Leighton, and A. R. Meyer.
- ★ Chapter 3 of *How to Prove it* by D. J. Velleman.
- ★ Chapter II of *The Higher Arithmetic* by H. Davenport.

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Objectives

- ▶ To develop techniques for analysing and understanding mathematical statements.
- ▶ To be able to present logical arguments that establish mathematical statements in the form of clear proofs.
- ▶ To prove Fermat's Little Theorem, a basic result in the theory of numbers that has many applications in computer science; and that, in passing, will allow you to solve the following ...

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Proofs in practice

We are interested in examining the following statement:

The product of two odd integers is odd.

This seems innocuous enough, but it is in fact full of baggage.

For instance, it presupposes that you know:

- ▶ what a statement is;
- ▶ what the integers $(\dots, -1, 0, 1, \dots)$ are, and that amongst them there is a class of odd ones $(\dots, -3, -1, 1, 3, \dots)$;
- ▶ what the product of two integers is, and that this is in turn an integer.

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Puzzle

5 pirates have accumulated a tower of n cubes each of which consists of n^3 golden dice, for an unknown (but presumably large) number n . This treasure is put on a table around which they sit on chairs numbered from 0 to 4, and they are to split it by simultaneously taking a die each with every tick of the clock provided that five or more dice are available on the table. At the end of this process there will be r remaining dice which will go to the pirate sitting on the chair numbered r . What chair should a pirate sit on to maximise his gain?

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More precisely put, we may write:

If m and n are odd integers then so is $m \cdot n$.

which further presupposes that you know:

- ▶ what variables are;
- ▶ what

if ... then ...

statements are, and how one goes about proving them;

- ▶ that the symbol “ \cdot ” is commonly used to denote the product operation.

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Even more precisely, we should write

For all integers m and n , if m and n are odd then so is $m \cdot n$.

which now additionally presupposes that you know:

► what

for all ...

statements are, and how one goes about proving them.

Thus, in trying to understand and then prove the above statement, we are assuming quite a lot of *mathematical jargon* that one needs to learn and practice with to make it a useful, and in fact very powerful, tool.

THEOREM OF THE DAY

Euler's Identity With τ and e the mathematical constants

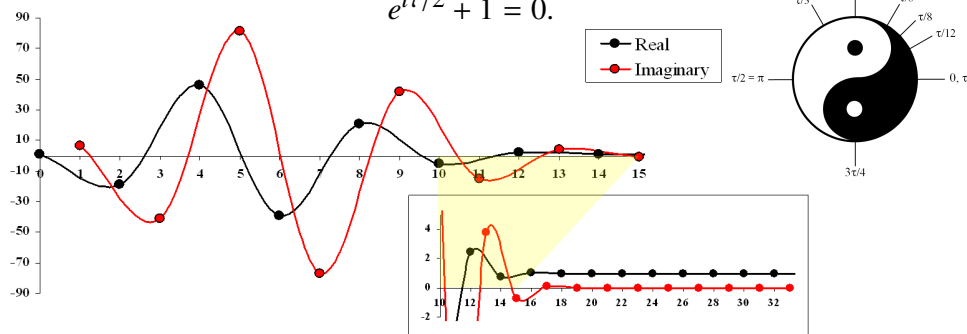
$\tau = 2\pi = 6.2831853071\ 7958647692\ 5286766559\ 0057683943\ 3879875021\ 1641949889\ 1846156328\ 1257241799\ 7256069650\ 6842341359\ \dots$

and

$e = 2.7182818284\ 5904523536\ 0287471352\ 6624977572\ 4709369995\ 9574966967\ 6277240766\ 3035354759\ 4571382178\ 5251664274\ \dots$

(the first 100 places of decimal being given), and using i to denote $\sqrt{-1}$, we have

$$e^{i\tau/2} + 1 = 0.$$



Squaring both sides of $e^{i\tau/2} = -1$ gives $e^{i\tau} = 1$, encoding the defining fact that τ radians measures one full circumference. The calculation can be confirmed explicitly using the evaluation of e^z , for any complex number z , as an infinite sum: $e^z = 1 + z + z^2/2! + z^3/3! + z^4/4! + \dots$. The even powers of $i = \sqrt{-1}$ alternate between 1 and -1 , while the odd powers alternate between i and $-i$, so we get two separate sums, one with i 's (the imaginary part) and one without (the real part). Both converge rapidly as shown in the two plots above: the real part to 1, the imaginary to 0. In the *limit* equality is attained, $e^{i\tau} = 1 + 0 \times i$, whence $e^{i\tau} = 1$. The value of $e^{i\tau/2}$ may be confirmed in the same way.

Combining as it does the six most fundamental constants of mathematics: 0, 1, 2, i , τ and e , the identity has an air of magic. J.H. Conway, in *The Book of Numbers*, traces the identity to Leonhard Euler's 1748 *Introductio*; certainly Euler deserves credit for the much more general formula $e^{i\theta} = \cos \theta + i \sin \theta$, from which the identity follows using $\theta = \tau/2$ radians (180°).

Web link: fermatlasttheorem.blogspot.com/2006/02/eulers-identity.html

Further reading: *Dr Euler's Fabulous Formula: Cures Many Mathematical Ills*, by Paul J. Nahin, Princeton University Press, 2006



Some mathematical jargon

Statement

A sentence that is either true or false — but not both.

Example 1

$$'e^{i\pi} + 1 = 0'$$

Non-example

'This statement is false'

Predicate

A statement whose truth depends on the value of one or more variables.

Example 2

1.

$$'e^{ix} = \cos x + i \sin x'$$

2.

'the function f is differentiable'

Theorem

A very important true statement.

Proposition

A less important but nonetheless interesting true statement.

Lemma

A true statement used in proving other true statements.

Corollary

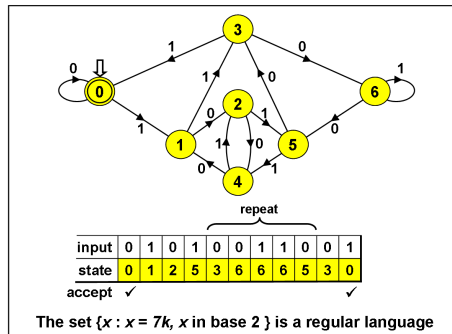
A true statement that is a simple deduction from a theorem or proposition.

Example 3

1. *Fermat's Last Theorem*
2. *The Pumping Lemma*

THEOREM OF THE DAY

The Pumping Lemma Let \mathcal{L} be a regular language. Then there is a positive integer p such that any word $w \in \mathcal{L}$ of length exceeding p can be expressed as $w = xyz$, $|y| > 0$, $|xy| \leq p$, such that, for all $i \geq 0$, xy^iz is also a word of \mathcal{L} .



Regular languages over an alphabet Σ (e.g. $\{0, 1\}$) are precisely those strings of letters which are 'recognised' by some *deterministic finite automaton* (DFA) whose edges are labelled from Σ . Above left, such a DFA is shown, which recognises the language consisting of all positive multiples of 7, written in base two. The number $95 \times 7 = 665 = 2^9 + 2^7 + 2^4 + 2^3 + 2^0$ is expressed in base 2 as 1010011001. Together with any leading zeros, these digits, read left to right, will cause the edges of the DFA to be traversed from the initial state (heavy vertical arrow) to an accepting state (coincidentally the same state, marked with a double circle), as shown in the table below the DFA. Notice that the bracketed part of the table corresponds to a cycle in the DFA and this may occur zero or more times without affecting the string's recognition. This is the idea behind the pumping lemma, in which p , the 'pumping length', may be taken to be the number of states of the DFA.

So a DFA can be smart enough to recognise multiples of a particular prime number. But it cannot be smart enough to recognise all prime numbers, even expressed in *unary* notation ($2 = aa, 3 = aaa, 5 = aaaaa$, etc). The proof, above right, typifies the application of the pumping lemma in disproofs of regularity: assume a recognising DFA exists and exhibit a word which, when 'pumped' must fall outside the recognised language.

This lemma, which generalises to context-free languages, is due to Yehoshua Bar-Hillel (1915–1975), Micha Perles and Eli Shamir.

Web link: www.seas.upenn.edu/~cit596/notes/dave/pumping0.html (and don't miss www.cs.brandeis.edu/~mairson/poems/node1.html!)

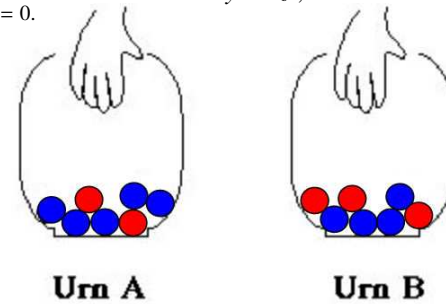
Further reading: *Models of Computation and Formal Languages* by R Gregory Taylor, Oxford University Press Inc, USA, 1997.

THEOREM OF THE DAY

Fermat's Last Theorem If x, y, z and n are integers satisfying

$$x^n + y^n = z^n,$$

then either $n \leq 2$ or $xyz = 0$.



It is easy to see that we can assume that all the integers in the theorem are positive. So the following is a legitimate, but totally different, way of asserting the theorem: we take a ball at random from Urn A; then replace it and take a 2nd ball at random. Do the same for Urn B. The probability that both A balls are blue, for the urns shown here, is $\frac{3}{6} \times \frac{3}{6}$. The probability that both B balls are the same colour (both blue or both red) is $(\frac{2}{6})^2 + (\frac{4}{6})^2$. Now the Pythagorean triple $5^2 = 3^2 + 4^2$ tells us that the probabilities are equal: $\frac{3^2}{6^2} = \frac{3}{6} + \frac{16}{36}$. What if we choose $n > 2$ balls with replacement? Can we again fill each of the urns with N balls, red and blue, so that taking n with replacement will give equal probabilities? Fermat's Last Theorem says: only in the trivial case where all the balls in Urn A are blue (which includes, vacuously, the possibility that $N = 0$).

Another, much more profound restatement: if $a^n + b^n$, for $n > 2$ and positive integers a and b , is again an n -th power of an integer then the elliptic curve $y^2 = x(x - a^n)(x + b^n)$, known as the **Frey curve**, cannot be modular (is not a rational map of a modular curve). So it is enough to prove the **Taniyama-Shimura-Weil conjecture**: all rational elliptic curves are modular.

Fermat's innocent statement was famously left unproved when he died in 1665 and was the last of his unproved 'theorems' to be settled true or false, hence the name. The non-modularity of the Frey curve was established in the 1980s by the successive efforts of Gerhard Frey, Jean-Pierre Serre and Ken Ribet. The Taniyama-Shimura-Weil conjecture was at the time thought to be 'inaccessible' but the technical virtuosity (not to mention the courage and stamina) of Andrew Wiles resolved the 'semistable' case, which was enough to settle Fermat's assertion. His work was extended to a full proof of Taniyama-Shimura-Weil during the late 90s by Christophe Breuil, Brian Conrad, Fred Diamond and Richard Taylor.

Web link: math.stanford.edu/~lekheng/ft/kleiner.pdf

Further reading: *Fermat's Last Theorem* by Simon Singh, Fourth Estate Ltd, London, 1997.

Conjecture

A statement believed to be true, but for which we have no proof.

Example 4

1. *Goldbach's Conjecture*
2. *The Riemann Hypothesis*

Proof

Logical explanation of why a statement is true; a method for establishing truth.

Logic

The study of methods and principles used to distinguish good (correct) from bad (incorrect) reasoning.

Example 5

1. *Classical predicate logic*
2. *Hoare logic*
3. *Temporal logic*

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Definition

An explanation of the mathematical meaning of a word (or phrase).

The word (or phrase) is generally defined in terms of properties.

Warning: It is vitally important that you can recall definitions precisely. A common problem is not to be able to advance in some problem because the definition of a word is unknown.

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Axiom

A basic assumption about a mathematical situation.

Axioms can be considered facts that do not need to be proved (just to get us going in a subject) or they can be used in definitions.

Example 6

1. *Euclidean Geometry*
2. *Riemannian Geometry*
3. *Hyperbolic Geometry*

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Definition, theorem, intuition, proof in practice

Definition 7 An integer is said to be odd whenever it is of the form $2 \cdot i + 1$ for some (necessarily unique) integer i .

Proposition 8 For all integers m and n , if m and n are odd then so is $m \cdot n$.

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Intuition:

MY PROOF OF Proposition 8 (on page 31): Let m and n be arbitrary odd integers. Thus, $m = 2 \cdot i + 1$ and $n = 2 \cdot j + 1$ for some integers i and j . Hence, we have that $m \cdot n = 2 \cdot k + 1$ for $k = 2 \cdot i \cdot j + i + j$, showing that $m \cdot n$ is indeed odd.

YOUR PROOF OF Proposition 8 (on page 31):

Warning: Though the scratch work

$$\begin{aligned} m &= 2 \cdot i + 1 & n &= 2 \cdot j + 1 \\ \therefore m \cdot n &= (2 \cdot i + 1) \cdot (2 \cdot j + 1) \\ &= 4 \cdot i \cdot j + 2 \cdot i + 2 \cdot j + 1 \\ &= 2 \cdot (2 \cdot i \cdot j + i + j) + 1 \end{aligned}$$

contains the idea behind the given proof,

I will not accept it as a proof!

Mathematical proofs ...

A *mathematical proof* is a sequence of logical deductions from axioms and previously proved statements that concludes with the proposition in question.

The axiom-and-proof approach is called the *axiomatic method*.

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Writing good proofs

from Section 1.9 of *Mathematics for Computer Science*
by E. Lehman, F.T. Leighton, and A.R. Meyer

- ▶ State your game plan.
- ▶ Keep a linear flow.
- ▶ A proof is an essay, not a calculation.
- ▶ Avoid excessive symbolism.
- ▶ Revise and simplify.
- ▶ Introduce notation thoughtfully.
- ▶ Structure long proofs.
- ▶ Be wary of the “obvious”.
- ▶ Finish.

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... in computer science

Mathematical proofs play a growing role in computer science (e.g. they are used to certify that software and hardware will *always* behave correctly; something that no amount of testing can do).

For a computer scientist, some of the most important things to prove are the correctness of programs and systems —whether a program or system does what it’s supposed to do. Developing mathematical methods to verify programs and systems remains and active research area.

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How to solve it

by G. Polya

- ▶ You have to understand the problem.
- ▶ Devising a plan.
 - Find the connection between the data and the unknown. You may be obliged to consider auxiliary problems if an immediate connection cannot be found. You should obtain eventually a plan of the solution.
- ▶ Carry out your plan.
- ▶ Looking back.
 - Examine the solution obtained.

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Simple and composite statements

A statement is *simple* (or *atomic*) when it cannot be broken into other statements, and it is *composite* when it is built by using several (simple or composite statements) connected by *logical* expressions (e.g., if... then...; ...implies ...; ...if and only if ...; ...and...; either ... or ...; it is not the case that ...; for all ...; there exists ...; etc.)

Examples:

'2 is a prime number'

'for all integers m and n , if $m \cdot n$ is even then either n or m are even'

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The main proof strategy for implication:

To prove a goal of the form

$$P \implies Q$$

assume that P is true and prove Q .

NB *Assuming* is not *asserting*! Assuming a statement amounts to the same thing as adding it to your list of hypotheses.

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Implication

Theorems can usually be written in the form

if a collection of *assumptions* holds,
then so does some *conclusion*

or, in other words,

a collection of *assumptions* **implies** some *conclusion*

or, in symbols,

a collection of *hypotheses* \implies some *conclusion*

NB Identifying precisely what the assumptions and conclusions are is the first goal in dealing with a theorem.

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Proof pattern:

In order to prove that

$$P \implies Q$$

1. Write: Assume P .
2. Show that Q logically follows.

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Scratch work:

Before using the strategy

Assumptions

⋮

Goal

$P \implies Q$

After using the strategy

Assumptions

⋮

P

Goal

Q

MY PROOF: Assume that m and n are odd integers. That is, by definition, assume that $m = 2 \cdot i + 1$ for some integer i and that $n = 2 \cdot j + 1$ for some integer j . Hence, $m \cdot n = (2 \cdot i + 1) \cdot (2 \cdot j + 1) = \dots$

Proposition 8 If m and n are odd integers, then so is $m \cdot n$.

YOUR PROOF:

An alternative proof strategy for implication:

To prove an implication, prove instead the equivalent statement given by its **contrapositive**.^a

Since

the **contrapositive** of ‘P implies Q’ is ‘not Q implies not P’

we obtain the following:

^aSee Corollary 40 (on page 137).

Proof pattern:

In order to prove that

$$P \implies Q$$

1. Write: We prove the contrapositive; that is, ... **and state the contrapositive.**
2. Write: Assume ‘the negation of Q’.
3. Show that ‘the negation of P’ logically follows.

Definition 9 A real number is:

- ▶ rational if it is of the form m/n for a pair of integers m and n ; otherwise it is irrational.
- ▶ positive if it is greater than 0, and negative if it is smaller than 0.
- ▶ nonnegative if it is greater than or equal 0, and nonpositive if it is smaller than or equal 0.
- ▶ natural if it is a nonnegative integer.

Scratch work:

Before using the strategy

Assumptions

Goal

$$P \implies Q$$

⋮

After using the strategy

Assumptions

Goal

not P

⋮

not Q

Proposition 10 Let x be a positive real number. If x is irrational then so is \sqrt{x} .

YOUR PROOF:

Logical Deduction — Modus Ponens —

MY PROOF: Assume that x is a positive real number. We prove the contrapositive; that is, if \sqrt{x} is rational then so is x . Assume that \sqrt{x} is a rational number. That is, by definition, assume that $\sqrt{x} = m/n$ for some integers m and n . It follows that $x = m^2/n^2$ and, since m^2 and n^2 are natural numbers, we have that x is a rational number as required.

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The use of implications:

To use an assumption of the form $P \implies Q$, aim at establishing P .

Once this is done, by Modus Ponens, one can conclude Q and so further assume it.

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A main rule of *logical deduction* is that of *Modus Ponens*:

From the statements P and $P \implies Q$,
the statement Q follows.

or, in other words,

If P and $P \implies Q$ hold then so does Q .

or, in symbols,

$$\frac{P \quad P \implies Q}{Q}$$

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Theorem 11 Let P_1 , P_2 , and P_3 be statements. If $P_1 \implies P_2$ and $P_2 \implies P_3$ then $P_1 \implies P_3$.

Scratch work:

Assumptions

Goal

P_3

- (i) P_1 , P_2 , and P_3 are statements.
- (ii) $P_1 \implies P_2$
- (iii) $P_2 \implies P_3$
- (iv) P_1

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Now, by Modus Ponens from (ii) and (iv), we have that

(v) P_2 holds

and, by Modus Ponens from (iii) and (v), we have that

P_3 holds

as required.

Homework Turn the above scratch work into a proof.

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Bi-implication

Some theorems can be written in the form

P is equivalent to Q

or, in other words,

P implies Q, and vice versa

or

Q implies P, and vice versa

or

P if, and only if, Q

P iff Q

or, in symbols,

$P \iff Q$

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NB Often a proof of $P \implies Q$ factors into a chain of implications, each one a manageable step:

$$\begin{aligned} P &\implies P_1 \\ &\implies P_2 \\ &\vdots \\ &\implies P_n \\ &\implies Q \end{aligned}$$

which is shorthand for

$$P \implies P_1, P_1 \implies P_2, \dots, P_n \implies Q.$$

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Proof pattern:

In order to prove that

$$P \iff Q$$

1. Write: (\implies) and give a proof of $P \implies Q$.
2. Write: (\impliedby) and give a proof of $Q \implies P$.

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Proposition 12 Suppose that n is an integer. Then, n is even iff n^2 is even.

YOUR PROOF:

MY PROOF:

(\implies) This implication is a corollary of the fact that the product of two integers is even whenever one of them is.

(\impliedby) We prove the contrapositive; that is, that n odd implies n^2 odd. Assume that n is odd; that is, by definition, that $n = 2 \cdot k + 1$ for some integer k . Then, $n^2 = \dots \dots$

Homework Provide details of the argument for (\implies) and finish the proof of (\impliedby).

Divisibility and congruence

Definition 13 Let d and n be integers. We say that d divides n , and write $d \mid n$, whenever there is an integer k such that $n = k \cdot d$.

Btw Other terminologies for the notation $d \mid n$ are ‘ d is a factor of n ’, ‘ n is divisible by d ’, and ‘ n is a multiple of d ’.

Example 14 The statement $2 \mid 4$ is true, while $4 \mid 2$ is not.

NB The symbol “ \mid ” is *not* an operation on integers; it is a *predicate*, i.e. a property that a pair of integers may or may not have between themselves.

Definition 15 Fix a positive integer m . For integers a and b , we say that a is congruent to b modulo m , and write $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$, whenever $m \mid (a - b)$.

Example 16

1. $18 \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$
2. $2 \equiv -2 \pmod{4}$
3. $18 \equiv -2 \pmod{4}$

NB The notion of congruence vastly generalises that of even and odd:

Proposition 17 For every integer n ,

1. n is even if, and only if, $n \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$, and
2. n is odd if, and only if, $n \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$.

Homework Prove the above proposition.

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Universal quantification

Universal statements are of the form

for all individuals x of the universe of discourse, the property $P(x)$ holds

or, in other words,

no matter what individual x in the universe of discourse one considers, the property $P(x)$ for it holds

or, in symbols,

$\forall x. P(x)$

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The use of bi-implications:

To use an assumption of the form $P \iff Q$, use it as two separate assumptions $P \implies Q$ and $Q \implies P$.

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Example 18

1. Proposition 8 (on page 31).
2. (Proposition 10 on page 51) For every positive real number x , if x is irrational then so is \sqrt{x} .
3. (Proposition 12 on page 60) For every integer n , we have that n is even iff so is n^2 .
4. Proposition 17 (on page 64).

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The main proof strategy for universal statements:

To prove a goal of the form

$$\forall x. P(x)$$

let x stand for an arbitrary individual and prove $P(x)$.

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Scratch work:

Before using the strategy

Assumptions

Goal

$$\forall x. P(x)$$

⋮

After using the strategy

Assumptions

Goal

$$P(x) \quad (\text{for a new (or fresh) } x)$$

⋮

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Proof pattern:

In order to prove that

$$\forall x. P(x)$$

1. Write: Let x be an arbitrary individual.

Warning: Make sure that the variable x is new (also referred to as fresh) in the proof! If for some reason the variable x is already being used in the proof to stand for something else, then you must use an unused variable, say y , to stand for the arbitrary individual, and prove $P(y)$.

2. Show that $P(x)$ holds.

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The use of universal statements:

To use an assumption of the form $\forall x. P(x)$, you can plug in any value, say a , for x to conclude that $P(a)$ is true and so further assume it.

This rule is called *universal instantiation*.

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Proposition 19 Fix a positive integer m . For integers a and b , we have that $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$ if, and only if, for all positive integers n , we have that $n \cdot a \equiv n \cdot b \pmod{n \cdot m}$.

YOUR PROOF:

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Equality axioms

Just for the record, here are the axioms for *equality*.

- Every individual is equal to itself.

$$\forall x. x = x$$

- For any pair of equal individuals, if a property holds for one of them then it also holds for the other one.

$$\forall x. \forall y. x = y \implies (P(x) \implies P(y))$$

— 74 —

MY PROOF: Let m and a, b be integers with m positive.

(\implies) Assume that $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$; that is, by definition, that $a - b = k \cdot m$ for some integer k . We need show that for all positive integers n ,

$$n \cdot a \equiv n \cdot b \pmod{n \cdot m} .$$

Indeed, for an arbitrary positive integer n , we then have that $n \cdot a - n \cdot b = n \cdot (a - b) = n \cdot k \cdot m$; so that $n \cdot m \mid (n \cdot a - n \cdot b)$, and hence we are done.

(\impliedby) Assume that for all positive integers n , we have that $n \cdot a \equiv n \cdot b \pmod{n \cdot m}$. In particular, we have this property for $n = 1$, which states that $1 \cdot a \equiv 1 \cdot b \pmod{1 \cdot m}$; that is, that $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$.

— 73 —

NB From these axioms one may deduce the usual intuitive properties of equality, such as

$$\forall x. \forall y. x = y \implies y = x$$

and

$$\forall x. \forall y. \forall z. x = y \implies (y = z \implies x = z) .$$

However, in practice, you will not be required to formally do so; rather you may just use the properties of equality that you are already familiar with.

— 75 —

Conjunction

Conjunctive statements are of the form

P and Q

or, in other words,

both P and also Q hold

or, in symbols,

$P \wedge Q$

or

$P \& Q$

— 76 —

The proof strategy for conjunction:

To prove a goal of the form

$P \wedge Q$

first prove P and subsequently prove Q (or vice versa).

— 77 —

Proof pattern:

In order to prove

$P \wedge Q$

1. Write: Firstly, we prove P . and provide a proof of P .
2. Write: Secondly, we prove Q . and provide a proof of Q .

— 78 —

Scratch work:

Before using the strategy

Assumptions

Goal

$P \wedge Q$

⋮

After using the strategy

Assumptions

Goal

Assumptions

Goal

P

Q

⋮

⋮

— 79 —

Theorem 20 For every integer n , we have that $6 \mid n$ iff $2 \mid n$ and $3 \mid n$.

YOUR PROOF:

The use of conjunctions:

To use an assumption of the form $P \wedge Q$,
treat it as two separate assumptions: P and Q .

— 80 —

MY PROOF: Let n be an arbitrary integer.

(\implies) Assume $6 \mid n$; that is, $n = 6 \cdot k$ for some integer k .

Firstly, we show that $2 \mid n$; which is indeed the case because $n = 2 \cdot (3 \cdot k)$.

Secondly, we show that $3 \mid n$; which is indeed the case because $n = 3 \cdot (2 \cdot k)$.

(\impliedby) Assume that $2 \mid n$ and that $3 \mid n$. Thus, $n = 2 \cdot i$ for an integer i and also $n = 3 \cdot j$ for an integer j . We need prove that $n = 6 \cdot k$ for some integer k . The following calculation shows that this is indeed the case:

$$6 \cdot (i - j) = 3 \cdot (2 \cdot i) - 2 \cdot (3 \cdot j) = 3 \cdot n - 2 \cdot n = n .$$

— 82 —

Existential quantification

Existential statements are of the form

there exists an individual x in the universe of discourse for which the property $P(x)$ holds

or, in other words,

for some individual x in the universe of discourse, the property $P(x)$ holds

or, in symbols,

$\exists x. P(x)$

— 81 —

— 83 —

Theorem 21 (Intermediate value theorem) *Let f be a real-valued continuous function on an interval $[a, b]$. For every y in between $f(a)$ and $f(b)$, there exists v in between a and b such that $f(v) = y$.*

Intuition:

Example: The Pigeonhole Principle ^a.

Let n be a positive integer. If $n + 1$ letters are put in n pigeonholes then there will be a pigeonhole with more than one letter.

^aSee also page 328.

The main proof strategy for existential statements:

To prove a goal of the form

$$\exists x. P(x)$$

find a *witness* for the existential statement; that is, a value of x , say w , for which you think $P(x)$ will be true, and show that indeed $P(w)$, i.e. the predicate $P(x)$ instantiated with the value w , holds.

Proof pattern:

In order to prove

$$\exists x. P(x)$$

1. Write: Let $w = \dots$ (the witness you decided on).
2. Provide a proof of $P(w)$.

Scratch work:

Before using the strategy

Assumptions

⋮

After using the strategy

Assumptions

⋮

$w = \dots$ (the witness you decided on)

YOUR PROOF OF Proposition 22:

Proposition 22 For every positive integer k , there exist natural numbers i and j such that $4 \cdot k = i^2 - j^2$.

Scratch work:

k	i	j
1	2	0
2	3	1
3	4	2
⋮		
n	$n + 1$	$n - 1$
⋮		

MY PROOF OF Proposition 22: For an arbitrary positive integer k , let $i = k + 1$ and $j = k - 1$. Then,

$$\begin{aligned}
 i^2 - j^2 &= (k + 1)^2 - (k - 1)^2 \\
 &= k^2 + 2 \cdot k + 1 - k^2 + 2 \cdot k - 1 \\
 &= 4 \cdot k
 \end{aligned}$$

and we are done.

Proposition 23 For every positive integer n , there exists a natural number l such that $2^l \leq n < 2^{l+1}$.

YOUR PROOF:

— 92 —

The use of existential statements:

To use an assumption of the form $\exists x. P(x)$, introduce a new variable x_0 into the proof to stand for some individual for which the property $P(x)$ holds. This means that you can now assume $P(x_0)$ true.

— 94 —

MY PROOF: For an arbitrary positive integer n , let $l = \lfloor \log n \rfloor$. We have that

$$l \leq \log n < l + 1$$

and hence, since the exponential function is increasing, that

$$2^l \leq 2^{\log n} < 2^{l+1} .$$

As, $n = 2^{\log n}$ we are done.

— 93 —

Theorem 24 For all integers l, m, n , if $l \mid m$ and $m \mid n$ then $l \mid n$.

YOUR PROOF:

— 95 —

Unique existence

MY PROOF: Let l , m , and n be arbitrary integers. Assume that $l \mid m$ and that $m \mid n$; that is, that

$$(\dagger) \exists \text{ integer } i. m = i \cdot l$$

and that

$$(\ddagger) \exists \text{ integer } j. n = j \cdot m .$$

From (\dagger) , we can thus assume that $m = i_0 \cdot l$ for some integer i_0 and, from (\ddagger) , that $n = j_0 \cdot m$ for some integer j_0 . With this, our goal is to show that $l \mid n$; that is, that there exists an integer k such that $n = k \cdot l$. To see this, let $k = j_0 \cdot i_0$ and note that $k \cdot l = j_0 \cdot i_0 \cdot l = j_0 \cdot m = n$.

— 96 —

Disjunction

Disjunctive statements are of the form

P or Q

or, in other words,

either P , Q , or both hold

or, in symbols,

$P \vee Q$

— 98 —

The notation

$$\exists! x. P(x)$$

stands for

the *unique existence* of an x for which the property $P(x)$ holds .

This may be expressed in a variety of equivalent ways as follows:

1. $\exists x. P(x) \wedge (\forall y. \forall z. (P(y) \wedge P(z)) \implies y = z)$
2. $\exists x. (P(x) \wedge \forall y. P(y) \implies y = x)$
3. $\exists x. \forall y. P(y) \iff y = x$

where the first statement is the one most commonly used in proofs.

— 97 —

The main proof strategy for disjunction:

To prove a goal of the form

$$P \vee Q$$

you may

1. try to prove P (if you succeed, then you are done); or
2. try to prove Q (if you succeed, then you are done); otherwise
3. break your proof into cases; proving, in each case, either P or Q .

— 99 —

Proposition 25 For all integers n , either $n^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$ or $n^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$.

YOUR PROOF:

— 100 —

In the first case (i), n is of the form $2 \cdot m$ for some integer m . It follows that $n^2 = 4 \cdot m^2$ and hence that $n^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$.

In the second case (ii), n is of the form $2 \cdot m + 1$ for some integer m . So it follows that $n^2 = 4 \cdot m \cdot (m+1) + 1$ and hence that $n^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$.

— 102 —

MY PROOF SKETCH: Let n be an arbitrary integer.

We may try to prove that $n^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$, but this is not the case as $1^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$.

We may instead try to prove that $n^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$, but this is also not the case as $0^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$.

So we try breaking the proof into cases. In view of a few experiments, we are led to consider the following two cases:

- (i) n is even.
- (ii) n is odd.

and try to see whether in each case either $n^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$ or $n^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ can be established.

— 101 —

NB The proof sketch contains a proof of the following:

Lemma 26 For all integers n ,

1. if n is even, then $n^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$; and
2. if n is odd, then $n^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$.

Hence, for all integers n , either $n^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$ or $n^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$.

— 103 —

Another proof strategy for disjunction:

Proof pattern:
 In order to prove

$$P \vee Q$$
 write: If P is true, then of course $P \vee Q$ is true. Now suppose that P is false. **and provide a proof of Q .**

NB This arises from the main proof strategy for disjunction where the proof has been broken in the two cases:

- (i) P holds.
- (ii) P does not hold.

The use of disjunction:

To use a disjunctive assumption

$$P_1 \vee P_2$$

to establish a goal Q , consider the following two cases in turn: (i) assume P_1 to establish Q , and (ii) assume P_2 to establish Q .

Scratch work:

Before using the strategy

Assumptions	Goal
	$P \vee Q$
⋮	

After using the strategy

Assumptions	Goal
	Q
⋮	
not P	

Scratch work:

Before using the strategy

Assumptions	Goal
	Q
⋮	
$P_1 \vee P_2$	

After using the strategy

Assumptions	Goal		Assumptions	Goal
	Q			Q
⋮			⋮	
P_1			P_2	

A little arithmetic

Proof pattern:

In order to prove Q from some assumptions amongst which there is

$$P_1 \vee P_2$$

write: We prove the following two cases in turn: (i) that assuming P_1 , we have Q ; and (ii) that assuming P_2 , we have Q . Case (i): Assume P_1 . **and provide a proof of Q from it and the other assumptions.** Case (ii): Assume P_2 . **and provide a proof of Q from it and the other assumptions.**

— 108 —

MY PROOF: Let p be an arbitrary positive integer and m an arbitrary natural number.

From $m = 0$ or $m = p$, we need show that $\binom{p}{m} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$. We prove the following two cases in turn: (i) that assuming $m = 0$, we have $\binom{p}{m} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$; and (ii) that assuming $m = p$, we have $\binom{p}{m} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$.

Case (i): Assume $m = 0$. Then, $\binom{p}{m} = 1$ and so $\binom{p}{m} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$.

Case (ii): Assume $m = p$. Then, $\binom{p}{m} = 1$ and so $\binom{p}{m} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$.

— 110 —

Lemma 27 For all positive integers p and natural numbers m , if $m = 0$ or $m = p$ then $\binom{p}{m} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$.

YOUR PROOF:

— 109 —

Lemma 28 For all integers p and m , if p is prime and $0 < m < p$ then $\binom{p}{m} \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$.

YOUR PROOF:

— 111 —

Proposition 29 For all prime numbers p and integers $0 \leq m \leq p$, either $\binom{p}{m} \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ or $\binom{p}{m} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$.

YOUR PROOF:

MY PROOF: Let p and m be arbitrary integers. Assume that p is prime and that $0 < m < p$. Then, $\binom{p}{m} = p \cdot \left[\frac{(p-1)!}{m!(p-m)!} \right]$ and since the fraction $\frac{(p-1)!}{m!(p-m)!}$ is in fact a natural number^a, we are done.

^aProvide the missing argument, noting that it relies on p being prime and on m being a positive integer less than p . (See Corollary 65 on page 211.)

MY PROOF: Let m be a natural number less than or equal a prime number p . We establish that either $\binom{p}{m} \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ or $\binom{p}{m} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ by breaking the proof into three cases:

(i) $m = 0$, (ii) $0 < m < p$, (iii) $m = p$

and showing, in each case, that either $\binom{p}{m} \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ or $\binom{p}{m} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ can be established.

Indeed, in the first case (i), by Lemma 27 (on page 109), we have that $\binom{p}{m} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$; in the second case (ii), by Lemma 28 (on page 111), we have that $\binom{p}{m} \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$; and, in the third case (iii), by Lemma 27 (on page 109), we have that $\binom{p}{m} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$.

Binomial Theorem

Theorem 30 (Binomial Theorem)^a For all natural numbers n ,

$$(x + y)^n = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} \cdot x^{n-k} \cdot y^k .$$

Corollary 31

1. For all natural numbers n , $(z + 1)^n = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} \cdot z^k$
2. $2^n = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k}$

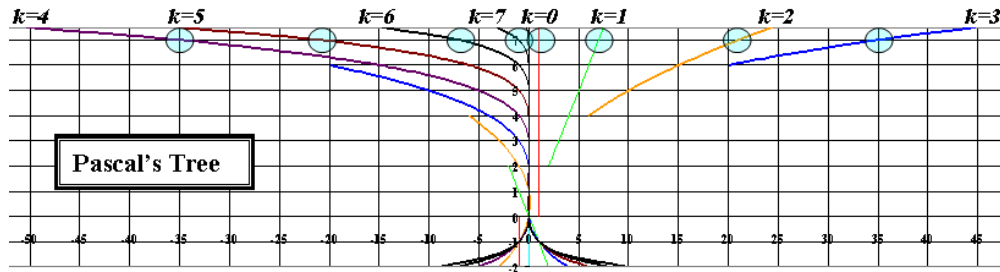
Corollary 32 For all prime numbers p , $2^p \equiv 2 \pmod{p}$.

^aSee page 237.

THEOREM OF THE DAY

The Binomial Theorem For a positive integer and real-valued variables x and y ,

$$(x + y)^n = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} x^{n-k} y^k.$$



Given n distinct objects, the binomial coefficient $\binom{n}{k} = n!/k!(n-k)!$ counts the number of ways of choosing k . Transcending its combinatorial role, we may instead write the binomial coefficient as: $\binom{n}{k} = \frac{n}{k} \times \frac{n-1}{k-1} \times \dots \times \frac{n-(k-1)}{1}$; taking $\binom{n}{0} = 1$. This form is defined when n is a real or even a complex number. In the above graph, n is a real number, and increases continuously on the vertical axis from -2 to 7.5 . For different values of k , the value of $\binom{n}{k}$ has been plotted but with its sign reversed on reaching $n = 2k$, giving a discontinuity. This has the effect of spreading the binomial coefficients out on either side of the vertical axis: we recover, for integer n , a sort of (upside down) Pascal's Triangle. The values of the triangle for $n = 7$ have been circled.

If the right-hand summation in the theorem is extended to $k = \infty$, the result still holds, provided the summation converges. This is guaranteed when n is an integer or when $|y/x| < 1$, so that, for instance, summing for $(4 + 1)^{1/2}$ gives a method of calculating $\sqrt{5}$.

The binomial theorem may have been known, as a calculation of poetic metre, to the Hindu scholar Pingala in the 5th century BC. It can certainly be dated to the 10th century AD. The extension to complex exponent n , using generalised binomial coefficients, is usually credited to Isaac Newton.

Web link: www.iwu.edu/~lstout/aesthetics.pdf an absorbing discussion on the aesthetics of proof.

Further reading: *A Primer of Real Analytic Functions, 2nd ed.* by Steven G. Krantz and Harold R. Parks, Birkhäuser Verlag AG, 2002, section 1.5.

Created by Robin Whitty for www.theoremoftheday.org

MY PROOF: Let m , n , and p be natural numbers with p prime.

Here are two arguments.

1. By the Binomial Theorem (Theorem 30 on page 115),

$$(m + n)^p - (m^p + n^p) = p \cdot \left[\sum_{k=1}^{p-1} \frac{(p-1)!}{k!(p-k)!} \cdot m^{p-k} \cdot n^k \right].$$

Since for $1 \leq k \leq p-1$ each fraction $\frac{(p-1)!}{k!(p-k)!}$ is in fact a natural number, we are done.

2. By the Binomial Theorem (Theorem 30 on page 115) and Proposition 29 (on page 113),

$$(m + n)^p - (m^p + n^p) = \sum_{k=1}^{p-1} \binom{p}{k} \cdot m^{p-k} \cdot n^k \equiv 0 \pmod{p}.$$

Hence $(m + n)^p \equiv m^p + n^p \pmod{p}$.

A little more arithmetic

Corollary 33 (The Freshman's Dream) For all natural numbers m , n and primes p ,

$$(m + n)^p \equiv m^p + n^p \pmod{p}.$$

YOUR PROOF: ^a

^aHint: Use Proposition 29 (on page 113) and the Binomial Theorem (Theorem 30 (on page 115)).

Corollary 34 (The Dropout Lemma) For all natural numbers m and primes p ,

$$(m + 1)^p \equiv m^p + 1 \pmod{p}.$$

Proposition 35 (The Many Dropout Lemma) For all natural numbers m and i , and primes p ,

$$(m + i)^p \equiv m^p + i \pmod{p}.$$

YOUR PROOF: ^a

^aHint: Consider the cases $i = 0$ and $i > 0$ separately. In the latter case, iteratively use the Dropout Lemma a number of $i = \underbrace{1 + \dots + 1}_{i \text{ ones}}$ times.

MY PROOF: Let m and i be natural numbers and let p be a prime. Using the Dropout Lemma (Corollary 34) one calculates i times, for j ranging from 0 to i , as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} (m+i)^p &\equiv (m+(i-1))^p + 1 \\ &\equiv \dots \\ &\equiv (m+(i-j))^p + j \\ &\equiv \dots \\ &\equiv m^p + i \end{aligned}$$

Btw

1. The answer to the puzzle on page 17 is:

on the chair numbered 1

because, by Fermat's Little Theorem, either $n^4 \equiv 0 \pmod{5}$ or $n^4 \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$.

2. Fermat's Little Theorem has applications to:

- (a) primality testing^a,
- (b) the verification of floating-point algorithms, and
- (c) cryptographic security.

^aFor instance, to establish that a positive integer m is not prime one may proceed to find an integer i such that $i^m \not\equiv i \pmod{m}$.

The Many Dropout Lemma (Proposition 35) gives the first part of the following very important theorem as a corollary.

Theorem 36 (Fermat's Little Theorem) For all natural numbers i and primes p ,

- 1. $i^p \equiv i \pmod{p}$, and
- 2. $i^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ whenever i is not a multiple of p .

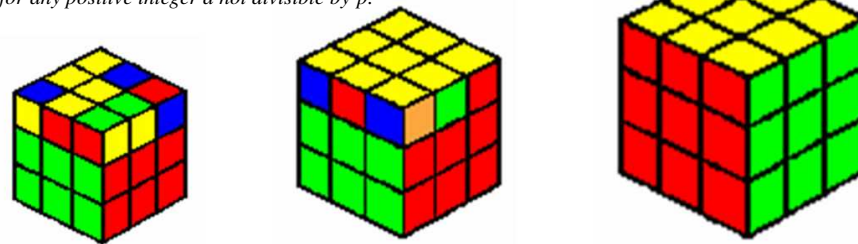
The fact that the first part of Fermat's Little Theorem implies the second one will be proved later on (see page 209).

THEOREM OF THE DAY

Theorem (Fermat's Little Theorem) If p is a prime number, then

$$a^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p},$$

for any positive integer a not divisible by p .



Suppose $p = 5$. We can imagine a row of a copies of an $a \times a \times a$ Rubik's cube (let us suppose, although this is not how Rubik created his cube, that each is made up of a^3 little solid cubes, so that is a^3 little cubes in all.) Take the little cubes 5 at a time. For three standard 3×3 cubes, shown here, we will eventually be left with precisely one little cube remaining. Exactly the same will be true for a pair of 2×2 'pocket cubes' or four of the 4×4 'Rubik's revenge' cubes. The 'Professor's cube', having $a = 5$, fails the hypothesis of the theorem and gives remainder zero.

The converse of this theorem, that $a^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$, for some a not dividing p , implies that p is prime, does not hold. For example, it can be verified that $2^{340} \equiv 1 \pmod{341}$, while 341 is not prime. However, a more elaborate test is conjectured to work both ways: remainders add,

so the Little Theorem tells us that, modulo p , $1^{p-1} + 2^{p-1} + \dots + (p-1)^{p-1} \equiv \overbrace{1+1+\dots+1}^{p-1} = p-1$. The 1950 conjecture of the Italian mathematician Giuseppe Giuga proposes that this *only* happens for prime numbers: a positive integer n is a prime number if and only if $1^{n-1} + 2^{n-1} + \dots + (n-1)^{n-1} \equiv n-1 \pmod{n}$. The conjecture has been shown by Peter Borwein to be true for all numbers with up to 13800 digits (about 5 complete pages of digits in 12-point courier font!)

Fermat announced this result in 1640, in a letter to a fellow civil servant Fréncile de Bessy. As with his 'Last Theorem' he claimed that he had a proof but that it was too long to supply. In this case, however, the challenge was more tractable: Leonhard Euler supplied a proof almost 100 years later which, as a matter of fact, echoed one in an unpublished manuscript of Gottfried Wilhelm von Leibniz, dating from around 1680.

Web link: www.math.uwo.ca/~dborwein/cv/giuga.pdf. The cube images are from: www.ws.binghamton.edu/fridrich/.

Further reading: *Elementary Number Theory, 6th revised ed.*, by David M. Burton, MacGraw-Hill, 2005, chapter 5.

From www.theoremday.org by Robin Whitty. This file hosted by London South Bank University

Negation

Negations are statements of the form

not P

or, in other words,

P is not the case

or

P is absurd

or

P leads to contradiction

or, in symbols,

$\neg P$

A first proof strategy for negated goals and assumptions:

If possible, reexpress the negation in an *equivalent* form and use instead this other statement.

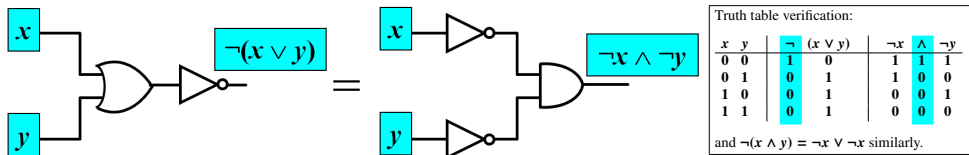
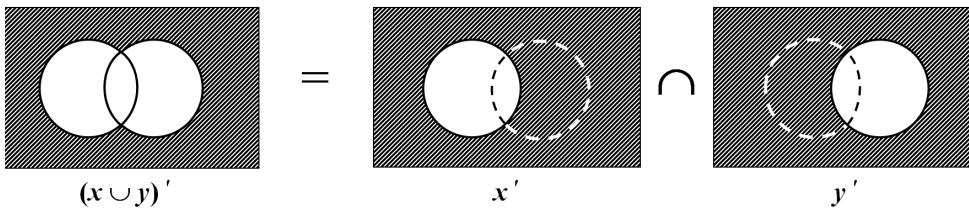
Logical equivalences

$\neg(P \implies Q)$	\iff	$P \wedge \neg Q$
$\neg(P \iff Q)$	\iff	$P \iff \neg Q$
$\neg(\forall x. P(x))$	\iff	$\exists x. \neg P(x)$
$\neg(P \wedge Q)$	\iff	$(\neg P) \vee (\neg Q)$
$\neg(\exists x. P(x))$	\iff	$\forall x. \neg P(x)$
$\neg(P \vee Q)$	\iff	$(\neg P) \wedge (\neg Q)$
$\neg(\neg P)$	\iff	P
$\neg P$	\iff	$(P \implies \text{false})$

THEOREM OF THE DAY

De Morgan's Laws If B , a set containing at least two elements, and equipped with the operations $+$, \times and $'$ (complement), is a Boolean algebra, then, for any x and y in B ,

$$(x + y)' = x' \times y', \text{ and } (x \times y)' = x' + y'.$$



De Morgan's laws are readily derived from the axioms of Boolean algebra and indeed are themselves sometimes treated as axiomatic. They merit special status because of their role in translating between $+$ and \times , which means, for example, that Boolean algebra can be defined entirely in terms of one or the other. This property, entirely absent in the arithmetic of numbers, would seem to mark Boolean algebras as highly specialised creatures, but they are found everywhere from computer circuitry to the sigma-algebras of probability theory. The illustration here shows De Morgan's laws in their set-theoretic, logic circuit guises, and truth table guises.

These laws are named after Augustus De Morgan (1806–1871) as is the building in which resides the London Mathematical Society, whose first president he was.

Web link: www.maths.org/analysis/reals/logic/notation.html

Further reading: *Boolean Algebra and Its Applications* by J. Eldon Whitesitt, Dover Publications Inc., 1995.

Theorem 37 For all statements P and Q,

$$(P \implies Q) \iff (\neg Q \implies \neg P)$$

YOUR PROOF:

MY PROOF: Assume

$$(i) P \implies Q .$$

Assume

$$\neg Q ;$$

that is,

$$(ii) Q \implies \text{false} .$$

From (i) and (ii), by Theorem 11 (on page 55), we have that

$$P \implies \text{false} ;$$

that is,

$$\neg P$$

as required.

— 128 —

MY PROOF: We prove the equivalent statement:

it is not the case that $\sqrt{2}$ is rational

by showing that the assumption

$$(i) \sqrt{2} \text{ is rational}$$

leads to contradiction.

— 130 —

Theorem 38 *The real number $\sqrt{2}$ is irrational.*

YOUR PROOF:

— 129 —

Assume (i); that is, that there exist integers m and n such that $\sqrt{2} = m/n$. Equivalently, by simplification (see also Lemma 41 on page 138 below), assume that there exist integers p and q *both of which are not even* such that $\sqrt{2} = p/q$. Under this assumption, let p_0 and q_0 be such integers; that is, integers such that

$$(ii) p_0 \text{ and } q_0 \text{ are not both even}$$

and

$$(iii) \sqrt{2} = p_0/q_0 .$$

From (iii), one calculates that $p_0^2 = 2 \cdot q_0^2$ and, by Proposition 12 (on page 60), concludes that p_0 is even; that is, of the form $2 \cdot k$ for an integer k . With this, and again from (iii), one deduces that $q_0^2 = 2 \cdot k^2$ and hence, again by Proposition 12 (on page 60), that also q_0 is even; thereby contradicting assumption (ii). Hence, $\sqrt{2}$ is not rational.

— 131 —

Proof by contradiction

The strategy for proof by contradiction:

To prove a goal P by contradiction is to prove the equivalent statement $\neg P \implies \text{false}$

Proof pattern:

In order to prove

P

1. **Write:** We use proof by contradiction. So, suppose P is false.
2. Deduce a logical contradiction.
3. **Write:** This is a contradiction. Therefore, P must be true.

— 132 —

Scratch work:

Before using the strategy

Assumptions

Goal

P

\vdots

After using the strategy

Assumptions

Goal

contradiction

\vdots

$\neg P$

— 133 —

Theorem 39 For all statements P and Q ,

$$(\neg Q \implies \neg P) \implies (P \implies Q) .$$

YOUR PROOF:

MY PROOF: Assume

(i) $\neg Q \implies \neg P$.

Assume

(ii) P .

We need show Q .

Assume, by way of contradiction, that

(iii) $\neg Q$

holds.

— 134 —

— 135 —

From (i) and (iii), by Theorem 11 (on page 55), we have

(iv) $\neg P$

and now, from (ii) and (iv), we obtain a contradiction. Thus, $\neg Q$ cannot be the case; hence

Q

as required.

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Lemma 41 *A positive real number x is rational iff*

\exists positive integers m, n :

$$x = m/n \wedge \neg(\exists \text{ prime } p : p \mid m \wedge p \mid n) \quad (\dagger)$$

YOUR PROOF:

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Corollary 40 *For all statements P and Q ,*

$$(P \implies Q) \iff (\neg Q \implies \neg P) .$$

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MY PROOF:

(\Leftarrow) Holds trivially.

(\Rightarrow) Assume that

(i) \exists positive integers a, b : $x = a/b$.

We show (\dagger) by contradiction. So, suppose (\dagger) is false; that is^a, assume that

(ii) \forall positive integers m, n :

$$x = m/n \implies \exists \text{ prime } p : p \mid m \wedge p \mid n .$$

From (i), let a_0 and b_0 be positive integers such that

^aHere we use three of the logical equivalences of page 125 (btw, which ones?) and the logical equivalence $(P \Rightarrow Q) \Leftrightarrow (\neg P \vee Q)$.

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$$(iii) \quad x = a_0/b_0 .$$

It follows from (ii) and (iii) that there exists a prime p_0 that divides both a_0 and b_0 . That is, $a_0 = p_0 \cdot a_1$ and $b_0 = p_0 \cdot b_1$ for positive integers a_1 and b_1 . Since

$$(iv) \quad x = a_1/b_1 ,$$

it follows from (ii) and (iv) that there exists a prime p_1 that divides both a_1 and b_1 . Hence, $a_0 = p_0 \cdot p_1 \cdot a_2$ and $b_0 = p_0 \cdot p_1 \cdot b_2$ for positive integers a_2 and b_2 . Iterating this argument l number of times, we have that $a_0 = p_0 \cdot \dots \cdot p_l \cdot a_{l+1}$ and $b_0 = p_0 \cdot \dots \cdot p_l \cdot b_{l+1}$ for primes p_0, \dots, p_l and positive integers a_{l+1} and b_{l+1} . In particular, for $l = \lfloor \log a_0 \rfloor$ we have

$$a_0 = p_0 \cdot \dots \cdot p_l \cdot a_{l+1} \geq 2^{l+1} > a_0 .$$

This is a contradiction. Therefore, (†) must be true.

Numbers

Topics

Natural numbers. The laws of addition and multiplication. Integers and rational numbers: additive and multiplicative inverses. The division theorem and algorithm: quotients and remainders. Modular arithmetic. Euclid's Algorithm for computing the gcd (greatest common divisor)^a. Euclid's Theorem. The Extended Euclid's Algorithm for computing the gcd as a linear combination. Multiplicative inverses in modular arithmetic. Diffie-Hellman cryptographic method. Mathematical induction: principles of induction and strong induction. Binomial Theorem and Pascal's

^aaka hcf (highest common factor).

Problem Like many proofs by contradiction, the previous proof is unsatisfactory in that it does not give us as much information as we would like^a. In this particular case, for instance, given a pair of numerator and denominator representing a rational number we would like a method, construction, or algorithm providing us with its representation in lowest terms (or reduced form). We will see later on (see page 197) that there is in fact an efficient algorithm for doing so, but for that a bit of mathematical theory needs to be developed.

^aIn the logical jargon this is referred to as not being *constructive*.

Triangle. Fermat's Little Theorem. Fundamental Theorem of Arithmetic. Infinity of primes.

Complementary reading:

On numbers

- ♦ Chapters 27 to 29 of *How to Think Like a Mathematician* by K. Houston.
- ★ Chapter 8 of *Mathematics for Computer Science* by E. Lehman, F. T. Leighton, and A. R. Meyer.
- ★ Chapters I and VIII of *The Higher Arithmetic* by H. Davenport.

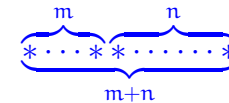
Objectives

- ▶ Get an appreciation for the abstract notion of number system, considering four examples: natural numbers, integers, rationals, and modular integers.
- ▶ Prove the correctness of three basic algorithms in the theory of numbers: the division algorithm, Euclid's algorithm, and the Extended Euclid's algorithm.
- ▶ Exemplify the use of the mathematical theory surrounding Euclid's Theorem and Fermat's Little Theorem in the context of public-key cryptography.
- ▶ To understand and be able to proficiently use the Principle of Mathematical Induction in its various forms.

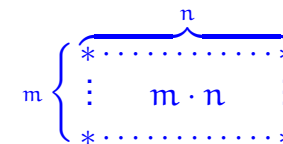
— 145 —

The basic operations of this number system are:

- ▶ Addition



- ▶ Multiplication



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On induction

- ♦ Chapters 24 and 25 of *How to Think Like a Mathematician* by K. Houston.
- ♦ Chapter 4 of *Mathematics for Computer Science* by E. Lehman, F. T. Leighton, and A. R. Meyer.
- ♦ Chapter 6 of *How to Prove it* by D. J. Velleman.

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Natural numbers

In the beginning there were the [*natural numbers*](#)

$$\mathbb{N} : 0, 1, \dots, n, n+1, \dots$$

generated from *zero* by successive increment; that is, put in ML:

datatype

$\mathbb{N} = \text{zero} \mid \text{succ of } \mathbb{N}$

Remark This viewpoint will be looked at later in the course.

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The additive structure $(\mathbb{N}, 0, +)$ of natural numbers with zero and addition satisfies the following:

- ▶ Monoid laws

$$0 + n = n = n + 0 \quad , \quad (l + m) + n = l + (m + n)$$

- ▶ Commutativity law

$$m + n = n + m$$

and as such is what in the mathematical jargon is referred to as a commutative monoid.

Btw: Most probably, though without knowing it, you have already encountered several monoids elsewhere. For instance:

1. The booleans with **false** and disjunction.
2. The booleans with **true** and conjunction.
3. Lists with nil and concatenation.

While the first two above are commutative this is not generally the case for the latter.

Also the multiplicative structure $(\mathbb{N}, 1, \cdot)$ of natural numbers with one and multiplication is a commutative monoid:

- ▶ Monoid laws

$$1 \cdot n = n = n \cdot 1 \quad , \quad (l \cdot m) \cdot n = l \cdot (m \cdot n)$$

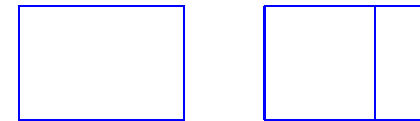
- ▶ Commutativity law

$$m \cdot n = n \cdot m$$

The additive and multiplicative structures interact nicely in that they satisfy the

- ▶ Distributive law

$$l \cdot (m + n) = l \cdot m + l \cdot n$$



and make the overall structure $(\mathbb{N}, 0, +, 1, \cdot)$ into what in the mathematical jargon is referred to as a commutative semiring.

Cancellation

The additive and multiplicative structures of natural numbers further satisfy the following laws.

► Additive cancellation

For all natural numbers k, m, n ,

$$k + m = k + n \implies m = n .$$

► Multiplicative cancellation

For all natural numbers k, m, n ,

$$\text{if } k \neq 0 \text{ then } k \cdot m = k \cdot n \implies m = n .$$

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Extending the system of natural numbers to: (i) admit all additive inverses and then (ii) also admit all multiplicative inverses for non-zero numbers yields two very interesting results:

(i) the integers

$$\mathbb{Z} : \dots - n, \dots, -1, 0, 1, \dots, n, \dots$$

which then form what in the mathematical jargon is referred to as a commutative ring, and

(ii) the rationals \mathbb{Q} which then form what in the mathematical jargon is referred to as a field.

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Inverses

Definition 42

1. A number x is said to admit an additive inverse whenever there exists a number y such that $x + y = 0$.
2. A number x is said to admit a multiplicative inverse whenever there exists a number y such that $x \cdot y = 1$.

Remark In the presence of inverses, we have cancellation; though the converse is not necessarily the case. For instance, in the system of natural numbers, only 0 has an additive inverse (namely itself), while only 1 has a multiplicative inverse (namely itself).

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The division theorem and algorithm

Theorem 43 (Division Theorem) For every natural number m and positive natural number n , there exists a unique pair of integers q and r such that $q \geq 0$, $0 \leq r < n$, and $m = q \cdot n + r$.

Definition 44 The natural numbers q and r associated to a given pair of a natural number m and a positive integer n determined by the Division Theorem are respectively denoted $\text{quo}(m, n)$ and $\text{rem}(m, n)$.

Btw Definitions determined by existence and uniqueness properties such as the above are very common in mathematics.

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The Division Algorithm in ML:

```
fun divalg( m , n )
  = let
    fun diviter( q , r )
      = if r < n then ( q , r )
        else diviter( q+1 , r-n )
    in
      diviter( 0 , m )
    end

fun quo( m , n ) = #1( divalg( m , n ) )

fun rem( m , n ) = #2( divalg( m , n ) )
```

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MY PROOF SKETCH: Let m and n be natural numbers with n positive.

The evaluation of $\text{divalg}(m, n)$ diverges iff so does the evaluation of $\text{diviter}(0, m)$ within this call; and this is in turn the case iff $m - i \cdot n \geq n$ for all natural numbers i . Since this latter statement is absurd, the evaluation of $\text{divalg}(m, n)$ terminates. In fact, it does so with worst time complexity $O(m)$.

For all calls of diviter with (q, r) originating from the evaluation of $\text{divalg}(m, n)$ one has that

$$0 \leq q \wedge 0 \leq r \wedge m = q \cdot n + r$$

because

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Theorem 45 For every natural number m and positive natural number n , the evaluation of $\text{divalg}(m, n)$ terminates, outputting a pair of natural numbers (q_0, r_0) such that $r_0 < n$ and $m = q_0 \cdot n + r_0$.

YOUR PROOF:

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1. for the first call with $(0, m)$ one has

$$0 \leq 0 \wedge 0 \leq m \wedge m = 0 \cdot n + m ,$$

and

2. all subsequent calls with $(q + 1, r - n)$ are done with

$$0 \leq q \wedge n \leq r \wedge m = q \cdot n + r$$

so that

$$0 \leq q + 1 \wedge 0 \leq r - n \wedge m = (q + 1) \cdot n + (r - n)$$

follows.

Finally, since in the last call the output pair (q_0, r_0) further satisfies that $r_0 < n$, we have that

$$0 \leq q_0 \wedge 0 \leq r_0 < n \wedge m = q_0 \cdot n + r_0$$

as required.

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Proposition 46 Let m be a positive integer. For all natural numbers k and l ,

$$k \equiv l \pmod{m} \iff \text{rem}(k, m) = \text{rem}(l, m) .$$

YOUR PROOF:

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Corollary 47 Let m be a positive integer.

1. For every natural number n ,

$$n \equiv \text{rem}(n, m) \pmod{m} .$$

2. For every integer k there exists a unique integer $[k]_m$ such that

$$0 \leq [k]_m < m \text{ and } k \equiv [k]_m \pmod{m} .$$

YOUR PROOF:

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MY PROOF: Let m be a positive integer, and let k, l be natural numbers.

(\implies) Assume $k \equiv l \pmod{m}$. Then,

$$\max(\text{rem}(k, m), \text{rem}(l, m)) - \min(\text{rem}(k, m), \text{rem}(l, m))$$

is a non-negative multiple of m below it. Hence, it is necessarily 0 and we are done.

(\impliedby) Assume that $\text{rem}(k, m) = \text{rem}(l, m)$. Then,

$$k - l = (\text{quo}(k, m) - \text{quo}(l, m)) \cdot m$$

and we are done.

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MY PROOF: Let m be a positive integer.

(1) Holds because, for every natural number n , we have that $n - \text{rem}(n, m) = \text{quo}(n, m) \cdot m$.

(2) Let k be an integer. Noticing that $k + |k| \cdot m$ is a natural number congruent to k modulo m , define $[k]_m$ as

$$\text{rem}(k + |k| \cdot m, m) .$$

This establishes the existence property. As for the uniqueness property, we will prove the following statement:

For all integers l such that $0 \leq l < m$ and $k \equiv l \pmod{m}$ it is necessarily the case that $l = [k]_m$.

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Modular arithmetic

To this end, let l be an integer such that $0 \leq l < m$ and $k \equiv l \pmod{m}$. Then,

$$\begin{aligned} l &= \text{rem}(l, m) \\ &= \text{rem}(k, m) \quad , \text{ by Proposition 46 (on page 160)} \\ &= \text{rem}([k]_m, m) \quad , \text{ by Proposition 46 (on page 160)} \\ &= [k]_m \end{aligned}$$

Example 49 The addition and multiplication tables for \mathbb{Z}_4 are:

$+_4$	0	1	2	3
0	0	1	2	3
1	1	2	3	0
2	2	3	0	1
3	3	0	1	2

\cdot_4	0	1	2	3
0	0	0	0	0
1	0	1	2	3
2	0	2	0	2
3	0	3	2	1

Note that the addition table has a cyclic pattern, while there is no obvious pattern in the multiplication table.

For every positive integer m , the integers modulo m are:

$$\mathbb{Z}_m : 0, 1, \dots, m-1.$$

with arithmetic operations of addition $+_m$ and multiplication \cdot_m defined as follows

$$\begin{aligned} k +_m l &= [k + l]_m = \text{rem}(k + l, m) \quad , \\ k \cdot_m l &= [k \cdot l]_m = \text{rem}(k \cdot l, m) \end{aligned}$$

for all $0 \leq k, l < m$.

Example 48 The modular-arithmetic structure $(\mathbb{Z}_2, 0, +_2, 1, \cdot_2)$ is that of booleans with logical XOR as addition and logical AND as multiplication.

From the addition and multiplication tables, we can readily read tables for additive and multiplicative inverses:

	<i>additive inverse</i>
0	0
1	3
2	2
3	1

	<i>multiplicative inverse</i>
0	—
1	1
2	—
3	3

Interestingly, we have a non-trivial multiplicative inverse; namely, 3.

Example 50 The addition and multiplication tables for \mathbb{Z}_5 are:

$+_5$	0	1	2	3	4
0	0	1	2	3	4
1	1	2	3	4	0
2	2	3	4	0	1
3	3	4	0	1	2
4	4	0	1	2	3

\cdot_5	0	1	2	3	4
0	0	0	0	0	0
1	0	1	2	3	4
2	0	2	4	1	3
3	0	3	1	4	2
4	0	4	3	2	1

Again, the addition table has a cyclic pattern, while this time the multiplication table restricted to non-zero elements has a permutation pattern.

Proposition 51 For all natural numbers $m > 1$, the modular-arithmetic structure

$$(\mathbb{Z}_m, 0, +_m, 1, \cdot_m)$$

is a commutative ring.

Remark The most interesting case of the omitted proof consists in establishing the associativity laws of addition and multiplication.

NB Quite surprisingly, modular-arithmetic number systems have further mathematical structure in the form of multiplicative inverses (see page 226).

From the addition and multiplication tables, we can readily read tables for additive and multiplicative inverses:

	<i>additive inverse</i>
0	0
1	4
2	3
3	2
4	1

	<i>multiplicative inverse</i>
0	—
1	1
2	3
3	2
4	4

Surprisingly, every non-zero element has a multiplicative inverse.

Important mathematical jargon: Sets

Very roughly, sets are the mathematicians' data structures. Informally, we will consider a set as a (well-defined, unordered) collection of mathematical objects, called the elements (or members) of the set.

Though only implicitly, we have already encountered many sets so far, e.g. the sets of natural numbers \mathbb{N} , integers \mathbb{Z} , positive integers, even integers, odd integers, primes, rationals \mathbb{Q} , reals \mathbb{R} , booleans, and finite initial segments of natural numbers \mathbb{Z}_m .

Set membership

It is now due time to be explicit. The *theory of sets* plays important roles in mathematics, logic, and computer science, and we will be looking at some of its very basics later on in the course (see page 275). For the moment, we will just introduce some of its surrounding notation.

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Remark The notations

$$\forall x \in A. P(x) \quad , \quad \exists x \in A. P(x)$$

are shorthand for

$$\forall x. (x \in A \implies P(x)) \quad , \quad \exists x. x \in A \wedge P(x) \quad .$$

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The symbol ‘ \in ’ known as the *set membership* predicate is central to the theory of sets, and its purpose is to build statements of the form

$$x \in A$$

that are true whenever it is the case that the object x is an element of the set A , and false otherwise. Thus, for instance, $\pi \in \mathbb{R}$ is a true statement, while $\sqrt{-1} \in \mathbb{R}$ is not. The negation of the set membership predicate is written by means of the symbol ‘ \notin ’; so that $\sqrt{-1} \notin \mathbb{R}$ is a true statement, while $\pi \notin \mathbb{R}$ is not.

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Defining sets

The conventional way to write down a finite set (i.e. a set with a finite number of elements) is to list its elements in between curly brackets. For instance,

$$\text{the set } \left| \begin{array}{l} \text{of even primes} \\ \text{of booleans} \\ [-2..3] \end{array} \right| \text{ is } \left| \begin{array}{l} \{2\} \\ \{\text{true}, \text{false}\} \\ \{-2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3\} \end{array} \right|$$

Defining huge finite sets (such as $\mathbb{Z}_{\text{googolplex}}$) and infinite sets (such as the set of primes) in the above style is impossible and requires a technique known as *set comprehension*^a (or *set-builder notation*), which we will look at next.

^aBtw, many programming languages provide a *list comprehension* construct modelled upon set comprehension.

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Set comprehension

The basic idea behind set comprehension is to define a set by means of a property that precisely characterises all the elements of the set.

Here, given an already constructed set A and a statement $P(x)$ for the variable x ranging over the set A , we will be using either of the following set-comprehension notations

$$\{x \in A \mid P(x)\} \quad , \quad \{x \in A : P(x)\}$$

for defining the set consisting of all those elements a of the set A such that the statement $P(a)$ holds. In other words, the following statement is true

$$\forall a. \left(a \in \{x \in A \mid P(x)\} \iff (a \in A \wedge P(a)) \right) \quad (\dagger)$$

by definition.

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Greatest common divisor

Given a natural number n , the set of its *divisors* is defined by set comprehension as follows

$$D(n) = \{d \in \mathbb{N} : d \mid n\} \quad .$$

Example 53

1. $D(0) = \mathbb{N}$

2. $D(1224) = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 12, 17, 18, 24, 34, 36, 51, 68, \\ 72, 102, 136, 153, 204, 306, 408, 612, 1224 \end{array} \right\}$

Remark Sets of divisors are hard to compute. However, the computation of the greatest divisor is straightforward. :))

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Example 52

1. $\mathbb{N} = \{n \in \mathbb{Z} \mid n \geq 0\}$

2. $\mathbb{N}^+ = \{n \in \mathbb{N} \mid n \geq 1\}$

3. $\mathbb{Q} = \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid \exists p \in \mathbb{Z}. \exists q \in \mathbb{N}^+. x = p/q\}$

4. $\mathbb{Z}_{\text{googolplex}} = \{n \in \mathbb{N} \mid n < \text{googolplex}\}$

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Going a step further, what about the *common divisors* of pairs of natural numbers? That is, the set

$$CD(m, n) = \{d \in \mathbb{N} : d \mid m \wedge d \mid n\}$$

for $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$.

Example 54

$$CD(1224, 660) = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 12\}$$

Since $CD(n, n) = D(n)$, the computation of common divisors is as hard as that of divisors. But, what about the computation of the *greatest common divisor*?

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Lemma 56 (Key Lemma) Let m and m' be natural numbers and let n be a positive integer such that $m \equiv m' \pmod{n}$. Then,

$$CD(m, n) = CD(m', n) .$$

YOUR PROOF:

Proposition 55 For all natural numbers l , m , and n ,

1. $CD(l \cdot n, n) = D(n)$, and
2. $CD(m, n) = CD(n, m)$.

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MY PROOF: Let m and m' be natural numbers, and let n be a positive integer such that

$$(i) \quad m \equiv m' \pmod{n} .$$

We will prove that for all positive integers d ,

$$d \mid m \wedge d \mid n \iff d \mid m' \wedge d \mid n .$$

(\implies) Let d be a positive integer that divides both m and n . Then,

$$d \mid (k \cdot n + m) \text{ for all integers } k$$

and since, by (i), $m' = k_0 \cdot n + m$ for some integer k_0 , it follows that $d \mid m'$. As $d \mid n$ by assumption, we have that d divides both m' and n .

(\impliedby) Analogous to the previous implication.

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Corollary 57

1. For all natural numbers m and positive integers n ,

$$CD(m, n) = CD(\text{rem}(m, n), n) .$$

2. For all natural numbers m and n ,

$$CD(m, n) = CD(q - p, p)$$

where $p = \min(m, n)$ and $q = \max(m, n)$.

YOUR PROOF:

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MY PROOF: The claim follows from the Key Lemma 56 (on page 181). Item (1) by Corollary 47 (on page 162), and item (2) because $l \equiv l - k \pmod k$ for all integers k and l .

gcd (with divalg)

```

fun gcd( m , n )
= let
  val ( q , r ) = divalg( m , n )
in
  if r = 0 then n
  else gcd( n , r )
end

```

Putting previous knowledge together we have:

Lemma 58 For all positive integers m and n ,

$$\text{CD}(m, n) = \begin{cases} D(n) & , \text{ if } n \mid m \\ \text{CD}(n, \text{rem}(m, n)) & , \text{ otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Since a positive integer n is the greatest divisor in $D(n)$, the lemma suggests a recursive procedure:

$$\text{gcd}(m, n) = \begin{cases} n & , \text{ if } n \mid m \\ \text{gcd}(n, \text{rem}(m, n)) & , \text{ otherwise} \end{cases}$$

for computing the *greatest common divisor*, of two positive integers m and n . This is

Euclid's Algorithm

gcd (with div)

```

fun gcd( m , n )
= let
  val q = m div n
  val r = m - q*n
in
  if r = 0 then n
  else gcd( n , r )
end

```

Example 59 ($\gcd(13, 34) = 1$)

$$\begin{aligned} \gcd(13, 34) &= \gcd(34, 13) \\ &= \gcd(13, 8) \\ &= \gcd(8, 5) \\ &= \gcd(5, 3) \\ &= \gcd(3, 2) \\ &= \gcd(2, 1) \\ &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

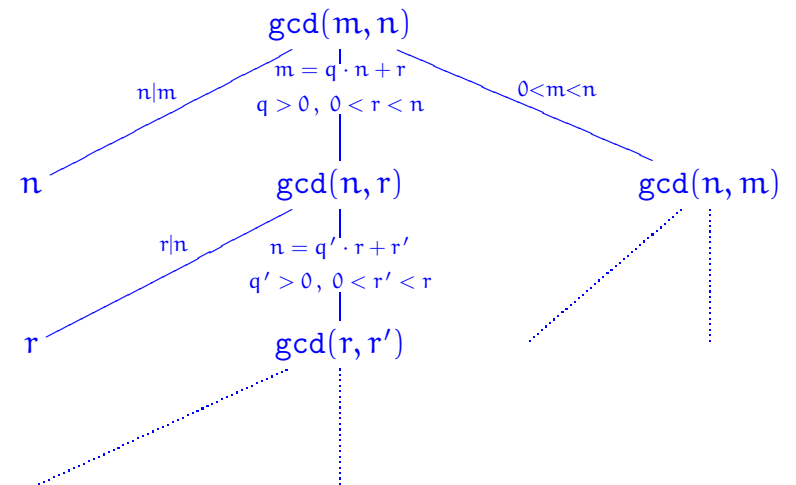
MY PROOF: To establish the termination of \gcd on a pair of positive integers (m, n) we consider and analyse the computations arising from the call $\gcd(m, n)$. For intuition, these can be visualised as on page 191.

As a start, note that, if $m < n$, the computation of $\gcd(m, n)$ reduces in one step to that of $\gcd(n, m)$; so that it will be enough to establish the termination of \gcd on pairs where the first component is greater than or equal to the second component.

Theorem 60 Euclid's Algorithm \gcd terminates on all pairs of positive integers and, for such m and n , $\gcd(m, n)$ is the greatest common divisor of m and n in the sense that the following two properties hold:

- (i) both $\gcd(m, n) \mid m$ and $\gcd(m, n) \mid n$, and
- (ii) for all positive integers d such that $d \mid m$ and $d \mid n$ it necessarily follows that $d \mid \gcd(m, n)$.

YOUR PROOF:



Consider then $\text{gcd}(m, n)$ where $m \geq n$. We have that $\text{gcd}(m, n)$ either terminates in one step, whenever $n \mid m$; or that, whenever $m = q \cdot n + r$ with $q > 0$ and $0 < r < n$, it reduces in one step to a computation of $\text{gcd}(n, r)$.

In this latter case, the passage of computing $\text{gcd}(m, n)$ by means of computing $\text{gcd}(n, r)$ maintains the invariant of having the first component greater than or equal to the second one, but also strictly decreases the second component of the two pairs. As this process cannot go on for ever while maintaining the second components of the recurring pairs positive, the recursive calls must eventually stop and the overall computation terminate (in a number of steps less than or equal the minimum input of the pair).

I claim that $r' < n/2$. Indeed, this is because:

$$2 \cdot r' < r + r' \leq q' \cdot r + r' = n .$$

Thus, after 2 steps in the computation of gcd on inputs (m, n) with $m \geq n$ the second (and smallest) component n of the pair being computed is reduced to more than $1/2$ its size. Since this pattern recurs until termination, the total number of steps in the computation of gcd on a pair (m, n) is bounded by

$$1 + 2 \cdot \log (\min(m, n)) .$$

Hence, the time complexity of the gcd is at most of logarithmic order.^a

^aLet me note for the record that a more precise complexity analysis involving *Fibonacci numbers* is also available.

The previous analysis can be refined further to get a nice upper bound on the computation of gcd s. For fun, we look into this next.

Note that, for $m \geq n$, a call of gcd on (m, n) terminates in at most 2 steps, or in 2 steps reduces to a computation of $\text{gcd}(r, r')$ for a pair of positive integers (r, r') such that:

$$m = q \cdot n + r \text{ for } q > 0 \text{ and } 0 < r < n$$

and

$$n = q' \cdot r + r' \text{ for } q' > 0 \text{ and } 0 < r' < r .$$

(Btw, for $n > m$, the same occurs but with an extra computation step.) As before, this process cannot go on for ever and the gcd algorithm necessarily terminates.

As for the characterisation of $\text{gcd}(m, n)$, for positive integers m and n , by means of the properties (i) and (ii) stated in the theorem, we note first that it follows from Lemma 58 (on page 185) that

$$\text{CD}(m, n) = \text{D}(\text{gcd}(m, n)) ;$$

that is, in other words,

for all positive integers d ,

$$d \mid m \wedge d \mid n \iff d \mid \text{gcd}(m, n)$$

which is a single statement equivalent to the statements (i) and (ii) together.

NB Euclid's Algorithm (on page 185) and Theorem 60 (on page 189) provide two views of the `gcd`: an algorithmic one and a mathematical one. Both views are complementary, neither being more important than the other, and a proper understanding of `gcds` should involve both. As a case in point, we will see that some properties of `gcds` are better approached from the algorithmic side (e.g. linearity) while others from the mathematical side (e.g. commutativity and associativity).

This situation arises as a general pattern in interactions between computer science and mathematics.

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Some fundamental properties of `gcds`

Corollary 61 *Let `m` and `n` be positive integers.*

1. *For all integers `k` and `l`,*

$$\text{gcd}(m, n) \mid (k \cdot m + l \cdot n) \quad .$$

2. *If there exist integers `k` and `l`, such that $k \cdot m + l \cdot n = 1$ then $\text{gcd}(m, n) = 1$.*

YOUR PROOF:

— 198 —

Fractions in lowest terms

Here's our solution to the problem raised on page 141.

```
fun lowterms( m , n )
  = let
    val gcdval = gcd( m , n )
  in
    ( m div gcdval , n div gcdval )
  end
```

— 197 —

MY PROOF:

(1) Follows from the fact that $\text{gcd}(m, n) \mid m$ and $\text{gcd}(m, n) \mid n$, for all positive integers `m` and `n`, and from general elementary properties of divisibility.

(2) Because, by the previous item, one would have that the `gcd` divides 1.

— 199 —

Lemma 62 For all positive integers l , m , and n ,

1. (**Commutativity**) $\gcd(m, n) = \gcd(n, m)$,
2. (**Associativity**) $\gcd(l, \gcd(m, n)) = \gcd(\gcd(l, m), n)$,
3. (**Linearity**)^a $\gcd(l \cdot m, l \cdot n) = l \cdot \gcd(m, n)$.

YOUR PROOF:

^aAka (Distributivity).

Since $\gcd(m, n)$ and $\gcd(n, m)$ are positive integers that divide each other, then they must be equal.

(2) In a nutshell, the result follows because both $\gcd(l, \gcd(m, n))$ and $\gcd(\gcd(l, m), n)$ are the greatest common divisor of the triple of numbers (l, m, n) . But again I'll give a detailed proof by means of the universal property of \gcd s, from which we have that for all positive integers d ,

$$\begin{aligned}
 d \mid \gcd(l, \gcd(m, n)) & \\
 \iff d \mid l \wedge d \mid \gcd(m, n) & \\
 \iff d \mid l \wedge d \mid m \wedge d \mid n & \\
 \iff d \mid \gcd(l, m) \wedge d \mid n & \\
 \iff d \mid \gcd(\gcd(l, m), n) &
 \end{aligned}$$

MY PROOF: Let l , m , and n be positive integers.

(1) In a nutshell, the result follows because $\text{CD}(m, n) = \text{CD}(n, m)$.

Let me however give you a detailed argument to explain a basic, and very powerful, argument for proving properties of \gcd s (and in fact of any mathematical structure similarly defined by what in the mathematical jargon is known as a *universal property*).

Theorem 60 (on page 189) tells us that $\gcd(m, n)$ is the positive integer precisely characterised by the following *universal property*:

$$\forall \text{ positive integers } d. d \mid m \wedge d \mid n \iff d \mid \gcd(m, n) . \quad (\dagger)$$

Now, $\gcd(n, m) \mid m$ and $\gcd(n, m) \mid n$; hence by (\dagger) above $\gcd(n, m) \mid \gcd(m, n)$. An analogous argument (with m and n interchanged everywhere) shows that $\gcd(m, n) \mid \gcd(n, m)$.

It follows that both $\gcd(l, \gcd(m, n))$ and $\gcd(\gcd(l, m), n)$ are positive integers dividing each other, and hence equal.^a

(3) One way to prove the result is to note that the following Remainder-Linearity Property of the Division Algorithm:

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\text{for all positive integers } k, m, n, \\
 &\text{divalg}(k \cdot m, k \cdot n) = (\text{quo}(m, n), k \cdot \text{rem}(m, n))
 \end{aligned}$$

transfers to Euclid's \gcd Algorithm.

This is because

- every computation step

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\gcd(m, n) = n, \\
 &\text{which happens when } \text{rem}(m, n) = 0
 \end{aligned}$$

^aBtw, though I have not, one may try to give a proof using Euclid's Algorithm. If you try and succeed, please let me know.

corresponds to a computation step

$$\gcd(l \cdot m, l \cdot n) = l \cdot n,$$

which happens when $l \cdot \text{rem}(m, n) = \text{rem}(l \cdot m, l \cdot n) = 0$

i.e. when $\text{rem}(m, n) = 0$

while

► every computation step

$$\gcd(m, n) = \gcd(n, \text{rem}(m, n)),$$

which happens when $\text{rem}(m, n) \neq 0$

corresponds to a computation step

$$\begin{aligned} \gcd(l \cdot m, l \cdot n) &= \gcd(l \cdot n, \text{rem}(l \cdot m, l \cdot n)) \\ &= \gcd(l \cdot n, l \cdot \text{rem}(m, n)) \quad , \end{aligned}$$

which happens when $l \cdot \text{rem}(m, n) = \text{rem}(l \cdot m, l \cdot n) \neq 0$,

i.e. when $\text{rem}(m, n) \neq 0$

— 204 —

For (i), since $\gcd(m, n) \mid m \wedge \gcd(m, n) \mid n$ we have that

$l \cdot \gcd(m, n) \mid l \cdot m \wedge l \cdot \gcd(m, n) \mid l \cdot n$ and hence that

$l \cdot \gcd(m, n) \mid \gcd(l \cdot m, l \cdot n)$.

As for (ii): we note first that since $l \mid l \cdot m$ and $l \mid l \cdot n$ we have that

$l \mid \gcd(l \cdot m, l \cdot n)$ and so that there exists a positive integer, say k_0 ,

such that $\gcd(l \cdot m, l \cdot n) = l \cdot k_0$. But then, since

$l \cdot k_0 = \gcd(l \cdot m, l \cdot n) \mid l \cdot m \wedge l \cdot k_0 = \gcd(l \cdot m, l \cdot n) \mid l \cdot n$ we

have that $k_0 \mid m \wedge k_0 \mid n$, and so that $k_0 \mid \gcd(m, n)$. Finally, then,

$\gcd(l \cdot m, l \cdot n) = l \cdot k_0 \mid l \cdot \gcd(m, n)$.

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Thus, the computation of $\gcd(m, n)$ leads to a sequence of calls to \gcd with

inputs $(m, n), (n, \text{rem}(m, n)), \dots, (r, r'), \dots$

and output $\gcd(m, n)$

if, and only if, the computation of $\gcd(l \cdot m, l \cdot n)$ leads to a sequence of calls to \gcd with

inputs $(l \cdot m, l \cdot n), (l \cdot n, l \cdot \text{rem}(m, n)), \dots, (l \cdot r, l \cdot r'), \dots$

and output $l \cdot \gcd(m, n)$.

Finally, and for completeness, let me also give a non-algorithmic proof of the result. We show the following in turn:

(i) $l \cdot \gcd(m, n) \mid \gcd(l \cdot m, l \cdot n)$.

(ii) $\gcd(l \cdot m, l \cdot n) \mid l \cdot \gcd(m, n)$.

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Euclid's Theorem

Theorem 63 For positive integers k, m , and n , if $k \mid (m \cdot n)$ and $\gcd(k, m) = 1$ then $k \mid n$.

YOUR PROOF:

— 207 —

MY PROOF: Let k , m , and n be positive integers, and assume that

$$(i) \ k \mid (m \cdot n) \quad \text{and} \quad (ii) \ \gcd(k, m) = 1 .$$

Using (i), let l be an integer such that

$$(iii) \ k \cdot l = m \cdot n .$$

In addition, using (ii) and the linearity of \gcd (Lemma 62.3 on page 200), we have that

$$\begin{aligned} n &= \gcd(k, m) \cdot n && , \text{ by (ii)} \\ &= \gcd(k \cdot n, m \cdot n) && , \text{ by linearity} \\ &= \gcd(k \cdot n, k \cdot l) && , \text{ by (iii)} \\ &= k \cdot \gcd(n, l) && , \text{ by linearity} \end{aligned}$$

and we are done.

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MY PROOF OF Theorem 36.2 (on page 121): Let p be a prime and i a natural number that is not a multiple of p . By the first part of Fermat's Little Theorem, we know that $p \mid i \cdot (i^{p-1} - 1)$. It thus follows by Euclid's Theorem (Corollary 64 on the previous page) that $p \mid (i^{p-1} - 1)$.

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Corollary 64 (Euclid's Theorem) For positive integers m and n , and prime p , if $p \mid (m \cdot n)$ then $p \mid m$ or $p \mid n$.

Now, the second part of Fermat's Little Theorem (on page 121) follows as a corollary of the first part and Euclid's Theorem.

YOUR PROOF OF Theorem 36.2 (on page 121):

— 209 —

Corollary 65 For all primes p and integers m such that $0 < m < p$,

$$p \mid \binom{p}{m} \quad \text{and} \quad (p - m) \mid \binom{p-1}{m} .$$

YOUR PROOF:

— 211 —

Fields of modular arithmetic

MY PROOF: Let p be a prime and m be an integer such that $0 < m < p$. As

$$\gcd(p, p - m) = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad p \cdot \binom{p-1}{m} = (p - m) \cdot \binom{p}{m}$$

the result follows from Theorem 63 (on page 207).

Corollary 66 For prime p , every non-zero element i of \mathbb{Z}_p has $[i^{p-2}]_p$ as multiplicative inverse. Hence, \mathbb{Z}_p is what in the mathematical jargon is referred to as a field.

We can however say a bit more, because an extension of Euclid's gcd Algorithm gives both a test for checking the existence of and an efficient method for finding multiplicative inverses in modular arithmetic.

Extended Euclid's Algorithm

Example 67 [$\text{egcd}(34, 13) = ((5, -13), 1)$]

$$\begin{array}{l} \gcd(34, 13) \\ = \gcd(13, 8) \\ = \gcd(8, 5) \\ = \gcd(5, 3) \\ = \gcd(3, 2) \\ = \gcd(2, 1) \\ = 1 \end{array} \left\| \begin{array}{l} 34 = 2 \cdot 13 + 8 \\ 13 = 1 \cdot 8 + 5 \\ 8 = 1 \cdot 5 + 3 \\ 5 = 1 \cdot 3 + 2 \\ 3 = 1 \cdot 2 + 1 \\ 2 = 2 \cdot 1 + 0 \end{array} \right\| \begin{array}{l} 8 = 34 - 2 \cdot 13 \\ 5 = 13 - 1 \cdot 8 \\ 3 = 8 - 1 \cdot 5 \\ 2 = 5 - 1 \cdot 3 \\ 1 = 3 - 1 \cdot 2 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \gcd(34, 13) \\ = \gcd(13, 8) \\ = \gcd(8, 5) \\ = \gcd(5, 3) \\ = \gcd(3, 2) \end{array} \left\| \begin{array}{l} 8 = 34 - 2 \cdot 13 \\ 5 = 13 - 1 \cdot (34 - 2 \cdot 13) \\ = -1 \cdot 34 + 3 \cdot 13 \\ 3 = (34 - 2 \cdot 13) - 1 \cdot (-1 \cdot 34 + 3 \cdot 13) \\ = 2 \cdot 34 + (-5) \cdot 13 \\ 2 = (-1 \cdot 34 + 3 \cdot 13) - 1 \cdot (2 \cdot 34 + (-5) \cdot 13) \\ = -3 \cdot 34 + 8 \cdot 13 \\ 1 = (2 \cdot 34 + (-5) \cdot 13) - 1 \cdot (-3 \cdot 34 + 8 \cdot 13) \\ = 5 \cdot 34 + (-13) \cdot 13 \end{array} \right.$$

Linear combinations

Definition 68 An integer r is said to be a linear combination of a pair of integers m and n whenever

there exist a pair of integers s and t , referred to as the coefficients of the linear combination, such that

$$\begin{bmatrix} s & t \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} m \\ n \end{bmatrix} = r ;$$

that is

$$s \cdot m + t \cdot n = r .$$

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Theorem 69 For all positive integers m and n ,

1. $\text{gcd}(m, n)$ is a linear combination of m and n , and
2. a pair $lc_1(m, n)$, $lc_2(m, n)$ of integer coefficients for it, i.e. such that

$$\begin{bmatrix} lc_1(m, n) & lc_2(m, n) \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} m \\ n \end{bmatrix} = \text{gcd}(m, n) ,$$

can be efficiently computed.

The proof of Theorem 69, which is left as an exercise for the interested reader, is by means of the Extended Euclid's Algorithm [egcd](#) on page 220 relying on the following elementary properties of linear combinations.

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Remark Note that the ways in which an integer can be expressed as a linear combination is infinite; as, for all integers m , n and r , s , t , we have that

$$\begin{bmatrix} s & t \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} m \\ n \end{bmatrix} = r$$

iff

$$\text{for all integers } k, \begin{bmatrix} (s + k \cdot n) & (t - k \cdot m) \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} m \\ n \end{bmatrix} = r .$$

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Proposition 70 For all integers m and n ,

$$1. \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} m \\ n \end{bmatrix} = m \wedge \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} m \\ n \end{bmatrix} = n ;$$

2. for all integers s_1, t_1, r_1 and s_2, t_2, r_2 ,

$$\begin{bmatrix} s_1 & t_1 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} m \\ n \end{bmatrix} = r_1 \wedge \begin{bmatrix} s_2 & t_2 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} m \\ n \end{bmatrix} = r_2$$

implies

$$\begin{bmatrix} s_1 + s_2 & t_1 + t_2 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} m \\ n \end{bmatrix} = r_1 + r_2 ;$$

3. for all integers k and s, t, r ,

$$\begin{bmatrix} s & t \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} m \\ n \end{bmatrix} = r \text{ implies } \begin{bmatrix} k \cdot s & k \cdot t \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} m \\ n \end{bmatrix} = k \cdot r .$$

— 219 —

egcd (with divalg)

```

fun egcd( m , n )
= let
  fun egcditer( ((s1,t1),r1) , lc as ((s2,t2),r2) )
  = let
    val (q,r) = divalg(r1,r2)    (* r = r1-q*r2 *)
  in
    if r = 0
    then lc
    else egcditer( lc , ((s1-q*s2,t1-q*t2),r) )
  end
in
  egcditer( ((1,0),m) , ((0,1),n) )
end

```

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Example 71 (egcd(13,34) = ((-13,5),1))

```

egcd(13,34) = egcditer( ((1,0),13) , ((0,1),34) )
            = egcditer( ((0,1),34) , ((1,0),13) )
            = egcditer( ((1,0),13) , ((-2,1),8) )
            = egcditer( ((-2,1),8) , ((3,-1),5) )
            = egcditer( ((3,-1),5) , ((-5,2),3) )
            = egcditer( ((-5,2),3) , ((8,-3),2) )
            = egcditer( ((8,-3),2) , ((-13,5),1) )
            = ( (-13,5) , 1 )

```

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egcd (with div)

```

fun egcd( m , n )
= let
  fun egcditer( ((s1,t1),r1) , lc as ((s2,t2),r2) )
  = let
    val q = r1 div r2 ; val r = r1 - q*r2
  in
    if r = 0 then lc
    else egcditer( lc , ((s1-q*s2,t1-q*t2),r) )
  end
in
  egcditer( ((1,0),m) , ((0,1),n) )
end

```

— 221 —

```

fun gcd( m , n ) = #2( egcd( m , n ) )

fun lc1( m , n ) = #1( #1( egcd( m , n ) ) )

fun lc2( m , n ) = #2( #1( egcd( m , n ) ) )

```

Proposition 72 For all distinct positive integers m and n ,

$$lc_1(m,n) = lc_2(n,m) .$$

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Another characterisation of gcds

Theorem 73 For all positive integers m and n , $\gcd(m, n)$ is the least positive linear combination of m and n .

YOUR PROOF:

MY PROOF: Let m and n be arbitrary positive integers. By Theorem 69.1 (on page 218), $\gcd(m, n)$ is a linear combination of m and n . Furthermore, since it is positive, by Corollary 61.1 (on page 198), it is the least such.

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Multiplicative inverses in modular arithmetic

Corollary 74 For all positive integers m and n ,

1. $n \cdot \text{lcm}_2(m, n) \equiv \gcd(m, n) \pmod{m}$, and
2. whenever $\gcd(m, n) = 1$,

$[\text{lcm}_2(m, n)]_m$ is the multiplicative inverse of $[n]_m$ in \mathbb{Z}_m .

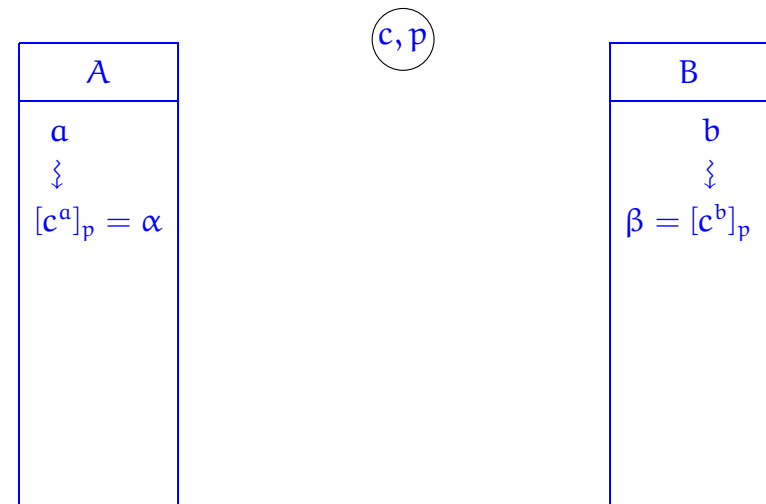
Remark For every pair of positive integers m and n , we have that $[n]_m$ has a multiplicative inverse in \mathbb{Z}_m iff $\gcd(m, n) = 1$.

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— 225 —

Diffie-Hellman cryptographic method

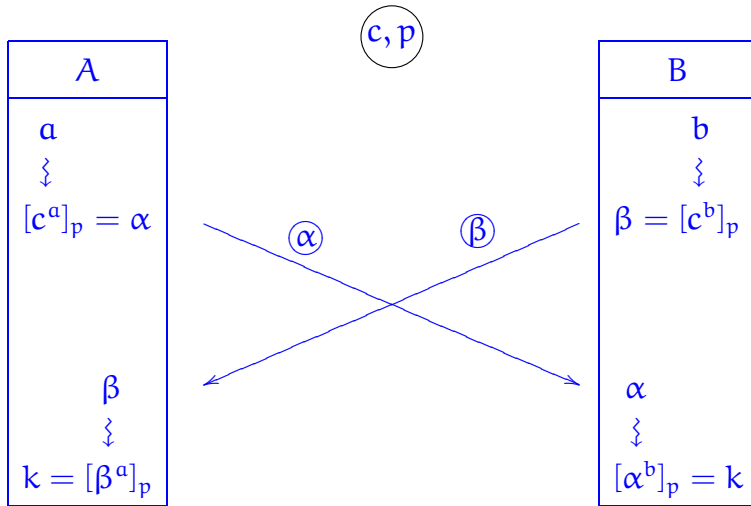
Shared secret key



— 227 —

Diffie-Hellman cryptographic method

Shared secret key



— 227-a —

MY PROOF: Let p , e , and d be as stated in the lemma. Then, $e \cdot d = 1 + c \cdot (p - 1)$ for some natural number c and hence, by Fermat's Little Theorem (Theorem 36 on page 36),

$$k^{e \cdot d} = k \cdot k^{c \cdot (p-1)} \equiv k \pmod{p}$$

for all integers k not multiple of p . For integers k multiples of p the result is trivial.

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Key exchange

Lemma 75 Let p be a prime and e a positive integer with $\gcd(p - 1, e) = 1$. Define

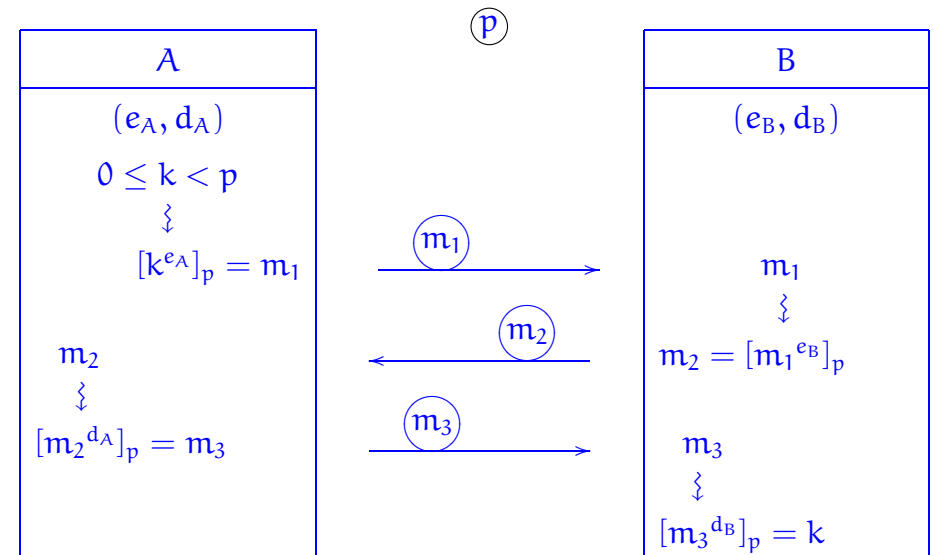
$$d = [lc_2(p - 1, e)]_{p-1} .$$

Then, for all integers k ,

$$(k^e)^d \equiv k \pmod{p} .$$

YOUR PROOF:

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Natural Numbers and mathematical induction

We have mentioned in passing on page 146 that the natural numbers are generated from zero by successive increments. This is in fact the defining property of the set of natural numbers, and endows it with a very important and powerful reasoning principle, that of *Mathematical Induction*, for establishing universal properties of natural numbers.

NB When thinking about mathematical induction it is most convenient and advisable to have in mind their definition in ML:

```
datatype
  N = zero | succ of N
```

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NB By the Principle of Induction, thus, to establish the statement

$$\forall m \in \mathbb{N}. P(m)$$

it is enough to prove the following two statements:

1. $P(0)$, and
2. $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}. (P(n) \implies P(n+1))$.

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Principle of Induction

Let $P(m)$ be a statement for m ranging over the set of natural numbers \mathbb{N} .

If

- ▶ the statement $P(0)$ holds, and
- ▶ the statement
$$\forall n \in \mathbb{N}. (P(n) \implies P(n+1))$$
also holds

then

- ▶ the statement
$$\forall m \in \mathbb{N}. P(m)$$
holds.

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The induction proof strategy:

To prove a goal of the form

$$\forall m \in \mathbb{N}. P(m)$$

First prove

$$P(0) ,$$

and then prove

$$\forall n \in \mathbb{N}. (P(n) \implies P(n+1)) .$$

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Proof pattern:
 In order to prove that

$$\forall m \in \mathbb{N}. P(m)$$

1. Write: Base case: **and give a proof of $P(0)$.**
2. Write: Inductive step: **and give a proof that for all natural numbers n , $P(n)$ implies $P(n + 1)$.**
3. Write: By the Principle of Induction, we conclude that $P(m)$ holds for all natural numbers m .

Binomial Theorem

Theorem 29 For all $n \in \mathbb{N}$,

$$(x + y)^n = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} \cdot x^{n-k} \cdot y^k .$$

YOUR PROOF:

A template for induction proofs:

1. State that the proof uses induction.
2. Define an appropriate property $P(m)$ for m ranging over the set of natural numbers. This is called the *induction hypothesis*.
3. Prove that $P(0)$ is true. This is called the *base case*.
4. Prove that $P(n) \implies P(n + 1)$ for every natural number n . This is called the *inductive step*.
5. Invoke the principle of mathematical induction to conclude that $P(m)$ is true for all natural numbers m .

NB Always be sure to explicitly label the *induction hypothesis*, the *base case*, and the *inductive step*.

MY PROOF SKETCH: We prove

$$\forall m \in \mathbb{N}. P(m)$$

for

$$P(m) \text{ the statement } (x + y)^m = \sum_{k=0}^m \binom{m}{k} \cdot x^{m-k} \cdot y^k$$

by the Principle of Induction.

Base case: $P(0)$ holds because

$$(x + y)^0 = 1 = \binom{0}{0} \cdot x^0 \cdot y^0 = \sum_{k=0}^0 \binom{0}{k} \cdot x^{0-k} \cdot y^k .$$

Inductive step: We need prove that, for all natural numbers n , $P(n)$ implies $P(n+1)$. To this end, let n be a natural number and assume $P(n)$; that is, assume that the following Induction Hypothesis

$$(IH) \quad (x + y)^n = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} \cdot x^{n-k} \cdot y^k$$

holds.

We will now proceed to show that

$$(x + y)^{n+1} = \sum_{k=0}^{n+1} \binom{n+1}{k} \cdot x^{(n+1)-k} \cdot y^k \quad (\dagger)$$

follows.

At this point you may know about *Pascal's triangle* (see, for example, page 245), and get unstuck. Otherwise, you can reconstruct Pascal's rule by counting! Let's see how.

The natural number $\binom{n+1}{k}$ counts the number of ways in which k objects can be chosen amongst $n+1$ objects, say o_1, \dots, o_n, o_{n+1} . One can count these by looking at two cases: (i) when the object o_{n+1} is not chosen, plus (ii) when the object o_{n+1} is chosen. Under case (i), we have $\binom{n}{k}$ possible ways to choose the k objects amongst o_1, \dots, o_n ; while, under case (ii) we have $\binom{n}{k-1}$ possible ways to choose the remaining $k-1$ objects amongst o_1, \dots, o_n . Hence, we conjecture that

$$\binom{n+1}{k} = \binom{n}{k} + \binom{n}{k-1} \quad (\ddagger)$$

We first try unfolding the left-hand side of (\dagger) on the previous page:

$$\begin{aligned} (x + y)^{n+1} &= (x + y)^n \cdot (x + y) \\ &= \left(\sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} \cdot x^{n-k} \cdot y^k \right) \cdot (x + y) \\ &\quad , \text{ by the Induction Hypothesis (IH)} \\ &= \left(\sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} \cdot x^{n-k+1} \cdot y^k \right) + \left(\sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} \cdot x^{n-k} \cdot y^{k+1} \right) \end{aligned}$$

Unfortunately, we seem to be kind of stuck here. So, we next try unfolding the right-hand side of (\dagger) :

$$\sum_{k=0}^{n+1} \binom{n+1}{k} \cdot x^{(n+1)-k} \cdot y^k$$

in the hope that this will help us bridge the gap. But, how can we make any progress? The clue seems to be in relating the coefficients $\binom{n}{k}$ and $\binom{n+1}{k}$ that appear in the above expressions.

We have a choice now: either we prove the conjecture and then check whether it is of any help for our problem at hand; or we assume it for the time being, push on, and, if it is what we need, prove it to leave no gaps in our reasoning. For reasons that will become apparent, I will here take the second route, and calculate:

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{k=0}^{n+1} \binom{n+1}{k} \cdot x^{(n+1)-k} \cdot y^k \\ &= x^{n+1} + \sum_{k=1}^n \binom{n+1}{k} \cdot x^{n-k+1} \cdot y^k + y^{n+1} \\ &= x^{n+1} + \sum_{k=1}^n \left(\binom{n}{k} + \binom{n}{k-1} \right) \cdot x^{n-k+1} \cdot y^k + y^{n+1} \\ & \quad , \text{ provided the conjecture } (\ddagger) \text{ is true!} \\ &= x^{n+1} + \sum_{k=1}^n \binom{n}{k} \cdot x^{n-k+1} \cdot y^k + \sum_{k=1}^n \binom{n}{k-1} \cdot x^{n-k+1} \cdot y^k + y^{n+1} \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} \cdot x^{n-k+1} \cdot y^k + \sum_{j=0}^n \binom{n}{j} \cdot x^{n-j} \cdot y^{j+1} \\ &= \left(\sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} \cdot x^{n-k} \cdot y^k \right) \cdot x + \left(\sum_{j=0}^n \binom{n}{j} \cdot x^{n-j} \cdot y^j \right) \cdot y \\ &= \left(\sum_{i=0}^n \binom{n}{i} \cdot x^{n-i} \cdot y^i \right) \cdot (x + y) \\ &= (x + y)^n \cdot (x + y) \quad , \text{ by the Induction Hypothesis (IH)} \\ &= (x + y)^{n+1} \end{aligned}$$

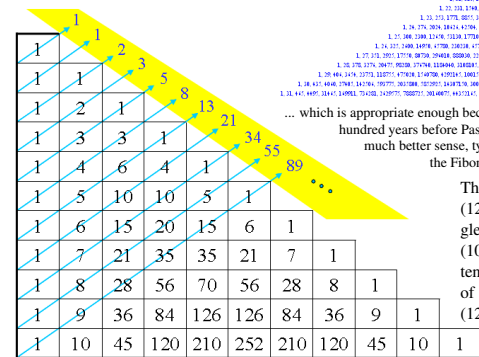
THEOREM OF THE DAY

Pascal's Rule For any positive integers n and k ,

$$\binom{n+1}{k} = \binom{n}{k} + \binom{n}{k-1}$$

In words, this is read as “ $n+1$ choose $k = n$ choose $k + n$ choose $k-1$ ”, i.e. the number of choices if you must select k objects from $n+1$ is the same as the number of choices if you are selecting from n objects and have an initial choice of whether to take k or $k-1$. The rule defines what is usually called Pascal's triangle, presented as shown on the right. However, this is a misnomer for two reasons. Firstly, it isn't a triangle at all, unless font size decreases exponentially with increasing row number; it is more like a Chinese hat!

Rows are numbered from zero; cells in each row are likewise numbered from zero. Row zero consists of $\binom{0}{0} = 1$; the n -th row starts with $\binom{n}{0} = 1$.



... which is appropriate enough because, secondly, this triangle and rule were known to the Chinese scholar Jia Xian, six hundred years before Pascal. Aligning the rows of the triangle on the left (as shown on the left) seems to make much better sense, typographically, computationally and combinatorially. A well-known relationship with the Fibonacci series, for instance, becomes immediately apparent as a series of diagonal sums.

The work of Jia Xian has passed to us through the commentary of Yang Hui (1238-1298) and Pascal's triangle is known in China as 'Yang Hui's triangle'. In Iran, it is known as the 'Khayyám triangle' after Omar Khayyám (1048-1131), although it was known to Persian, and Indian, scholars in the tenth century. Peter Cameron cites Robin Wilson as dating Western study of Pascal's triangle as far back as the Majorcan theologian Ramon Llull (1232-1316).

Web link: ptr1.tripod.com. See the [wikipedia entry](#) on nomenclature.
Further reading: *Pascal's Arithmetical Triangle* by A.W.F. Edwards, Johns Hopkins University Press, 2002. The Cameron citation appears in *Combinatorics: Topics, Techniques, Algorithms*, by Peter J. Cameron, CUP, 1994, section 3.3.

We have now established the inductive step, provided that we can prove the conjecture; and *you* should move onto this next:

Homework

1. Prove that, for all positive integers m and k such that $1 \leq k \leq m$,

$$\binom{m+1}{k} = \binom{m}{k} + \binom{m}{k-1} .$$

2. Turn the above scratch work into a proof.

Btw Note that our proof works in any commutative semiring.

Fermat's Little Theorem

The argument given for the Many Dropout Lemma (Proposition 35 on page 119) that we used to prove the first part of Fermat's Little Theorem (Theorem 36.1 on page 121) contains an “iteration”. Such arguments are, typically, induction proofs in disguise. Here, to illustrate the point, I'll give a proof of the result by the Principle of Induction.

Theorem 36.1 For all natural numbers i and primes p ,

$$i^p \equiv i \pmod{p} .$$

YOUR PROOF:

MY PROOF: Let p be a prime. We prove

$$\forall i \in \mathbb{N}. P(i)$$

for

$P(i)$ the statement $i^p \equiv i \pmod{p}$

by the Principle of Induction.

Base case: $P(0)$ holds because

$$0^p = 0 \equiv 0 \pmod{p} .$$

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Two further induction techniques

Technique 1. Let $P(m)$ be a statement for m ranging over the natural numbers greater than or equal a fixed natural number ℓ .

Let us consider the derived statement

$$P_\ell(m) = P(\ell + m)$$

for m ranging over the natural numbers.

We are now interested in analysing and stating the Principle of Induction associated to the derived Induction Hypothesis $P_\ell(n)$ solely in terms of the original statements $P(n)$.

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Inductive step: We need prove that, for all natural numbers i , $P(i)$ implies $P(i + 1)$. To this end, let i be a natural number and assume $P(i)$; that is, assume that the following Induction Hypothesis

$$(IH) \quad i^p \equiv i \pmod{p}$$

holds.

Then,

$$\begin{aligned} (i + 1)^p &= i^p + p \cdot \sum_{k=1}^{p-1} \frac{(p-1)!}{(p-k)! \cdot k!} \cdot i^k + 1 \\ &\equiv i^p + 1 \pmod{p} \quad , \text{ as } \frac{(p-1)!}{(p-k)! \cdot k!} \in \mathbb{N} \\ &\equiv i + 1 \pmod{p} \quad , \text{ by Induction Hypothesis (IH)} \end{aligned}$$

and we are done.

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To do this, we notice the following logical equivalences:

- ▶ $P_\ell(0) \iff P(\ell)$
- ▶ $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}. (P_\ell(n) \implies P_\ell(n + 1))$
 $\iff \forall n \geq \ell \text{ in } \mathbb{N}. (P(n) \implies P(n + 1))$
- ▶ $\forall m \in \mathbb{N}. P_\ell(m) \iff \forall m \geq \ell \text{ in } \mathbb{N}. P(m)$

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Replacing the left-hand sides by their equivalent right-hand sides in the Principle of Induction with Induction Hypothesis $P_\ell(m)$ yields what is known as the

Principle of Induction

from basis ℓ

Let $P(m)$ be a statement for m ranging over the natural numbers greater than or equal a fixed natural number ℓ .

If

- ▶ $P(\ell)$ holds, and
- ▶ $\forall n \geq \ell \text{ in } \mathbb{N}. (P(n) \implies P(n+1))$ also holds

then

- ▶ $\forall m \geq \ell \text{ in } \mathbb{N}. P(m)$ holds.

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Technique 2. Let $P(m)$ be a statement for m ranging over the natural numbers greater than or equal a fixed natural number ℓ .

Let us consider the derived statement

$$P^\#(m) = \forall k \in [\ell..m]. P(k)$$

again for m ranging over the natural numbers greater than or equal ℓ .

We are now interested in analysing and stating the Principle of Induction from basis ℓ associated to the derived Induction Hypothesis $P^\#(n)$ solely in terms of the original statements $P(n)$.

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Proof pattern:

In order to prove that

$$\forall m \geq \ell \text{ in } \mathbb{N}. P(m)$$

1. **Write:** Base case: **and give a proof of $P(\ell)$.**
2. **Write:** Inductive step: **and give a proof that for all natural numbers n greater than or equal ℓ , $P(n)$ implies $P(n+1)$.**
3. **Write:** By the Principle of Induction from basis ℓ , we conclude that $P(m)$ holds for all natural numbers m greater than or equal ℓ .

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To do this, we proceed as before, noticing the following logical equivalences:

- ▶ $P^\#(\ell) \iff P(\ell)$
- ▶ $(P^\#(n) \implies P^\#(n+1))$
 $\iff ((\forall k \in [\ell..n]. P(k)) \implies P(n+1))$
- ▶ $(\forall m \geq \ell \text{ in } \mathbb{N}. P^\#(m)) \iff (\forall m \geq \ell \text{ in } \mathbb{N}. P(m))$

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Replacing the left-hand sides by their equivalent right-hand sides in the Principle of Induction from basis ℓ with Induction Hypothesis $P^\#(m)$ yields what is known as the

Principle of Strong Induction

from basis ℓ and Induction Hypothesis $P(m)$.

Let $P(m)$ be a statement for m ranging over the natural numbers greater than or equal a fixed natural number ℓ .

If both

- ▶ $P(\ell)$ and
- ▶ $\forall n \geq \ell \text{ in } \mathbb{N}. \left((\forall k \in [\ell..n]. P(k)) \implies P(n+1) \right)$

hold, then

- ▶ $\forall m \geq \ell \text{ in } \mathbb{N}. P(m)$ holds.

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Fundamental Theorem of Arithmetic

Every positive integer is expressible as the product of a unique finite sequence of ordered primes.

Proposition 76 *Every positive integer greater than or equal 2 is a prime or a product of primes.*

YOUR PROOF:

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Proof pattern:

In order to prove that

$$\forall m \geq \ell \text{ in } \mathbb{N}. P(m)$$

1. Write: Base case: and give a proof of $P(\ell)$.
2. Write: Inductive step: and give a proof that for all natural numbers $n \geq \ell$, if $P(k)$ holds for all $\ell \leq k \leq n$ then so does $P(n+1)$.
3. Write: By the Principle of Strong Induction, we conclude that $P(m)$ holds for all natural numbers m greater than or equal ℓ .

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MY PROOF: Let $P(m)$ be the statement:

Either m is a prime or a product of primes .

We prove

$$\forall m \geq 2 \text{ in } \mathbb{N}. P(m)$$

by the Principle of Strong Induction (from basis 2).

Base case: $P(2)$ holds because 2 is a prime.

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Inductive step: We need prove that for all natural numbers $n \geq 2$,

If $P(k)$ for all natural numbers $2 \leq k \leq n$, then $P(n+1)$.

To this end, let $n \geq 2$ be an arbitrary natural number, and assume the following Strong Induction Hypothesis

(SIH) for all natural numbers $2 \leq k \leq n$,
either k is prime or a product of primes .

We will now prove that

either $n+1$ is a prime or a product of primes (\dagger)

by cases (see page 104).

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Theorem 77 (Fundamental Theorem of Arithmetic) For every positive integer n there is a unique finite ordered sequence of primes $(p_1 \leq \dots \leq p_\ell)$ with $\ell \in \mathbb{N}$ such that

$$n = \prod(p_1, \dots, p_\ell) .$$

NB For $\ell = 0$, the sequence is empty and $\prod() = 1$; for $\ell = 1$, $\prod(p_1) = p_1$; and, for $\ell \geq 2$, $\prod(p_1, \dots, p_\ell) = p_1 \cdot \dots \cdot p_\ell$.

YOUR PROOF:

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If $n+1$ is a prime, then of course (\dagger) holds. Now suppose that $n+1$ is composite. Hence, it is the product of natural numbers p and q in the integer interval $[2..n]$. Since, by the Strong Induction Hypothesis (SIH), both p and q are either primes or a product of primes, so is $n+1 = p \cdot q$; and (\dagger) holds.

By the Principle of Strong Induction (from basis 2), we conclude that every natural number greater than or equal 2 is either a prime or a product of primes.

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MY PROOF: Since, by the previous proposition, every number greater than or equal 2 is a prime or a product of primes, it can either be expressed as $\prod(p)$ for a prime p or as $\prod(p_1, \dots, p_\ell)$ with $\ell \geq 2$ for a finite ordered sequence of primes p_1, \dots, p_ℓ . As for the number 1, it can uniquely be expressed in this form as the product $\prod()$ of the empty sequence $()$.

We are thus left with the task of showing that for $n \geq 2$ in \mathbb{N} , such representations are *unique*.

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To this end, we will establish that

for all $\ell, k \geq 1$ in \mathbb{N} , and for all finite ordered sequences of primes $(p_1 \leq \dots \leq p_\ell)$ and $(q_1 \leq \dots \leq q_k)$, if $\prod(p_1, \dots, p_\ell) = \prod(q_1, \dots, q_k)$ then $(p_1, \dots, p_\ell) = (q_1, \dots, q_k)$; that is, $\ell = k$ and $p_i = q_i$ for all $i \in [1..k]$. (†)

Let $(p_1 \leq \dots \leq p_\ell)$ and $(q_1 \leq \dots \leq q_k)$ with $\ell, k \geq 1$ in \mathbb{N} , be two arbitrary finite ordered sequences of primes, and assume that $\prod(p_1, \dots, p_\ell) = \prod(q_1, \dots, q_k)$.

By Euclid's Theorem (Corollary 64 on page 209), since p_1 divides $\prod(p_1, \dots, p_\ell) = \prod(q_1, \dots, q_k)$ it follows that it divides, and hence equals, some q_i for $i \in [1..k]$; so that $q_1 \leq p_1$. Analogously, one argues that $p_1 \leq q_1$; so that $p_1 = q_1$.

Indeed, we consider (†) on page 263 in the form

$$\forall \ell \geq 1 \text{ in } \mathbb{N}. P(\ell) \tag{‡}$$

for $P(\ell)$ the statement

(IH) For all $k \geq 1$ in \mathbb{N} , and for all finite ordered sequences of primes $(p_1 \leq \dots \leq p_\ell)$ and $(q_1 \leq \dots \leq q_k)$, if $\prod(p_1, \dots, p_\ell) = \prod(q_1, \dots, q_k)$ then $(p_1, \dots, p_\ell) = (q_1, \dots, q_k)$; that is, $\ell = k$ and $p_i = q_i$ for all $i \in [1..k]$.

and prove (‡) by the Principle of Induction (from basis 1).

Base case: Establishing $P(1)$ is equivalent to showing that for all finite ordered sequences $(q_1 \leq \dots \leq q_k)$ with $k \geq 1$ in \mathbb{N} , if $\prod(q_1, \dots, q_k)$ is prime then $k = 1$; which is the case by definition of prime number.

It follows by cancellation that $\prod(p_2, \dots, p_\ell) = \prod(q_2, \dots, q_k)$, and by iteration of this argument that $p_i = q_i$ for all $1 \leq i \leq \min(\ell, k)$. But, ℓ cannot be greater than k because otherwise one would have $\prod(p_{k+1}, \dots, p_\ell) = 1$, which is absurd. Analogously, k cannot be greater than ℓ ; and we are done.

Btw, my argument above requires an “iteration”, and I have already mentioned that, typically, these are induction proofs in disguise. To reinforce this, I will now give an inductive proof of uniqueness.^a

^aHowever, do have in mind that later on in the course, you will encounter more *Structural Principles of Induction* for finite sequences and other such data types.

Inductive step: Let $\ell \geq 1$ in \mathbb{N} and assume the Induction Hypothesis $P(\ell)$.

To prove $P(\ell + 1)$, let $k \geq 1$ be an arbitrary natural number, and let $(p_1 \leq \dots \leq p_{\ell+1})$ and $(q_1 \leq \dots \leq q_k)$ be arbitrary finite ordered sequences of primes. In addition, assume that

$$\prod(p_1, \dots, p_{\ell+1}) = \prod(q_1, \dots, q_k) .$$

By arguments as above, it follows that

$$p_1 = q_1$$

and hence that

$$\prod(p_2, \dots, p_{\ell+1}) = \prod(q_2, \dots, q_k) .$$

Furthermore, note that $k > 1$; because otherwise the product of the 2 or more primes $p_1, \dots, p_{\ell+1}$ would be a prime, which is absurd.

We have now the finite ordered sequence of primes $(p_2, \dots, p_{\ell+1})$ of length ℓ and the finite ordered sequence of primes (q_2, \dots, q_k) of length $(k - 1) \geq 1$ such that $\prod (p_2, \dots, p_{\ell+1}) = \prod (q_2, \dots, q_k)$ to which we may apply the Induction Hypothesis (IH). Doing so, it follows that $\ell = k - 1$ and that $p_i = q_i$ for all $i \in [2.. \ell + 1]$.

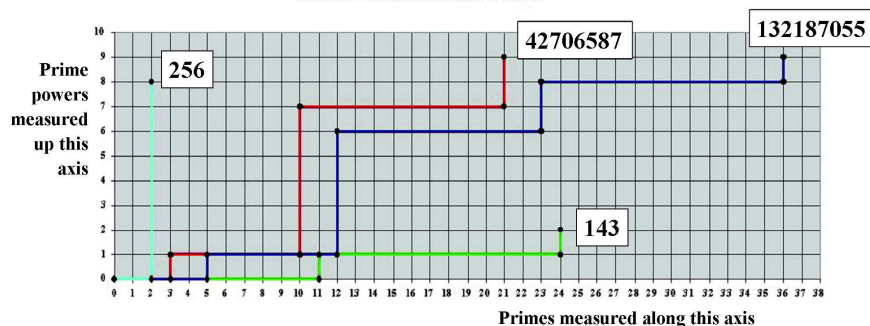
Thus, $\ell + 1 = k$ and $p_i = q_i$ for all $i \in [1.. \ell + 1]$. Hence, $P(\ell + 1)$ holds.

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THEOREM OF THE DAY

The Fundamental Theorem of Arithmetic Every integer greater than one can be expressed uniquely (up to order) as a product of powers of primes.

Some Fundamental Paths



Every number corresponds to a unique path (which we may call a *fundamental path*) plotted on the xy -plane. Starting at $(0, 0)$ we progress horizontally along the x axis for each prime factor, taking the primes in ascending order. After each prime, we ascend the y axis to represent its power. Thus: $256 = 2^8$ $143 = 11 \times 13$ ($= 11^1 \cdot 13^1$) $42706587 = 3 \cdot 7^6 \cdot 11^2$ $132187055 = 5 \cdot 7^5 \cdot 11^2 \cdot 13$.

The end-points of fundamental paths may be called *fundamental points*. Some well-known conjectures about primes can be expressed in terms of questions about fundamental points: Goldbach's conjecture that every even integer greater than 2 is the sum of two primes could be solved if we knew which points on the line $y = 2$ were fundamental (the line for 143 shows that $24 = 11 + 13$, for instance.) The 'twin primes conjecture', that there are infinitely many primes separated by 2 is a question about fundamental points on the line $y = 1$ (for example, $(3, 1)$ and $(5, 1)$ are fundamental points.)

Euclid, **Book 7, Proposition 30** of the *Elements*, proves that if a prime divides the product of two numbers then it must divide one or both of these numbers. This provided a key ingredient of the Fundamental Theorem which then had to wait more than two thousand years before it was finally established as the bedrock of modern number theory by Gauss, in 1798, in his *Disquisitiones Arithmeticae*.

Web link: www.dpmms.cam.ac.uk/~wtg10/FTA.html

Further reading: *Elementary Number Theory* by Gareth Jones and Mary Jones, Springer, Berlin, 1998.

Created by Robin Whitty for www.theoremoftheday.org

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Homework

- Argue that the uniqueness of prime factorisation is also a consequence of the statement

$$\forall \ell \geq 1 \text{ in } \mathbb{N}. P'(\ell) \quad (*)$$

for $P'(\ell)$ the statement^a

For all $k \geq \ell$ in \mathbb{N} and for all finite ordered sequences of primes $(p_1 \leq \dots \leq p_\ell)$ and $(q_1 \leq \dots \leq q_k)$, if $\prod (p_1, \dots, p_\ell) = \prod (q_1, \dots, q_k)$ then $(p_1, \dots, p_\ell) = (q_1, \dots, q_k)$; that is, $\ell = k$ and $p_i = q_i$ for all $i \in [1.. \ell]$.

- Prove $(*)$ above by the Principle of Induction (from basis 1), and compare your proof with mine for (\ddagger) .

^aNote that the difference with the previously considered Induction Hypothesis is in the range of k , which here is $\geq \ell$ and previously was ≥ 1 .

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gcd and min

It is sometimes customary, and very convenient, to restate the Fundamental Theorem of Arithmetic in the following terms:

Every positive integer n is expressible as

$$\prod_p p^{n_p}$$

where the product is taken over all primes but where the powers are natural numbers with $n_p \neq 0$ for only finitely many primes p .

Example 78

- $1224 = 2^2 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5^0 \cdot 7^0 \cdot 11^0 \cdot 13^0 \cdot 17^1 \cdot 19^0 \cdot \dots$
- $660 = 2^2 \cdot 3^1 \cdot 5^1 \cdot 7^0 \cdot 11^1 \cdot 13^0 \cdot \dots$

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Euclid's infinitude of primes

In these terms, **gcds** are given by taking **mins** of powers. Precisely,

$$\gcd\left(\prod_p p^{m_p}, \prod_p p^{n_p}\right) = \prod_p p^{\min(m_p, n_p)} . \quad (\star)$$

Example 79

$$\begin{aligned} \gcd(1224, 660) &= 2^{\min(2,2)} \cdot 3^{\min(2,1)} \cdot 5^{\min(0,1)} \cdot 7^{\min(0,0)} \cdot 11^{\min(0,1)} \cdot 13^{\min(0,0)} \\ &\quad \cdot 17^{\min(1,0)} \cdot 19^{\min(0,0)} \cdot \dots \\ &= 2^2 \cdot 3 \\ &= 12 \end{aligned}$$

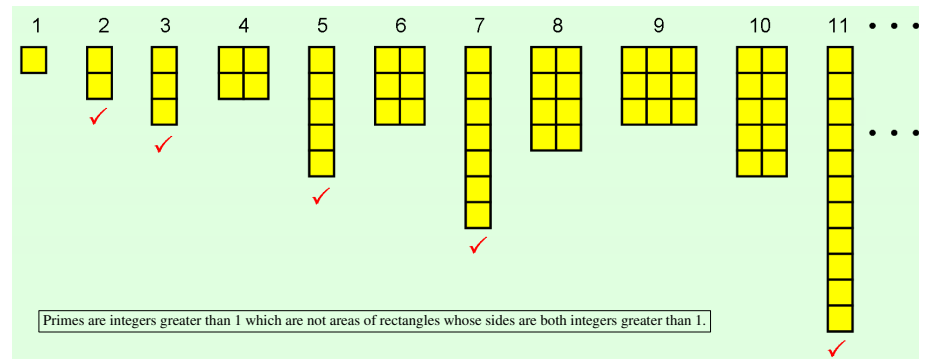
MY PROOF: We use proof by contradiction. So, suppose that the set of primes is finite, and let p_1, \dots, p_ℓ with $\ell \in \mathbb{N}$ be the collection of them all. Consider the natural number $p = p_1 \cdot \dots \cdot p_\ell + 1$. As p is not in the list of primes, by the Fundamental Theorem of Arithmetic (see Proposition 76), it is a product of primes. Thus, there exists a p_i for $i \in [1..\ell]$ such that $p_i \mid p$; and, since $p_i \mid (p_1 \cdot \dots \cdot p_\ell)$, we have that p_i divides $p - (p_1 \cdot \dots \cdot p_\ell) = 1$. This is a contradiction. Therefore, the set of primes is infinite.

Theorem 80 *The set of primes is infinite.*

YOUR PROOF:

THEOREM OF THE DAY

Euclid's Infinity of Primes *There are infinitely many prime numbers.*



A prime number is an integer greater than one which cannot be divided exactly by any other integer greater than one. Euclid's proof, well over two thousand years old, that such numbers form an infinity, is often cited by mathematicians today as the prototype of a beautiful mathematical argument. Thus, suppose there are just N primes, where N is a positive integer. Then we can list the primes: p_1, p_2, \dots, p_N . Calculate $q = 1 + p_1 \times p_2 \times \dots \times p_N$. Now q cannot be prime since it is larger than any prime in our list. But dividing q by any prime in our list leaves remainder 1, so q cannot be divided exactly by any prime in our list. So it cannot be divided by any integer greater than 1 other than q and is therefore prime by definition. This contradiction refutes the assertion that there were only N primes. So no such assertion can be made.

Remarks: (1) Euclid's proof uses the fact that non-divisibility by a prime implies non-divisibility by a non-prime (a composite). This is the content of **Book 7, Proposition 32** of his *Elements*.

(2) It would be a mistake to think that we always get a new prime directly from q since, for example, $2 \times 3 \times 5 \times 7 \times 11 \times 13 = 30030$ and $1 + 30030$ is not prime, being the product of the two prime numbers 59 and 509.

Scant record exists of any such person as Euclid of Alexandria (325–265 BC) having existed. However, the *Elements* certainly date from third century BC Alexandria and although Greek mathematics, rooted in geometry, did not recognise the concept of infinity, this theorem with what is effectively this proof appears as *Proposition 20* in *Book IX*.

Web link: aleph0.clarku.edu/~djoyce/java/elements/bookIX/propIX20.html. Is 1 prime? Find out here: arxiv.org/abs/1209.2007.



Further reading: *Ancient Mathematics (Sciences of Antiquity)*, by Serafina Cuomo, Routledge, 2001.

Sets

Topics

Abstract sets. Extensionality. Subsets and supersets. Separation and comprehension. Russell's paradox. Empty set. Powerset. Hasse and Venn diagrams. The powerset Boolean algebra. Unordered and ordered pairing. Singletons. Products. Big unions. Big intersections. Disjoint unions. Relations. Matrices. Directed graphs. Reachability. Preorders. Reflexive-transitive closure. Partial functions. Functions (or maps). Bijections. Equivalence relations and set partitions. Calculus of bijections. Characteristic (or indicator) functions. Finite and infinite sets. Surjections. Stirling numbers of the second kind. Enumerability and countability. Choice. Injections. Cantor-Bernstein-Schroeder Theorem. Direct and inverse images. Replacement. Set-indexed constructions.

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Objectives

To introduce the basics of the theory of sets and some of its uses.

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Unbounded cardinality: Cantor's diagonalisation argument and Lawvere's fixed-point argument. Foundation.

Complementary reading:

- ▶ Chapters 1, 30, and 31 of *How to Think Like a Mathematician* by K. Houston.
- ▶ Chapters 4.1 and 7 of *Mathematics for Computer Science* by E. Lehman, F. T. Leighton, and A. R. Meyer.
- ▶ Chapters 1.3, 1.4, 4, 5, and 7 of *How to Prove it* by D. J. Velleman.

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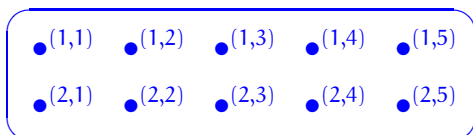
Abstract sets

adapted from Section 1.1 of *Sets for Mathematics*
by F.W. Lawvere and R. Rosebrugh

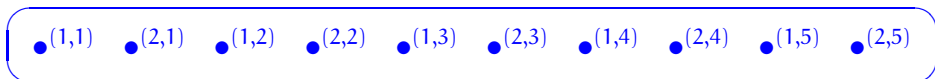
An *abstract set* is supposed to have elements, each of which has no structure, and is itself supposed to have no internal structure (except that the elements can be distinguished as equal or unequal) and to have no external structure except for the number of elements. There are sets of all possible sizes, including finite and infinite sizes.

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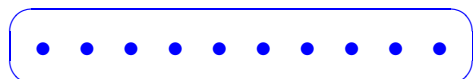
It has been said that a set is like a mental “bag of dots”, except of course that the bag has no shape; thus,



may be a convenient way of picturing a certain set for some considerations, but what is apparently the same set may be pictured as



or even simply as



for other considerations.

A widely used set theory is ZFC: Zermelo-Fraenkel Set Theory with Choice. It embodies postulates of: extensionality (page 282); separation [aka restricted comprehension, subset, or specification] (page 285); powerset (page 290); pairing (page 304); union (page 321); infinity (page 387); choice (page 400) replacement (page 411); foundation [aka regularity] (page 427).

We are not going to be formally studying Set Theory here; rather, we will be *naively* looking at ubiquitous structures that are available within it.

Set Theory

Set Theory^a is the branch of mathematical logic that studies axiom systems for the notion of abstract set as based on a membership predicate (recall page 173). As we will see (on page 287), care must be taken in such endeavour.

Set Theory aims at providing foundations for mathematics. There are however other approaches, as *Category Theory* and *Type Theory*, that also play an important role in Computer Science.

^a(for which you may consult the book *Naive Set Theory* by P. Halmos)

Extensionality axiom

Two sets are equal if they have the same elements.

Thus,

$$\forall \text{ sets } A, B. A = B \iff (\forall x. x \in A \iff x \in B) .$$

Example:

$$\{0\} \neq \{0, 1\} = \{1, 0\} \neq \{2\} = \{2, 2\}$$

Subsets and supersets

Definition 81 For sets A and B , A is said to be a subset of B , written $A \subseteq B$, and B is said to be a superset of A , written $B \supseteq A$, whenever the statement

$$\forall x. x \in A \implies x \in B$$

holds.

Example:

$$\{0\} \subseteq \{0, 1\} \supseteq \{1\}$$

Notation 82 The proper subset notation $A \subset B$ stands for $(A \subseteq B \wedge A \neq B)$. Analogously, the proper superset notation $B \supset A$ stands for $(B \supseteq A \wedge B \neq A)$.

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Separation principle

For any set A and any definable property P , there is a set containing precisely those elements of A for which the property P holds.

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Lemma 83

1. Reflexivity.

For all sets A , $A \subseteq A$.

2. Transitivity.

For all sets A, B, C , $(A \subseteq B \wedge B \subseteq C) \implies A \subseteq C$.

3. Antisymmetry.

For all sets A, B , $(A \subseteq B \wedge B \subseteq A) \implies A = B$.

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Set comprehension

The set whose existence is postulated by the separation principle for a set A and a property P is typically denoted

$$\{x \in A \mid P(x)\} .$$

(Recall the discussion on set comprehension on page 176.)

Thus, the statement (†) on page 176 follows.

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Russell's paradox

The separation principle does not allow us to consider the class of those R such that $R \notin R$ as a set (and, btw, the same goes for the class of all sets). This is not a bug, but a feature!

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Cardinality

The *cardinality* of a set specifies its size. If this is a natural number, then the set is said to be *finite*.

Typical notations for the cardinality of a set S are $\#S$ or $|S|$.

Example:

$$\#\emptyset = 0$$

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Empty set

The set whose existence is postulated by the separation principle for a set A and the absurd property **false** is typically denoted

$$\emptyset \quad \text{or} \quad \{\}$$

Its defining statement is

$$\forall x. x \notin \emptyset$$

or, equivalently, by

$$\neg(\exists x. x \in \emptyset) \quad .$$

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Powerset axiom

For any set, there is a set consisting of all its subsets.

The set of all subsets of a set U whose existence is postulated by the powerset axiom is typically denoted

$$\mathcal{P}(U) \quad .$$

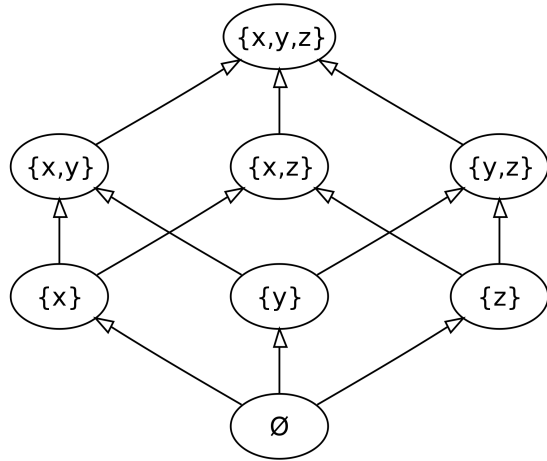
Thus,

$$\forall X. X \in \mathcal{P}(U) \iff X \subseteq U \quad .$$

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Hasse diagrams^a

Example: $\mathcal{P}(\{x, y, z\})$



^aFrom <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Powerset>; see also http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hasse_diagram.

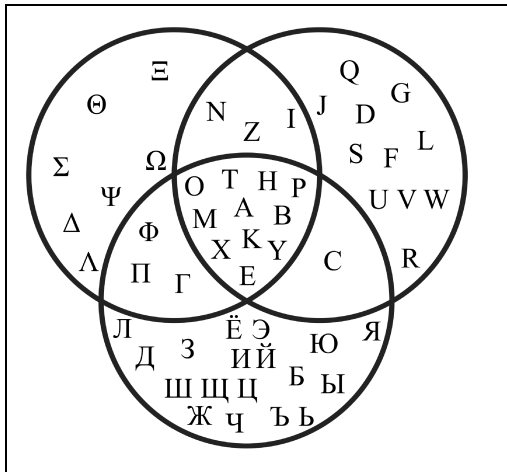
Proposition 84 For all finite sets U ,

$$\# \mathcal{P}(U) = 2^{\#U} .$$

PROOF IDEA ^a :

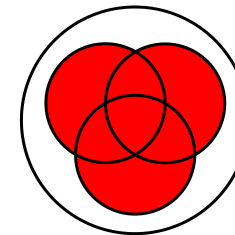
^aSee Theorem 137.1 on page 386.

Venn diagrams^a

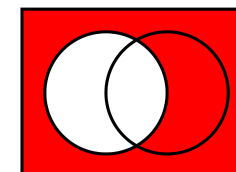
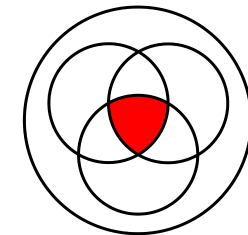


^aFrom [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Union_\(set_theory\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Union_(set_theory)) and [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Intersection_\(set_theory\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Intersection_(set_theory)); see also http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Venn_diagram.

Union



Intersection



Complement

The powerset Boolean algebra

$$(\mathcal{P}(U), \emptyset, U, \cup, \cap, (\cdot)^c)$$

For all $A, B \in \mathcal{P}(U)$,

$$A \cup B = \{x \in U \mid x \in A \vee x \in B\} \in \mathcal{P}(U)$$

$$A \cap B = \{x \in U \mid x \in A \wedge x \in B\} \in \mathcal{P}(U)$$

$$A^c = \{x \in U \mid \neg(x \in A)\} \in \mathcal{P}(U)$$

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- ▶ The empty set \emptyset is an annihilator for \cap and the universal set U is an annihilator for \cup .

$$\emptyset \cap A = \emptyset$$

$$U \cup A = U$$

- ▶ With respect to each other, the union operation \cup and the intersection operation \cap are distributive and absorptive.

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

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

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- ▶ The union operation \cup and the intersection operation \cap are associative, commutative, and idempotent.

$$(A \cup B) \cup C = A \cup (B \cup C), \quad A \cup B = B \cup A, \quad A \cup A = A$$

$$(A \cap B) \cap C = A \cap (B \cap C), \quad A \cap B = B \cap A, \quad A \cap A = A$$

- ▶ The *empty set* \emptyset is a neutral element for \cup and the *universal set* U is a neutral element for \cap .

$$\emptyset \cup A = A = U \cap A$$

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- ▶ The complement operation $(\cdot)^c$ satisfies complementation laws.

$$A \cup A^c = U, \quad A \cap A^c = \emptyset$$

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Proposition 85 Let U be a set and let $A, B \in \mathcal{P}(U)$.

$$1. \forall X \in \mathcal{P}(U). A \cup B \subseteq X \iff (A \subseteq X \wedge B \subseteq X).$$

$$2. \forall X \in \mathcal{P}(U). X \subseteq A \cap B \iff (X \subseteq A \wedge X \subseteq B).$$

YOUR PROOF:

2. Let $X \in \mathcal{P}(U)$.

(\implies) Assume $X \subseteq A \cap B$. Then, since $A \cap B \subseteq A$ and $A \cap B \subseteq B$, we have by transitivity of \subseteq (Lemma 83(2) on page 284) both that $X \subseteq A$ and $X \subseteq B$ as required.

(\impliedby) Assume that (i) $X \subseteq A$ and (ii) $X \subseteq B$. We need show that, for all $u \in U$,

$$u \in X \implies (u \in A \wedge u \in B) .$$

So, let $u \in U$ and assume $u \in X$. Then, by (i), $x \in A$ and, by (ii), $x \in B$ as required.

MY PROOF:

1. Let $X \in \mathcal{P}(U)$.

(\implies) Assume $A \cup B \subseteq X$. Then, since $A \subseteq A \cup B$ and $B \subseteq A \cup B$, we have by transitivity of \subseteq (Lemma 83(2) on page 284) both that $A \subseteq X$ and $B \subseteq X$ as required.

(\impliedby) Assume that (i) $A \subseteq X$ and (ii) $B \subseteq X$. We need show that, for all $u \in U$,

$$(u \in A \vee u \in B) \implies u \in X .$$

So, let $u \in U$ and assume (iii) $u \in A \vee u \in B$. Then, if $u \in A$ we have $u \in X$, by assumption (i); and, if $u \in B$ we also have $u \in X$, by assumption (ii). Thus, assumption (iii) yields $u \in X$ as required.

Corollary 86 Let U be a set and let $A, B, C \in \mathcal{P}(U)$.

$$1. C = A \cup B$$

iff

$$[A \subseteq C \wedge B \subseteq C]$$

\wedge

$$[\forall X \in \mathcal{P}(U). (A \subseteq X \wedge B \subseteq X) \implies C \subseteq X]$$

$$2. C = A \cap B$$

iff

$$[C \subseteq A \wedge C \subseteq B]$$

\wedge

$$[\forall X \in \mathcal{P}(U). (X \subseteq A \wedge X \subseteq B) \implies X \subseteq C]$$

Pairing axiom

Sets and logic

$\mathcal{P}(U)$	$\{ \text{false}, \text{true} \}$
\emptyset	false
U	true
\cup	\vee
\cap	\wedge
$(\cdot)^c$	$\neg(\cdot)$

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For every a and b , there is a set with a and b as its only elements.

The set whose existence is postulated by the pairing axiom for a and b is typically denoted by

$$\{a, b\} .$$

Thus, the statement

$$\forall x. x \in \{a, b\} \iff (x = a \vee x = b)$$

holds, and we have that:

$$\#\{a, b\} = 1 \iff a = b \quad \text{and} \quad \#\{a, b\} = 2 \iff a \neq b .$$

— 304 —

Singletons

For every a , the pairing axiom provides the set $\{a, a\}$ which is abbreviated as

$$\{a\} ,$$

and referred to as a singleton.

NB

$$\#\{a\} = 1$$

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Examples:

$$\emptyset \subset \{\emptyset\} \subset \{\emptyset, \{\emptyset\}\} \supset \{\{\emptyset\}\} \supset \emptyset$$

- ▶ $\#\{\emptyset\} = 1$
- ▶ $\#\{\{\emptyset\}\} = 1$
- ▶ $\#\{\emptyset, \{\emptyset\}\} = 2$

NB

$$\{\emptyset\} \in \{\{\emptyset\}\} , \quad \{\emptyset\} \notin \{\{\emptyset\}\} , \quad \{\{\emptyset\}\} \notin \{\emptyset\}$$

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Ordered pairing

For every pair a and b , three applications of the pairing axiom provide the set $\{\{a\}, \{a, b\}\}$ which is typically abbreviated as

$$\langle a, b \rangle$$

and referred to as an ordered pair.

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Products

The product $A \times B$ of two sets A and B is the set

$$A \times B = \{x \mid \exists a \in A, b \in B. x = (a, b)\}$$

where

$$\forall a_1, a_2 \in A, b_1, b_2 \in B.$$

$$(a_1, b_1) = (a_2, b_2) \iff (a_1 = a_2 \wedge b_1 = b_2) .$$

Thus,

$$\forall x \in A \times B. \exists! a \in A. \exists! b \in B. x = (a, b) .$$

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Proposition 87 (Fundamental property of ordered pairing)

For all a, b, x, y ,

$$\langle a, b \rangle = \langle x, y \rangle \iff (a = x \wedge b = y) .$$

PROOF:

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More generally, for a fixed natural number n and sets A_1, \dots, A_n , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \prod_{i=1}^n A_i &= A_1 \times \dots \times A_n \\ &= \{x \mid \exists a_1 \in A_1, \dots, a_n \in A_n. x = (a_1, \dots, a_n)\} \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\forall a_1, a'_1 \in A_1, \dots, a_n, a'_n \in A_n.$$

$$(a_1, \dots, a_n) = (a'_1, \dots, a'_n) \iff (a_1 = a'_1 \wedge \dots \wedge a_n = a'_n) .$$

NB Cunningly enough, the definition is such that $\prod_{i=1}^0 A_i = \{()\}$.

Notation 88 For a natural number n and a set A , one typically writes A^n for $\prod_{i=1}^n A$.

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Proposition 89 For all finite sets A and B ,

$$\#(A \times B) = \#A \cdot \#B .$$

PROOF IDEA ^a :

^aSee Theorem 137.2 on page 386.

Examples:

1. For $A, A_1, A_2 \in \mathcal{P}(U)$,

$$\bigcup \emptyset = \emptyset$$

$$\bigcup \{A\} = A$$

$$\bigcup \{A_1, A_2\} = A_1 \cup A_2$$

$$\bigcup \{A, A_1, A_2\} = A \cup A_1 \cup A_2$$

Big unions

Definition 90 Let U be a set. For a collection of sets $\mathcal{F} \in \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{P}(U))$, we let the big union (relative to U) be defined as

$$\bigcup \mathcal{F} = \{x \in U \mid \exists A \in \mathcal{F}. x \in A\} \in \mathcal{P}(U) .$$

Btw To get some intuition behind this definition, it might be useful to compare the construction with the ML function

`flatten : 'a list list -> 'a list`

associated with the ML `list` datatype constructor.

2. For $\mathcal{F} \in \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{P}(U)))$, let us introduce the notation

$$\left\{ \bigcup \mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{P}(U) \mid \mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{F} \right\}$$

for the set

$$\left\{ X \in \mathcal{P}(U) \mid \exists \mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{F}. X = \bigcup \mathcal{A} \right\} \in \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{P}(U))$$

noticing that this is justified by the fact that, for all $x \in U$,

$$x \in \bigcup \{ X \in \mathcal{P}(U) \mid \exists \mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{F}. X = \bigcup \mathcal{A} \}$$

$$\iff \exists X \in \mathcal{P}(U). \exists \mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{F}. X = \bigcup \mathcal{A} \wedge x \in X$$

$$\iff \exists \mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{F}. x \in \bigcup \mathcal{A}$$

We then have the following *associativity law*:

Proposition 91 For all $\mathcal{F} \in \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{U})))$,

$$\bigcup(\bigcup\mathcal{F}) = \bigcup\left\{\bigcup\mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{U}) \mid \mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{F}\right\} \in \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{U}) .$$

Btw In trying to understand this statement, ponder about the following analogous identity for the ML `list` datatype constructor: for all $F : 'a \text{ list list list}$,

```
flatten ( flatten F )
= flatten ( map flatten F ) : 'a list
```

The above two identities are the *associativity law* of a mathematical structure known as a *monad*, which has become a fundamental tool in functional programming.

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MY PROOF: For $\mathcal{F} \in \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{U})))$ and $x \in \mathcal{U}$, one calculates that:

$$\begin{aligned} x \in \bigcup(\bigcup\mathcal{F}) & \\ \iff \exists X \in \bigcup\mathcal{F}. x \in X & \\ \iff \exists \mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{F}. \exists X \in \mathcal{A}. x \in X & \\ \iff \exists \mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{F}. x \in \bigcup\mathcal{A} & \\ \iff x \in \bigcup\left\{\bigcup\mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{U}) \mid \mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{F}\right\} & \end{aligned}$$

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YOUR PROOF:

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Big intersections

Definition 92 Let \mathcal{U} be a set. For a collection of sets $\mathcal{F} \subseteq \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{U})$, we let the big intersection (relative to \mathcal{U}) be defined as

$$\bigcap\mathcal{F} = \{x \in \mathcal{U} \mid \forall \mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{F}. x \in \mathcal{A}\} .$$

Examples: For $A, A_1, A_2 \in \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{U})$,

$$\begin{aligned} \bigcap \emptyset &= \mathcal{U} \\ \bigcap \{A\} &= A \\ \bigcap \{A_1, A_2\} &= A_1 \cap A_2 \\ \bigcap \{A, A_1, A_2\} &= A \cap A_1 \cap A_2 \end{aligned}$$

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PROOF:

Theorem 93 *Let*

$$\mathcal{F} = \left\{ S \subseteq \mathbb{R} \mid (0 \in S) \wedge (\forall x \in \mathbb{R}. x \in S \implies (x+1) \in S) \right\} .$$

Then, (i) $\mathbb{N} \in \mathcal{F}$ and (ii) $\mathbb{N} \subseteq \bigcap \mathcal{F}$. Hence, $\bigcap \mathcal{F} = \mathbb{N}$.

NB This result is typically interpreted as stating that:

\mathbb{N} is the least set of numbers containing 0 and closed under successors.

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Union axiom

Every collection of sets has a union.

The set whose existence is postulated by the union axiom for a collection \mathcal{F} is typically denoted

$$\bigcup \mathcal{F}$$

and, in the case $\mathcal{F} = \{A, B\}$, abbreviated to

$$A \cup B .$$

Thus,

$$x \in \bigcup \mathcal{F} \iff \exists X \in \mathcal{F}. x \in X ,$$

and hence

$$x \in (A \cup B) \iff (x \in A) \vee (x \in B) .$$

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Using the separation and union axioms, for every collection \mathcal{F} , consider the set

$$\{x \in \bigcup \mathcal{F} \mid \forall X \in \mathcal{F}. x \in X\} .$$

For non-empty \mathcal{F} this set is denoted

$$\bigcap \mathcal{F}$$

because, in this case,

$$\forall x. x \in \bigcap \mathcal{F} \iff (\forall X \in \mathcal{F}. x \in X) .$$

In particular, for $\mathcal{F} = \{A, B\}$, this is abbreviated to

$$A \cap B$$

with defining property

$$\forall x. x \in (A \cap B) \iff (x \in A) \wedge (x \in B) .$$

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Tagging

The construction

$$\{\ell\} \times A = \{(\ell, a) \mid a \in A\}$$

provides copies of A , as tagged by labels ℓ .

Indeed, note that

$$\forall y \in (\{\ell\} \times A). \exists! x \in A. y = (\ell, x) \quad ,$$

and that $\{\ell_1\} \times A_1 = \{\ell_2\} \times A_2 \iff (\ell_1 = \ell_2) \wedge (A_1 = A_2)$ so that

$$\{\ell_1\} \times A = \{\ell_2\} \times A \iff \ell_1 = \ell_2 \quad .$$

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More generally, for a fixed natural number n and sets A_1, \dots, A_n , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \biguplus_{i=1}^n A_i &= A_1 \uplus \dots \uplus A_n \\ &= (\{1\} \times A_1) \cup \dots \cup (\{n\} \times A_n) \end{aligned}$$

NB Cunningly enough, the definition is such that $\biguplus_{i=1}^0 A_i = \emptyset$.

Notation 95 For a natural number n and a set A , one typically writes $n \cdot A$ for $\biguplus_{i=1}^n A$.

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Disjoint unions

Definition 94 The disjoint union $A \uplus B$ of two sets A and B is the set

$$A \uplus B = (\{1\} \times A) \cup (\{2\} \times B) \quad .$$

Thus,

$$\forall x. x \in (A \uplus B) \iff (\exists a \in A. x = (1, a)) \vee (\exists b \in B. x = (2, b)) \quad .$$

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Proposition 96 For all finite sets A and B ,

$$A \cap B = \emptyset \implies \#(A \cup B) = \#A + \#B \quad .$$

PROOF IDEA:

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Corollary 97^a For all finite sets A and B ,

$$\#(A \uplus B) = \#A + \#B .$$

^aSee Theorem 137.3 on page 386.

Relations

Definition 99 A (binary) relation R from a set A to a set B , denoted

$$R : A \rightarrow B \quad \text{or} \quad R \in \text{Rel}(A, B) ,$$

is a subset of the product set $A \times B$; that is,

$$R \subseteq A \times B \quad \text{or} \quad R \in \mathcal{P}(A \times B) .$$

Notation 100 One typically writes $a R b$ for $(a, b) \in R$.

Corollary 98 Let m, n be positive integers and k a natural number. For finite sets A_1, \dots, A_n , if $\#A_i \leq k$ for all $1 \leq i \leq n$ and $\#(\uplus_{i=1}^n A_i) = m$ then $m \leq n \cdot k$.

NB The contrapositive gives:

The Generalised Pigeonhole Principle

Let m, n be positive integers and k a natural number. If m objects are distributed into n boxes and $m > n \cdot k$, then at least one box contains at least $k + 1$ objects.

NB Binary relations come with a *source* and a *target*.

One may also consider more general n -ary relations, for any natural number n . These are defined as subsets of n -ary products; that is, elements of

$$\mathcal{P}(A_1 \times \dots \times A_n)$$

for sets A_1, \dots, A_n .

Informal examples:

- ▶ Computation.
- ▶ Typing.
- ▶ Program equivalence.
- ▶ Networks.
- ▶ Databases.

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Internal diagrams

Example:

$$R = \{ (0, 0), (0, -1), (0, 1), (1, 2), (1, 1), (2, 1) \} : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$$

$$S = \{ (1, 0), (1, 2), (2, 1), (2, 3) \} : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$$

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Examples:

- ▶ Empty relation.

$$\emptyset : A \rightarrow B \quad (a \emptyset b \iff \text{false})$$

- ▶ Full relation.

$$(A \times B) : A \rightarrow B \quad (a (A \times B) b \iff \text{true})$$

- ▶ Identity (or equality) relation.

$$\text{id}_A = \{ (a, a) \mid a \in A \} : A \rightarrow A \quad (a \text{id}_A a' \iff a = a')$$

- ▶ Integer square root.

$$R_2 = \{ (m, n) \mid m = n^2 \} : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z} \quad (m R_2 n \iff m = n^2)$$

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Relational extensionality

$$R = S : A \rightarrow B$$

iff

$$\forall a \in A. \forall b \in B. a R b \iff a S b$$

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Relational composition

Definition 101 The composition of two relations $R : A \rightarrow B$ and $S : B \rightarrow C$ is the relation

$$S \circ R : A \rightarrow C$$

defined by setting

$$a (S \circ R) c \iff \exists b \in B. a R b \wedge b S c$$

for all $a \in A$ and $c \in C$.

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Relations and matrices

Definition 103

1. For positive integers m and n , an $(m \times n)$ -matrix M over a semiring $(S, 0, \oplus, 1, \odot)$ is given by entries $M_{i,j} \in S$ for all $0 \leq i < m$ and $0 \leq j < n$.

Btw Rows and columns are enumerated from 0, and not 1. This is non-standard, but convenient for what follows.

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Theorem 102 Relational composition is associative and has the identity relation as neutral element. That is,

- **Associativity.**

For all $R : A \rightarrow B$, $S : B \rightarrow C$, and $T : C \rightarrow D$,

$$(T \circ S) \circ R = T \circ (S \circ R)$$

- **Neutral element.**

For all $R : A \rightarrow B$,

$$R \circ \text{id}_A = R = \text{id}_B \circ R .$$

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2. The identity $(n \times n)$ -matrix I_n has entries

$$(I_n)_{i,j} = \begin{cases} 1 & , \text{ if } i = j \\ 0 & , \text{ if } i \neq j \end{cases}$$

3. The multiplication of an $(\ell \times m)$ -matrix L with an $(m \times n)$ -matrix M is the $(\ell \times n)$ -matrix $M \cdot L$ with entries

$$\begin{aligned} (M \cdot L)_{i,j} &= (M_{0,j} \odot L_{i,0}) \oplus \cdots \oplus (M_{m-1,j} \odot L_{i,m-1}) \\ &= \bigoplus_{k=0}^{m-1} M_{k,j} \odot L_{i,k} \end{aligned}$$

Theorem 104 Matrix multiplication is associative and has the identity matrix as neutral element.

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Definition 105

1. The null $(m \times n)$ -matrix $Z_{m,n}$ has entries

$$(Z_{m,n})_{i,j} = 0 .$$

2. The addition of two $(m \times n)$ -matrices M and L is the $(m \times n)$ -matrix $M + L$ with entries

$$(M + L)_{i,j} = M_{i,j} \oplus L_{i,j} .$$

Theorem 106

1. Matrix addition is associative, commutative, and has the null matrix as neutral element.

Definition 107 For every natural number n , let

$$[n] = \{0, \dots, n-1\} .$$

NB Cunningly enough, $[0] = \emptyset$; so that $\# [n] = n$.

2. For every $(\ell \times m)$ -matrices L, L' and $(m \times n)$ -matrices M, M' , the distributive laws

$$M \cdot Z_{\ell,m} = Z_{\ell,n} , \quad Z_{m,n} \cdot L = Z_{\ell,n}$$

and

$$M \cdot (L + L') = (M \cdot L) + (M \cdot L')$$

$$(M + M') \cdot L = (M \cdot L) + (M' \cdot L)$$

hold.

A relation $R : [m] \leftrightarrow [n]$ can be seen as the $(m \times n)$ -matrix $\text{mat}(R)$ over the commutative semiring of Booleans

$$(\{\text{false}, \text{true}\}, \text{false}, \text{true}, \vee, \wedge)$$

given by

$$\text{mat}(R)_{i,j} = [(i,j) \in R] .$$

Conversely, every $(m \times n)$ -matrix M can be seen as the relation $\text{rel}(M) : [m] \leftrightarrow [n]$ given by

$$(i,j) \in \text{rel}(M) \iff M_{i,j} .$$

In fact,

$$\text{rel}(\text{mat}(\mathbf{R})) = \mathbf{R} \quad \text{and} \quad \text{mat}(\text{rel}(\mathbf{M})) = \mathbf{M} .$$

Hence, relations from $[m]$ to $[n]$ and $(m \times n)$ -matrices over Booleans provide two alternative views of the same structure.

More interestingly, this carries over to identities :

$$\text{mat}(\text{id}_{[n]}) = \mathbf{I}_n \quad \text{and} \quad \text{rel}(\mathbf{I}_n) = \text{id}_{[n]} ,$$

and to composition/multiplication :

$$\text{mat}(\mathbf{S} \circ \mathbf{R}) = \text{mat}(\mathbf{S}) \cdot \text{mat}(\mathbf{R}) \quad \text{and} \quad \text{rel}(\mathbf{M} \cdot \mathbf{L}) = \text{rel}(\mathbf{M}) \circ \text{rel}(\mathbf{L}) .$$

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Directed graphs

Definition 108 A directed graph (A, R) consists of a set A and a relation R on A (i.e. a relation from A to A).

Notation 109 We write $\text{Rel}(A)$ for the set of relations on a set A ; that is, $\text{Rel}(A) = \mathcal{P}(A \times A)$.

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Indeed,

$$\begin{aligned} (i, j) \in \text{rel}(\text{mat}(\mathbf{S}) \cdot \text{mat}(\mathbf{R})) & \\ \iff (\text{mat}(\mathbf{S}) \cdot \text{mat}(\mathbf{R}))_{i,j} & \\ \iff \bigvee_{k=0}^{m-1} \text{mat}(\mathbf{S})_{k,j} \wedge \text{mat}(\mathbf{R})_{i,k} & \\ \iff \exists k \in [m]. (k, j) \in \mathbf{S} \wedge (i, k) \in \mathbf{R} & \\ \iff (i, j) \in (\mathbf{S} \circ \mathbf{R}) & \end{aligned}$$

Thus, the composition of relations between finite sets can be implemented by means of matrix multiplication:

$$\mathbf{S} \circ \mathbf{R} = \text{rel}(\text{mat}(\mathbf{S}) \cdot \text{mat}(\mathbf{R})) .$$

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Corollary 110 For every set A , the structure

$$(\text{Rel}(A), \text{id}_A, \circ)$$

is a monoid.

Definition 111 For $R \in \text{Rel}(A)$ and $n \in \mathbb{N}$, we let

$$R^{0n} = \underbrace{R \circ \dots \circ R}_{n \text{ times}} \in \text{Rel}(A)$$

be defined as id_A for $n = 0$, and as $R \circ R^{0m}$ for $n = m + 1$.

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Paths

Definition 112 Let (A, R) be a directed graph. For $s, t \in A$, a path of length $n \in \mathbb{N}$ in R , with source s and target t , is a tuple $(a_0, \dots, a_n) \in A^{n+1}$ such that $a_0 = s$, $a_n = t$, and $a_i R a_{i+1}$ for all $0 \leq i < n$.

NB Cunningly enough, the unary tuple (a_0) is a path of length 0 with source s and target t iff $s = a_0 = t$.

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Definition 114 For $R \in \text{Rel}(A)$, let

$$R^{o*} = \bigcup \{ R^{on} \in \text{Rel}(A) \mid n \in \mathbb{N} \} = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} R^{on} .$$

Corollary 115 Let (A, R) be a directed graph. For all $s, t \in A$, $s R^{o*} t$ iff there exists a path with source s and target t in R .

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Proposition 113 Let (A, R) be a directed graph. For all $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and $s, t \in A$, $s R^{on} t$ iff there exists a path of length n in R with source s and target t .

PROOF:

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The $(n \times n)$ -matrix $M = \text{mat}(R)$ of a finite directed graph $([n], R)$ for n a positive integer is called its adjacency matrix.

The adjacency matrix $M^* = \text{mat}(R^{o*})$ can be computed by matrix multiplication and addition as M_n where

$$\begin{cases} M_0 &= I_n \\ M_{k+1} &= I_n + (M \cdot M_k) \end{cases}$$

This gives an algorithm for establishing or refuting the existence of paths in finite directed graphs.

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Preorders

NB The same algorithm but over other semirings (rather than over the Boolean semiring) can be used to compute other information on paths; like the weight of shortest paths^a, or the set of paths.

^a(for which you may see Chapter 25.1 of *Introduction to Algorithms (Second Edition)* by T. H. Cormen, C. E. Leiserson, R. L. Rivest, and C. Stein)

Examples:

- ▶ (\mathbb{R}, \leq) and (\mathbb{R}, \geq) .
- ▶ $(\mathcal{P}(A), \subseteq)$ and $(\mathcal{P}(A), \supseteq)$.
- ▶ $(\mathbb{Z}, |)$.

Definition 116 A preorder (P, \sqsubseteq) consists of a set P and a relation \sqsubseteq on P (i.e. $\sqsubseteq \in \mathcal{P}(P \times P)$) satisfying the following two axioms.

- ▶ Reflexivity.

$$\forall x \in P. x \sqsubseteq x$$

- ▶ Transitivity.

$$\forall x, y, z \in P. (x \sqsubseteq y \wedge y \sqsubseteq z) \implies x \sqsubseteq z$$

Definition 117 A partial order, or poset^a, is a preorder (P, \sqsubseteq) that further satisfies

- ▶ Antisymmetry.

$$\forall x, y \in P. (x \sqsubseteq y \wedge y \sqsubseteq x) \implies x = y$$

^a(standing for partially ordered set)

Theorem 118 For $R \subseteq A \times A$, let

$$\mathcal{F}_R = \{ Q \subseteq A \times A \mid R \subseteq Q \wedge Q \text{ is a preorder} \} .$$

Then, (i) $R^{\circ*} \in \mathcal{F}_R$ and (ii) $R^{\circ*} \subseteq \bigcap \mathcal{F}_R$. Hence, $R^{\circ*} = \bigcap \mathcal{F}_R$.

NB This result is typically interpreted in various forms as stating that:

- ▶ $R^{\circ*}$ is the reflexive-transitive closure of R .
- ▶ $R^{\circ*}$ is the least preorder containing R .
- ▶ $R^{\circ*}$ is the preorder freely generated by R .

PROOF:

Partial functions

Definition 119 A relation $R : A \twoheadrightarrow B$ is said to be functional, and called a partial function, whenever it is such that

$$\forall a \in A. \forall b_1, b_2 \in B. a R b_1 \wedge a R b_2 \implies b_1 = b_2 .$$

NB $R : A \twoheadrightarrow B$ is *not* functional if there are a in A and $b_1 \neq b_2$ in B such that both (a, b_1) and (a, b_2) are in R .

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Example: The relation

$$\{ (x, y) \mid y = x^2 \} : \mathbb{Z} \twoheadrightarrow \mathbb{N}$$

is functional, while the relation

$$\{ (m, n) \mid m = n^2 \} : \mathbb{N} \twoheadrightarrow \mathbb{Z}$$

is not because, for instance, both $(1, 1)$ and $(1, -1)$ are in it.

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Notation 120 We write $f : A \rightarrow B$ to indicate that f is a partial function from A to B , and let

$$\text{PFun}(A, B) = (A \rightrightarrows B) \subseteq \text{Rel}(A, B)$$

denote the set of partial functions from A to B .

Every partial function $f : A \rightarrow B$ satisfies that

for each element a of A there is at most one element b of B such that b is a value of f at a .

The expression

$$f(a)$$

is taken to denote “the value” of f at a whenever this exists and considered *undefined* otherwise.

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To see this in action, let $f : A \rightarrow B$ and $g : B \rightarrow C$ and consider the expression

$$g(f(a)) \text{ .}$$

This is defined iff $f(a)$ is defined (and hence an element of B) and also $g(f(a))$ is defined (and hence an element of C), in which case it denotes the value of $(g \circ f)$ at a .

One typically writes $f(a) \downarrow$ (respectively $f(a) \uparrow$) to indicate that the partial function f is defined (respectively undefined) at a .

Thus, in symbols,

$$[f(a) \downarrow \wedge g(f(a)) \downarrow] \implies [(g \circ f)(a) \downarrow \wedge (g \circ f)(a) = g(f(a))] \text{ .}$$

In practice, a partial function $f : A \rightarrow B$ is typically defined by specifying:

- ▶ a domain of definition $D_f \subseteq A$, and
- ▶ a mapping

$$f : a \mapsto b_a$$

given by a *rule* that to each element a in the domain of definition D_f assigns a unique element b_a in the target B (so that $f(a) = b_a$).

Theorem 121 *The identity relation is a partial function, and the composition of partial functions yields a partial function.*

NB

$$f = g : A \rightarrow B$$

iff

$$\forall a \in A. (f(a) \downarrow \iff g(a) \downarrow) \wedge f(a) = g(a)$$

Warning: When proceeding as above, it is important to note that you need make sure that:

1. D_f is a subset of A ,
2. for every a in D_f , the b_a as described by your mapping (i.e. rule) is unique and is in B (so that it is a well-defined value for f at a).

Example: The following defines a partial function $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{N}$:

- ▶ for $n \geq 0$ and $m > 0$,
 $(n, m) \mapsto (\text{quo}(n, m), \text{rem}(n, m))$
- ▶ for $n \geq 0$ and $m < 0$,
 $(n, m) \mapsto (-\text{quo}(n, -m), \text{rem}(n, -m))$
- ▶ for $n < 0$ and $m > 0$,
 $(n, m) \mapsto (-\text{quo}(-n, m) - 1, \text{rem}(m - \text{rem}(-n, m), m))$
- ▶ for $n < 0$ and $m < 0$,
 $(n, m) \mapsto (\text{quo}(-n, -m) + 1, \text{rem}(-m - \text{rem}(-n, -m), -m))$

Its domain of definition is $\{(n, m) \in \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} \mid m \neq 0\}$.

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Proposition 122 For all finite sets A and B ,

$$\#(A \Rightarrow B) = (\#B + 1)^{\#A} .$$

PROOF IDEA ^a :

^aSee Theorem 137.4 on page 386.

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Btw There are alternative notations for mappings

$$f : a \mapsto b_a$$

that, although with different syntax, you have already encountered; namely, the notations

$$f(a) = b_a \quad \text{and} \quad f = \lambda a. b_a$$

from which the ML declaration styles

$$\text{fun } f(a) = b_a \quad \text{and} \quad \text{val } f = \text{fn } a \Rightarrow b_a$$

come from.

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Functions (or maps)

Definition 123 A partial function is said to be total, and referred to as a (total) function or map, whenever its domain of definition coincides with its source.

The notation $f : A \rightarrow B$ is used to indicate that f is a function from A to B , and we write

$$\text{Fun}(A, B) = (A \Rightarrow B)$$

for the set of functions from A to B .

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Thus,

$$(A \Rightarrow B) \subseteq (A \Rightarrow B) \subseteq \text{Rel}(A, B)$$

and we have the following fact:

Theorem 124 For all $f \in \text{Rel}(A, B)$,

$$f \in (A \Rightarrow B) \iff \forall a \in A. \exists! b \in B. a f b .$$

Our discussion on how to define partial functions also applies to functions; but, because of their total nature, simplifies as follows.

In practice, a function $f : A \rightarrow B$ is defined by specifying a mapping

$$f : a \mapsto b_a$$

given by a *rule* that to each $a \in A$ assigns a unique element $b_a \in B$ (which is the value of f at a denoted $f(a)$).

Warning: When proceeding as above, it is important to note that your mapping should be defined for every a in A and that the described b_a should be a uniquely determined element of B .

Proposition 125 For all finite sets A and B ,

$$\#(A \Rightarrow B) = \#B^{\#A} .$$

PROOF IDEA ^a :

^aSee Theorem 137.5 on page 386.

Theorem 126 The identity partial function is a function, and the composition of functions yields a function.

NB

1. $f = g : A \rightarrow B$ iff $\forall a \in A. f(a) = g(a)$.
2. For all sets A , the identity function $\text{id}_A : A \rightarrow A$ is given by the rule

$$\text{id}_A(a) = a$$

and, for all functions $f : A \rightarrow B$ and $g : B \rightarrow C$, the composition function $g \circ f : A \rightarrow C$ is given by the rule

$$(g \circ f)(a) = g(f(a)) .$$

Bijections, I

Definition 127 A function $f : A \rightarrow B$ is said to be bijjective, or a bijection, whenever there exists a (necessarily unique) function $g : B \rightarrow A$ (referred to as the inverse of f) such that

1. g is a retraction (or left inverse) for f :

$$g \circ f = \text{id}_A \quad ,$$

2. g is a section (or right inverse) for f :

$$f \circ g = \text{id}_B \quad .$$

Notation 128 The inverse of a function f is necessarily unique and typically denoted f^{-1} .

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Proposition 129 For all finite sets A and B ,

$$\# \text{Bij}(A, B) = \begin{cases} 0 & , \text{ if } \#A \neq \#B \\ n! & , \text{ if } \#A = \#B = n \end{cases}$$

PROOF IDEA ^a :

Example: The mapping mat associating an $(m \times n)$ -matrix to a relation from $[m]$ to $[n]$ is a bijection, with inverse the mapping rel; see page 342 for definitions.

The set of bijections from A to B is denoted

$$\text{Bij}(A, B)$$

and we thus have

$$\text{Bij}(A, B) \subseteq \text{Fun}(A, B) \subseteq \text{PFun}(A, B) \subseteq \text{Rel}(A, B) \quad .$$

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Theorem 130 The identity function is a bijection, and the composition of bijections yields a bijection.

^aSee Theorem 137.6 on page 386.

Equivalence relations and set partitions

► Equivalence relations.

Definition 132 A relation E on a set A is said to be an equivalence relation whenever it is:

1. reflexive

$$\forall x \in A. x E x$$

2. symmetric

$$\forall x, y \in A. x E y \implies y E x$$

3. transitive

$$\forall x, y, z \in A. (x E y \wedge y E z) \implies x E z$$

The set of all equivalence relations on A is denoted $\text{EqRel}(A)$.

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Definition 131 Two sets A and B are said to be isomorphic (and to have the same cardinality) whenever there is a bijection between them; in which case we write

$$A \cong B \quad \text{or} \quad \#A = \#B \quad .$$

Examples:

1. $\{0, 1\} \cong \{\text{false}, \text{true}\}$.
2. $\mathbb{N} \cong \mathbb{N}^+$, $\mathbb{N} \cong \mathbb{Z}$, $\mathbb{N} \cong \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$, $\mathbb{N} \cong \mathbb{Q}$.

► Set partitions.

Definition 133 A partition P of a set A is a set of non-empty subsets of A (that is, $P \subseteq \mathcal{P}(A)$ and $\emptyset \notin P$), whose elements are typically referred to as blocks, such that

1. the union of all blocks yields A :

$$\bigcup P = A \quad ,$$

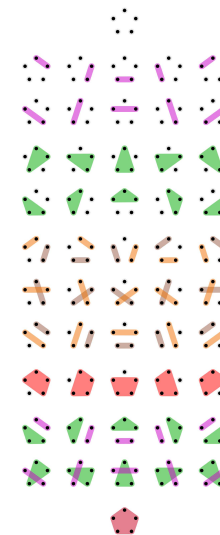
and

2. all blocks are pairwise disjoint:

$$\text{for all } b_1, b_2 \in P, b_1 \neq b_2 \implies b_1 \cap b_2 = \emptyset \quad .$$

The set of all partitions of A is denoted $\text{Part}(A)$.

The partitions of a 5-element set^a



^aFrom http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Partition_of_a_set.

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Theorem 134 For every set A ,

$$\text{EqRel}(A) \cong \text{Part}(A) .$$

PROOF OUTLINE:

1. Prove that the mapping

$$E \mapsto A/E = \{ b \subseteq A \mid \exists a \in A. b = [a]_E \}$$

where $[a]_E = \{ x \in A \mid x E a \}$

yields a function $\text{EqRel}(A) \rightarrow \text{Part}(A)$.

2. Prove that the mapping

$$P \mapsto \equiv_P$$

$$\text{where } x \equiv_P y \iff \exists b \in P. x \in b \wedge y \in b$$

yields a function $\text{Part}(A) \rightarrow \text{EqRel}(A)$.

3. Prove that the above two functions are inverses of each other.

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Calculus of bijections, I

► $A \cong A$, $A \cong B \implies B \cong A$, $(A \cong B \wedge B \cong C) \implies A \cong C$

► If $A \cong X$ and $B \cong Y$ then

$$\mathcal{P}(A) \cong \mathcal{P}(X) \quad , \quad A \times B \cong X \times Y \quad , \quad A \uplus B \cong X \uplus Y \quad ,$$

$$\text{Rel}(A, B) \cong \text{Rel}(X, Y) \quad , \quad (A \rightrightarrows B) \cong (X \rightrightarrows Y) \quad ,$$

$$(A \rightrightarrows B) \cong (X \rightrightarrows Y) \quad , \quad \text{Bij}(A, B) \cong \text{Bij}(X, Y)$$

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Proposition 135 For all finite sets A ,

$$\#\text{EqRel}(A) = \#\text{Part}(A) = B_{\#A}$$

where, for $n \in \mathbb{N}$, the so-called Bell numbers are defined by

$$B_n = \begin{cases} 1 & , \text{ for } n = 0 \\ \sum_{i=0}^n \binom{n}{i} B_i & , \text{ for } n = m + 1 \end{cases}$$

PROOF IDEA ^a :

^aSee Theorem 137.7-8 on page 386.

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► $A \cong [1] \times A$, $(A \times B) \times C \cong A \times (B \times C)$, $A \times B \cong B \times A$

► $[0] \uplus A \cong A$, $(A \uplus B) \uplus C \cong A \uplus (B \uplus C)$, $A \uplus B \cong B \uplus A$

► $[0] \times A \cong [0]$, $(A \uplus B) \times C \cong (A \times C) \uplus (B \times C)$

► $(A \rightrightarrows [1]) \cong [1]$, $(A \rightrightarrows (B \times C)) \cong (A \rightrightarrows B) \times (A \rightrightarrows C)$

► $([0] \rightrightarrows A) \cong [1]$, $((A \uplus B) \rightrightarrows C) \cong (A \rightrightarrows C) \times (B \rightrightarrows C)$

► $([1] \rightrightarrows A) \cong A$, $((A \times B) \rightrightarrows C) \cong (A \rightrightarrows (B \rightrightarrows C))$

► $(A \rightrightarrows B) \cong (A \rightrightarrows (B \uplus [1]))$

► $\mathcal{P}(A) \cong (A \rightrightarrows [2])$

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Characteristic (or indicator) functions

$$\mathcal{P}(A) \cong (A \Rightarrow [2])$$

Example: The key combinatorial argument in proving Pascal's rule (see pages 241 and 245) resides in the bijection

$$\mathcal{P}(X \uplus [1]) \cong \mathcal{P}(X) \uplus \mathcal{P}(X)$$

deducible as

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{P}(X \uplus [1]) &\cong ((X \uplus [1]) \Rightarrow [2]) \\ &\cong (X \Rightarrow [2]) \times ([1] \Rightarrow [2]) \\ &\cong \mathcal{P}(X) \times [2] \\ &\cong \mathcal{P}(X) \times ([1] \uplus [1]) \\ &\cong (\mathcal{P}(X) \times [1]) \uplus (\mathcal{P}(X) \times [1]) \\ &\cong \mathcal{P}(X) \uplus \mathcal{P}(X) \end{aligned}$$

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Finite cardinality

Definition 136 A set A is said to be finite whenever $A \cong [n]$ for some $n \in \mathbb{N}$, in which case we write $\#A = n$.

Theorem 137 For all $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$,

1. $\mathcal{P}([n]) \cong [2^n]$
2. $[m] \times [n] \cong [m \cdot n]$
3. $[m] \uplus [n] \cong [m + n]$
4. $([m] \Rightarrow [n]) \cong [(n + 1)^m]$
5. $([m] \Rightarrow [n]) \cong [n^m]$
6. $\text{Bij}([n], [n]) \cong [n!]$
7. $\text{Part}([0]) \cong [1]$
8. $\text{Part}([n + 1]) \cong \biguplus_{S \subseteq [n]} \text{Part}(S^c)$

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Infinity axiom

There is an infinite set, containing \emptyset and closed under successor.

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Surjections

Definition 139 A function $f : A \rightarrow B$ is said to be surjective, or a surjection, and indicated $f : A \twoheadrightarrow B$ whenever

$$\forall b \in B. \exists a \in A. f(a) = b .$$

Examples:

1. Every bijection is a surjection.
2. The unique function $A \rightarrow [1]$ is surjective iff $A \neq \emptyset$.
3. The quotient function $A \rightarrow A/_E : a \mapsto [a]_E = \{x \in A \mid x E a\}$ associated to an equivalence relation E on a set A is surjective.

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Bijections, II

Proposition 138 For a function $f : A \rightarrow B$, the following are equivalent.

1. f is bijective.
2. $\forall b \in B. \exists! a \in A. f(a) = b$.
3. $(\forall b \in B. \exists a \in A. f(a) = b)$
 \wedge
 $(\forall a_1, a_2 \in A. f(a_1) = f(a_2) \implies a_1 = a_2)$

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4. The projection function $A \times B \rightarrow A : (a, b) \mapsto a$ is surjective iff $B \neq \emptyset$ or $A = \emptyset$.
5. For natural numbers m and n with $m < n$, there is no surjection from $[m]$ to $[n]$.

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Theorem 140 *The identity function is a surjection, and the composition of surjections yields a surjection.*

The set of surjections from A to B is denoted

$$\text{Sur}(A, B)$$

and we thus have

$$\text{Bij}(A, B) \subseteq \text{Sur}(A, B) \subseteq \text{Fun}(A, B) \subseteq \text{PFun}(A, B) \subseteq \text{Rel}(A, B) .$$

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PROOF IDEA:

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Proposition 141

1. For all finite sets A and natural numbers n , the cardinality of the set $\text{Part}_n(A)$ of partitions of A in n blocks has cardinality $S(\#A, n)$, where the Stirling numbers of the second kind $S(m, n)$ are defined by

- ▶ $S(0, 0) = 1$;
- ▶ $S(k, 0) = S(0, k) = 0$, for $k \geq 1$;
- ▶ $S(m + 1, n + 1) = S(m, n) + (n + 1) \cdot S(m, n + 1)$, for $m, n \geq 0$.

2. For all finite sets A and B ,

$$\#\text{Sur}(A, B) = S(\#A, \#B) \cdot (\#B)! .$$

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Enumerability

Definition 142

1. A set A is said to be enumerable whenever there exists a surjection $\mathbb{N} \rightarrow A$, referred to as an enumeration.
2. A countable set is one that is either empty or enumerable.

Btw For an enumeration $e : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow A$, if

$$e(n) = a \quad (n \in \mathbb{N}, a \in A)$$

we think of the natural number n as a *code* for the element a of A . Codes need not be unique, but since

$$\{e(n) \in A \mid n \in \mathbb{N}\} = A$$

every element of A is guaranteed to have a code. These will be unique whenever the enumeration is a bijection.

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Examples:

1. A bijective enumeration of \mathbb{Z} .

...	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3	...
...	5	3	1	0	2	4	6	...

Proposition 143 *Every non-empty subset of an enumerable set is enumerable.*

YOUR PROOF:

2. A bijective enumeration of $\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$.

	0	1	2	3	4	5	...
0	0	2	3	9	10	...	
1	1	4	8	11			
2	5	7	12				
3	6	13		...			
4	14						
⋮	⋮						

MY PROOF: Let $\emptyset \neq S \subseteq A$ and let $e : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow A$ be surjective.

Note that $\{\mathbf{n} \in \mathbb{N} \mid e(\mathbf{n}) \in S\} \neq \emptyset$ and let

$$\mu(0) = \min\{\mathbf{n} \in \mathbb{N} \mid e(\mathbf{n}) \in S\} .$$

Furthermore, define by induction

$$\mu(k+1) = \min\{\mathbf{n} \in \mathbb{N} \mid \mathbf{n} > \mu(k) \wedge e(\mathbf{n}) \in S\} \quad (k \in \mathbb{N})$$

where, by convention, $\min \emptyset = \mu(0)$.^a

Finally, one checks^b that the mapping

$$k \mapsto e(\mu(k)) \quad (k \in \mathbb{N})$$

defines a function $\mathbb{N} \rightarrow S$ that is surjective.

^aBtw, the operation of *minimisation* is at the heart of recursion theory.

^bPlease do it!

Every surjection has a section.

Countability

Proposition 144

1. $\mathbb{N}, \mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{Q}$ are countable sets.
2. The product and disjoint union of countable sets is countable.
3. Every finite set is countable.
4. Every subset of a countable set is countable.

Btw Corollary 155 (on page 416) provides more examples.

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Injections

Definition 145 A function $f : A \rightarrow B$ is said to be injective, or an injection, and indicated $f : A \hookrightarrow B$ whenever

$$\forall a_1, a_2 \in A. (f(a_1) = f(a_2)) \implies a_1 = a_2 .$$

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Examples:

- ▶ Every section is an injection; so that, in particular, bijections are injections.
- ▶ All functions including a set into another one are injections.
- ▶ For all natural numbers k , the function $\mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N} : n \mapsto n + k$ is an injection.
- ▶ For all natural numbers k , the function $\mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N} : n \mapsto n \cdot k$ is an injection iff $k \geq 1$.
- ▶ For all natural numbers k , the function $\mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N} : n \mapsto k^n$ is an injection iff $k \geq 2$.

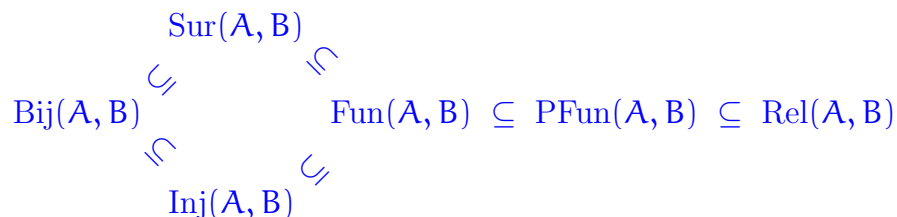
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Theorem 146 *The identity function is an injection, and the composition of injections yields an injection.*

The set of injections from A to B is denoted

$$\text{Inj}(A, B)$$

and we thus have



with

$$\text{Bij}(A, B) = \text{Sur}(A, B) \cap \text{Inj}(A, B) .$$

Cantor-Bernstein-Schroeder Theorem

Definition 148 *A set A is of less than or equal cardinality to a set B whenever there is an injection $A \rightarrow B$, in which case we write*

$$A \lesssim B \quad \text{or} \quad \#A \leq \#B .$$

NB It follows from the axiom of choice that the existence of a surjection $B \rightarrow A$ implies $\#A \leq \#B$.

Proposition 147 *For all finite sets A and B ,*

$$\#\text{Inj}(A, B) = \begin{cases} \binom{\#B}{\#A} \cdot (\#A)! & , \text{ if } \#A \leq \#B \\ 0 & , \text{ otherwise} \end{cases}$$

PROOF IDEA:

Theorem 149 (Cantor-Schroeder-Bernstein theorem) *For all sets A and B ,*

$$(A \lesssim B \wedge B \lesssim A) \implies A \cong B .$$

Relational images

Definition 150 Let $R : A \rightarrow B$ be a relation.

- The direct image of $X \subseteq A$ under R is the set $\vec{R}(X) \subseteq B$, defined as

$$\vec{R}(X) = \{b \in B \mid \exists x \in X. x R b\} .$$

NB This construction yields a function $\vec{R} : \mathcal{P}(A) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(B)$.

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Functional images

Proposition 151 Let $f : A \rightarrow B$ be a function.

For all $X \subseteq A$,

$$\vec{f}(X) = \{b \in B \mid \exists a \in X. f(a) = b\} .$$

Remark More intuitively, this set is commonly denoted by

$$\{f(a) \in B \mid a \in X\}$$

conveying the idea that the direct-image function is to the powerset construction as the map function is to the list type constructor.

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- The inverse image of $Y \subseteq B$ under R is the set $\overleftarrow{R}(Y) \subseteq A$, defined as

$$\overleftarrow{R}(Y) = \{a \in A \mid \forall b \in B. a R b \implies b \in Y\}$$

NB This construction yields a function $\overleftarrow{R} : \mathcal{P}(B) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(A)$.

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Proposition 152 Let $f : A \rightarrow B$ be a function.

For all $Y \subseteq B$,

$$\overleftarrow{f}(Y) = \{a \in A \mid f(a) \in Y\} .$$

Remark Hence,

$$a \in \overleftarrow{f}(Y) \iff f(a) \in Y .$$

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Replacement axiom

The direct image of every definable functional property on a set is a set.

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3. Finite partial functions from a set A to a set B :

$$(A \Rightarrow_{\text{fn}} B) = \biguplus_{S \in \mathcal{P}_{\text{fn}}(A)} (S \Rightarrow B)$$

where

$$\mathcal{P}_{\text{fn}}(A) = \{ S \subseteq A \mid S \text{ is finite} \}$$

4. Non-empty indexed intersections: for $I \neq \emptyset$,

$$\bigcap_{i \in I} A_i = \{ x \in \bigcup_{i \in I} A_i \mid \forall i \in I. x \in A_i \}$$

5. Indexed products:

$$\prod_{i \in I} A_i = \left\{ \alpha \in (I \Rightarrow \bigcup_{i \in I} A_i) \mid \forall i \in I. \alpha(i) \in A_i \right\}$$

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Set-indexed constructions

For every mapping associating a set A_i to each element of a set I , we have the set

$$\bigcup_{i \in I} A_i = \bigcup \{ A_i \mid i \in I \} = \{ a \mid \exists i \in I. a \in A_i \} .$$

Examples:

1. Indexed disjoint unions:

$$\biguplus_{i \in I} A_i = \bigcup_{i \in I} \{i\} \times A_i$$

2. Finite sequences on a set A :

$$A^* = \biguplus_{n \in \mathbb{N}} A^n$$

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Proposition 153 *An enumerable indexed disjoint union of enumerable sets is enumerable.*

YOUR PROOF:

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MY PROOF: Let $\{A_i\}_{i \in I}$ be a family of sets indexed by a set I . Furthermore, let $e : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow I$ be a surjection and, for all $i \in I$, let $e_i : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow A_i$ be surjections.

The function $\varepsilon : \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \biguplus_{i \in I} A_i$ defined, for all $(m, n) \in \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$, by

$$\varepsilon(m, n) = (i, e_i(n)) \quad , \quad \text{where } i = e(m)$$

is a surjection, which pre-composed with any surjection $\mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$ yields a surjection $\mathbb{N} \rightarrow \biguplus_{i \in I} A_i$ as required.

Calculus of bijections, II

- ▶ $\biguplus_{i \in [n]} A_i \cong ((\dots (A_0 \uplus A_1) \dots) \uplus A_{n-1})$
- ▶ $\prod_{i \in [n]} A_i \cong ((\dots (A_0 \times A_1) \dots) \times A_{n-1})$
- ▶ $(\biguplus_{i \in I} A_i) \times B \cong \biguplus_{i \in I} (A_i \times B)$
- ▶ $(A \Rightarrow \prod_{i \in I} B_i) \cong \prod_{i \in I} (A \Rightarrow B_i)$
- ▶ $((\biguplus_{i \in I} A_i) \Rightarrow B) \cong \prod_{i \in I} (A_i \Rightarrow B)$
- ▶ $A \cong \biguplus_{a \in A} [1]$
- ▶ $(A \Rightarrow B) \cong \prod_{a \in A} B$

Corollary 154 *A countable indexed disjoint union of countable sets is countable.*

Corollary 155 *If X and A are countable sets then so are A^* , $\mathcal{P}_{\text{fin}}(A)$, and $(X \Rightarrow_{\text{fin}} A)$.*

Combinatorial examples:

1. . The combinatorial content of the Binomial Theorem (Theorem 232 and page 237) comes from a bijection

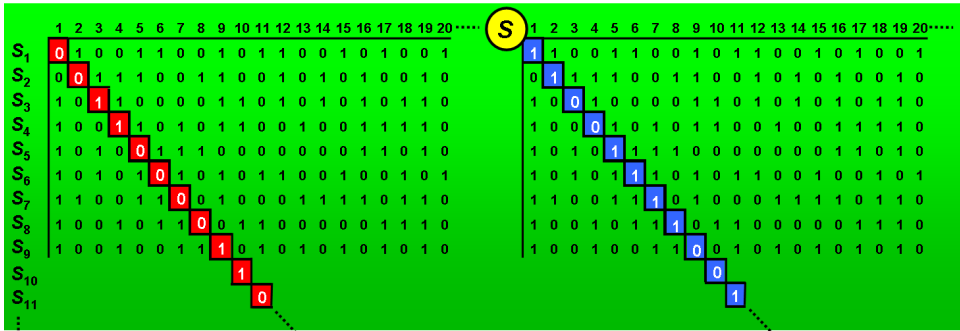
$$(U \Rightarrow (X \uplus Y)) \cong \biguplus_{S \in \mathcal{P}(U)} (S \Rightarrow X) \times (S^c \Rightarrow Y)$$
 available for any triple of sets U, X, Y .
2. The combinatorial content underlying the Bell numbers comes from a bijection

$$\text{Part}(A \uplus [1]) \cong \biguplus_{S \subseteq A} \text{Part}(S^c) \quad .$$

available for all sets A .

THEOREM OF THE DAY

Cantor's Uncountability Theorem *There are uncountably many infinite 0-1 sequences.*



Proof: Suppose you *could* count the sequences. Label them in order: S_1, S_2, S_3, \dots , and denote by $S_i(j)$ the j -th entry of sequence S_i . Now define a new sequence, S , whose i -th entry is $S_i(i) + 1 \pmod{2}$. So S is $S_1(1)+1, S_2(2)+1, S_3(3)+1, S_4(4)+1, \dots$, with all entries remaindered modulo 2. S is certainly an infinite sequence of 0s and 1s. So it must appear in our list: it is, say, S_k , so its k -th entry is $S_k(k)$. But this is, by definition, $S_k(k) + 1 \pmod{2} \neq S_k(k)$. So we have contradicted the possibility of forming our enumeration. QED.

The theorem establishes that the real numbers are *uncountable* — that is, they cannot be enumerated in a list indexed by the positive integers $(1, 2, 3, \dots)$. To see this informally, consider the infinite sequences of 0s and 1s to be the binary expansions of fractions (e.g. $0.010011\dots = 0/2 + 1/4 + 0/8 + 0/16 + 1/32 + 1/64 + \dots$). More generally, it says that the set of subsets of a countably infinite set is uncountable, and to see that, imagine every 0-1 sequence being a different recipe for building a subset: the i -th entry tells you whether to include the i -th element (1) or exclude it (0).

Georg Cantor (1845–1918) discovered this theorem in 1874 but it apparently took another twenty years of thought about what were then new and controversial concepts: ‘sets’, ‘cardinalities’, ‘orders of infinity’, to invent the important proof given here, using the so-called *diagonalisation method*.

Web link: www.math.hawaii.edu/~dale/godel/godel.html. There is an [interesting discussion](http://mathoverflow.net) on mathoverflow.net about the history of diagonalisation: type ‘earliest diagonal’ into their search box.

Further reading: *Mathematics: the Loss of Certainty* by Morris Kline, Oxford University Press, New York, 1980.

Created by Robin Whitty for www.theoremoftheday.org

MY PROOF: Assume, by way of contradiction, a surjection $e : A \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(A)$, and let $a \in A$ be such that

$$e(a) = \{x \in A \mid x \notin e(x)\} .$$

Then,

$$\forall x \in A. x \in e(a) \iff x \notin e(x)$$

and hence

$$a \in e(a) \iff a \notin e(a) ;$$

that is, a contradiction. Therefore, there is no surjection from A to $\mathcal{P}(A)$.

Unbounded cardinality

Theorem 156 (Cantor’s diagonalisation argument) *For every set A , no surjection from A to $\mathcal{P}(A)$ exists.*

YOUR PROOF:

Btw The *diagonalisation technique* is very important in both logic and computation.

Definition 157 A fixed-point of a function $f : X \rightarrow X$ is an element $x \in X$ such that $f(x) = x$.

Btw Solutions to many problems in computer science are computations of fixed-points.

Theorem 158 (Lawvere’s fixed-point argument) *For sets A and X , if there exists a surjection $A \rightarrow (A \Rightarrow X)$ then every function $X \rightarrow X$ has a fixed-point; and hence X is a singleton.*

YOUR PROOF:

MY PROOF: Assume a surjection $e : A \rightarrow (A \Rightarrow X)$. Then, for an arbitrary function $f : X \rightarrow X$ let $a \in A$ be such that

$$e(a) = \lambda x \in A. f(e(x)(x)) \in (A \Rightarrow X) .$$

Then,

$$e(a)(a) = f(e(a)(a)) ,$$

and we are done.

Corollary 161 For a set D , there exists a surjection $D \rightarrow (D \Rightarrow D)$ iff D is a singleton.

Note however that in ML we have the

```
datatype
  D = afun of D -> D
```

coming with functions

```
afun : (D->D) -> D
fn x => case x of afun f => f : D -> (D->D)
```

that is highly non-trivial!

Corollary 159 The sets

$$\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N}) \cong (\mathbb{N} \Rightarrow [2]) \cong [0, 1] \cong \mathbb{R}$$

are not enumerable.

Corollary 160 There are non-computable infinite sequences of bits; that is, there are infinite sequences of bits σ with the property that for all programs p that forever print bits there is a natural number index i_p for which the i_p bit of σ disagrees with the i_p bit output by p .

And indeed is inhabited by an enumerable infinitude of elements; for instance,

```
afun( fn x => x ) : D
afun( fn x => case x of afun f => f x ) : D
afun( fn x => case x of afun f => f f x ) : D
afun( fn x => case x of
  afun f => case f x of
    afun g => g x ) : D
```

Foundation axiom

The membership relation is well-founded.

Thereby, providing a

Principle of \in -Induction .