

# Introduction to mathematical thinking

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This is a (drastically) simplified version of my book:

*Mathematics: a minimal introduction*, CRC press, 2013.

For a more complete treatment of the topics one may refer to the book. However one should be aware of the fact that there are some key conceptual differences between the present text and the book, especially when it comes to the material that pertains to logic (e.g., to witnesses, quantifier axioms, and the structure of theories).

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**Part 1**

**Logic**



## CHAPTER 1

# Languages

Mathematics is a theory called *set theory*. Theories are (growing) sequences of sentences. The formation of sentences and theories is governed by (general) logic (not to be confused with mathematical logic which is part of mathematics). Logic starts with the analysis/construction of language.

EXAMPLE 1.1. (Logical analysis of language) We will introduce here two languages, English and Formal, and we will analyze their interconnections.

Let us start with a discussion of English. The English language is the collection  $L_{Eng}$  of all English words (plus separators such as parentheses, commas, etc.). We treat words as individual symbols (and ignore the fact that they are made out of letters). Sometimes we admit as symbols certain groups of words. One can use words to create strings of words such as

0) “*for all not Socrates man if*”

The above string is considered “syntactically incorrect.” The sentences in the English language are the strings of symbols that are “syntactically correct” (in a sense to be made precise later). Here are some examples of sentences in this language:

- 1) “*if Socrates is a wise man then Socrates is a man*”
- 2) “*Socrates is not a king and Socrates’ father is a king*”
- 3) “*for all things either the thing is not a man or the thing is mortal*”
- 4) “*there exists somebody who is Plato’s teacher*”
- 5) “*for all things the thing is Socrates if and only if the thing is Plato’s teacher*”

We should note right away that “in reality” Socrates’ father was *not* a king (but rather a mason); so if we were to define/discuss truth of English sentences then sentence 2 would qualify as false. However the concept of truth has not been addressed yet and we should be prepared to discuss sentences regardless of their apparent “truth value.”

In order to separate sentences from a surrounding text we put them between quotation marks (and sometimes we write them in italics). So quotation marks do not belong to the language but rather they lie outside the language. Checking syntax presupposes a partitioning of  $L_{Eng}$  into various categories of words; no word should appear in principle in two different categories, but this requirement is often violated in practice (which may lead to different readings of the same text). Here are the categories:

- variables: “*thing, somebody,...*”
- constants: “*Socrates, Plato, the Wise, the Kings,...*”
- functional symbols: “*the father of, the teacher of,...*”

- relational predicates: “*is (belongs to), is a man, is mortal,...*”
- connectives: “*and, or, not, if...then, if and only if*”
- quantifiers: “*for all, there exists*”
- equality: “*is, equals*”
- separators: parentheses “(,)” and comma “,”

The above categories are referred to as *logical categories*. (They are quite different from, although related to, the *grammatical categories* of *nouns, verbs*, etc. In general objects are named by constants or variables. (So constants and variables roughly correspond to nouns.) Constants are names for specific objects while variables are names for non-specific (generic) objects. Relational predicates say/affirm something about one or several objects; if they say/affirm something about one, two, three objects, etc., they are unary, binary, ternary, etc. (So roughly unary relational predicates correspond to intransitive verbs; binary relational predicates correspond to transitive verbs.) Functional symbols have objects as arguments but do not say/affirm anything about them; all they do is refer to (or name, or specify, or point towards) something that could itself be an object. (Functional symbols are sometimes referred to as functional predicates but we will not refer to them as predicates here; this avoids confusion with relational predicates.) Again they can be unary, binary, ternary, etc., depending on the number of arguments. Connectives connect/combine sentences into longer sentences; they can be unary (if they are added to one sentence changing it into another sentence, binary if they combine two sentences into one longer sentence, ternary, etc.). Quantifiers specify quantity and are always followed by variables. Separators separate various parts of the text from various other parts.

In order to analyze a sentence using the logical categories above one first looks for the connectives and one splits the sentence into simpler sentences; alternatively sentences may start with quantifiers followed by variables followed by simpler sentences. In any case, once one identifies simpler sentences, one proceeds by identifying, in each of them, the constants, variables, and functional symbols applied to them (these are the objects that one is talking about), and finally one identifies the functional symbols (which say something about the objects). The above type of analysis (called *logical analysis*) is quite different from the *grammatical analysis* based on the grammatical categories of *nouns, verbs*, etc.

In our examples of sentences 1-5 logical analysis proceeds as follows.

In 1 “*if...then*” are connectives connecting the simpler sentences “*Socrates is a wise man*” and “*Socrates is a man*.” Let us look at the sentence “*Socrates is a wise man*.” The word “*Socrates*” here is viewed as a constant; the group of words “*wise man*” is viewed as a constant; “*is*” is a binary relational predicate (it says/affirms something about 2 objects: “*Socrates*” and “*the wise men*”; it says that the first object belongs to the second object). Let us look now at the sentence “*Socrates is a man*.” We could read this second sentence the way we read the first one but let us read it as follows: we may still view “*Socrates*” as a constant but we will view “*is a man*” as a unary relational predicate (that says/affirms something about only one object, *Socrates*).

A concise way of understanding the logical analysis of English sentences as above is to create another language  $L_{For}$  (let us call it Formal) consisting of the following symbols:



- variables: “ $x, y, \dots$ ”
- constants: “ $s, p, w, k$ ”
- functional symbols: “ $f, \square$ ”
- relational predicates: “ $\in, \rho, \dagger$ ”
- connectives: “ $\wedge, \vee, \neg, \rightarrow, \leftrightarrow$ ”
- quantifiers: “ $\forall, \exists$ ”
- equality: “ $=$ ”
- separators: parentheses “ $(, )$ ” and comma “ $,$ ”

Furthermore let us introduce a rule (called translation) that attaches to each symbol in Formal a symbol in English as follows:

- “ $x, y$ ” are translated as “*thing, somebody*”
- “ $s, p, w, k$ ” are translated as “*Socrates, Plato, the Wise, the Kings*”
- “ $f, \square$ ” are translated as “*the father of, the teacher of*”
- “ $\in, \rho, \dagger$ ” are translated as “*belongs to, is a man, is mortal*”
- “ $\wedge, \vee, \neg, \rightarrow, \leftrightarrow$ ” are translated as “*and, or, not, if...then, if and only if*”
- “ $\forall, \exists$ ” are translated as “*for all, there exists*”
- “ $=$ ” is translated as “*is*”

Then the English sentence 1 is the translation of the following Formal sentence:

$$1') \quad "(s \in w) \rightarrow (\rho(s))."$$

Conversely we say that 1' is a formalization of 1.

Let us continue, in the spirit above, the analysis of the sentences 2,...,5 above.

In 2 “*and*” and “*not*” are connectives (binary and unary respectively): they are used to assemble our sentence 2 from two simpler sentences: “*Socrates is a king*” and “*Socrates’ father is a king.*” In both these simpler sentences “*Socrates*” and “*king*” are constants; “*the father of*” is a unary functional symbol (it refers to Socrates and points towards/names his father but it does not say anything about Socrates); “*is*” is a binary relational predicate (it says something about two objects). Here is a formalization of 2:

$$2') \quad "(\neg(s \in k)) \wedge (f(s) \in k)."$$

Sentence 3 starts with a quantifier “*for all*” followed by a variable “*things*” followed by a simpler sentence. That simpler sentence is made out of 2 even simpler sentences “*the thing is a man*” and “*the thing is mortal*” assembled via connectives “*not*” and “*or.*” Finally “*is a man, is mortal*” are unary relational predicates. Here is a formalization of 3:

$$3) \quad "\forall x((\neg\rho(x)) \vee \dagger(x))."$$

Sentence 4 starts with a quantifier “*there exists*” followed by a variable “*somebody*” followed by a simpler sentence that needs to be read as “*that somebody is Plato’s teacher.*” In the latter “*teacher of*” is a unary functional symbol while “*is*” is equality. Here is a formalization of 4:

$$4') \quad "\exists y(y = \square(p))."$$

Sentence 5 starts with a quantifier “*for all*” followed by a variable “*things*” followed by a simpler sentence. The simpler sentence is assembled from two even simpler sentences: “*the thing is Socrates*” and “*the thing is Plato’s teacher*” connected by the connective “*if and only if*.” Finally in these latter sentences “*Socrates, Plato*” are constants while “*teacher of*” is a unary functional symbol, and “*is*” is equality. Here is a formalization of 5:

$$5') \quad \forall x((x = s) \leftrightarrow (x = \square(p))).$$

We note that “*or*” in English is disjunctive: “*this or that*” is used in place of “*this or that or both*.”

Also note the use of “*is*” in 3 instances: as a binary relational predicate indicating belonging, as part of a unary relational predicate, and as equality.

Note also that we view the variables “*thing*” and “*somebody*” on an equal footing, so we ignore the fact that the first suggests an inanimate entity whereas the second suggests a living entity.

Also note that all verbs in 1-5 are in the present tense. English allows other tenses, of course. But later in mathematics all predicates need to be viewed as tense indifferent: mathematics is atemporal. This is an instance of the fact that natural languages like English have more expressive power than mathematics.

Finally note that the word “*exists*” which could be viewed as a relational predicate is treated instead as part of a quantifier. Sentences like “*philosophers exist*” and “*philosophers are human*” have a totally different logical structure. Indeed “*philosophers exist*” should be read as “*there exists somebody who is a philosopher*” while “*philosophers are human*” should be read as “*for all things if the thing is a philosopher then the thing is a human*.” The fact that “*exist*” should not be viewed as a predicate was recognized already by Kant, in particular in his criticism of the “ontological argument.”

All of our discussion of English and Formal above is itself expressed in yet another language which needs to be distinguished from English itself and which we shall call Metalanguage. We will discuss Metalanguage in detail in the next chapter (where some languages will be declared *object languages* and others will be declared *metalanguages*). The very latter sentence is written in Metalanguage; and indeed the whole course is written in Metalanguage.

REMARK 1.2. (Naming) It is useful to give names to sentences. For instance if we want to give the name  $P$  to the English sentence “*Socrates is a man*” we can write the following sentence in Metalanguage:

$$P \text{ equals } \text{“}Socrates \text{ is a man.} \text{”}$$

So neither  $P$  nor the word *equals* nor the quotation marks belong to English; and “*Socrates is a man*” will be viewed in Metalanguage as one single symbol. One can give various different names to the same sentence. In a similar way one can give names to sentences in Formal by writing a sentence in Metalanguage:

$$Q \text{ equals } \text{“}\rho(s)\text{.”}$$

REMARK 1.3. (Syntax/semantics/reference/inference/truth of languages)

Syntax deals with rules of formation of “correct” sentences. We will examine these rules in detail in a subsequent chapter.

Semantics deals with meaning. For us here the meaning of a sentence will be defined (in a rather minimalist way) as the collection of its available “translations” (where the latter will be understood in a rather general sense). For a person who does not understand English establishing meaning of sentences such as 1,...,5 above requires relating these sentences to sentences in another language (e.g., translating them into French, German, a “picture language,” sign language, Braille, etc., or using a correspondence to “deeper” languages, as in the work of Chomsky); the more translations available the more definite the meaning. On the other hand the meaning of 1',...,5' is taken to be given by translating them into the sentences 1,...,5 (where one assumes one knows English).

Reference (or universe of discourse) is “what sentences are about.” Words in English may refer to the physical or imaginary worlds (including symbols in languages which are also viewed as physical entities); e.g., the English word “*Socrates*” refers to the physical “*man Socrates*”; the word “*Hamlet*” refers to something in the imaginary world. Metalanguage, on the other hand, refers to other languages such as English or Formal; so the universe of discourse of Metalanguage consists of other languages; such a reference will be called *linguistic reference*. Reference to things other than languages will be called *non-linguistic reference*. Sentences in Formal can be attached a reference once they are translated into English, say; then they have the same reference as their translations.

Inference is a process by which we accept declarative sentences that have a meaning based on other declarative sentences that are already accepted; see the comments below on declarative sentences. There is a whole array of processes that may qualify as inference from belief to mechanical proof.

We could also ask if the sentences 1,...,5, 1',...,5' are “true” or “false.” We will not define *truth/falsehood* for sentences in any of our languages. Indeed a theory of truth would complicate our analysis beyond what we are ready to undertake; on the other hand dropping the concepts of truth and falsehood will not affect, as we shall see, our ability to develop mathematics.

REMARK 1.4. (Definitions) A language may be enlarged by definitions. More precisely one can add new predicates or constants to a language by, at the same time, recording certain sentences, called definitions. As an example for the introduction of a new relational predicate in English we can add to English the relational predicate *is an astrochicken* by recording the following sentence:

DEFINITION 1.5. Something is an astrochicken if and only if it is a chicken and also a space ship.

Here are alternative ways to give this definition:

DEFINITION 1.6. An astrochicken is something which is a chicken and also a space ship.

DEFINITION 1.7. Something is called (or referred to as) astrochicken if it is a chicken and also a space ship.

Similarly, if in Formal we have a binary relational predicate  $\in$  and two constants  $c$  and  $s$  then one could introduce a new relational predicate  $\epsilon$  into Formal and record the definition:

DEFINITION 1.8.  $\forall x(\epsilon(x) \leftrightarrow ((x \in c) \wedge (x \in s)))$ .

The two definitions are related by translating  $\in$ ,  $c$ ,  $s$ , and  $\epsilon$  as “*belongs to*,” “*chicken*,” “*space ships*,” and “*is an astrochicken*,” respectively. The word *astrochicken* is taken from a lecture by Freeman Dyson.

In a similar way one can introduce new functional symbols or new constants.

In the above discussion we encountered 2 examples of languages that we described in some detail (English and Formal) and one example of language (Metalanguage) that we kept somehow vague. Later we will introduce other languages and make things more precise. We would like to “define” now languages in general; we cannot do it in the sense of Remark 1.4 because definitions in that sense require a language to begin with. All we can do is describe in English what the definition of a language would look like. So the remark below is NOT a definition in the sense of Remark 1.4.

REMARK 1.9. (Description in English of the concept of language) A *first order language* (or simply a *language*) is a collection  $L$  of symbols with the following properties. The symbols in  $L$  are divided into 8 categories called *logical categories*. They are: variables, constants, functional symbols, relational predicates, logical connectives, quantifiers, equality, and separators. Some of these may be missing. Also we assume that the list of variables and constants may grow indefinitely: we can always add new variables and constants. Finally we assume that the only allowed separators are parentheses  $(, )$  and commas; we especially ban quotation marks “...” from the separators allowed in a language (because we want to use them as parts of constants in Metalanguage). Given a language  $L$  one can consider the collection  $L^*$  of all strings of symbols. There is an “obvious” way (which will be explained later) to define a *syntactically correct* string in  $L^*$ ; such a syntactically correct string will be called a *sentence*. The collection of sentences in  $L^*$  is denoted by  $L^s$ . (We sometimes say “sentence in  $L$ ” instead of sentence in  $L^*$ .) As in the examples above we can give names  $P, \dots$  to the sentences in  $L$ ; these names  $P, \dots$  do NOT belong to the original language. A translation of a language  $L$  into another language  $L'$  is a rule that attaches to any symbol in  $L$  a symbol in  $L'$ ; we assume constants are attached to constants, variables to variables, etc. Due to syntactical correctness such a translation attaches to sentences  $P$  in  $L$  sentences  $P'$  in  $L'$ . The analysis of translations is part of semantics and will be discussed later in more detail. Actually the above concept of translation should be called *word for word translation* (or *symbol for symbol*) and it is too rigid to be useful. In most examples translations should be allowed to transform sentences into sentences according to rules that are more complicated than the symbol for symbol rule. Translations and reference are required to satisfy the following condition. If  $L$  and  $L'$  are equipped with reference (which is always the case but sometimes ignored) and if  $P$  is a sentence in  $L$  whose translation in  $L'$  is  $P'$  then we impose the condition that  $P$  and  $P'$  have *the same reference*.

REMARK 1.10. (Correspondences between languages) Translations are an example of correspondence between languages. Other examples of correspondences between languages are *linguistic reference* (a text referring to another text) and *disquotation* (dropping quotation marks).

EXAMPLE 1.11. (Fixed number of constants) English and Formal are examples of languages. Incidentally in these languages the list of constants ends (there is a “fixed number” of constants). But it is important to not impose that restriction

for languages. If instead of English we consider a variant of English in which we have words involving arbitrary many letters (e.g., words like “man,” “superman,” “supersuperman,” etc.) then we have an example of a language with “any number of constants.” There is an easy trick allowing one to reduce the case of an arbitrary number of symbols to the case of a fixed number of symbols; one needs to slightly alter the syntax by introducing one more logical category, an *operator* denoted, say, by  $'$ ; then one can form constants  $c', c'', c''', \dots$  starting from a constant  $c$ ; one can form variables  $x', x'', x''', \dots$  from a variable  $x$ ; and one can do the same with functional symbols, relational predicates, etc.; we will not pursue this in what follows.

EXAMPLE 1.12. (Alternative translations) We already gave an example of translation of Formal into English; cf. Example 1.1. (Strictly speaking that example of translation was not really a word for word translation.) The translation given there for connectives, quantifiers, and equality is called the standard translation. But there are alternative translations as follows.

Alternative translations of  $\rightarrow$  into English are “*implies,*” or “*by...it follows that,*” or “*since...we get,*” etc.

An alternative translations of  $\leftrightarrow$  into English are “*is equivalent to,*” “*if and only if.*”

Alternative translations of  $\forall$  into English are “*for any,*” or “*for every.*”

Alternative translations of  $\exists$  into English are “*for some*” or “*there is an/a.*”

English has many other connectives (such as “*before,*” “*after,*” “*but,*” “*in spite of the fact that,*” etc.). Some of these we will ignore; others will be viewed as interchangeable with others; e.g., “*but*” will be viewed as interchangeable with “*and*” (although the resulting meaning is definitely altered). Also English has other quantifiers (such as “*many,*” “*most,*” “*quite a few,*” “*half,*” “*for at least three,*” etc.); we will ignore these other quantifiers.

REMARK 1.13. (Texts) Let us consider the following types of objects:

- 1) symbols (e.g.,  $x, y, a, b, f, \square, \dots, \in, \rho, \dots, \wedge, \vee, \neg, \rightarrow, \leftrightarrow, \forall, \exists, =, (, )$ );
- 2) collections of symbols (e.g., the collection of symbols above, denoted by  $L$ );
- 2') strings of symbols (e.g.,  $\exists x \forall y (x \in y)$ );
- 3) collections of strings of symbols (e.g.,  $L^*, L^s$  encountered above or theories  $T$  to be encountered later);
- 3') strings of strings of symbols (such as the proofs to be encountered later).

In the above, collections are unordered while strings are ordered. The above types of objects (1, 2, 2', 3, 3') will be referred to as *texts*. Texts should be thought of as concrete (physical) objects, like symbols written on a piece of paper or papyrus, words that can be uttered, images in a book or in our minds, etc. We assume we know what we mean by saying that a symbol belongs to (or is in) a given collection/string of symbols; or that a string of symbols belongs to (or is in) a given collection/string of strings of symbols. We will not need to iterate these concepts. We will also assume we know what we mean by performing some simple operations on such objects like: concatenation of strings, deleting symbols from strings, substituting symbols in strings with other symbols, “pairing” strings with other strings, etc. These will be encountered and explained later. Texts will be crucial in introducing our concepts of logic. Note that it might look like we are already assuming some kind of logic when we are dealing with texts; so our introduction to logic might seem circular. But actually the “logic” of texts that we are assuming

is much more elementary than the logic we want to introduce later; so what we are doing is not circular.

For the next exercises one needs to enrich Formal by new symbols as needed. The translations involved will not be word for word.

EXERCISE 1.14. Find formalizations of the following English sentences:

- 1) "I saw a man."
- 2) "There is no hope for those who enter this realm."
- 3) "There is nobody there."
- 4) "There were exactly two people in that garden."

EXERCISE 1.15. Find formalizations of the following English sentences:

- 1) "The movement of celestial bodies is not produced by angels pushing the bodies in the direction of the movement but by angels pushing the bodies in a direction perpendicular to the movement."
- 2) "I think therefore I am."
- 3) "Since existence is a quality and since a perfect being would not be perfect if it lacked one quality it follows that a perfect being must exist."
- 4) "Since some things move and everything that moves is moved by a mover and an infinite regress of movers is impossible it follows that there is an unmoved mover."

Hints: The word "but" should be thought of as "and"; "therefore" should be thought of as "implies" and hence as "if...then"; "since...it follows" should be thought of, again, as "implies."

REMARK 1.16. The sentence 1 above paraphrases a statement in one of Feynman's lectures on gravity. The sentence 2 is, of course Descartes' "cogito ergo sum." The sentence 3 is a version of the "ontological argument" (considered by Anselm, Descartes, Leibniz, Gödel; cf. Aquinas and Kant for criticism). See 6.8 for more on this. The sentence 4 is a version of the "cosmological argument" (Aquinas).

REMARK 1.17. (Declarative/imperative/interrogative sentences) All sentences considered so far were declarative (they declare their content). Natural languages have other types of sentences: imperative (giving a command like: "Lift this weight!") and interrogative (asking a question such as: "Is the electron in this portion of space-time?"). In principle, from now on, we will only consider declarative sentences in our languages. An exception to this is the language called Argot; see below

EXAMPLE 1.18. For a language  $L$  (such as Formal) we may introduce a new language called Argotic  $L$  (or simply Argot), denoted sometimes by  $L_{Argot}$ . Most mathematics books, for instance, are written in such a language. The language  $L_{Argot}$  has as symbols all the symbols of English together with all the symbols of a language  $L$ , to which one adds one more category of symbols,

- *commands*: "consider," "assume," "let...be," "let us..." etc.)

Examples of sentences in Argot are

- 1) "Since  $(s \in w) \rightarrow (\rho(s))$  it follows that  $\rho(t)$ "
- 2) "Let  $c$  be such that  $\rho(c)$ ."

We will not insist on explaining the syntax of Argot which is rather different from that of both English and Formal. Suffices to note that the symbols in Formal do

not appear between quotation marks inside sentences of Argot; loosely speaking the sentences in Argot often appear as obtained from sentences in Metalanguage via disquotation.





## CHAPTER 2

# Metalinguage

In the previous chapter we briefly referred to *linguistic reference* as being a correspondence between two languages in which the first language  $\widehat{L}$  “talks about” a second language  $L$  as a language (i.e., it “talks about” the syntax, semantics, etc. of  $L$ ). We also say that  $\widehat{L}$  refers to (or has as universe of discourse) the language  $L$ . Once we have fixed  $L$  and  $\widehat{L}$  we shall call  $L$  the *object language* and  $\widehat{L}$  the *metalinguage*. (The term *metalinguage* was used by Tarski in his theory of truth; but our metalinguage differs from his in certain respects, cf. Remark 2.4 below. Also this kind of correspondence between  $\widehat{L}$  and  $L$  is reminiscent of Russell’s theory of types of which, however, we will say nothing here.)

Metalinguages and object languages are similar structures (they are both languages!) but we shall keep them separate and we shall hold them to different standards, as we shall see below. Sentences in metalinguage are called *metasentences*. If we treat English and Formal as object languages then all our discussion of English and Formal was written in a metalinguage (which is called Metalinguage) and hence consists of metasentences. Let’s have a closer look at this concept. First some examples.

EXAMPLE 2.1. Assume we have fixed an object language  $L$  such as English or Formal (or several object languages  $L, L', \dots$ ). In what follows we introduce a metalinguage  $\widehat{L}$ . Here are some examples of metasentences in  $\widehat{L}$ . First some examples of metasentences of the type we already encountered (where the object language  $L$  is either English or Formal):

- 1)  $x$  is a variable in the sentence “ $\forall x(x \in a)$ .”
- 2)  $P$  equals “*Socrates is a man.*”

Later we will encounter other examples of metasentences such as:

- 3)  $P(b)$  is obtained from  $P(x)$  by replacing  $x$  with  $b$ .
- 4) Under the translation of  $L$  into  $L'$  the translation of  $P$  is  $P'$ .
- 5) By ... the sentence  $P \vee \neg P$  is a tautology.
- 6)  $c$  is a constant
- 7) The string of sentences  $P, Q, R, \dots, U$  is a proof of  $V$ .
- 8)  $V$  is a theorem.
- 9) A theorem is a sentence for which there is a proof.

The metasentences 1, 3, 6 are explanations of syntax in  $L$  (see later); 2 is a definition (referred to as a notation or naming); 4 is an explanation of semantics (see later); 5 is part of a metaproof; and 7, 8 are claims about inference (see later). 9 is a definition in metalinguage.

Here are the symbols in  $\widehat{L}$ :

- variables: symbol, string, language, term, sentence, theorem,  $P, Q, R, \dots$ ,  $c_P, c^P, \dots$
- constants: “Socrates,” “Socrates is a man,” “ $\wedge$ ,” “=,”  $L, L^*, L^s, \dots, P, Q, R, \dots$ ,
- functional symbols: the variables in, the translation of, the proof of,  $\wedge, \vee, \neg, \rightarrow, \leftrightarrow, \exists x, \forall x, \dots$
- relational predicates: is translated as, occurs in, is obtained from...by replacing...with..., is a tautology, is a proof,..., follows from, by ... it follows that..., by ... one gets that,...
  - connectives: and, or, not, if...then, if and only if, because,...
  - quantifiers: for all, there exists,...
  - equality: is, equals,...
  - separators: parentheses, comma, period.

REMARK 2.2. Note that names of sentences in the object language become variables (although sometimes also constants) in metalanguage. The sentences of the object language become constants in metalanguage. The connectives of the object language become functional symbols in metalanguage. The symbols “ $\wedge, \dots$ ” used as constants, the symbols  $\wedge, \dots$  used as functional symbols, and the symbols *and, \dots* viewed as connectives should be viewed as different symbols (normally one should use different notation for them).

REMARK 2.3. The above metalanguage can be viewed as a *MetaEnglish* because it is based on English. One can construct a *MetaFormal* metalanguage by replacing the English words with symbols including:

- connectives:  $\&$  (for and),  $\Rightarrow$  (for if...then),  $\Leftrightarrow$  (for if and only if)
- equality:  $\equiv$  (for is, equals)

We will not proceed this way, i.e., we will always use MetaEnglish as our metalanguage.

REMARK 2.4. What Tarski called metalanguage is close to what we call metalanguage but not quite the same. The difference is that Tarski allows metalanguage to contain the symbols of original object language written *without* quotation marks. So for him (but not for us), if the language is Formal, then the following is a metasentence:

$$\text{“}\forall x\exists y s(x, y)\text{” if and only if } \forall x\exists y s(x, y)$$

Allowing the above to be a metasentence helped Tarski define *truth in a language* (the Tarski *T* scheme); we will not do this here.

REMARK 2.5. (Syntax/semantics/reference/inference/truth in metalanguage versus object language)

The syntax of object languages will be regulated by metalanguage. On the other hand metalanguage has a syntax of its own which we keep less precise than that of languages so that we avoid the necessity of introducing a metametalanguage which regulates it; that would prompt introducing a metametametalanguage that regulates the metametalanguage, etc. The hope is that metalanguage, kept sufficiently loose from a syntactic viewpoint, can sufficiently well explain its own syntax without leading to contradictions. The very text you are reading now is, in effect, metalanguage explaining its own syntactic problems. The syntactically

correct texts in metalanguage are referred to as metasentences. Definitions in metalanguage are called metadefinitions. It is crucial to distinguish between words in sentences and words in metasentences which are outside the quotation marks; even if they look the same they should be regarded as different words.

In terms of semantics sentences in object languages are assumed to have a meaning derived from (or rather identified with) translations into other languages but we will generally ignore this meaning. On the other hand, metasentences have a metameaning derived from their own translations into other languages; we shall assume we understand their metameaning (as it is rather simpler than the meaning of sentences) and we shall definitely *not* ignore it.

Metasentences have a reference: they always refer to sentences in the object language. On the other hand we will ignore the reference of sentences in object language.

Metasentences, as well as sentences in object language, are assumed to have no truth value (it does not make sense to say they are true or false).

For instance the metasentences

- a. The word “*elephants*” occurs in the sentence “*elephants are blue.*”
- b. The word “*crocodiles*” occurs in the sentence “*elephants are gray.*”

can be translated into the “metalanguage of letter searches” (describing how to search a word in a sentence, say). Both metasentences have a meaning. Intuitively we are tempted to say that (a) is true and (b) is false. As already mentioned we do not want to introduce the concepts of *true* and *false* in this course. Instead we infer sentences in object language, respectively, metasentences; inference of sentences in object languages will be called *proof*; inference of metasentences in metalanguage will be called *metaproof*. The rules regulating proofs and metaproofs will be explained as we go. As a general rule metaproofs must be finitistic, by which we mean that they are not allowed to involve quantifiers in the metalanguage; in particular we agree that no metasentence involving quantifiers can be metaproved. Metaproving will also be called *checking* or *showing*.

For example we agree that (a) above can be metaproved; also the negation of (b) can be metaproved. Metaproof is usually based on a translation into a “computer language”: for instance to metaprove (a) take the words of the sentence “*elephants are blue*” one by one starting from the right (say) and ask if the word is “*elephants*”; the third time you ask the answer is yes, which ends the metaproof of (a). A similar discussion applies to some other types of metasentences; e.g., to the metasentences 1-7 in Example 2.1. The metaproof of 5 in Example 2.1 involves, for instance, “showing tables” whose correctness can be checked by inspection by a machine. (This will be explained later.) The situation with the metasentences 8 and 9 in Example 2.1 is quite different: there is no “finitistic” method (program) that can decide if there is a metaproof for 8; neither is there a “finitistic” method that can find a metaproof for 8 in case there is one; same for 9. But if one already has a proof of  $U$  in 8 then checking that the alleged proof is a proof can be done finitistically and this provides a metaproof for 8. Finally 10 is a definition in metalanguage (a metadefinition); definitions will be accepted without metaproofs; in fact most metaproofs consist in checking that a definition applies to a given metasentence. The rules governing the latter would be spelled out in metametalanguage; we will not do this here.

The fine tuning of object language and metalanguage that we explained above is based on the following “balance” principle best expressed in a table as follows:

	object language	metalanguage
syntactic structure	strong	weak
semantic structure	weak	strong
ability to infer	strong	weak
ability to refer	weak	strong
truth	banned	banned

REMARK 2.6. Since  $P, Q$  are variables (sometimes constants) in metalanguage and  $\wedge, \vee, \dots, \exists x$  are functional symbols in metalanguage one can form syntactically correct strings  $P \wedge Q, \dots, \exists x P$  in metalanguage, etc. If

$P$  equals “ $p\dots$ ”

$Q$  equals “ $q\dots$ ”

where  $p, \dots, q, \dots$  are symbols in the object language then:

$P \wedge Q$  equals “ $(p\dots) \wedge (q\dots)$ ”

The above should be viewed as one of the rules allowed in metaproofs. Similar obvious rules can be given for  $\vee, \exists$ , etc. Note that the parentheses are many times necessary; indeed without them the string  $P \vee Q \wedge R$  would be ambiguous. We will drop parentheses, however, each time there is no ambiguity. For instance we will never write  $(P \vee Q) \wedge R$  as  $P \vee Q \wedge R$ . Note that according to these conventions  $(P \vee Q) \vee R$  and  $P \vee (Q \vee R)$  are still considered distinct.

REMARK 2.7. Assume we are given a metadefinition:

$P$  equals “ $p\dots$ ”

Then we say  $P$  is a *name* for the sentence “ $p\dots$ ” We impose the following rule for this type of metadefinition: if two sentences have the same name they are identical (as strings of symbols in the object language; identity means exactly the same symbols in the same order and it is a physical concept). Note on the other hand that the same sentence in the object language can have different names.

In the same spirit if

$P(x)$  equals “ $p\dots x\dots$ ”

is a metadefinition in metalanguage then we will add to the object language a new predicate (still denoted by  $P$ ) by adding, to the definitions of the object language, the following definition:

$\forall x(P(x) \leftrightarrow (p\dots x\dots))$ .

So the symbol  $P$  appears once as a constant in metalanguage and as a predicate in the object language. (We could have used two different letters instead of just  $P$  but it is more suggestive to let  $P$  play two roles.) This creates what one can call a correspondence between part of the metalanguage and part of the language. This correspondence, which we refer to as *linguistic reference*, is not like a translation between languages because constants in metalanguage do not correspond to constants in the object language but to sentences (or to new predicates) in the object language. In some sense this linguistic reference is a “vertical” correspondence between

languages of “different scope” whereas translation is a “horizontal” correspondence between languages of “equal scope.” The words “vertical” and “horizontal” should be taken as metaphors rather than precise terms.

REMARK 2.8. (Disquotation) There is a “vertical” correspondence (called *disquotation* or *deleting quotation marks*) that attaches to certain metasentences in metalanguage a sentence in the object language. Consider for instance the metasentence in MetaEnglish

1) From “*Socrates is a man*” and “*all men are mortal*” it follows that “*Socrates is mortal*.”

Its disquotation is the following sentence in (object) English:

2) “*Since Socrates is a man and all men are mortal it follows that Socrates is mortal*.”

Note that 1 refers to some sentences in English whereas 2 refers to something (somebody) called Socrates. So the references of 1 and 2 are different; and so are their meaning (if we choose to care about the meaning of 2 which we usually don’t).

If  $P$  equals “*Socrates is a man*,”  $Q$  equals “*all men are mortal*,” and  $R$  equals “*Socrates is mortal*” then 2 above is also viewed as the disquotation of:

1’) From  $P$  and  $Q$  it follows that  $R$ .

Disquotation is not always performable: if one tries to apply disquotation to the metasentence

1)  $x$  is a free variable in “*for all  $x$ ,  $x$  is an elephant*”

one obtains

2) “ *$x$  is a free variable in for all  $x$ ,  $x$  is an elephant*”

which is not syntactically correct.

Disquotation is a concept involved in some of the classical theories of truth, e.g., in Tarski’s example:

“*Snow is white*” if and only if snow is white.

Since we are not concerned with truth in this course we will not discuss this connection further.

We will often apply disquotation without any warning if there is no danger of confusion.

EXERCISE 2.9. Consider the following utterances and explain how they can be viewed as metasentences; explain the syntactic structure and semantics of those metasentences.

1) To be or not to be, that is the question.

2) I do not feign hypotheses.

3) The sentence labelled 3 is false.

4) You say yes, I say no, you say stop, but I say go, go, go.

1 is, of course, from Shakespeare. 2 is an English translation of a sentence in Latin from Newton. 3 is, of course, a form of the liar’s “paradox.” 4 is from the Beatles.

**From now on we will make the following convention. In any discussion about languages we will assume we have fixed an object language and a metalanguage. The object language will simply be referred to as the “language.” So the word “object” will systematically be dropped.**

REMARK 2.10. (Declarative/imperative/interrogative) All metasentences considered so far were declarative (they declare their content). There are other types of metasentences: imperative (giving a command like: “Prove this theorem!,” “Replace  $x$  by  $b$  in  $P$ ,” “Search for  $x$  in  $P$ ,” etc.) and interrogative (asking a question such as: “What is the value of the function  $f$  at 5?,” “Does  $x$  occur in  $P$ ?,” etc.). The syntax of metasentences discussed above only applies to declarative metasentences. We will only use imperative/interrogative metasentences in the exercises or some metaproofs (the latter sharing a lot with computer programs); these other types of metasentences require additional syntactic rules which are clear and we will not make explicit here.

## CHAPTER 3

# Syntax

We already superficially mentioned syntax. In this chapter we discuss, in some detail, the syntax of languages such as English or Formal. The syntax of metalanguages will be not explicitly addressed but should be viewed as similar. The syntax of Argotic languages will be quite different and will be briefly addressed in a separate chapter. All the explanations below are, of course, written in metalanguage.

As we saw a language is a collection  $L$  of symbols. Given  $L$  we considered the collection  $L^*$  of all strings of symbols in  $L$ . In this chapter we explain the definition of sentences (which will be certain special strings in  $L^*$ ). Being a sentence will involve, in particular, a certain concept of “syntactic correctness.” The kind of syntactic correctness discussed below makes  $L$  a *first order language*. There are other types of languages whose syntax is different (e.g., second order languages, in which one is allowed to say, for instance, “for any relational predicate etc...”; or languages whose syntax is based on grammatical categories rather than logical categories; or computer languages, not discussed in this course at all). First order languages are the most natural (and are entirely sufficient) for developing mathematics.

In what follows we let  $L$  be a collection of symbols consisting of variables  $x, y, \dots$ , constants, functional symbols, relational predicates, connectives  $\wedge, \vee, \neg, \rightarrow, \leftrightarrow$  (where  $\neg$  is unary and the rest are binary), quantifiers  $\forall, \exists$ , equality  $=$ , and, as separators, parentheses  $(, )$ , and commas. (For simplicity we considered 5 “standard” connectives, 2 “standard” quantifiers, and a “standard” symbol for equality; this is because most examples will be like that. However any number of connectives and quantifiers, and any symbols for them would do. In particular some of these categories of symbols may be missing.) According to our conventions recall that we will also fix a metalanguage  $\widehat{L}$  in which we can “talk about”  $L$ .

EXAMPLE 3.1. If  $L$  has constants  $a, b, \dots$ , a functional symbol  $f$ , and a relational predicate  $\square$  then here are examples of strings in  $L^*$ :

- 1)  $(x\forall\square\exists aby(\rightarrow$
- 2)  $f(f(a))$
- 3)  $\exists y((a\square x) \rightarrow (a\square y))$
- 4)  $\forall x(\exists y((a\square x) \rightarrow (a\square y)))$

In what follows we will define terms, formulas, and sentences; 1 above will be neither a term, nor a formula, nor a sentence; 2 will be a term; 3 will be a formula but not a sentence; 4 will be a sentence.

The metadefinition below introduces the new unary relational predicate “*is a term formation*” into metalanguage.

METADEFINITION 3.2. A term formation is a string

$t$

...  
 $s$   
 ...  
 $u$

of strings in  $L^*$  such that for any string  $s$  of symbols in the string of strings above (including  $t$  and  $u$ ) one of the following holds:

- 1)  $s$  is a constant or a variable;
- 2)  $s$  is preceded by  $s', s'', \dots$  such that  $s$  equals  $f(s', s'', \dots)$  where  $f$  is a functional symbol.

**METADEFINITION 3.3.** A term is a string  $u$  for which there is a term formation ending with  $u$ .

**REMARK 3.4.** Functional symbols may be unary  $f(t)$ , binary  $f(t, s)$ , ternary  $f(t, s, u)$ , etc. When we write  $f(t, s)$  we simply mean a string of 5 symbols; there is no “substitution” involved here. Substitution will play a role later, though; cf. 3.16.

**EXAMPLE 3.5.** If  $a, b, \dots$  are constants,  $x, y, \dots$  are variables,  $f$  is a unary functional symbol, and  $g$  is a binary functional symbol, all of them in  $L$ , then

$$f(g(f(b), g(x, g(x, y))))$$

is a term; a term formation for it is

$b$   
 $x$   
 $y$   
 $f(b)$   
 $g(x, y)$   
 $g(x, g(x, y))$   
 $g(f(b), g(x, g(x, y)))$   
 $f(g(f(b), g(x, g(x, y))))$

The latter should be simply viewed, again, as a string of symbols.

**REMARK 3.6.** If  $t, s, \dots$  are terms and  $f$  is a functional symbol then  $f(t, s, \dots)$  is a term. The latter is a metasentence; if it is viewed as involving quantifiers applied to variables  $t, s, \dots$  then this metasentence cannot be metaproved. If, however, one views  $t, s, \dots$  as constants in the metalanguage then a metaproof that  $f(t, s, \dots)$  is a term can be done by “showing” as follows. If  $t, s, \dots$  are terms then we have term formations

$t'$   
 $t''$   
 ...  
 $t$

and

$s'$   
 $s''$   
 ...  
 $s$



Hence we can write a term formation

$$\begin{array}{l} t' \\ t'' \\ \dots \\ t \\ s' \\ s'' \\ \dots \\ s \\ f(t, s, \dots) \end{array}$$

Hence  $f(t, s, \dots)$  is a term.

**METADefinition 3.7.** A formula formation is a string

$$\begin{array}{l} P \\ \dots \\ Q \\ \dots \\ R \end{array}$$

of strings in  $L^*$  such that for any string of symbols  $Q$  in the string of strings above (including  $P$  and  $R$ ) one of the following holds:

- 1)  $Q$  equals  $t = s$  where  $t, s$  are terms.
- 2)  $Q$  equals  $\rho(t, s, \dots)$  where  $t, s, \dots$  are terms and  $\rho$  is a relational predicate.
- 3)  $Q$  is preceded by  $Q', Q''$  and  $Q$  equals one of  $Q' \wedge Q'', Q' \vee Q'', \neg Q', Q' \rightarrow Q'', Q' \leftrightarrow Q''$ .
- 4)  $Q$  equals  $\forall x Q'$  or  $\exists x Q'$  where  $Q'$  precedes  $Q$ .

Recall our convention that if we have a different number of symbols (written differently) we make similar metadefinitions for them; in particular some of the symbols may be missing altogether. For instance, if quantifiers are missing from  $L$ , then we ignore 4; if equality is missing from  $L$  we ignore 1.

**METADefinition 3.8.** A string  $R$  in  $L^*$  is called a formula if there is a formula formation that ends with  $R$ . We denote by  $L^f$  the collection of all formulas in  $L^*$ .

**REMARK 3.9.** Relational predicates can be unary  $\rho(t)$ , binary  $\rho(t, s)$ , ternary  $\rho(t, s, u)$ , etc. Again,  $\rho(t, s)$  simply means a string of 5 symbols  $\rho, (, t, s, )$  and nothing else. Sometimes one uses another syntax for relational predicates: instead of  $\rho(t, s)$  one writes  $tps$  or  $\rho ts$ ; instead of  $\rho(t, s, u)$  one may write  $\rho tsu$ , etc. All of this is in the language  $L$ . On the other hand if some variables  $x, y, \dots$  appear in a formula  $P$  we sometimes write in metalanguage  $P(x, y, \dots)$  instead of  $P$ . In particular if  $x$  appears in  $P$  (there may be other variables in  $P$  as well) we sometimes write  $P(x)$  instead of  $P$ . Formulas of the form (i.e., which are equal to one of)  $\forall x P$ ,  $\forall x P(x)$  are referred to as universal formulas. Formulas of the form  $\exists x P$ ,  $\exists x P(x)$  are referred to as existential formulas. Formulas of the form  $P \rightarrow Q$  are referred to as conditional formulas. Formulas of the form  $P \leftrightarrow Q$  are referred to as biconditional formulas.

**EXERCISE 3.10.** Give a metaproof of the following:

- 1) if  $P$  and  $Q$  are formulas then  $P \wedge Q, P \vee Q, \neg P, P \rightarrow Q, P \leftrightarrow Q$  are formulas.
- 2) if  $P$  is a formula then  $\forall x P$  and  $\exists x P$  are formulas.

(In the above metasentences  $P, Q$  are thought of constants in metalanguage; if the above metasentences were viewed as involving quantifiers then they could not be metaproved.)

EXAMPLE 3.11. Assume  $L$  contains a constant  $c$ , a unary relational predicate  $\rho$ , and a unary functional symbol  $f$ . Then the following is a formula:

$$(\forall x(f(x) = c)) \rightarrow (\rho(f(x)))$$

A formula formation for it is:

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= c \\ \rho(f(x)) \\ \forall x(f(x) = c) \\ (\forall x(f(x) = c)) &\rightarrow (\rho(f(x))) \end{aligned}$$

METADefinition 3.12. We define the free occurrences of a variable  $x$  in a formula by the following conditions:

- 1) The free occurrences of  $x$  in a formula of the form  $t = s$  are all the occurrences of  $x$  in  $t$  together with all the occurrences of  $x$  in  $s$ ;
- 2) The free occurrences of  $x$  in a formula  $\rho(t, s, \dots)$  are all the occurrences of  $x$  in  $t$ , together with all the occurrences of  $x$  in  $s$ , etc.
- 3) The free occurrences of  $x$  in  $P \wedge Q$ ,  $P \vee Q$ ,  $P \rightarrow Q$ ,  $P \leftrightarrow Q$  are the free occurrences of  $x$  in  $P$  together with the free occurrences of  $x$  in  $Q$ . The free occurrences of  $x$  in  $\neg P$  are the free occurrences of  $x$  in  $P$ .
- 4) No occurrence of  $x$  in  $\forall xP$  or  $\exists xP$  is free.

METADefinition 3.13. A variable  $x$  is free in a formula  $P$  if it has at least one free occurrence in  $P$ .

EXAMPLE 3.14.

- 1)  $x$  is not free in  $\forall y \exists x(\rho(x, y))$ .
- 2)  $x$  is free in  $(\exists x(\beta(x))) \vee \rho(x, a)$ . ( $x$  has a “free occurrence” in  $\rho(x, a)$ ; the “occurrence” of  $x$  in  $\exists x(\beta(x))$  is not “free.”)
- 3)  $x$  is free in  $\forall x((\exists x(\beta(x))) \vee \rho(x, a))$
- 4) The free variables in  $(\forall x \exists y(\alpha(x, y, z))) \wedge \forall u(\beta(u, y))$  are  $z, y$ .

METADefinition 3.15. A string in  $L^*$  is called a sentence if it is a formula (i.e., is in  $L^f$ ) and has no free variables. Note that

- 1)  $L^s$  is contained in  $L^f$ ;
- 2)  $L^f$  is contained in  $L^*$ ;
- 3) all terms are in  $L^*$ ; no term is in  $L^f$ .

METADefinition 3.16. If  $x$  is a free variable in a formula  $P$  one can replace all its free occurrences with a term  $t$  to get a formula which can be denoted by  $P \frac{t}{x}$ . More generally if  $x, y, \dots$  are variables and  $t, s, \dots$  are terms, we may replace all free occurrences of these variables by  $t, s, \dots$  to get a formula  $P \frac{ts\dots}{xy\dots}$ . A more suggestive (but less precise) notation is as follows. We write  $P(x)$  instead of  $P$  and then we write  $P(t)$  instead of  $P \frac{t}{x}$ . Similarly we write  $P(t, s, \dots)$  instead of  $P \frac{ts\dots}{xy\dots}$ . We will constantly use this  $P(t), P(t, s, \dots)$ , etc. notation from now on.

Similarly if  $u$  is a term containing  $x$  and  $t$  is another term then one may replace all occurrences of  $x$  in  $u$  by  $t$  to get a term which we may denote by  $u \frac{t}{x}$ ; if we write  $u(x)$  instead of  $u$  then we can write  $u(t)$  instead of  $u \frac{t}{x}$ . And similarly we may replace two variables  $x, y$  in a term  $u$  by two terms  $t, s$  to get a term  $u \frac{ts}{xy}$ , etc. We will not make use of this latter type of substitution in what follows.

EXAMPLE 3.17. If  $P$  equals “ $x$  is a man” then  $x$  is a free variable in  $P$ . If  $a$  equals “Socrates” then  $P(a)$  equals “Socrates is a man.”

EXAMPLE 3.18. If  $P$  equals “ $x$  is a man and for all  $x$ ,  $x$  is mortal” then  $x$  is a free variable in  $P$ . If  $a$  equals “Socrates” then  $P(a)$  equals “Socrates is a man and for all  $x$ ,  $x$  is mortal.”

EXERCISE 3.19. Is  $x$  a free variable in the following formulas?

- 1) “ $(\forall y \exists x (x^2 = y^3)) \wedge (x \text{ is a man})$ ”
- 2) “ $\forall y (x^2 = y^3)$ ”

Here the upper indexes 2 and 3 are unary functional symbols.

EXERCISE 3.20. Compute  $P(t)$  if:

- 1)  $P(x)$  equals “ $\exists y (y^2 = x)$ ” and “ $t$ ” equals “ $x^4$ .”
- 2)  $P(x)$  equals “ $\exists y (y \text{ poisoned } x)$ ” and “ $t$ ” equals “Plato’s teacher.”

The following metadefinition makes the concept of *definition* in  $L$  more precise:

METADefinition 3.21. A definition in  $L$  is a sentence of one of the following types:

- 1) “ $c = t$ ” where  $c$  is a constant and  $t$  is a term without variables.
- 2) “ $\forall x (\epsilon(x) \leftrightarrow E(x))$ ” where  $\epsilon$  is a unary relational predicate and  $E$  is a formula with one free variable. More generally for several variables, “ $\forall x \forall y (\epsilon(x, y) \leftrightarrow E(x, y))$ ” is a definition, etc.
- 3) “ $\forall x \forall y ((y = f(x)) \leftrightarrow F(x, y))$ ” where  $f$  is a unary functional predicate and  $F$  is a formula with 2 free variables; more generally one allows several variables.

If any type of symbols is missing from the language we disallow, of course, the corresponding definitions.

A language together with a collection of definitions is referred to as a language with definitions.

A definition as in 1 should be viewed as either a definition of  $c$  (in which case it is also called *notation*) or a definition of  $t$ . A definition as in 2 should be viewed as a definition of  $\epsilon$ . A definition as in 3 should be viewed as a definition of  $f$ . More general types of definitions will be allowed later.

REMARK 3.22. Given a language  $L$  with definitions and a term  $t$  without variables one can add to the language a new constant  $c$  and one can add to the definitions the definition  $c = t$ . We will say that  $c$  is (a new constant) defined by  $c = t$ .

Similarly given a language  $L$  with definitions and a formula  $E(x)$  in  $L$  with one free variable  $x$  one can add to the relational predicates of  $L$  a new unary relational predicate  $\epsilon$  and one can add to the definitions the definition  $\forall x (\epsilon(x) \leftrightarrow E(x))$ . We will say that  $\epsilon$  is (a new relational predicate) defined by  $\forall x (\epsilon(x) \leftrightarrow E(x))$ .

One may introduce new functional symbols  $f$  by adding a symbol  $f$  and definitions of type 3 or of type 1 (such as  $c = f(a, b, \dots)$ , for various constants  $a, b, c, \dots$ ).

When adding definitions of new constants, functions, or predicates one should ask, of course, that these definitions be introduced in a sequence and at each step in the sequence the symbol that is being introduced has not appeared before (i.e. it is indeed “new”); this guarantees the *predicativity* of the definitions (i.e., essentially their non-circularity), at least from a syntactical viewpoint. This device does not get rid of the semantic impredicativity (which was one of the major themes

in the controversies around the foundation of mathematics at the beginning of the 20th century; cf. Russell, Poincaré, and many others.) However, since we chose to completely ignore the meaning (semantics) of object languages, semantic impredicativity will not be an issue for us. To be sure, later in set theory, semantic impredicativity is everywhere implicit and might be viewed as implicitly threatening the whole edifice of mathematics.

CHAPTER 4

## Tautologies

We start now the analysis of inference within a given language (which is also referred to as deduction or proof). In order to introduce the general notion of proof we need to first introduce tautologies; in their turn tautologies are introduced via certain arrays of symbols in metalanguage called tables.

METADefinition 4.1. Let  $T$  and  $F$  be two symbols in metalanguage. We also allow separators in metalanguage that are frames of tables. Using the above plus arbitrary constants (or variables)  $P$  and  $Q$  in metalanguage we introduce the following strings of symbols in metalanguage (which are actually arrays rather than strings but which can obviously be rearranged in the form of strings). They are referred to as the truth tables of the 5 standard connectives.

$P$	$Q$	$P \wedge Q$
T	T	T
T	F	F
F	T	F
F	F	F

$P$	$Q$	$P \vee Q$
T	T	T
T	F	T
F	T	T
F	F	F

$P$	$Q$	$P \rightarrow Q$
T	T	T
T	F	F
F	T	T
F	F	T

$P$	$Q$	$P \leftrightarrow Q$
T	T	T
T	F	F
F	T	F
F	F	T

$P$	$\neg P$
T	F
F	T

REMARK 4.2. If in the tables above  $P$  is the sentence “ $p\dots$ ” and  $Q$  is the sentence “ $q\dots$ ” we allow ourselves, as usual, to identify the symbols  $P, Q, P \wedge Q$ , etc. with the corresponding sentences “ $p\dots$ ,” “ $q\dots$ ,” “ $(p\dots) \wedge (q\dots)$ ,” etc. Also: the letters  $T$  and  $F$  evoke “truth” and “falsehood”; but they should be viewed as devoid of any meaning.

Fix in what follows a language  $L$  that has the 5 standard connectives  $\wedge, \vee, \neg, \rightarrow, \leftrightarrow$  (but does not necessarily have quantifiers or equality).

METADefinition 4.3. Let  $P, Q, \dots, R$  be sentences in  $L$ . By a Boolean string generated by  $P, Q, \dots, R$  we mean a string of sentences

$P$   
 $Q$   
 $\dots$   
 $R$   
 $U$   
 $\dots$   
 $\dots$

$W$

such that for any sentence  $V$  among  $U, \dots, W$  we have that  $V$  is preceded by  $V', V''$  (with  $V', V''$  among  $P, \dots, W$ ) and  $V$  equals one of the following:

$$V' \wedge V'', V' \vee V'', \neg V', V' \rightarrow V'', V' \leftrightarrow V''.$$

EXAMPLE 4.4. The following is a Boolean string generated by  $P, Q, R$ :

$P$   
 $Q$   
 $R$   
 $\neg R$   
 $Q \vee \neg R$   
 $P \rightarrow (Q \vee \neg R)$   
 $P \wedge R$   
 $(P \wedge R) \leftrightarrow (P \rightarrow (Q \vee \neg R))$

EXAMPLE 4.5. The following is a Boolean string generated by  $P \rightarrow (Q \vee \neg R)$  and  $P \wedge R$ :

$P \rightarrow (Q \vee \neg R)$   
 $P \wedge R$   
 $(P \wedge R) \leftrightarrow (P \rightarrow (Q \vee \neg R))$

REMARK 4.6. The same sentence may appear as the last sentence in two different Boolean strings; cf. the last 2 examples.

METADefinition 4.7. Assume we are given a Boolean string generated by  $P, Q, \dots, R$ . For simplicity assume it is generated by  $P, Q, R$ . (When more or less than 3 generators the metadefinition is similar.) The truth table attached to this Boolean string and to the fixed system of generators  $P, Q, R$  is the following string of symbols (or rather plane configuration of symbols thought of as reduced to a string of symbols):

$P$	$Q$	$R$	$U$	...	$W$
T	T	T	...	...	...
T	T	F	...	...	...
F	T	T	...	...	...
F	T	F	...	...	...
T	F	T	...	...	...
T	F	F	...	...	...
F	F	T	...	...	...
F	F	F	...	...	...

Note that the 3 columns of the generators consist of all 8 possible combinations of  $T$  and  $F$ . The dotted columns correspond to the sentences other than the generators and are computed by the following rule. Assume  $V$  is not one of the generators  $P, Q, R$  and assume that all columns to the left of the column of  $V$  were computed; also assume that  $V$  is obtained from  $V'$  and  $V''$  via some connective  $\wedge, \vee, \dots$ . Then the column of  $V$  is obtained from the columns of  $V'$  and  $V''$  using the tables of the corresponding connective  $\wedge, \vee, \dots$ , respectively.

The above rule should be viewed as a syntactic rule for metalanguage; we did not introduce the syntax of metalanguage systematically but the above is one instance when we are quite precise about it.

EXAMPLE 4.8. Consider the following Boolean string generated by  $P$  and  $Q$ :

$P$   
 $Q$   
 $\neg P$   
 $\neg P \wedge Q$

Its truth table is:

$P$	$Q$	$\neg P$	$\neg P \wedge Q$
T	T	F	F
T	F	F	F
F	T	T	T
F	F	T	F

Note that the generators  $P$  and  $Q$  are morally considered “independent” (in the sense that all 4 possible combinations of  $T$  and  $F$  are being considered for them); this is in spite of the fact that actually  $P$  and  $Q$  may be equal, for instance, to  $a = b$  and  $\neg(a = b)$ , respectively.

METADefinition 4.9. A sentence  $S$  is a tautology if one can find a Boolean string generated by some sentences  $P, Q, \dots, R$  such that

- 1) The last sentence in the string is  $S$ .
- 2) The truth table attached to the string and the generators  $P, Q, \dots, R$  has only  $T$ s in the  $S$  column.

REMARK 4.10. We do not ask, in the metadefinition above, that for any Boolean string ending in  $S$  and for any generators the last column of the truth table have only  $T$ s; we only ask this to hold for one Boolean string and one system of generators.

In all the exercises and examples below,  $P, Q, \dots$  are specific sentences.

EXAMPLE 4.11.  $P \vee \neg P$  is a tautology. To metaprove this consider the Boolean string generated by  $P$ ,

$P$   
 $\neg P$   
 $P \vee \neg P$

Its truth table is (check!):

$P$	$\neg P$	$P \vee \neg P$
T	F	T
F	T	T

This ends our metaproof of the metasentence saying that  $P \vee \neg P$  is a tautology.

Remark that if we view the same Boolean string

$P$   
 $\neg P$   
 $P \vee \neg P$

as a Boolean string generated by  $P$  and  $\neg P$  the corresponding truth table is

$P$	$\neg P$	$P \vee \neg P$
T	T	T
T	F	T
F	T	T
F	F	F

and the last column in the latter table does not consist of  $T$ s only. This does not change the fact that  $P \vee \neg P$  is a tautology. Morally, in this latter computation we had to treat  $P$  and  $\neg P$  as “independent”; this is not a mistake but rather a failed attempt to metaprove that  $P \vee \neg P$  is a tautology.

EXAMPLE 4.12.  $(P \wedge (P \rightarrow Q)) \rightarrow Q$  is a tautology; it is called *modus ponens*. To metaprove this consider the following Boolean string generated by  $P, Q, R$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
 &P \\
 &Q \\
 &P \rightarrow Q \\
 &P \wedge (P \rightarrow Q) \\
 &(P \wedge (P \rightarrow Q)) \rightarrow Q
 \end{aligned}$$

Its truth table is:

$P$	$Q$	$P \rightarrow Q$	$P \wedge (P \rightarrow Q)$	$S$
T	T	T	T	T
T	F	F	F	T
F	T	T	F	T
F	F	T	F	T

EXERCISE 4.13. Explain how the table above was computed.

EXERCISE 4.14. Give a metaproof of the fact that each of the sentences below is a tautology:

- $(P \rightarrow Q) \leftrightarrow (\neg P \vee Q)$ .
- $(P \leftrightarrow Q) \leftrightarrow ((P \rightarrow Q) \wedge (Q \rightarrow P))$ .

EXERCISE 4.15. Give a metaproof of the fact that each of the sentences below is a tautology:

- $(P \wedge Q) \rightarrow P$ .
- $P \rightarrow (P \vee Q)$ .
- $((P \wedge Q) \wedge R) \leftrightarrow (P \wedge (Q \wedge R))$ .
- $(P \wedge Q) \leftrightarrow (Q \wedge P)$ .
- $(P \wedge (Q \vee R)) \leftrightarrow ((P \wedge Q) \vee (P \wedge R))$ .
- $(P \vee (Q \wedge R)) \leftrightarrow ((P \vee Q) \wedge (P \vee R))$ .

METADefinition 4.16.

- $Q \rightarrow P$  is called the converse of  $P \rightarrow Q$ .
- $\neg Q \rightarrow \neg P$  is called the contrapositive of  $P \rightarrow Q$ .

EXERCISE 4.17. Give a metaproof of the fact that each of the sentences below is a tautology:

- $((P \vee Q) \wedge (\neg P)) \rightarrow Q$  (modus ponens, variant).
- $(P \rightarrow Q) \leftrightarrow (\neg Q \rightarrow \neg P)$  (contrapositive argument).
- $\neg(P \wedge Q) \leftrightarrow (\neg P \vee \neg Q)$  (de Morgan law).
- $\neg(P \vee Q) \leftrightarrow (\neg P \wedge \neg Q)$  (de Morgan law).



- 5)  $((P \rightarrow R) \wedge (Q \rightarrow R)) \rightarrow ((P \vee Q) \rightarrow R)$  (case by case argument).  
 6)  $(\neg(P \rightarrow Q)) \leftrightarrow (P \wedge \neg Q)$  (negation of an implication).  
 7)  $(\neg(P \leftrightarrow Q)) \leftrightarrow ((P \wedge \neg Q) \vee (Q \wedge \neg P))$  (negation of an equivalence).

REMARK 4.18. 2) in Exercise 4.17 says that the contrapositive of an implication is equivalent to the original implication.

EXERCISE 4.19. (VERY IMPORTANT) Give an example showing that the sentence

$$(P \rightarrow Q) \leftrightarrow (Q \rightarrow P)$$

is not a tautology in general. In other words the converse of an implication is not equivalent to the original implication. Here is an example in English suggestive of the above: “*If c a human then c mortal*” is not equivalent to “*If c is mortal then c is a human.*”

METADefinition 4.20. A sentence  $P$  is a contradiction if and only if  $\neg P$  is a tautology.

EXERCISE 4.21. Formalize the following English sentences, negate their formalization, and give the English translation of these formalized negations:

- 1) If Plato eats this nut then Plato is a bird.
- 2) Plato is a bird if and only if he eats this nut.



## CHAPTER 5

# Proofs

In this chapter we discuss inference (which is the process by which we construct proofs). As usual this chapter is written in metalanguage. Recall our language Argot  $L_{Argot}$  which is obtained from the symbols of English  $L_{Eng}$ , plus the symbols of a language  $L$  (such as Formal), plus command symbols (such as “let,” “consider,” etc.)

First we need to clarify the syntax of Argot. Rather than developing a detailed explanation as for languages such as Formal (see the chapter in Syntax) we just proceed by example.

**METADefinition 5.1.** A sentence in Argot is a string of symbols of one of the following forms:

- 1) We want to prove  $U$ .
- 2) Assume  $P$ .
- 3) Since  $P$  and  $Q$  it follows that  $R$ .
- 4) Since  $s = t$  we get  $P(s) = P(t)$ .
- 5) So  $R$ .
- 6) We know  $P$ .
- 7) There are 2 cases.
- 8) The first case is  $A$ .
- 9) The second case is  $B$ .
- 10) We seek a contradiction.
- 11) Let  $c$  be such that  $P(c)$ .
- 12) Assume there exists  $c$  is such that  $P(c)$ .
- 13) By  $P$  there exists  $c$  such that  $Q(c)$ .
- 14) This proves  $P$ .

Here  $c$  is a constant in  $L$ ;  $t, s$  are terms in  $L$ ;  $P, Q, R, U, A, B$  etc. are sentences in  $L$ ; etc. Various variants of the above sentences will be also called sentences in Argot (cf. the examples that follow).

**METADefinition 5.2.** A theory in the language  $L$  is a sequence  $T$  of sentences that grows in time in a non-deterministic way, by individual additions of sentences, as follows. One starts with no sentence at all. Then at each moment in time one adds to  $T$  a sentence which is one of the following:

- a tautology
- an *axiom*
- a *definition*
- a *theorem*.

Axioms are specific to the theory and referred to as *specific axioms*; they are given either as a finite list or by a rule to form them which may create an indefinitely growing list. When a definition is added to  $T$  one also adds to  $L$  the newly introduced symbol. A theorem can be added to  $T$  if a proof is being provided for it; alternatively if a sentence of the form  $\exists xP(x)$  has been added to  $T$  at some point in time then at any time later one can add to  $L$  a new constant  $c^P$  (called an existential witness for  $P$ ) and one can add the new theorem  $P(c^P)$ . A proof of a sentence  $U$  in  $L$  is a sequence of sentences in Argot that is formed as in the examples below (or “combining” the examples below).

**METADefinition 5.3.** A theory is inconsistent at some point in time if, at that point in time, it contains a sentence of the form  $A \wedge \neg A$ . A theory is consistent at some point in time if it is not inconsistent at that point in time. A theory is consistent (without reference to time) if it consistent at all points in time. A theory is inconsistent if it is not consistent i.e., if at some point in time it contains a sentence of the form  $A \wedge \neg A$ . A theory is complete if for any sentence  $A$  there is a point in time when either  $A$  belongs to the theory or  $\neg A$  belongs to the theory. A theory is incomplete if it is not complete.

**REMARK 5.4.** Metaproving that a theory is consistent or inconsistent at some point in time is, of course, always doable by inspection. Clearly no metaproof can be given by inspection of the metasentence that a given theory is consistent. However, if at some point in time, one finds a sentence of the form  $A \wedge \neg A$  then a metaproof was found that the theory is inconsistent (i.e. not consistent). Finally note that no metaproof can be given in general for the metasentence saying that a theory is complete or incomplete.

The concepts of logic developed here can be imitated by concepts in set theory (i.e., in mathematics) and then theorems about set theoretic completeness and consistency can be proved in set theory (Gödel’s theorems for instance); however these latter theorems are not metatheorems in logic (i.e., about sentences) but rather theorems in set theory (i.e., about nothing).

In what follows we clarify what proofs are by examples.

**EXAMPLE 5.5.** (Direct proof). Fix a theory  $T$  in  $L$  with specific axioms  $A, B, \dots$  and definitions  $D, E, \dots$ . Say we want to prove  $H \rightarrow C$ . Then  $H$  is usually called hypothesis and  $C$  is called conclusion. A proof of  $H \rightarrow C$  can presented as follows.

**THEOREM 5.6.**  $H \rightarrow C$ .

*Proof.* Assume  $H$ . Since  $H$  and  $A$  it follows that  $Q$ . Since  $Q$  and  $B$  it follows that  $R$ . Hence  $C$ .  $\square$

The above proof is valid, for instance, if

$$H \wedge A \rightarrow Q, \quad Q \wedge B \rightarrow R, \quad R \rightarrow C$$

are sentences previously included in the theory  $T$ .

Here is a slightly more complicated example of direct proof of the same theorem.

*Proof.* Assume  $H$ . By axiom  $A$  there exists  $c$  such that  $Q(c)$ . By definition  $D$  we get  $U(c) \wedge V(c)$ . Hence  $R$ . Since  $A$  and  $R$  we get  $C$   $\square$

The above proof is valid, for instance, if

$$A = “\exists xQ(x)”, \quad D = “\forall x(Q(x) \leftrightarrow U(x) \wedge V(x))”$$

and

$$V(c) \rightarrow R, \quad A \wedge R \rightarrow C$$

are sentences previously included in the theory  $T$ .

EXAMPLE 5.7. (Proof by contradiction). Another method of proving sentences such as  $H \rightarrow C$  is by contradiction and may look as follows.

THEOREM 5.8.  $H \rightarrow C$ .

*Proof.* Assume  $H$  is true,  $C$  is false, and seek a contradiction. Since  $\neg C$  and  $A$  it follows that  $Q$ . Hence  $\neg H$ , a contradiction. This ends the proof.  $\square$

The above proof is valid, for instance, if

$$(\neg C) \wedge A \rightarrow Q, \quad Q \rightarrow \neg H$$

are sentences previously included in the theory  $T$ .

EXAMPLE 5.9. Here is a slightly more complicated example of proof by contradiction.

THEOREM 5.10.  $(\forall x(\neg P(x))) \rightarrow (\neg(\exists x P(x)))$ .

*Proof.* Assume  $\forall x(\neg P(x))$ ,  $\neg(\exists x P(x))$ , and seek a contradiction. Since  $\neg(\exists x P(x))$  it follows that  $\exists x P(x)$  (a tautology). Let  $c$  be such that  $P(c)$ . Now since  $\forall x(\neg P(x))$  we get in particular  $\neg P(c)$ , a contradiction. This ends the proof.  $\square$

The constant  $c$  introduced in the proof is called an existential witness; since it is introduced inside of a proof it is not allowed to add it to the constants of the language  $L$ .

A proof can start as a direct proof and involve later an embedded argument by contradiction. Here is an example.

THEOREM 5.11.  $(\neg(\exists x P(x))) \rightarrow (\forall x(\neg P(x)))$ .

*Proof.* Assume  $\neg(\exists x P(x))$ . We want to show that  $\forall x(\neg P(x))$ . Consider a particular  $c$ ; we want to show that  $\neg P(c)$ . Assume  $\neg\neg P(c)$  and seek a contradiction. Since  $\neg\neg P(c)$  it follows that  $P(c)$  (a tautology). So  $\exists x P(x)$ ; but we assumed  $\neg(\exists x P(x))$ , a contradiction. This ends the proof.  $\square$

The constant  $c$  in the above proof is not an existential witness; it can be called a “universal witness” and its logical status is rather different from that of existential witnesses. In fact one can present proof theory in such a way that universal and existential witnesses appear in a symmetric fashion.

EXAMPLE 5.12. In order to prove a theorem  $U$  of the form  $P \leftrightarrow Q$  one first proves  $P \rightarrow Q$  and then one proves  $Q \rightarrow P$ .

EXERCISE 5.13. Prove the following:

- 1)  $(\neg(\forall x P(x))) \leftrightarrow (\exists x(\neg P(x)))$
- 2)  $(\neg(\forall x \forall y \exists z P(x, y, z))) \leftrightarrow (\exists x \exists y \forall z \neg P(x, y, z))$

EXAMPLE 5.14. Direct proofs and proofs by contradiction can be given to sentences which are not necessarily of the form  $H \rightarrow C$ . Here is an example of a proof by contradiction for:

THEOREM 5.15.  $C$ .

*Proof.* Assume  $C$  is false, and seek a contradiction. Since  $\neg C$  and  $A$  it follows that  $Q$ . Since  $A$  and  $Q$  we get  $R$ . On the other hand since  $B$  and  $\neg C$  we get  $\neg R$ , a contradiction. This ends the proof.  $\square$

The above proof is valid, for instance, if

$$(\neg C) \wedge A \rightarrow Q, \quad A \wedge Q \rightarrow R, \quad B \wedge \neg C \rightarrow \neg R$$

are sentences previously included in the theory  $T$ .

EXAMPLE 5.16. (Case by case proof) Say we want to prove a theorem of the form:

THEOREM 5.17.  $(H' \vee H'') \rightarrow C$ .

*Proof.* There are two cases: Case 1 is  $H'$ ; Case 2 is  $H''$ . Assume first that  $H'$ . Then by axiom  $A$  we get  $P$ . So  $C$ . Now assume that  $H''$ . Since  $B$  it follows that  $Q$ . So, again, we get  $C$ . So in either case we get  $C$ . This ends the proof.  $\square$

The above proof is valid, for instance, if

$$A \wedge H' \rightarrow P, \quad P \rightarrow C, \quad H'' \wedge B \rightarrow Q, \quad Q \rightarrow C$$

are sentences previously included in the theory  $T$ .

The above “case by case” strategy applies more generally to theorems of the form

THEOREM 5.18.  $H \rightarrow C$

*Proof* There are two cases:

Case 1:  $W$  holds.

Case 2:  $\neg W$  holds.

Assume first we are in Case 1. Then by axiom  $A$  we get  $P$ . So  $C$ .

Now assume we are in Case 2. Since  $B$  it follows that  $Q$ . So, again, we get  $C$ .

So in either case we get  $C$ . This ends the proof.  $\square$

The above proof is valid, for instance, if

$$A \wedge W \rightarrow P, \quad P \rightarrow C, \quad (\neg W) \wedge B \rightarrow Q, \quad Q \rightarrow C$$

are sentences previously included in the theory  $T$ .

Note that, in the latter proof, finding a sentence  $W$  and dividing the proof in two cases according as  $W$  or  $\neg W$  holds is usually a creative act: one needs to guess what  $W$  will work.

Here is an example that combines proof by contradiction with “case by case” proof. Say we want to prove:

THEOREM 5.19.  $H \rightarrow C$ .

*Proof.* Assume  $H$  and  $\neg C$  and seek a contradiction. There are two cases:

Case 1.  $W$  holds.

Case 2.  $\neg W$  holds.

In case 1, by ... we get ... hence a contradiction.

In case 2, by ... we get ... hence a contradiction.

This ends the proof.  $\square$

EXAMPLE 5.20. Sometimes a theorem  $U$  has the statement:

THEOREM 5.21. *The following conditions are equivalent:*

- 1)  $P$ ;
- 2)  $Q$ ;
- 3)  $R$ .

What is being meant is that  $U$  is

$$(P \leftrightarrow Q) \wedge (P \leftrightarrow R) \wedge (Q \leftrightarrow R)$$

One proceeds “in a circle” by proving first  $P \rightarrow Q$  then  $Q \rightarrow R$  then  $R \rightarrow P$ .

EXAMPLE 5.22. In order to prove a theorem of the form  $P \wedge Q$  one first proves  $P$  and proves  $Q$ .

EXAMPLE 5.23. In order to prove a theorem of the form  $P \vee Q$  one may proceed by contradiction as follows. Assume  $\neg P$  and  $\neg Q$  and one seeks a contradiction.

EXAMPLE 5.24. In order to prove a theorem of the form  $\forall xP(x)$  one may proceed as follows. One writes “Let  $c$  be arbitrary” (where  $c$  is a constant that has never been used before in the proof) and then one proves  $P(c)$ .

EXAMPLE 5.25. In order to prove a theorem of the form  $\exists xP(x)$  it is enough to find a constant  $c$  (that may or may not have been used before in the proof) such that  $P(c)$ . This is called a proof by example and it applies only to existential sentences  $\exists xP(x)$  (NOT to universal sentences like  $\forall xP(x)$ ).

REMARK 5.26. Here are more comments on the use of constants in proofs.

1) If in a proof one writes “ $\forall xP(x)$ ” at some point then anywhere after that one is allowed to write “ $P(c)$ ” where  $c$  is any constant (that has or has not been used before in the proof).

2) If in a proof one writes “ $\exists xP(x)$ ” at some point then anywhere after that one is allowed to write “Let  $c$  be such that  $P(c)$ ” (where  $c$  is a NEW constant i.e., a constant that has NOT been used before in the proof).

We end by discussing fallacies. A fallacy is a logical mistake. Here are some typical fallacies:

EXAMPLE 5.27. *Confusing an implication with its converse.* Say we want to prove that  $H \rightarrow C$ . A typical mistaken proof would be: Assume  $C$ ; then by ... we get that ... hence  $H$ . The error consists of having proved  $C \rightarrow H$  rather than  $H \rightarrow C$ .

EXAMPLE 5.28. *Proving a universal sentence by example.* Say we want to prove  $\forall xP(x)$ . A typical mistaken proof would be: By ... there exists  $c$  such that ... hence ... hence  $P(c)$ . The error consists in having proved  $\exists xP(x)$  rather than  $\forall xP(x)$ .

EXAMPLE 5.29. *Defining a constant twice.* Say we want to prove  $\neg(\exists xP(x))$  by contradiction. A mistaken proof would be: Assume there exists  $c$  such  $P(c)$ . Since we know that  $\exists xQ(x)$  let  $c$  be (or define  $c$ ) such that  $Q(c)$ . By  $P(c)$  and  $Q(c)$  we get ... hence ..., a contradiction. The error consists in defining  $c$  twice in two unrelated ways: first  $c$  plays the role of an existential witness for  $P$ ; then  $c$  plays the role of an existential witness for  $Q$ . But these existential witnesses are not the same.

EXERCISE 5.30. Give examples of wrong proofs of each of the above types. If you can't solve this now, wait until we get to discuss the integers.

REMARK 5.31. Later, when we discuss induction we will discuss another typical fallacy; cf. Example 13.7.



## CHAPTER 6

# Theories

We analyze in what follows a few toy examples of theories and proofs of theorems in these theories. Later we will present the main example of theory in this course which is set theory (identified with mathematics itself).

EXAMPLE 6.1. The first example is what later in mathematics will be referred to as the uniqueness of neutral elements. The language  $L$  of the theory has constants  $e, f, \dots$ , variables  $x, y, \dots$ , and a binary functional symbol  $\star$ . We introduce the following definition in  $L$ :

DEFINITION 6.2.  $e$  is called a neutral element if

$$\forall x((e \star x = x) \wedge (x \star e = x)).$$

So we added “*is a neutral element*” as a new relational predicate. We do not consider any specific axiom. We prove the following:

THEOREM 6.3. *If  $e$  and  $f$  are neutral elements then  $e = f$ .*

The sentence that needs to be proved is of the form: “If  $H$  then  $C$ .” Recall that in general for such a sentence  $H$  is called hypothesis and  $C$  is called conclusion. Here is a direct proof:

*Proof.* Assume  $e$  and  $f$  are neutral elements. Since  $e$  is a neutral element it follows that  $\forall x(e \star x = x)$ . By the latter  $e \star f = f$ . Since  $f$  is a neutral element we get  $\forall x(x \star f = x)$ . So  $e \star f = e$ . Hence we get  $e = e \star f$ . So  $e = f$ .  $\square$

EXERCISE 6.4. Convert the above Argot proof into the original (non-Argotic) language. Here by “convert” we understand finding a proof whose translation in Argot is the given Argot proof.

Here is a proof by contradiction of the same theorem:

*Proof.* Assume  $e \neq f$  and seek a contradiction. So either  $e \neq e \star f$  or  $e \star f \neq f$ . Since  $\forall x(e \star x = x)$  it follows that  $e \star f = f$ . Since  $\forall x(x \star f = x)$  we get  $e \star f = e$ . So we get  $e = f$ , a contradiction.  $\square$

The next example is related to the “Pascal wager.”

EXAMPLE 6.5. The structure of Pascal’s wager argument is as follows. If God exists and I believe it exists then I will be saved. If God exists and I do not believe it exists then I will not be saved. If God does not exist but I believe it exists I will not be saved. Finally if God does not exist and I do not believe it exists then I will not be saved. Pascal’s conclusion is that if he believes that God exists then there is a one chance in two that he be saved whereas if he does not believe that God exists then there is a zero chance that he be saved. So he should believe that

God exists. The next example is a variation of Pascal's wager showing that if one requires "sincere" belief rather than just belief based on logic then Pascal will not be saved. Indeed assume the specific axioms:

A1) If God exists and a person does not believe sincerely in its existence then that person will not be saved.

A2) If God does not exist then nobody will be saved.

A3) If a person believes that God exists and his/her belief is motivated only by Pascal's wager then that person does not believe sincerely.

We want to prove the following

**THEOREM 6.6.** *If Pascal believes that God exists but his belief is motivated by his own wager only then Pascal will not be saved.*

All of the above is formulated in the English language  $L'$ . We consider a simpler language  $L$  and a translation of  $L$  into  $L'$ .

The new language  $L$  contains among its constant  $p$  (for Pascal) and contains 4 unary relational predicates  $g, w, s, r$  whose translation in English is as follows:

$g$  is translated as "is God"

$w$  is translated as "believes motivated only by Pascal's wager"

$s$  is translated as "believes sincerely"

$r$  is translated as "is saved"

The specific axioms are

A1)  $\forall y((\exists xg(x)) \wedge (\neg s(y)) \rightarrow \neg r(y))$ .

A2)  $\forall y((\neg(\exists xg(x))) \rightarrow (\neg r(y)))$ .

A3)  $\forall y(w(y) \rightarrow (\neg(s(y))))$ .

In this language Theorem 6.6 is the translation of the following:

**THEOREM 6.7.** *If  $w(p)$  then  $\neg r(p)$ .*

So to prove Theorem 6.6 in  $L'$  it is enough to prove Theorem 6.7 in  $L$ . We will do this by using a combination of direct proof and case by case proof.

*Proof of Theorem 6.7.* Assume  $w(p)$ . There are two cases: the first case is  $\exists xg(x)$ ; the second case is  $\neg(\exists xg(x))$ . Assume first that  $\exists xg(x)$ . Since  $w(p)$ , by axiom A3 it follows that  $\neg s(p)$ . By axiom A1  $(\exists xg(x)) \wedge (\neg s(p)) \rightarrow \neg r(p)$ . Hence  $\neg r(p)$ . Assume now  $\neg(\exists xg(x))$ . By axiom A2 we then get again  $\neg r(p)$ . So in either case we get  $\neg r(p)$  which ends the proof. □

The next example is the famous "ontological argument" for the existence of God (cf. Anselm, Descartes, Leibnitz, Gödel). The version below is, in some sense, a "baby version" of the argument; Gödel's formalization (which he never published) is considerably subtler. Cf. (Wang 1996).

**EXAMPLE 6.8.** The structure of the classical ontological argument for the existence of God is as follows. Let us assume that qualities (same as properties) are either positive or negative (and none is both). Let us think of *existence* as having 2 kinds: *existence in mind* (which shall be referred to as *belonging to mind*) and *existence in reality* (which shall be referred to as *belonging to reality*). It is not important that we do not know what mind and reality are; we just see them as English words here. The 2 kinds are not necessarily related: belonging to mind does not imply (and is not implied by) belonging to reality. (In particular we do

not view mind necessarily as part of reality which we should not: unicorns belong to mind but not to reality.) The constants and variables refer to things (myself, my cat, God,...) or qualities (red, omnipresent, deceiving, eternal, murderous, mortal,...); we identify the latter with their extensions which are, again, things (the Red, th Omnipresent, the Deceiving, the Eternal, the Murderous, the Mortal,...) In particular we consider the following constants: *reality, mind, God, the Positive Qualities*. We also consider the binary predicate *belongs to*. We say a thing has a certain quality (e.g. *my cat is eternal*) if that thing belongs to the extension of that quality (e.g. *my cat belongs to the Eternal*). Assume the following axioms:

A1) There exists a thing belonging to mind that has all the positive qualities and no negative quality. (Call it God.)

A2) “Being real” is a positive quality.

A3) Two things belonging to mind that have exactly the same qualities are identical.

(Axiom A3 is Leibniz’s famous principle of *identity of indiscernibles*. It implies that God is unique.) Then one can prove the following:

THEOREM 6.9. *God belongs to reality.*

In other words God is real.

The above sentences are written in the English language  $L'$ . Let us formalize the above in a language  $L$  and prove a formal version of Theorem 6.9 in  $L$  whose translation is Theorem 6.9. Assume  $L$  contains among its constants the constants  $r, m, p$  and a relational binary predicate  $E$ . We consider a translation of  $L$  into  $L'$  such that

$r$  is translated as “reality”;

$m$  is translated as “mind”;

$p$  is translated as “the positive qualities”

$xEy$  is translated as “ $x$  belongs to  $y$ ”.

The specific axioms are:

A1)  $\exists x((xE m) \wedge (\forall z((zE p) \leftrightarrow (xE z))))$ .

A2)  $rE p$ .

A3)  $\forall x \forall y(((xE m) \wedge (yE m)) \rightarrow ((\forall z(xE z \leftrightarrow yE z)) \rightarrow (x = y)))$ .

Note that later, in set theory, we will have a predicate  $\in$  which, like  $E$ , will be translated as “belongs to” (as in an object belongs to the collection of objects that have a certain quality); but the axioms are different.

By A1 we can make the following:

DEFINITION 6.10.  $g = c^{(xE m) \wedge (\forall z((zE p) \leftrightarrow (xE z)))}$ .

So  $g$  is defined to be equal to a certain existential witness.

Also we can add to the theory the following

THEOREM 6.11.  $(gE m) \wedge (\forall z((zE p) \leftrightarrow (gE z)))$ .

We will translate  $g$  as “God”. We have the following theorem expressing the uniqueness of God:

THEOREM 6.12.  $\forall x(((xE m) \wedge (\forall z((zE p) \leftrightarrow (xE z))) \rightarrow (x = g)))$ .

The translation of the above in English is: “*If something in my mind has all the positive qualities and no negative quality then that thing is God.*”

*Proof.* A trivial exercise using axiom A3 only. □

EXERCISE 6.13. Prove Theorem 6.12.

On the other hand, and more importantly, we have the following Theorem whose translation in  $L'$  is “*God belongs to reality*”:

THEOREM 6.14.  $gEr$ .

*Proof.* By axiom A1 we have  $gEm$  and

$$\forall z((zEp) \leftrightarrow (gEz)).$$

Hence we have, in particular,

$$(rEp) \leftrightarrow (gEr).$$

By axiom A2,  $rEp$ . Hence  $gEr$ . □

The argument above is, of course, correct. What is questionable is the choice of the axioms and the reference of  $L$ . Also recall that, in our notes, the question of truth was not addressed; so it does not make sense to ask whether the English sentence “*God has existence in reality*” is true or false. For criticism of the relevance of this argument (or similar ones) see, for instance, (Kant 1991) and (Wang 1996). However, the mere fact that some of the most distinguished logicians of all times (in particular Leibniz and Gödel) took this argument seriously shows that the argument has merit and, in particular, cannot be dismissed on trivial grounds.

EXAMPLE 6.15. The next example is again a toy example and comes from physics. In order to present this example we do not need to introduce any physical concepts. But it would help to keep in mind the two slit experiment in quantum mechanics (for which we refer to Feynman’s Physics course, say). Now there are two types of physical theories that can be referred to as *phenomenological* and *explanatory*. They are intertwined but very different in nature. Phenomenological theories are simply descriptions of phenomena/effects of (either actual or possible) experiments; examples of such theories are those of Ptolemy, Copernicus, or that of pre-quantum experimental physics of radiation. Explanatory theories are systems postulating transcendent causes that act from behind phenomena; examples of such theories are those of Newton, Einstein, or quantum theory. The theory below is a baby example of the phenomenological (pre-quantum) theory of radiation; our discussion is therefore not a discussion of quantum mechanics but rather it suggests the necessity of introducing quantum mechanics. The language  $L'$  and definitions are those of experimental/phenomenological (rather than theoretical/explanatory) physics. We will not make them explicit. Later we will move to a simplified language  $L$  and will not care about definitions.

Consider the following specific axioms (which are the translation in English of the phenomenological predictions of classical particle mechanics and classical wave mechanics, respectively):

A1) If radiation in the 2 slit experiment consists of a beam of particles then the impact pattern on the photographic plate consists of a series of successive flashes and the pattern has 2 local maxima.

A2) If radiation in the 2 slit experiment is a wave then the impact pattern on the photographic plate is not a series of successive flashes and the pattern has more than 2 local maxima.

We want to prove the following

**THEOREM 6.16.** *If in the 2 slit experiment the impact consists of a series of successive flashes and the impact pattern has more than 2 local maxima then in this experiment radiation is neither a beam of particles nor a wave.*

The sentence reflects one of the elementary puzzles that quantum phenomena exhibit: radiation is neither particles nor waves but something else! And that something else requires a new theory which is quantum mechanics. (A common fallacy would be to conclude that radiation is both particles and waves !!!) Rather than analyzing the language  $L'$  of physics in which our axioms and sentence are stated (and the semantics that goes with it) let us introduce a simplified language  $L$  as follows.

We consider the language  $L$  with constants  $a, b, \dots$ , variables  $x, y, \dots$ , and unary relational predicates  $p, w, f, m$ . Then there is a translation of  $L$  into  $L'$  such that:

$p$  is translated as “is a beam of particles”

$w$  is translated as “is a wave”

$f$  is translated as “produces a series of successive flashes”

$m$  is translated as “produces a pattern with 2 local maxima”

Then we consider the specific axioms

A1)  $\forall x(p(x) \rightarrow (f(x) \wedge m(x)))$ .

A2)  $\forall x(w(x) \rightarrow (\neg f(x) \wedge \neg m(x)))$ .

Here we tacitly assume that the number of maxima cannot be 1. Theorem 6.16 above is the translation of the following theorem in  $L$ :

**THEOREM 6.17.**  $\forall x((f(x) \wedge (\neg m(x))) \rightarrow ((\neg p(x)) \wedge (\neg w(x))))$ .

So it is enough to prove Theorem 6.17. The proof below is, as we shall see, a combination of proof by contradiction and case by case.

*Proof.* We proceed by contradiction. So assume there exists  $a$  such that

$$f(a) \wedge (\neg m(a))$$

and

$$\neg(\neg p(a) \wedge (\neg w(a)))$$

and seek a contradiction. Since  $\neg(\neg p(a) \wedge (\neg w(a)))$  we get  $p(a) \vee w(a)$ . There are two cases. The first case is  $p(a)$ ; the second case is  $w(a)$ . We will get a contradiction in each of these cases separately. Assume first  $p(a)$ . Then by axiom A1 we get  $f(a) \wedge m(a)$ , hence  $m(a)$ . But we assumed  $f(a) \wedge (\neg m(a))$ , hence  $\neg m(a)$ , so we get a contradiction. Assume now  $w(a)$ . By axiom A2 we get  $(\neg f(a)) \wedge (\neg m(a))$  hence  $\neg f(a)$ . But we assumed  $f(a) \wedge (\neg m(a))$ , hence  $f(a)$ , so we get again a contradiction.  $\square$ .

**EXERCISE 6.18.** Consider the specific axioms A1 and A2 above and also the specific axioms:

A3)  $\exists x(f(x) \wedge (\neg m(x)))$ .

A4)  $\forall x(p(x) \vee w(x))$ .

Metaprove that the theory with specific axioms A1, A2, A3, A4 is inconsistent. A3 is translated as saying that in some experiments one sees a series of successive flashes and, at the same time, one has more than 2 maxima. Axiom A4 is translated as saying that any type of radiation is either particles or waves. The inconsistency of the theory says that classical (particle and wave) mechanics is not consistent with experiment. (So a new mechanics, quantum mechanics, is needed.) Note that

none of the above discussion has anything to do with any concrete proposal for a quantum mechanical theory; all that the above suggests is the necessity of such a theory.

EXAMPLE 6.19. The next example is a logical puzzle from the Mahabharata. King Yudhishthira loses his kingdom to Sakuni at a game of dice; then he stakes himself and he loses himself; then he stakes his wife Draupadi and loses her too. She objects by saying that her husband could not have staked her because he did not own her anymore after losing himself. Here is a possible formalization of her argument.

We use a language with constants  $i, d, \dots$ , variables  $x, y, z, \dots$ , the relational binary predicate “owns,” quantifiers, and equality  $=$ . We define a predicate  $\neq$  by  $(x \neq y) \leftrightarrow (\neg(x = y))$ . Consider the following specific axioms:

A1) For all  $x, y, z$  if  $x$  owns  $y$  and  $y$  owns  $z$  then  $x$  owns  $z$ .

A2) For all  $y$  there exists  $x$  such that  $x$  owns  $y$ .

A3) For all  $x, y, z$  if  $y$  owns  $x$  and  $z$  owns  $x$  then  $y = z$ .

We will prove the following

THEOREM 6.20. *If  $i$  does not own himself then  $i$  does not own  $d$ .*

*Proof.* We proceed by contradiction. So we assume  $i$  does not own  $i$  and  $i$  owns  $d$  and seek a contradiction. There are two cases: first case is  $d$  owns  $i$ ; the second case is  $d$  does not own  $i$ . We prove that in each case we get a contradiction. Assume first that  $d$  owns  $i$ ; since  $i$  owns  $d$ , by axiom A1,  $i$  owns  $i$ , a contradiction. Assume now  $d$  does not own  $i$ . By axiom A2 we know that there exists  $j$  such that  $j$  owns  $i$ . Since  $i$  does not own  $i$  it follows that  $j \neq i$ . Since  $j$  owns  $i$  and  $i$  owns  $d$ , by axiom A1,  $j$  owns  $d$ . But  $i$  also owns  $d$ . By axiom A3,  $i = j$ , a contradiction.  $\square$

EXAMPLE 6.21. This example illustrates the logical structure of the Newtonian theory of gravitation that unified Galileo’s phenomenological theory of falling bodies (the physics on Earth) with Kepler’s phenomenological theory of planetary motion (the physics of “Heaven”); Newton’s theory counts as an explanatory theory because its axioms go beyond the “facts” of experiment. The language  $L$  in which we are going to work has variables  $x, y, \dots$ , constants  $S, E, M$  (translated into English as “Sun, Earth, Moon”), a constant  $R$  (translated as “the radius of the Earth”), constants  $1, \pi, r$  (where  $r$  is translated as a particular rock), relational predicates  $p, c, n$  (translated into English as “is a planet, is a cannonball, is a number”), a binary relational predicate  $\circ$  (whose syntax is  $x \circ y$  and whose translation in English is “ $x$  revolves around the fixed body  $y$ ”), a binary relational predicate  $f$  (where  $f(x, y)$  is translated as “ $x$  falls freely under the influence of  $y$ ”), a binary functional symbol  $d$  (“distance between the centers of”), a unary functional symbol  $a$  (“acceleration”), a unary functional symbol  $T$  (where  $T(x, y)$  is translated as “period of revolution of  $x$  around  $y$ ”), binary functional symbols  $;$ ,  $\times$  (“division, multiplication”), and all the standard connectives, quantifiers, and parentheses. Note that we have no predicates for mass and force; this is remarkable because it shows that the Newtonian revolution has a purely geometric content. Now we introduce a theory  $T$  in  $L$  via its special axioms. The special axioms are as follows. First one asks that distances are numbers:

$$\forall x \forall y (n(d(x, y)))$$

and the same for accelerations, and times of revolution. (Note that we view all physical quantities as measured in centimeters and seconds.) For numbers we ask that multiplication and division of numbers are numbers:

$$(n(x) \wedge n(y)) \rightarrow (n(x : y) \wedge n(x \times y))$$

and that the usual laws relating  $:$  and  $\times$  hold. Here are two:

$$\begin{aligned} &\forall x(x : x = 1). \\ &\forall x \forall y \forall z \forall u((x : y = z : u) \leftrightarrow (x \times u = z \times y)). \end{aligned}$$

It is an easy exercise to write down all these laws. We sometimes write

$$\frac{x}{y}, 1/x, xy, x^2, x^3, \dots$$

in the usual sense. The above is a “baby mathematics” and this is all mathematics we need. Next we introduce an axiom whose justification is in mathematics, indeed in calculus; here we ignore the justification and just take this as an axiom. The axiom gives a formula for the acceleration of a body revolving in a circle around a fixed body. (See the exercise after this example.) Here is the axiom:

$$A) \forall x \forall y \left( (x \circ y) \rightarrow \left( a(x, y) = \frac{4\pi^2 d(x, y)}{T^2(x, y)} \right) \right).$$

To this one adds the following “obvious” axioms

$$\begin{aligned} O1) &\forall x(c(x) \rightarrow d(x, E) = R), \\ O2) &M \circ E, \\ R) &c(r), \\ K1) &\forall x(p(x) \rightarrow (x \circ S)), \end{aligned}$$

saying that the distance between cannonballs and the center of the Earth is the radius of the Earth; that the Moon revolves around the Earth; that the rock  $r$  is a cannonball; and that all planets revolve around the Sun. (The latter is Kepler’s first law in an approximate form; the full Kepler’s first law specifies the shape of orbits as ellipses, etc.) Now we consider the following sentences (NOT AXIOMS!):

$$\begin{aligned} G) &\forall x \forall y((c(x) \wedge c(y)) \rightarrow (a(x, E) = a(y, E))), \\ K3) &\forall x \forall y \left( (p(x) \wedge p(y)) \rightarrow \left( \frac{d^3(x, S)}{T^2(x, S)} = \frac{d^3(y, S)}{T^2(y, S)} \right) \right), \\ N) &\forall x \forall y \forall z \left( (f(x, z) \wedge f(y, z)) \rightarrow \left( \frac{a(x, z)}{1/d^2(x, z)} = \frac{a(y, z)}{1/d^2(y, z)} \right) \right). \end{aligned}$$

$G$  represents Galileo’s great empirical discovery that all cannonballs (by which we mean here terrestrial airborne objects with no self-propulsion) have the same acceleration towards the Earth.  $K3$  is Kepler’s third law which is his empirical great discovery that the cubes of distances of planets to the Sun are in the same proportion as the squares of their periods of revolution. Kepler’s second law about equal areas being swept in equal times is somewhat hidden in axiom  $A$  above.  $N$  is Newton’s law of gravitation saying that the accelerations of any two bodies moving freely towards a fixed body are in the same proportion as the inverses of the squares of the respective distances to the (center of the) fixed body. Newton’s great invention is the creation of a binary predicate  $f$  (where  $f(x, y)$  is translated into English as “ $x$  is in free fall with respect to  $y$ ”) equipped with the following axioms

$$\begin{aligned} F1) &\forall x(c(x) \rightarrow f(x, E)) \\ F2) &f(M, E) \end{aligned}$$

$$F3) \forall x(p(x) \rightarrow f(x, S))$$

expressing the idea that cannonballs and the Moon moving relative to the Earth and planets moving relative to the Sun are instances of a more general predicate expressing “free falling.” Finally let us consider the definition

$$g = a(r, E)$$

and the following sentence:

$$X) g = \frac{4\pi^2 d^3(M, E)}{R^2 T^2(M, E)}.$$

The main results are the following theorems in  $T$ :

THEOREM 6.22.  $N \rightarrow X$ .

*Proof.* See the exercise after this example.

THEOREM 6.23.  $N \rightarrow G$ .

*Proof.* See the exercise after this example.

THEOREM 6.24.  $N \rightarrow K3$ .

*Proof.* See the exercise after this example.

So if one accepts Newton’s  $N$  then Galileo’s  $G$  and Kepler’s  $K3$  follow, that is to say that  $N$  “unifies” terrestrial physics with the physics of Heaven. The beautiful thing is, however, that  $N$  not only unifies known paradigms but “predicts” new “facts,” e.g.,  $X$ . Indeed one can verify  $X$  using experimental (astronomical and terrestrial physics) data: if one enlarges our language to include numerals and numerical computations and if one introduces axioms as below (justified by measurements) then  $X$  becomes a theorem. Here are the additional axioms:

$g = 981$  (the number of centimeters per second squared representing  $g$ ).

$\pi = \frac{314}{100}$  (approximate value).

$R$  = number of centimeters representing the radius of the Earth (measured for the first time by Eratosthenes using shadows at two points on Earth).

$d(M, E)$  = number of centimeters representing the distance from Earth to Moon (measured using parallaxes).

$T(M, E)$  = number of seconds representing the time of revolution of the Moon (the equivalent of 28 days).

The fact that  $X$  is verified with the above data is the miraculous computation done by Newton that convinced him of the validity of his theory; see the exercise after this example.

REMARK 6.25. This part of Newton’s early work had a series of defects: it was based on the circular (as opposed to elliptical) orbits, it assumed the center of the Earth (rather than all the mass of the Earth) as responsible for the effect on the cannonballs, it addressed only revolution around a fixed body (which is not realistic in the case of the Moon, since, for instance, the Earth itself is moving), and did not explain the difference between the  $d^3/T^2$  of planets around the Sun and the corresponding quantity for the Moon and cannonballs relative to the Earth. Straightening these and many other problems is part of the reason why Newton postponed publication of his early discoveries. The final theory of Newton involves the introduction of absolute space and time, mass, and forces. The natural way to



develop it is within mathematics, as mathematical physics; this is essentially the way Newton himself presented his theory in published form. However, the above example suggests that the real breakthrough was not mathematical but at the level of (pre-mathematical) logic.

EXERCISE 6.26.

1) Justify Axiom *A* above using calculus or even Euclidean geometry plus the definition of acceleration in an introductory physics course.

2) Prove Theorems 6.22, 6.23, and 6.24.

3) Verify that with the numerical data for  $g, \pi, R, d(M, E), T(M, E)$  available from astronomy (find the numbers in astronomy books) the sentence *X* becomes a theorem. This is Newton's fundamental computation.



## CHAPTER 7

### ZFC

Mathematics is a particular theory  $T_{set}$  (called set theory) in a particular language  $L_{set}$  (called the language of set theory) with specific axioms called the *ZFC* axioms (the Zermelo-Fraenkel+Choice axioms). The specific axioms do not form a finite list so they cannot be all added to the theory at the beginning. They will have to be added one by one on a need to use basis. We will introduce all of this presently.

The origins of set theory are in the work of Cantor. Set theory as presented in what follows is *not* Cantor set theory but rather an axiomatic version of it due essentially to Zermelo and Fraenkel. The difference between Cantor's paradigm and the Zermelo-Fraenkel paradigm lies, essentially, in the ontological status of sets. In contrast to Cantor, for whom sets were real collections of "things," any set in the definitions below is simply a constant (hence a single symbol) in a language.

**METADefinition 7.1.** The language  $L_{set}$  of set theory is the language with variables  $x, y, z, \dots$ , constants  $a, b, c, \dots, A, B, C, \dots, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}, \mathcal{C}, \dots, \alpha, \beta, \gamma, \dots$ , no functional symbol, a binary relational predicate  $\in$ , connectives  $\vee, \wedge, \neg, \rightarrow, \leftrightarrow$ , quantifiers  $\forall, \exists$ , equality  $=$ , and separators  $(, ), ,$ . As usual we are allowed to add, whenever it is convenient, new constants and new predicates to  $L_{set}$  together with definitions for each of these new symbols. The constants of  $L_{set}$  will be called sets.

**REMARK 7.2.** In particular one adds new predicates  $\neq, \notin, \subset, \not\subset$  defined by

$$\begin{aligned}\forall x \forall y ((x \neq y) &\leftrightarrow (\neg(x = y))). \\ \forall x \forall y ((x \notin y) &\leftrightarrow (\neg(x \in y))). \\ \forall x \forall y ((x \subset y) &\leftrightarrow (\forall z ((z \in x) \rightarrow (z \in y)))). \\ \forall x \forall y ((x \not\subset y) &\leftrightarrow (\neg(x \subset y))).\end{aligned}$$

We say that  $x$  is a subset of  $y$  if  $x \subset y$ .

**REMARK 7.3.** We recall the fact that  $L_{set}$  being an object language it does not make sense to say that a sentence in it (such as, for instance,  $a \in b$ ) is true or false.

**REMARK 7.4.** Later we will introduce the concept of "countable" set and we will show that not all sets are countable. On the other hand in set theory there are always only "finitely many" sets (in the sense that one is using finitely many symbols) although their collection may be increased any time, if necessary. Let us say that such a collection of symbols is "metacountable." This seems to be a paradox which is referred to as the "Skolem paradox." Of course this is not going to be a paradox: "metacountable" and "countable" will be two different concepts. The word "metacountable" belongs to the metalanguage and can be translated into English in terms of arranging symbols on a piece of paper; whereas "*b is countable*" is a definition in set theory. We define "*b is countable*  $\leftrightarrow C(b)$ " where  $C(x)$  is a certain formula with free variable  $x$  in the language of set theory.

REMARK 7.5. There is a standard translation of the language  $L_{set}$  of set theory into the English language as follows:

- $a, b, \dots$  are translated as “the set  $a$ ,” “the set  $b$ ,” ...
- $\in$  is translated as “*belongs to the set*” or as “*is an element of the set*”
- $=$  is translated as “*equals*”
- $\subset$  is translated as “*is a subset*” or as “*is contained in*”
- $\forall$  is translated as “*for all sets*”
- $\exists$  is translated as “*there exists a set*”

while the connectives are translated in the standard way.

REMARK 7.6. Once we have a translation of  $L_{set}$  into English we can speak of Argot and translation of  $L_{set}$  into Argot; this simplifies comprehension of mathematical texts considerably.

REMARK 7.7. The standard translation of the language of set theory into English (in the remark above) is standard only by convention. A perfectly good different translation is, for instance, the one in which

- $a, b, \dots$  are translated as “*crocodile a*,” “*crocodile b*,” ...
- $\in$  is translated as “*is dreamt by the crocodile*”
- $=$  is translated as “*has the same taste*”
- $\forall$  is translated as “*for all crocodiles*”
- $\exists$  is translated as “*there exists a crocodile*”

One could read mathematical texts in this translation; admittedly the English text that would result from this translation would be somewhat strange.

REMARK 7.8. Note that mathematics uses other symbols as well such as

$$\leq, \circ, +, \times, \sum a_n, \mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}, \mathbb{F}_p, \equiv, \lim a_n, \int f(x)dx, \frac{df}{dx}, \dots$$

These symbols will originally be all sets (hence constants) and will be introduced through appropriate definitions (like the earlier definition of an elephant); they will all be defined through the predicate  $\in$ . In particular in the language of sets,  $+$  or  $\times$  are NOT originally functional symbols; and  $\leq$  is NOT originally a relational predicate. However we will later tacitly enlarge the language of set theory by adding predicates (usually still denoted by)  $+$  or  $\leq$  via appropriate definitions.

We next introduce the (specific) axioms of set theory.

AXIOM 7.9. (Singleton axiom)

$$\forall x \exists y ((x \in y) \wedge (\forall z ((z \in y) \rightarrow (z = x)))).$$

The translation in Argot is that for any set  $x$  there is a set  $y$  whose only element is  $x$ .

AXIOM 7.10. (Unordered pair axiom)

$$\forall x \forall x' \exists y ((x \in y) \wedge (x' \in y) \wedge ((z \in y) \rightarrow ((z = x) \vee (z = x')))).$$

In Argot the translation is that for any two sets  $x, x'$  there is a set that only has them as elements.

AXIOM 7.11. (Separation axioms) For any formula  $P(x)$  in the language of sets, having a free variable  $x$ , we introduce an axiom

$$\forall y \exists z \forall x ((x \in z) \leftrightarrow ((x \in y) \wedge (P(x)))).$$

The translation in Argot is that for any set  $y$  there is a set  $z$  whose elements are all the elements  $x$  of  $y$  such that  $P(x)$ .

AXIOM 7.12. (Extensionality axiom)

$$\forall u \forall v ((u = v) \leftrightarrow \forall x ((x \in u) \leftrightarrow (x \in v))).$$

The translation in Argot is that two sets  $u$  and  $v$  are equal if and only if they have the same elements.

AXIOM 7.13. (Union axiom)

$$\forall w \exists u \forall x ((x \in u) \leftrightarrow (\exists t ((t \in w) \wedge (x \in t)))).$$

The translation in Argot is that for any set  $w$  there exists a set  $u$  such that for any  $x$  we have that  $x$  is an element of  $u$  if and only if  $x$  is an element of one of the elements of  $w$ .

AXIOM 7.14. (Empty set axiom)

$$\exists x \forall y (y \notin x).$$

The translation in Argot is that there exists a set that has no elements.

AXIOM 7.15. (Power set axiom)

$$\forall y \exists z \forall x ((x \in z) \leftrightarrow (\forall u ((u \in x) \rightarrow (u \in y)))).$$

The translation in Argot is that for any set  $y$  there is a set  $z$  such that a set  $x$  is an element of  $z$  if and only if all elements of  $x$  are elements of  $y$ .

For simplicity the rest of the axioms will be formulated in Argot only.

DEFINITION 7.16. Two sets are disjoint if they have no element in common. The elements of a set are pairwise disjoint if any two elements are disjoint.

AXIOM 7.17. (Axiom of choice) For any set  $w$  whose elements are pairwise disjoint sets there is a set that has exactly one element in common with each of the sets in  $w$ .

AXIOM 7.18. (Axiom of infinity) There exists a set  $x$  such that  $x$  contains some element  $u$  and such that for any  $y \in x$  there exists  $z \in x$  with the property that  $y$  is the only element of  $z$ . Intuitively this axiom guarantees the existence of “infinite” sets.

AXIOM 7.19. (Axiom of foundation) For any set  $x$  there exists  $y \in x$  such that  $x$  and  $y$  are disjoint.

One finally adds a technical list of axioms (indexed by formulas  $P(x, y, z)$ ) about the “images of maps with parameters  $z$ ”:

AXIOM 7.20. (Axiom of replacement) If for any  $z$  and any  $u$  we have that  $P(x, y, z)$  “defines  $y$  as a function of  $x \in u$ ” (i.e., for any  $x \in u$  there exists a unique  $y$  such that  $P(x, y, z)$ ) then for all  $z$  there is a set  $v$  which is the “image of this map” (i.e.,  $v$  consists of all  $y$ ’s with the property that there is an  $x \in u$  such that  $P(x, y, z)$ ). Here  $x, z$  may be tuples of variables.

EXERCISE 7.21. Write the axioms of choice, infinity, foundation, and replacement in the language of sets.

**METADefinition 7.22.** All of the above axioms form the ZFC system of axioms (Zermelo-Fraenkel+Choice). Set theory  $T_{set}$  is the theory in  $L_{set}$  with ZFC axioms. Unless otherwise specified all theorems in the rest of the course are understood to be theorems in  $T_{set}$ .

**REMARK 7.23.** Note the important fact that the axioms did not involve constants. In the next chapter we investigate the constants, i.e., the sets.

**From this moment on all proofs in this course will be written in Argot. Also, unless otherwise stated, all proofs required to be given in the exercises must be written in Argot.**

## Part 2

# Set theory





## CHAPTER 8

### Sets

We will start here our discussion of sets and prove our first theorems in set theory. Recall that we introduced mathematics/set theory as being a specific theory  $T_{set}$  in the language  $L_{set}$ , with axioms  $ZFC$  described in the last chapter.

Recall the following:

**METADefinition 8.1.** A set is a constant in the language of set theory. Sets will be denoted by  $a, b, \dots, A, B, \dots, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}, \dots, \alpha, \beta, \gamma, \dots$

In what follows all definitions will be definitions in the language  $L_{set}$  of sets. Sometimes definitions are given in Argotic  $L_{set}$ . Recall that some definitions introducing new constants are also simply referred to as notation.

We start by defining a new constant  $\emptyset$  (called the empty set) as being equal to the witness for the axiom  $\exists x \forall y (y \notin x)$ ; in other words  $\emptyset$  is defined by

**DEFINITION 8.2.**  $\emptyset = c^{\forall y (y \notin x)}$ .

Note that  $\forall y (y \notin \emptyset)$  is a theorem. In Argot we say that  $\emptyset$  is the “unique” set that contains no element.

Next if  $a$  is a set we introduce a new constant  $\{a\}$  defined to be the witness for the sentence  $\exists y P$  where

$$P \text{ equals } “(a \in y) \wedge (\forall z ((z \in y) \rightarrow (z = a))).”$$

In other words  $\{a\}$  is defined by

**DEFINITION 8.3.**  $\{a\} = c^P = c^{(a \in y) \wedge (\forall z ((z \in y) \rightarrow (z = a)))}$ .

The sentence  $\exists y P$  is a theorem (use the singleton axiom) so the following is a theorem:

$$(a \in \{a\}) \wedge (\forall z ((z \in \{a\}) \rightarrow (z = a))).$$

We can say (and we will usually say, by abuse of terminology) that  $\{a\}$  is “the unique” set containing  $a$  only among its elements; we will often use this kind of abuse of terminology. In particular  $\{\{a\}\}$  denotes the set whose only element is the set  $\{a\}$ , etc. Similarly, for any two sets  $a, b$  with  $a \neq b$  denote by  $\{a, b\}$  the set that only has  $a$  and  $b$  as elements; the set  $\{a, b\}$  is a witness for a theorem that follows from the unordered pair axiom. Also whenever we write  $\{a, b\}$  we implicitly understand that  $a \neq b$ .

Next, for any set  $A$  and any formula  $P(x)$  in the language of sets, having one free variable  $x$  we denote by  $A(P)$  or  $\{a \in A; P(a)\}$  or  $\{x \in A; P(x)\}$  the set whose elements are the elements  $a \in A$  such that  $P(a)$ ; so the set  $A(P)$  equals by definition the witness for the separation axiom that corresponds to  $A$  and  $P$ . More precisely we have:

**DEFINITION 8.4.**  $A(P) = \{x \in A; P(x)\} = c^{\exists z \forall x ((x \in z) \leftrightarrow (x \in A) \wedge P(x))}$ .

LEMMA 8.5. *If  $A = \{a\}$  and  $B = \{b, c\}$  then  $A \neq B$ .*

*Proof.* We proceed by contradiction. So assume  $A = \{a\}$ ,  $B = \{b, c\}$ , and  $A = B$  and seek a contradiction. Indeed since  $a \in A$  and  $A = B$ , by the extensionality axiom we get  $a \in B$ . Hence  $a = b$  or  $a = c$ . Assume  $a = b$  and seek a contradiction. (In the same way we get a contradiction by assuming  $a = c$ .) Since  $a = b$  we get  $B = \{a, c\}$ . Since  $c \in B$  and  $A = B$ , by the extensionality axiom we get  $c \in A$ . So  $c = a$ . Since  $a = b$  we get  $b = c$ . But by our notation for sets (elements listed are distinct) we have  $b \neq c$ , a contradiction.  $\square$

EXERCISE 8.6. Prove that:

- 1) If  $\{a\} = \{b\}$  then  $a = b$ .
- 2)  $\{a, b\} = \{b, a\}$ .
- 3)  $\{a\} = \{x \in \{a, b\}; x \neq b\}$ .
- 4) There is a set  $b$  whose only elements are  $\{a\}$  and  $\{a, \{a\}\}$ ; so

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

To make our definitions (notation) more reader friendly we will begin to express them in metalanguage as in the following example.

DEFINITION 8.7. For any two sets  $A$  and  $B$  we define the set  $A \cup B$  (called the union of  $A$  and  $B$ ) as the set such that for all  $c$ ,  $c \in A \cup B$  if and only if  $c \in A$  or  $c \in B$ ; the set  $A \cup B$  is a witness for the union axiom.

EXERCISE 8.8. Explain in detail the definition of  $A \cup B$  using a witness notation as in 8.2, 8.3, 8.4.

DEFINITION 8.9. The difference between the set  $A$  and the set  $B$  is the set

$$A \setminus B = \{c \in A; c \notin B\}.$$

DEFINITION 8.10. The intersection of the sets  $A$  and  $B$  is the set

$$A \cap B = \{c \in A; c \in B\}.$$

EXERCISE 8.11. Prove that

- 1)  $A(P \wedge Q) = A(P) \cap A(Q)$ ;
- 2)  $A(P \vee Q) = A(P) \cup A(Q)$ ;
- 3)  $A(\neg P) = A \setminus A(P)$ .

EXERCISE 8.12. Prove that if  $a, b, c$  are such that  $(a \neq b) \wedge (b \neq c) \wedge (a \neq c)$  then there is a set denoted by  $\{a, b, c\}$  whose only elements are  $a, b, c$ ; in other words prove the following sentence:

$$\forall x \forall x' \forall x'' \exists y ((x \in y) \wedge (x' \in y) \wedge (x'' \in y) \wedge (z \in y) \rightarrow ((z = x) \vee (z = x') \vee (z = x'')))$$

Hint: Use the singleton axiom, the unordered pair axiom, and the union axiom, applied to the set  $\{\{a\}, \{b, c\}\}$ .

DEFINITION 8.13. Similarly one defines sets  $\{a, b, c, d\}$ , etc. Whenever we write  $\{a, b, c\}$  or  $\{a, b, c, d\}$ , etc., we imply that the elements in each set are pairwise unequal (pairwise distinct). Also denote by

$$\{a, b, c, \dots\}$$

any set  $d$  such that

$$(a \in d) \wedge (b \in d) \wedge (c \in d)$$

So the dots indicate that there may be other elements in  $d$  other than  $a, b, c$ ; also note that when we write  $\{a, b, c, \dots\}$  we implicitly imply that  $a, b, c$  are pairwise distinct.

EXERCISE 8.14.

- 1) Prove that  $\{\emptyset\} \neq \emptyset$ .
- 2) Prove that  $\{\{\emptyset\}\} \neq \{\emptyset\}$ .

EXERCISE 8.15. Prove that  $A = B$  if and only if  $A \subset B$  and  $B \subset A$ .

EXERCISE 8.16. Prove that:

- 1)  $\{a, b, c\} = \{b, c, a\}$ .
- 2)  $\{a, b\} \neq \{a, b, c\}$ . Hint: Use  $c \neq a, c \neq b$ .
- 3)  $\{a, b, c\} = \{a, b, d\}$  if and only if  $c = d$ .

EXERCISE 8.17. Let  $A = \{a, b, c\}$  and  $B = \{c, d\}$ . Prove that

- 1)  $A \cup B = \{a, b, c, d\}$ ,
- 2)  $A \cap B = \{c\}$ ,  $A \setminus B = \{a, b\}$ .

EXERCISE 8.18. Let  $A = \{a, b, c, d, e, f\}$ ,  $B = \{d, e, f, g, h\}$ . Compute

- 1)  $A \cap B$ ,
- 2)  $A \cup B$ ,
- 3)  $A \setminus B$ ,
- 4)  $B \setminus A$ ,
- 5)  $(A \setminus B) \cup (B \setminus A)$ .

EXERCISE 8.19. Prove the following:

- 1)  $A \cap B \subset A$ ,
- 2)  $A \subset A \cup B$ ,
- 3)  $A \cap (B \cup C) = (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$ ,
- 4)  $A \cup (B \cap C) = (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C)$ ,
- 5)  $(A \setminus B) \cap (B \setminus A) = \emptyset$ .

DEFINITION 8.20. For any set  $A$  we define the set  $\mathcal{P}(A)$  as the set whose elements are the subsets of  $A$ ; we call  $\mathcal{P}(A)$  the power set of  $A$ ;  $\mathcal{P}(A)$  is a witness for (a theorem obtained from) the power set axiom.

EXERCISE 8.21. Explain in detail the definition of  $\mathcal{P}(A)$  (using the witness notation).

EXAMPLE 8.22. If  $A = \{a, b, c\}$  then

$$\mathcal{P}(A) = \{\emptyset, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{c\}, \{a, b\}, \{a, c\}, \{b, c\}, \{a, b, c\}\}.$$

EXERCISE 8.23. Let  $A = \{a, b, c, d\}$ . Write down the set  $\mathcal{P}(A)$ .

EXERCISE 8.24. Let  $A = \{a, b\}$ . Write down the set  $\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{P}(A))$ .

DEFINITION 8.25. (Ordered pairs) Let  $A$  and  $B$  be sets and let  $a \in A$ ,  $b \in B$ . If  $a \neq b$  the ordered pair  $(a, b)$  is the set  $\{\{a\}, \{a, b\}\}$ . We sometimes say “pair” instead of “ordered pair.” If  $a = b$  the pair  $(a, b) = (a, a)$  is the set  $\{\{a\}\}$ . Note that  $(a, b) \in \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{P}(A \cup B))$ .

DEFINITION 8.26. For any sets  $A$  and  $B$  we define the product of  $A$  and  $B$  as the set

$$A \times B = \{c \in \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{P}(A \cup B)); \exists x \exists y ((x \in A) \wedge (y \in B) \wedge (c = (a, b)))\}.$$

This is the set whose elements are exactly the pairs  $(a, b)$  with  $a \in A$  and  $b \in B$ .

PROPOSITION 8.27.  $(a, b) = (c, d)$  if and only if  $a = c$  and  $b = d$ .

*Proof.* We need to prove that

- 1) If  $a = c$  and  $b = d$  then  $(a, b) = (c, d)$  and
- 2) If  $(a, b) = (c, d)$  then  $a = c$  and  $b = d$ .

Now 1) is obvious. To prove 2) assume  $(a, b) = (c, d)$ .

Assume first  $a \neq b$  and  $c \neq d$ . Then by the definition of pairs we know that

$$\{\{a\}, \{a, b\}\} = \{\{c\}, \{c, d\}\}.$$

Since  $\{a\} \in \{\{a\}, \{a, b\}\}$  it follows (by the extensionality axiom) that  $\{a\} \in \{\{c\}, \{c, d\}\}$ . Hence either  $\{a\} = \{c\}$  or  $\{a\} = \{c, d\}$ . But as seen before  $\{a\} \neq \{c, d\}$ . So  $\{a\} = \{c\}$ . Since  $a \in \{a\}$  it follows that  $a \in \{c\}$  hence  $a = c$ . Similarly since  $\{a, b\} \in \{\{a\}, \{a, b\}\}$  we get  $\{a, b\} \in \{\{c\}, \{c, d\}\}$ . So either  $\{a, b\} = \{c\}$  or  $\{a, b\} = \{c, d\}$ . Again as seen before  $\{a, b\} \neq \{c\}$  so  $\{a, b\} = \{c, d\}$ . So  $b \in \{c, d\}$ . So  $b = c$  or  $b = d$ . Since  $a \neq b$  and  $a = c$  we get  $b \neq c$ . Hence  $b = d$  and we are done in case  $a \neq b$  and  $c \neq d$ .

Assume next  $a = b$  and  $c = d$ . Then by the definition of pairs in this case we have  $\{\{a\}\} = \{\{c\}\}$  and as before this implies  $\{a\} = \{c\}$  hence  $a = c$  so we are done in this case as well.

Finally assume  $a = b$  and  $c \neq d$ . (The case  $a \neq b$  and  $c = d$  is treated similarly.) By the definition of pairs we get

$$\{\{a\}\} = \{\{c\}, \{c, d\}\}.$$

We get  $\{c, d\} \in \{\{a\}\}$ . Hence  $\{c, d\} = \{a\}$  which is impossible, as seen before. This ends the proof.  $\square$

EXERCISE 8.28. If  $A = \{a, b, c\}$  and  $B = \{c, d\}$  then

$$A \times B = \{(a, c), (a, d), (b, c), (b, d), (c, c), (c, d)\}.$$

Hint: By the above Proposition the pairs are distinct.

EXERCISE 8.29. Prove that

- 1)  $(A \cap B) \times C = (A \times C) \cap (B \times C)$ ,
- 2)  $(A \cup B) \times C = (A \times C) \cup (B \times C)$ .

EXERCISE 8.30. Prove that

$$\neg(\exists y \forall z (z \in y))$$

In Argot this says that there does not exist a set  $T$  such that for any set  $A$  we have  $A \in T$ . (Intuitively there is no set such that all sets belong to it.)

Hint: Assume there is such a  $T$  and derive a contradiction. To derive a contradiction consider the set

$$S = \{x \in T; x \notin x\}.$$

There are two possibilities. First possibility is  $S \notin S$ . Since  $S \in T$ , we get that  $S \in S$ , a contradiction. The second possibility is that  $S \in S$ . Since  $S \in T$ , we get that  $S \notin S$ , which is again a contradiction.

REMARK 8.31. Before the advent of *ZFC* Russell showed, using the set  $S$  above, that Cantor's set theory leads to a contradiction; this is referred to as the "Russell paradox." Within *ZFC* Russell's paradox, in its original form, disappears. Whether there are other forms of this paradox, or similar paradoxes, that survive in *ZFC* it is not clear.

## CHAPTER 9

# Maps

The concept of map (or function) has a long history. Originally functions were understood to be given by more or less explicit “formulae” (polynomial, rational, algebraic, and later by series). Controversies around what the “most general” functions should be arose, for instance, in connection with solving partial differential equations (by means of trigonometric series); this is somewhat parallel to the controversy around what the “most general” numbers should be that arose in connection with solving algebraic equations (such as  $x^2 = 2$ ,  $x^2 = -1$ , or higher degree equations with no solutions expressed by radicals, etc.). The notion of “completely arbitrary” function gradually arose through the work of Dirichlet, Riemann, Weierstrass, Cantor, etc. Here is the definition:

DEFINITION 9.1. A map (or function) from a set  $A$  to a set  $B$  is a subset  $F \subset A \times B$  such that for any  $a \in A$  there is a unique  $b \in B$  with  $(a, b) \in F$ . If  $(a, b) \in F$  we write  $F(a) = b$  or  $a \mapsto b$  or  $a \mapsto F(a)$ . We also write  $F : A \rightarrow B$  or  $A \xrightarrow{F} B$ .

REMARK 9.2. The above defines a new (ternary) relational predicate  $\mu$  equal to “...is a map from ... to ...”. Also we may introduce a new functional symbol  $\widehat{F}$  by

$$\forall x \forall y ((\mu(F, A, B) \wedge (x \in A) \wedge (y \in B)) \rightarrow ((\widehat{F}(x) = y) \leftrightarrow ((x, y) \in F))).$$

Here  $F, A, B$  can be constants or variables depending on the context. We will usually drop the  $\widehat{\phantom{x}}$  (or think of the Argot translation as dropping the hat). Also note that what we call a map  $F \subset A \times B$  corresponds to what in elementary mathematics is called the graph of a map.

EXAMPLE 9.3. The set

$$(9.1) \quad F = \{(a, a), (b, c)\} \subset \{a, b\} \times \{a, b, c\}$$

is a map and  $F(a) = a$ ,  $F(b) = c$ . On the other hand the subset

$$F = \{(a, b), (a, c)\} \subset \{a, b\} \times \{a, b, c\}$$

is not a map.

DEFINITION 9.4. For any  $A$  the identity map  $I : A \rightarrow A$  is defined as  $I(a) = a$ , i.e.,

$$I = I_A = \{(a, a); a \in A\} \subset A \times A.$$

DEFINITION 9.5. A map  $F : A \rightarrow B$  is injective (or an injection, or one-to-one) if  $F(a) = F(c)$  implies  $a = c$ .

DEFINITION 9.6. A map  $F : A \rightarrow B$  is surjective (or a surjection, or onto) if for any  $b \in B$  there exists an  $a \in A$  such that  $F(a) = b$ .

EXAMPLE 9.7. The map (9.1) is injective and not surjective.

EXERCISE 9.8. Give an example of a map which is surjective and not injective.

EXERCISE 9.9. Let  $A \subset B$ . Prove that there is an injective map  $i : A \rightarrow B$  such that  $i(a) = a$  for all  $a \in A$ . We call  $i$  the inclusion map; we sometimes say  $A \subset B$  is the inclusion map.

EXERCISE 9.10. (Composition) Prove that if  $F : A \rightarrow B$  and  $G : B \rightarrow C$  are two maps then there exists a unique map  $H : A \rightarrow C$  such that  $H(a) = G(F(a))$  for all  $a$ . We write  $H = G \circ F$  and call the latter the composition of  $G$  with  $F$ . Hint: We let  $(a, c) \in H$  if and only if there exists  $b \in B$  with  $(a, b) \in F$ ,  $(b, c) \in G$ .

DEFINITION 9.11. (Restriction) If  $F : A \rightarrow B$  is a map and  $A' \subset A$  then the composition of  $F$  with the inclusion map  $A' \subset A$  is called the restriction of  $F$  to  $A'$  and is denoted by  $F|_{A'} : A' \rightarrow B$ .

DEFINITION 9.12. (Commutative diagram) By a commutative diagram of sets

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{F} & B \\ U \downarrow & & \downarrow V \\ C & \xrightarrow{G} & D \end{array}$$

we mean a collection of sets and maps as above with the property that  $G \circ U = V \circ F$ .

EXERCISE 9.13. Prove that if  $F \circ G$  is surjective then  $F$  is surjective. Prove that if  $F \circ G$  is injective then  $G$  is injective.

EXERCISE 9.14. Prove that the composition of two injective maps is injective and the composition of two surjective maps is surjective.

DEFINITION 9.15. A map is bijective (or a bijection) if it is injective and surjective.

Here is a fundamental theorem in set theory:

THEOREM 9.16. (*Bernstein's Theorem*) If  $A$  and  $B$  are sets and if there exist injective maps  $F : A \rightarrow B$  and  $G : B \rightarrow A$  then there exists a bijective map  $H : A \rightarrow B$ .

The reader may attempt to prove this after he/she gets to the chapter on induction.

EXERCISE 9.17. Prove that if  $F : A \rightarrow B$  is bijective then there exists a unique bijective map denoted by  $F^{-1} : B \rightarrow A$  such that  $F \circ F^{-1} = I_B$  and  $F^{-1} \circ F = I_A$ .  $F^{-1}$  is called the inverse of  $F$ .

EXERCISE 9.18. Let  $F : \{a, b, c\} \rightarrow \{c, d, e\}$ ,  $F(a) = d$ ,  $F(b) = c$ ,  $F(c) = e$ . Prove that  $F$  has an inverse and compute  $F^{-1}$ .

EXERCISE 9.19. Prove that if  $A$  and  $B$  are sets then there exist maps  $F : A \times B \rightarrow A$  and  $G : A \times B \rightarrow B$  such that  $F(a, b) = a$  and  $G(a, b) = b$  for all  $(a, b) \in A \times B$ . (These are called the first and the second projection.) Hint: For  $G$  show that  $G = \{((a, b), c); c = b\} \subset (A \times B) \times B$  is a map.

EXERCISE 9.20. Prove that  $(A \times B) \times C \rightarrow A \times (B \times C)$ ,  $((a, b), c) \mapsto (a, (b, c))$  is a bijection.

DEFINITION 9.21. Write  $A \times B \times C$  instead of  $(A \times B) \times C$  and write  $(a, b, c)$  instead of  $((a, b), c)$ . We call  $(a, b, c)$  a triple. Write  $A^2 = A \times A$  and  $A^3 = A \times A \times A$ . More generally adopt this notation for arbitrary number of factors. Elements like  $(a, b)$ ,  $(a, b, c)$ ,  $(a, b, c, d)$ , etc. will be called tuples.

THEOREM 9.22. *If  $A$  is a set then there is no bijection between  $A$  and  $\mathcal{P}(A)$*

*Proof.* Assume there exists a bijection  $F : A \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(A)$  and seek a contradiction. Consider the set

$$B = \{a \in A; a \notin F(a)\} \in \mathcal{P}(A).$$

Since  $F$  is surjective there exists  $b \in A$  such that  $B = F(b)$ . There are two cases: either  $b \in B$  or  $b \notin B$ . If  $b \in B$  then  $b \in F(b)$  so  $b \notin B$ , a contradiction. If  $b \notin B$  then  $b \notin F(b)$  so  $b \in B$ , a contradiction, and we are done.  $\square$

REMARK 9.23. Note the similarity between the above argument and the argument showing that there is no set having all sets as elements (the ‘‘Russell paradox’’).

DEFINITION 9.24. Let  $S$  be a set of sets and  $I$  a set. A family of sets in  $S$  indexed by  $I$  is a map  $I \rightarrow S$ ,  $i \mapsto A_i$ . We sometimes drop the reference to  $S$ . We also write  $(A_i)_{i \in I}$  to denote this family. By the union axiom for any such family there is a set (denoted by  $\bigcup_{i \in I} A_i$ , called their union) such that for all  $x$  we have that  $x \in \bigcup_{i \in I} A_i$  if and only if there exists  $i \in I$  such that  $x \in A_i$ . Also a set (denoted by  $\bigcap_{i \in I} A_i$ , called their intersection) exists such that for all  $x$  we have that  $x \in \bigcap_{i \in I} A_i$  if and only if for all  $i \in I$  we have  $x \in A_i$ . A family of elements in  $(A_i)_{i \in I}$  is a map  $I \rightarrow \bigcup_{i \in I} A_i$ ,  $i \mapsto a_i$ , such that for all  $i \in I$  we have  $a_i \in A_i$ . Such a family of elements is denoted by  $(a_i)_{i \in I}$ . One defines the product  $\prod_{i \in I} A_i$  as the set of all families of elements  $(a_i)_{i \in I}$ .

EXERCISE 9.25. Check that for  $I = \{i, j\}$  the above definitions of  $\cup, \cap, \prod$  yield the usual definition of  $A_i \cap A_j$ ,  $A_i \cup A_j$ , and  $A_i \times A_j$ .

DEFINITION 9.26. Let  $F : A \rightarrow B$  be a map and  $X \subset A$ . Define the image of  $X$  as the set

$$F(X) = \{y \in B; \exists x \in X, y = F(x)\} \subset B.$$

If  $Y \subset B$  define the inverse image (or preimage) of  $Y$  as the set

$$F^{-1}(Y) = \{x \in A; F(x) \in Y\} \subset A.$$

For  $y \in B$  define

$$F^{-1}(y) = \{x \in A; F(x) = y\}.$$

(Note that  $F^{-1}(Y)$ ,  $F^{-1}(y)$  are defined even if the inverse map  $F^{-1}$  does not exist, i.e., even if  $F$  is not bijective.)

EXERCISE 9.27. Let  $F : \{a, b, c, d, e, f, g\} \rightarrow \{c, d, e, h\}$ ,  $F(a) = d$ ,  $F(b) = c$ ,  $F(c) = e$ ,  $F(d) = c$ ,  $F(e) = d$ ,  $F(f) = c$ ,  $F(g) = c$ . Let  $X = \{a, b, c\}$ ,  $Y = \{c, h\}$ . Compute  $F(X)$ ,  $F^{-1}(Y)$ ,  $F^{-1}(c)$ ,  $F^{-1}(h)$ .

EXERCISE 9.28. Prove that if  $F : A \rightarrow B$  is a map and  $X \subset X' \subset A$  are subsets then  $F(X) \subset F(X')$ .

EXERCISE 9.29. Prove that if  $F : A \rightarrow B$  is a map and  $(X_i)_{i \in I}$  is a family of subsets of  $A$  then

$$F(\bigcup_{i \in I} X_i) = \bigcup_{i \in I} F(X_i),$$

$$F(\cap_{i \in I} X_i) \subset \cap_{i \in I} F(X_i).$$

If in addition  $F$  is injective show that

$$F(\cap_{i \in I} X_i) = \cap_{i \in I} F(X_i).$$

Give an example showing that the latter may fail if  $F$  is not injective.

EXERCISE 9.30. Prove that if  $F : A \rightarrow B$  is a map and  $Y \subset Y' \subset B$  are subsets then  $F^{-1}(Y) \subset F^{-1}(Y')$ .

EXERCISE 9.31. Prove that if  $F : A \rightarrow B$  is a map and  $(Y_i)_{i \in I}$  is a family of subsets of  $B$  then

$$F^{-1}(\cup_{i \in I} Y_i) = \cup_{i \in I} F^{-1}(Y_i),$$

$$F^{-1}(\cap_{i \in I} Y_i) = \cap_{i \in I} F^{-1}(Y_i).$$

(So here one does not need injectivity like in the case of unions.)

DEFINITION 9.32. If  $A$  and  $B$  are sets we denote by  $B^A \subset \mathcal{P}(A \times B)$  the set of all maps  $F : A \rightarrow B$ ; sometimes one writes  $Map(A, B) = B^A$ .

EXERCISE 9.33. Let  $0, 1$  be two elements. Prove that the map  $\{0, 1\}^A \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(A)$  sending  $F : A \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$  into  $F^{-1}(1) \in \mathcal{P}(A)$  is a bijection.

EXERCISE 9.34. Find a bijection between  $(C^B)^A$  and  $C^{A \times B}$ . Hint: Send  $F \in (C^B)^A$ ,  $F : A \rightarrow C^B$ , into the set (map)

$$\{((a, b), c) \in (A \times B) \times C; (b, c) \in F(a)\}.$$



## CHAPTER 10

# Relations

A basic notion in set theory is that of relation; we shall investigate in some detail two special cases: order relations and equivalence relations.

DEFINITION 10.1. If  $A$  is a set then a relation on  $A$  is a subset  $R \subset A \times A$ . If  $(a, b) \in R$  we write  $aRb$ .

REMARK 10.2. Exactly as in Remark 9.2 the above defines a new (binary) relational predicate "... is a relation on ..." and we may introduce a corresponding new relational predicate (still denoted by  $R$ ).

DEFINITION 10.3. A relation  $R$  is called an order if (writing  $a \leq b$  instead of  $aRb$ ) we have, for all  $a, b, c \in A$ , that

- 1)  $a \leq a$  (reflexivity),
- 2)  $a \leq b$  and  $b \leq c$  imply  $a \leq c$  (transitivity),
- 3)  $a \leq b$  and  $b \leq a$  imply  $a = b$  (antisymmetry).

DEFINITION 10.4. One writes  $a < b$  if  $a \leq b$  and  $a \neq b$ .

DEFINITION 10.5. An order relation is called a total order if for any  $a, b \in A$  either  $a \leq b$  or  $b \leq a$ . Alternatively we say  $A$  is totally ordered (by  $\leq$ ).

EXAMPLE 10.6. For instance if  $A = \{a, b, c, d\}$  then

$$R = \{(a, a), (b, b), (c, c), (d, d), (a, b), (b, c), (a, c)\}$$

is an order but not a total order.

EXERCISE 10.7. Let  $R_0 \subset A \times A$  be a relation and assume  $R_0$  is contained in an order relation  $R_1 \subset A \times A$ . Let

$$R = \bigcap_{R' \supset R_0} R'$$

be the intersection of all order relations  $R'$  containing  $R_0$ . Prove that  $R$  is an order relation and it is the smallest order relation containing  $R_0$  in the sense that it is contained in any order relation that contains  $R_0$ .

EXERCISE 10.8. Let  $A = \{a, b, c, d, e\}$  and  $R_0 = \{(a, b), (b, c), (c, d), (c, e)\}$ . Find an order relation containing  $R_0$ . Find the smallest order relation  $R$  containing  $R_0$ . Show that  $R$  is not a total order.

EXERCISE 10.9. Let  $A$  be a set. For any subsets  $X \subset A$  and  $Y \subset A$  write  $X \leq Y$  if and only if  $X \subset Y$ . This defines a relation on the set  $\mathcal{P}(A)$ . Prove that this is an order relation. Give an example showing that this is not in general a total order.

DEFINITION 10.10. An ordered set is a pair  $(A, \leq)$  where  $A$  is a set and  $\leq$  is an order relation on  $A$ .

DEFINITION 10.11. Let  $(A, \leq)$  and  $(A', \leq')$  be ordered sets. A map  $F : A \rightarrow A'$  is called increasing if for any  $a, b \in A$  with  $a \leq b$  we have  $F(a) \leq' F(b)$ .

EXERCISE 10.12. Prove that if  $(A, \leq)$ ,  $(A', \leq')$ ,  $(A'', \leq'')$  are ordered sets and  $G : A \rightarrow A'$ ,  $F : A' \rightarrow A''$  are increasing then  $F \circ G : A \rightarrow A''$  is increasing.

DEFINITION 10.13. Let  $A$  be a set with an order  $\leq$ . We say  $\alpha \in A$  is a minimal element of  $A$  if for all  $a \in A$  such that  $a \leq \alpha$  we must have  $a = \alpha$ .

DEFINITION 10.14. Let  $A$  be a set with an order  $\leq$ . We say  $\beta \in A$  is a maximal element of  $A$  if for all  $b \in A$  such that  $\beta \leq b$  we must have  $\beta = b$ .

DEFINITION 10.15. Let  $A$  be a set with an order  $\leq$  and let  $B \subset A$ . We say  $m \in B$  is a minimum element of  $B$  if for all  $b \in B$  we have  $m \leq b$ . If a minimum element exists it is unique (check!) and we denote it by  $\min B$ . Note that if  $\min B$  exists then, by definition,  $\min B$  belongs to  $B$ .

DEFINITION 10.16. Let  $A$  be a set with an order  $\leq$  and  $B \subset A$ . We say  $M \in B$  is a maximum element of  $B$  if for all  $b \in B$  we have  $b \leq M$ . If a maximum element exists it is unique and we denote it by  $\max B$ . Again, if  $\max B$  exists then by definition it belongs to  $B$ .

DEFINITION 10.17. Let  $A$  be a set with an order  $\leq$  and let  $B \subset A$ . An element  $u \in A$  is called an upper bound for  $B$  if  $b \leq u$  for all  $b \in B$ . We also say that  $B$  is bounded from above by  $u$ . An element  $l \in A$  is called a lower bound for  $B$  if  $l \leq b$  for all  $b \in B$ ; we also say  $B$  is bounded from below by  $l$ . If the set of upper bounds of  $B$  has a minimum element we call it the supremum of  $B$  and we denote it by  $\sup B$ ; if the set of lower bounds of  $B$  has a maximum element we call it the infimum of  $B$  and we denote it by  $\inf B$ . (Note that if one of  $\sup B$  and  $\inf B$  exists that element is by definition in  $A$  but does not necessarily belong to  $B$ .) We say  $B$  is bounded if it has both an upper bound and a lower bound.

EXERCISE 10.18. Consider the set  $A$  and the order  $\leq$  defined by the relation  $R$  in Exercise 10.8. Does  $A$  have a maximum element? Does  $A$  have a minimum element? Are there maximal elements in  $A$ ? Are there minimal elements in  $A$ ? List all these elements in case they exist. Let  $B = \{b, c\}$ . Is  $B$  bounded? List all the upper bounds of  $B$ . List all the lower bounds of  $B$ . Does the supremum of  $B$  exist? If yes does it belong to  $B$ ? Does the infimum of  $B$  exist? Does it belong to  $B$ ?

DEFINITION 10.19. A well ordered set is an ordered set  $(A, \leq)$  such that any non-empty subset  $B \subset A$  has a minimum element.

EXERCISE 10.20. Prove that any well ordered set is totally ordered.

REMARK 10.21. Later, when we will have introduced the ordered set of integers and the ordered set of rational numbers we will see that the non-negative integers are well ordered but the non-negative rationals are not well ordered.

The following theorems can be proved (but their proof is beyond the scope of this course):

**THEOREM 10.22.** (*Zorn's lemma*) Assume  $(A, \leq)$  is an ordered set. Assume that any non-empty totally ordered subset  $B \subset A$  has an upper bound in  $A$ . Then  $A$  has a maximal element.

**THEOREM 10.23.** (*Well ordering principle*) Let  $A$  be a set. Then there exists an order relation  $\leq$  on  $A$  such that  $(A, \leq)$  is well ordered.

**REMARK 10.24.** It can be proved that if one removes from the axioms of set theory the axiom of choice then the axiom of choice, Zorn's lemma, and the well ordering principle are all equivalent.

**EXERCISE 10.25.** Let  $(A, \leq)$  and  $(B, \leq)$  be totally ordered sets. Define a relation  $\leq$  on  $A \times B$  by

$$((a, b) \leq (a', b')) \leftrightarrow ((a < a') \vee ((a = a') \wedge (b \leq b'))).$$

Prove that  $\leq$  is an order on  $A \times B$  (it is called the lexicographic order) and that  $(A \times B, \leq)$  is totally ordered. (Explain how this order is being used to order words in a dictionary.)

**DEFINITION 10.26.** A relation  $R$  is called an equivalence relation if (writing  $a \sim b$  instead of  $aRb$ ) we have, for all  $a, b, c \in A$ , that

- 1)  $a \sim a$  (reflexivity),
- 2)  $a \sim b$  and  $b \sim c$  imply  $a \sim c$  (transitivity),
- 3)  $a \sim b$  implies  $b \sim a$  (symmetry);

we also say that  $\sim$  is an equivalence relation.

**EXERCISE 10.27.** Let  $R_0 \subset A \times A$  be a relation and let

$$R = \bigcap_{R' \supset R_0} R'$$

be the intersection of all equivalence relations  $R'$  containing  $R_0$ . Prove that  $R$  is an equivalence relation and it is the smallest equivalence relation containing  $R_0$  in the sense that it is contained in any other equivalence relation that contains  $R_0$ .

**DEFINITION 10.28.** Given an equivalence relation  $\sim$  as above for any  $a \in A$  we may consider the set

$$\hat{a} = \{c \in A; c \sim a\}$$

called the equivalence class of  $a$ .

**DEFINITION 10.29.** Sometimes, instead of  $\hat{a}$ , one writes  $\bar{a}$  or  $[a]$ .

**EXERCISE 10.30.** Prove that  $\hat{a} = \hat{b}$  if and only if  $a \sim b$ .

**EXERCISE 10.31.** Prove that:

- 1) if  $\hat{a} \cap \hat{b} \neq \emptyset$  then  $\hat{a} = \hat{b}$ ;
- 2)  $A = \bigcup_{a \in A} \hat{a}$ .

**DEFINITION 10.32.** If  $A$  is a set a partition of  $A$  is a family  $(A_i)_{i \in I}$  if subsets  $A_i \subset A$  such that:

- 1) if  $i \neq j$  then  $A_i \cap A_j = \emptyset$
- 2)  $A = \bigcup_{i \in I} A_i$ .

EXERCISE 10.33. Let  $A$  be a set and  $\sim$  an equivalence relation on it. Prove that:

1) There exists a subset  $B \subset A$  which contains exactly one element of each equivalence class (such a set is called a system of representatives. Hint: Use the axiom of choice).

2) The family  $(\hat{b})_{b \in B}$  is a partition of  $A$ .

EXERCISE 10.34. Let  $A$  be a set and  $(A_i)_{i \in I}$  a partition of  $A$ . Define a relation  $R$  on  $A$  as follows:

$$R = \{(a, b) \in A \times A; \exists i((i \in I) \wedge (a \in A_i) \wedge (b \in A_i))\}.$$

Prove that  $R$  is an equivalence relation.

EXERCISE 10.35. Let  $A$  be a set. Prove that there is a bijection between the set of equivalence relations on  $A$  and the set of partitions of  $A$ . Hint: Use the above two exercises.

DEFINITION 10.36. The set of equivalence classes

$$\{\alpha \in \mathcal{P}(A); \exists a((a \in A) \wedge (\alpha = \hat{a}))\}$$

is denoted by  $A/\sim$  and is called the quotient of  $A$  by the relation  $\sim$ .

EXAMPLE 10.37. For instance if  $A = \{a, b, c\}$  and

$$R = \{(a, a), (b, b), (c, c), (a, b), (b, a)\}$$

then  $R$  is an equivalence relation,  $\hat{a} = \hat{b} = \{a, b\}$ ,  $\hat{c} = \{c\}$ , and  $A/\sim = \{\{a, b\}, \{c\}\}$ .

EXERCISE 10.38. Let  $A = \{a, b, c, d, e, f\}$  and  $R_0 = \{(a, b), (b, c), (d, e)\}$ . Find the smallest equivalence relation  $R$  containing  $R_0$ . Call it  $\sim$ . Write down the equivalence classes  $\hat{a}, \hat{b}, \hat{c}, \hat{d}, \hat{e}, \hat{f}$ . Write down the set  $A/\sim$ .

EXERCISE 10.39. Let  $S$  be a set. For any sets  $X, Y \in S$  write  $X \sim Y$  if and only if there exists a bijection  $F : X \rightarrow Y$ . This defines a relation on  $S$ . Prove that this is an equivalence relation.

EXERCISE 10.40. Let  $S = \{A, B, C, D\}$ ,  $A = \{a, b\}$ ,  $B = \{b, c\}$ ,  $C = \{x, y\}$ ,  $D = \emptyset$ . Let  $\sim$  be the equivalence relation on  $S$  defined in the previous exercise. Write down the equivalence classes  $\hat{A}, \hat{B}, \hat{C}, \hat{D}$  and write down the set  $S/\sim$ .

DEFINITION 10.41. An affine plane is a pair  $(A, \mathcal{L})$  where  $A$  is a set and  $\mathcal{L} \subset \mathcal{P}(A)$  is a set of subsets of  $A$  satisfying a series of properties (which we call, by abuse, axioms) which we now explain. It is convenient to introduce some terminology as follows.  $A$  is called the affine plane. The elements of  $A$  are called points. The elements  $L$  of  $\mathcal{L}$  are called lines; so each such  $L$  is a subset of  $A$ . We say a point  $P$  lies on a line  $L$  if  $P \in L$ ; we also say that  $L$  passes through  $P$ . We say that two lines intersect if they have a point in common; we say that two lines are parallel if they either coincide or they do not intersect. We say that 3 points are collinear if they lie on the same line. Here are the axioms that we impose:

- 1) There exist 3 points which are not collinear and any line has at least 2 points.
- 2) Any 2 distinct points lie on exactly one line.

3) If  $L$  is a line and  $P$  is a point not lying on  $L$  there exists exactly one line through  $P$  which is parallel to  $L$ .

REMARK 10.42. Note that we have not defined 2 or 3 yet; this will be done later when we introduce integers. The meaning of these axioms is, however, clearly expressible in terms that were already defined. For instance axiom 2 says that for any points  $P$  and  $Q$  with  $P \neq Q$  there exists a line through  $P$  and  $Q$ ; we do not need to define the symbol 2 to express this. The same holds for the use of the symbol 3.

EXERCISE 10.43. Prove that any two distinct non-parallel lines intersect in exactly one point.

EXERCISE 10.44. Let  $A = \{a, b\} \times \{a, b\}$  and let  $\mathcal{L} \subset \mathcal{P}(A)$  consist of all subsets of 2 elements; there are 6 of them. Prove that  $(A, \mathcal{L})$  is an affine plane. (Again one can reformulate everything without reference to the symbols 2 or 6; one simply uses 2 or 6 letters and writes that they are pairwise unequal.)

EXERCISE 10.45. Let  $A = \{a, b, c\} \times \{a, b, c\}$ . Find all subsets  $\mathcal{L} \subset \mathcal{P}(A)$  such that  $(A, \mathcal{L})$  is an affine plane. (This is tedious !)

DEFINITION 10.46. A projective plane is a pair  $(\bar{A}, \bar{\mathcal{L}})$  where  $\bar{A}$  is a set and  $\bar{\mathcal{L}} \subset \mathcal{P}(\bar{A})$  is a set of subsets of  $\bar{A}$  satisfying a series of axioms which we now explain. Again it is convenient to introduce some terminology as follows.  $\bar{A}$  is called the projective plane. The elements of  $\bar{A}$  are called points,  $P$ . The elements  $\bar{L}$  of  $\bar{\mathcal{L}}$  are called lines; so each such  $\bar{L} \subset \bar{A}$ . We say a point  $P$  lies on a line  $\bar{L}$  if  $P \in \bar{L}$ ; we also say that  $\bar{L}$  passes through  $P$ . We say that two lines intersect if they have a point in common; we say that two lines are parallel if they either coincide or they do not intersect. We say that 3 points are collinear if they lie on the same line. Here are the axioms that we impose:

- 1) There exist 3 points which are not collinear and any line has at least 3 points.
- 2) Any 2 distinct points lie on exactly one line.
- 3) Any 2 distinct lines meet in exactly one point.

EXAMPLE 10.47. One can attach to any affine plane  $(A, \mathcal{L})$  a projective plane  $(\bar{A}, \bar{\mathcal{L}})$  as follows. We introduce the relation  $\parallel$  on  $\mathcal{L}$  by letting  $L \parallel L'$  if and only if  $L$  and  $L'$  are parallel. This is an equivalence relation (check!). Denote by  $\hat{L}$  the equivalence class of  $L$ . Then we consider the set of equivalence classes,  $\bar{\mathcal{L}}_\infty = \mathcal{L} / \parallel$ ; call this set the line at infinity. There exists a set  $\bar{A}$  such that  $\bar{A} = A \cup \bar{\mathcal{L}}_\infty$  and  $A \cap \bar{\mathcal{L}}_\infty = \emptyset$ . Define a line in  $\bar{A}$  to be either  $\bar{\mathcal{L}}_\infty$  or set of the form  $\bar{L} = L \cup \{\hat{L}\}$ . Finally define  $\bar{\mathcal{L}}$  to be the set of all lines in  $\bar{A}$ .

EXERCISE 10.48. Explain why  $\bar{A}$  exists. Check that  $(\bar{A}, \bar{\mathcal{L}})$  is a projective plane.

EXERCISE 10.49. Describe the projective plane attached to the affine plane in Exercise 10.44; how many points does it have? How many lines?



## CHAPTER 11

# Operations

The concept of operation on a set is an abstraction of “familiar” operations such as addition and multiplication of numbers, composition of functions, etc. Sets with operations on them will be referred to as algebraic structures. The study of algebraic structures is referred to as (modern) algebra and took the shape known today through work (in number theory and algebraic geometry) done by Kronecker, Dedekind, Hilbert, Emmy Noether, etc. Here we introduce operations in general, and some algebraic structures such as rings, fields, and Boolean algebras. We prefer to postpone the introduction of other algebraic structures such as groups, vector spaces, etc., until more theory is being developed.

**DEFINITION 11.1.** A binary operation  $\star$  on a set  $A$  is a map  $\star : A \times A \rightarrow A$ ,  $(a, b) \mapsto \star(a, b)$ . We usually write  $a \star b$  instead of  $\star(a, b)$ . For instance, we write  $(a \star b) \star c$  instead of  $\star(\star(a, b), c)$ . Instead of  $\star$  we sometimes use notation like  $+$ ,  $\times$ ,  $\circ$ ,  $\dots$

**REMARK 11.2.** Exactly as in Remark 9.2 the above defines a new (binary) relational predicate “... is a binary operation on ...” and we may introduce a corresponding new functional symbol (still denoted by  $\star$ ).

**DEFINITION 11.3.** A unary operation  $'$  on a set  $A$  is a map  $' : A \rightarrow A$ ,  $a \mapsto '(a)$ . We usually write  $a'$  or  $'a$  instead of  $'(a)$ . Instead of  $'$  we sometimes use notation like  $-$ ,  $i$ ,  $\dots$

**EXAMPLE 11.4.** Let  $S = \{0, 1\}$  where  $0, 1$  are two sets. Then there are 3 interesting binary operations on  $S$  denoted by  $\wedge, \vee, +$  (and called supremum, infimum, and addition) defined as follows:

$$0 \wedge 0 = 0, \quad 0 \wedge 1 = 0, \quad 1 \wedge 0 = 0, \quad 1 \wedge 1 = 1;$$

$$0 \vee 0 = 0, \quad 0 \vee 1 = 1, \quad 1 \vee 0 = 1, \quad 1 \vee 1 = 1;$$

$$0 + 0 = 0, \quad 0 + 1 = 1, \quad 1 + 0 = 1, \quad 1 + 1 = 0.$$

The symbol  $\wedge$  is also denoted by  $\times$  or  $\cdot$ ; it is referred to as multiplication. The symbol  $+$  is also denoted by  $\Delta$ . Also there is a unary operation  $\neg$  on  $S$  defined by

$$\neg 1 = 0, \quad \neg 0 = 1.$$

Note that if we denote  $0$  and  $1$  by  $F$  and  $T$  then the operations  $\wedge, \vee, \neg$  on  $\{0, 1\}$  correspond exactly to the “logical operations” on  $F$  and  $T$  defined in the chapter on tautologies. This is not a coincidence!

**EXERCISE 11.5.** Compute  $((0 \wedge 1) \vee 1) + (1 \wedge (0 \vee (1 + 1)))$ .

**DEFINITION 11.6.** A Boolean algebra is a tuple

$$(A, \vee, \wedge, \neg, 0, 1)$$

where  $\wedge, \vee$  are binary operations,  $\neg$  is a unary operation, and  $0, 1 \in A$  such that for all  $a, b, c \in A$  the following “axioms” are satisfied:

- 1)  $a \wedge (b \wedge c) = (a \wedge b) \wedge c$ ,  $a \vee (b \vee c) = (a \vee b) \vee c$ ,
- 2)  $a \wedge b = b \wedge a$ ,  $a \vee b = b \vee a$ ,
- 3)  $a \wedge 1 = a$ ,  $a \vee 0 = a$ ,
- 4)  $a \wedge (b \vee c) = (a \wedge b) \vee (a \wedge c)$ ,  $a \vee (b \wedge c) = (a \vee b) \wedge (a \vee c)$
- 5)  $a \wedge (\neg a) = 0$ ,  $a \vee (\neg a) = 1$ .

DEFINITION 11.7. A commutative unital ring (or simply a ring) is a tuple

$$(R, +, \times, -, 0, 1)$$

(sometimes referred to simply as  $R$ ) where  $R$  is a set,  $0, 1 \in R$ ,  $+$ ,  $\times$  are two binary operations (write  $a \times b = ab$ ), and  $-$  is a unary operation on  $R$  such that for any  $a, b, c \in R$  the following hold:

- 1)  $a + (b + c) = (a + b) + c$ ,  $a + 0 = a$ ,  $a + (-a) = 0$ ,  $a + b = b + a$ ;
- 2)  $a(bc) = a(bc)$ ,  $1a = a$ ,  $ab = ba$ ,
- 3)  $a(b + c) = ab + ac$ .

The element 1 is referred to as the identity; 0 is referred to as the zero element.

DEFINITION 11.8. We write  $a + b + c$  instead of  $(a + b) + c$  and  $abc$  for  $(ab)c$ . We write  $a - b$  instead of  $a + (-b)$ .

DEFINITION 11.9. An element  $a$  of a ring  $R$  is invertible if there exists  $a' \in R$  such that  $aa' = 1$ ; this  $a'$  is then easily proved to be unique. It is called the inverse of  $a$ , and is denoted by  $a^{-1}$ . A ring  $R$  is called a field if  $0 \neq 1$  and any non-zero element is invertible.

DEFINITION 11.10. A Boolean ring is a commutative unital ring such that  $1 \neq 0$  and for all  $a \in A$  we have  $a^2 = a$ .

EXERCISE 11.11. Prove that in a Boolean ring  $A$  we have  $a + a = 0$  for all  $a \in A$ .

EXERCISE 11.12. Prove that

- 1)  $(\{0, 1\}, \vee, \wedge, \neg, 0, 1)$  is a Boolean algebra.
- 2)  $(\{0, 1\}, +, \times, I, 0, 1)$  is a Boolean ring and a field ( $I$  is the identity map).

EXERCISE 11.13. Prove that if a Boolean ring  $A$  is a field then  $A = \{0, 1\}$ .

DEFINITION 11.14. Let  $A$  be a set and let  $S = \mathcal{P}(A)$  be the power set of  $A$ . Define the following operations on  $S$ :

$$\begin{aligned} X \wedge Y &= X \cap Y \\ X \vee Y &= X \cup Y \\ X \Delta Y &= (X \cup Y) \setminus (X \cap Y) \\ \neg X &= \mathcal{C}X = A \setminus X. \end{aligned}$$

EXERCISE 11.15. Prove that

- 1)  $(\mathcal{P}(A), \vee, \wedge, \neg, \emptyset, A)$  is a Boolean algebra;
- 2)  $(\mathcal{P}(A), \Delta, \wedge, I, \emptyset, A)$  is a Boolean ring ( $I$  is the identity map).

Hint: For any  $a \in A$  one can define a map  $\psi_a : \mathcal{P}(A) \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$  by setting  $\psi_a(X) = 1$  if and only if  $a \in X$ . Note that

- 1)  $\psi_a(X \wedge Y) = \psi_a(X) \wedge \psi_a(Y)$ ,
- 2)  $\psi_a(X \vee Y) = \psi_a(X) \vee \psi_a(Y)$ ,



$$3) \psi_a(X\Delta Y) = \psi_a(X) + \psi_a(Y),$$

$$4) \psi_a(\neg X) = \neg\psi_a(X).$$

Next note that  $X = Y$  if and only if  $\psi_a(X) = \psi_a(Y)$  for all  $a \in A$ . Use these functions to reduce the present exercise to Exercise 11.12.

DEFINITION 11.16. Given a subset  $X \subset A$  one can define the characteristic function  $\chi_X : A \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$  by letting  $\chi_X(a) = 1$  if and only if  $a \in X$ ; in other words  $\chi_X(a) = \psi_a(X)$ .

EXERCISE 11.17. Prove that

$$1) \chi_{X \vee Y}(a) = \chi_X(a) \vee \chi_Y(a),$$

$$2) \chi_{X \wedge Y}(a) = \chi_X(a) \wedge \chi_Y(a),$$

$$3) \chi_{X \Delta Y}(a) = \chi_X(a) + \chi_Y(a),$$

$$4) \chi_{\neg X}(a) = \neg\chi_X(a).$$

DEFINITION 11.18. An algebraic structure is a tuple  $(A, \star, \bullet, \dots, \neg, -, \dots, 0, 1, \dots)$  where  $A$  is a set,  $\star, \bullet, \dots$  are binary operations,  $\neg, -, \dots$  are unary operations, and  $0, 1, \dots$  are given elements of  $A$ . (Some of these may be missing; for instance we could have only one binary operation, one given element, and no unary operations.) Assume we are given two algebraic structures

$$(A, \star, \bullet, \dots, \neg, -, \dots, 0, 1, \dots) \quad \text{and} \quad (A', \star', \bullet', \dots, \neg', -', \dots, 0', 1', \dots)$$

(with the same number of corresponding operations). A map  $F : A \rightarrow A'$  is called a homomorphism if for all  $a, b \in A$  we have:

$$1) F(a \star b) = F(a) \star' F(b), F(a \bullet b) = F(a) \bullet' F(b), \dots$$

$$2) F(\neg a) = \neg' F(a), F(-a) = -' F(a), \dots$$

$$3) F(0) = 0', F(1) = 1', \dots$$

EXAMPLE 11.19. A map  $F : A \rightarrow A'$  between two commutative unital rings is called a homomorphism (of commutative unital rings) if for all  $a, b \in A$  we have:

$$1) F(a + b) = F(a) + F(b) \text{ and } F(ab) = F(a)F(b),$$

$$2) F(-a) = -F(a) \text{ (prove that this is automatic !),}$$

$$3) F(0) = 0 \text{ (prove that this is automatic !)} \text{ and } F(1) = 1.$$

EXERCISE 11.20. Prove that if  $F : A \rightarrow A'$  is a homomorphism of algebraic structures and  $F$  is bijective then its inverse  $F^{-1} : A' \rightarrow A$  is a homomorphism. Such an  $F$  will be called an isomorphism.

DEFINITION 11.21. A subset  $\mathcal{A} \subset \mathcal{P}(A)$  is called a Boolean algebra of sets if the following hold:

$$1) \emptyset \in \mathcal{A}, A \in \mathcal{A};$$

$$2) \text{ If } X, Y \in \mathcal{A} \text{ then } X \cap Y \in \mathcal{A}, X \cup Y \in \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{C}X \in \mathcal{A}.$$

(Hence  $(\mathcal{A}, \vee, \wedge, \mathcal{C}, \emptyset, A)$  is a Boolean algebra.)

EXERCISE 11.22. Prove that if  $\mathcal{A}$  is a Boolean algebra of sets then for any  $X, Y \in \mathcal{A}$  we have  $X\Delta Y \in \mathcal{A}$ . Prove that  $(\mathcal{A}, \Delta, \cap, I, \emptyset, A)$  is a Boolean ring.

DEFINITION 11.23. A subset  $\mathcal{B} \subset \mathcal{P}(A)$  is called a Boolean ring of sets if the following properties hold:

$$1) \emptyset \in \mathcal{B}, A \in \mathcal{B};$$

$$2) \text{ If } X, Y \in \mathcal{B} \text{ then } X \cap Y \in \mathcal{B}, X\Delta Y \in \mathcal{B}.$$

(Hence  $(\mathcal{A}, \Delta, \vee, I, \emptyset, A)$  is a Boolean ring.)

EXERCISE 11.24. Prove that any Boolean ring of sets  $\mathcal{B}$  is a Boolean algebra of sets.

DEFINITION 11.25. A commutative unital ordered ring (or simply an ordered ring) is a tuple

$$(R, +, \times, -, 0, 1, \leq)$$

where

$$(R, +, \times, -, 0, 1)$$

is a ring,  $\leq$  is a total order on  $R$ , and for all  $a, b, c \in R$  the following axioms are satisfied

- 1) If  $a < b$  then  $a + c < b + c$ ;
- 2) If  $a < b$  and  $c > 0$  then  $ac < bc$ .

We say that  $a \in R$  is positive if  $a > 0$ ; and that  $a$  is negative if  $a < 0$ . We say  $a$  is non-negative if  $a \geq 0$ .

EXERCISE 11.26. Prove that the ring  $(\{0, 1\}, +, \times, -, 0, 1)$  has no structure of ordered ring i.e., there is no order  $\leq$  on  $\{0, 1\}$  such that  $(\{0, 1\}, +, \times, -, 0, 1, \leq)$  is an ordered ring.

REMARK 11.27. We cannot give examples yet of ordered rings. Later we will see that the rings of integers, rationals, and reals have natural structures of ordered rings.

DEFINITION 11.28. Let  $R$  be an ordered ring and let  $R_+ = \{a \in R; a \geq 0\}$ . A finite measure space is a triple  $(A, \mathcal{A}, \mu)$  where  $A$  is a set,  $\mathcal{A} \subset \mathcal{P}(A)$  is a Boolean algebra of sets, and  $\mu : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow R_+$  is a map satisfying the property that for any  $X, Y \in \mathcal{A}$  with  $X \cap Y = \emptyset$  we have

$$\mu(X \cup Y) = \mu(X) + \mu(Y).$$

If in addition  $\mu(A) = 1$  we say  $(A, \mathcal{A}, \mu)$  is a finite probability measure. We say that  $X, Y \in \mathcal{A}$  are independent if  $\mu(X \cap Y) = \mu(X) \cdot \mu(Y)$ .

EXERCISE 11.29. Prove that in a finite measure space  $\mu(\emptyset) = 0$  and for any  $X, Y \in \mathcal{A}$  we have

$$\mu(X \cup Y) = \mu(X) + \mu(Y) - \mu(X \cap Y).$$

EXERCISE 11.30. Let  $(A, \vee, \wedge, \neg, 0, 1)$  be a Boolean algebra. For any  $a, b \in A$  set

$$a + b = (a \vee b) \wedge (\neg(a \wedge b)).$$

Prove that  $(A, +, \wedge, I, 0, 1)$  is a Boolean ring ( $I$  the identity map).

EXERCISE 11.31. Let  $(A, +, \times, -, 0, 1)$  be a Boolean ring. For any  $a, b \in A$  let

$$\begin{aligned} a \vee b &= a + b - ab \\ a \wedge b &= ab \\ \neg a &= 1 - a. \end{aligned}$$

Prove that  $(A, \vee, \wedge, \neg, 0, 1)$  is a Boolean algebra.

EXERCISE 11.32. Let  $X$  be a set and  $(R, +, \cdot, -, 0, 1)$  a commutative unital ring. Let  $R^X$  be the set of all functions  $X \rightarrow R$ . For  $F, G \in R^X$  we define  $F + G, F \cdot G, -F, 0, 1 \in R^X$  by the formulae

$$(F + G)(x) = F(x) + G(x), \quad (F \cdot G)(x) = F(x) \cdot G(x),$$

$$(-F)(x) = -F(x), \quad 0(x) = 0, \quad 1(x) = x,$$

for all  $x \in X$ . The operations  $F + G$  and  $F \cdot G$  are called pointwise addition and multiplication of functions. Prove that

$$(R^X, +, \cdot, -, 0, 1)$$

is a commutative unital ring.



## **Part 3**

# **The discrete**



## CHAPTER 12

# Integers

In this Chapter we introduce the ring  $\mathbb{Z}$  of integers and we prove some easy theorems about this concept.

**DEFINITION 12.1.** A well ordered ring is an ordered ring  $(R, +, \times, 0, 1, \leq)$  with  $1 \neq 0$  having the property that any non-empty subset of  $R$  which is bounded from below has a minimum element.

**REMARK 12.2.** If  $(R, +, \times, 0, 1, \leq)$  is a well ordered ring then  $(R, \leq)$  is not a priori a well ordered set. But if  $R_{>0} = \{a \in R; a > 0\}$  then  $(R_{>0}, \leq)$  is a well ordered set.

We have the following remarkable theorem in set theory  $T_{set}$ :

**THEOREM 12.3.** *There exists a well ordered ring.*

**REMARK 12.4.** The above theorem is formulated, as usual, in Argot; but it should be understood as being a sentence  $Z$  in  $L_{set}$  of the form

$$\exists r \exists s \exists p \exists o \exists u \exists l (...)$$

where we take a variable  $r$  to stand for the ring, a variable  $s$  for the sum,  $p$  for the product,  $o$  for 0,  $u$  for 1,  $l$  for  $\leq$ , and the dots stand for the corresponding conditions in the definition of a well ordered ring, written in the language of sets. The sentence  $Z$  is complicated so we preferred to give the theorem not as a sentence in  $L_{set}$  but as a sentence in Argot. This kind of abuse is very common.

**REMARK 12.5.** We are going to sketch the proof of Theorem 12.3 in an exercise below. The proof is involved. A cheap way to avoid the proof of this theorem is as follows: add this theorem to the ZFC axioms and let ZFC' be the resulting enriched system of axioms. Then replace  $T_{set}$  by the theory  $T'_{set}$  with axioms ZFC'. This is what all working mathematicians essentially do anyway.

**DEFINITION 12.6.** We let  $\mathbb{Z}, +, \times, 0, 1, \leq$  be the witnesses for the sentence  $Z$  above; we call  $\mathbb{Z}$  the ring of integers. In particular the conditions in the definition of rings (associativity, commutativity, etc.) and order (transitivity, etc.) become theorems for  $\mathbb{Z}$ . We also set  $\mathbb{N} = \{a \in \mathbb{Z}; a > 0\}$  and we call  $\mathbb{N}$  the set of natural numbers. Later we will prove the "essential uniqueness" of  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

**REMARK 12.7.** The only predicate in the language  $L_{set}$  of sets is  $\in$  and the constants in this language are called sets. In particular when we consider the ordered ring of integers  $(\mathbb{Z}, +, \times, 0, 1, \leq)$  the symbols  $\mathbb{Z}, +, \times, 0, 1, \leq, \mathbb{N}$  are all constants (they are sets). In particular  $+, \times$  are not originally functional symbols and  $\leq$  is not originally a relational predicate. But, according to our conventions, we may introduce functional symbols (still denoted by  $+, \times$ ) and a relational predicate (still

denoted by  $\leq$ ) via appropriate definitions. (This is because “*the set  $+$  is a binary operation on  $\mathbb{Z}$* ” is a theorem, etc.)

EXERCISE 12.8. Prove that  $1 \in \mathbb{N}$ . Hint: Use  $(-1) \times (-1) = 1$ .

EXERCISE 12.9. Prove that if  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $ab = 0$  then either  $a = 0$  or  $b = 0$ . Give an example of a ring where this is not true. (For the latter consider the Boolean ring  $\mathcal{P}(A)$ .)

EXERCISE 12.10. Prove that if  $a \in \mathbb{Z}$  then the set  $\{x \in \mathbb{Z}; a - 1 < x < a\}$  is empty. Hint: It is enough to show that  $S = \{x \in \mathbb{Z}; 0 < x < 1\}$  is empty. Assume  $S$  is non-empty and let  $m = \min S$ . Then  $0 < m^2 < m$ , hence  $0 < m^2 < 1$  and  $m^2 < m$ , a contradiction.

EXERCISE 12.11. Prove that if  $a \in \mathbb{N}$  then  $a = 1$  or  $a - 1 \in \mathbb{N}$ . Conclude that  $\min \mathbb{N} = 1$ . Hint: Use the previous exercise.

In what follows we sketch the main idea behind the proof of Theorem 12.3. We begin with the following:

DEFINITION 12.12. A Peano triple is a triple  $(N, 1, \sigma)$  where  $N$  is a set,  $1 \in N$ , and  $\sigma : N \rightarrow N$  is a map such that

- 1)  $\sigma$  is injective;
- 2)  $\sigma(N) = N \setminus \{1\}$ ;
- 3) for any subset  $S \subset N$  if  $1 \in S$  and  $\sigma(S) \subset S$  then  $S = N$ .

The conditions 1, 2, 3 are called “Peano’s axioms.”

REMARK 12.13. Given a well ordered ring one can easily prove there exists a Peano triple; cf. Exercise 12.14 below. Conversely given a Peano triple one can prove there exists a well ordered ring; this is tedious and will be addressed in Exercise 12.15. The idea of proof of Theorem 12.3 is to prove in set theory (i.e., ZFC) that there exists a Peano triple; here the axiom of infinity is crucial. Then the existence of a well ordered ring follows.

EXERCISE 12.14. Prove that if  $Z$  is a well ordered ring,  $N = \{x \in Z; x > 0\}$ , and  $\sigma : N \rightarrow N$  is  $\sigma(x) = x + 1$  then  $(N, 1, \sigma)$  is a Peano triple.

EXERCISE 12.15. This exercise gives some steps towards showing how to construct a well ordered ring from a given Peano triple. Assume  $(N, 1, \sigma)$  is a Peano triple. For  $y \in N$  let

$$A_y = \{\tau \in N^N; \tau(1) = \sigma(y), \forall x(\tau(\sigma(x)) = \sigma(\tau(x)))\}.$$

1) Prove that  $A_y$  has at most one element. Hint: If  $\tau, \eta \in A_y$  and  $S = \{x; \tau(x) = \eta(x)\}$  then  $1 \in S$  and  $\sigma(S) \subset S$ ; so  $S = N$ .

2) Prove that for any  $y$ ,  $A_y \neq \emptyset$ . Hint: If  $T = \{y \in N; A_y \neq \emptyset\}$  then  $1 \in T$  and  $\sigma(T) \subset T$ ; so  $T = N$ .

3) By 1 and 2 we may write  $A_y = \{\tau_y\}$ . Then define  $+$  on  $N$  by  $x + y = \tau_y(x)$ .

4) Prove that  $x + y = y + x$  and  $(x + y) + z = x + (y + z)$  on  $N$ .

5) Prove that if  $x, y \in N$ ,  $x \neq y$ , then there exists  $z \in N$  such that either  $y = x + z$  or  $x = y + z$ .

6) Define  $N' = \{-\} \times N$ ,  $Z = N' \cup \{0\} \cup N$  where  $0$  and  $-$  are two sets. Naturally extend  $+$  to  $Z$ .

7) Define  $\times$  on  $N$  and then on  $Z$  in the same style as for  $+$ .

8) Define  $\leq$  on  $N$  and prove  $(N, \leq)$  is well ordered. Extend this to  $Z$ .

9) Prove that  $(Z, +, \times, 0, 1, \leq)$  is a well ordered ring.



From now on we accept Theorem 12.3 (either as a theorem whose proof we summarily sketched or as an additional axiom for set theory).

DEFINITION 12.16. Define the natural numbers 2, 3, ..., 9 by

$$\begin{aligned} 2 &= 1 + 1 \\ 3 &= 2 + 1 \\ &\dots \\ 9 &= 8 + 1. \end{aligned}$$

Define  $10 = 2 \times 5$ . Define  $10^2 = 10 \times 10$ , etc. Define symbols like 423 as being  $4 \times 10^2 + 2 \times 10 + 3$ , etc. This is called a decimal representation.

EXERCISE 12.17. Prove that  $12 = 9 + 3$ . Hint: We have:

$$\begin{aligned} 12 &= 10 + 2 \\ &= 2 \times 5 + 2 \\ &= (1 + 1) \times 5 + 2 \\ &= 1 \times 5 + 1 \times 5 + 2 = 5 + 5 + 2 \\ &= 5 + 5 + 1 + 1 = 5 + 6 + 1 = 5 + 7 = 4 + 1 + 7 \\ &= 4 + 8 = 3 + 1 + 8 = 3 + 9 = 9 + 3. \end{aligned}$$

EXERCISE 12.18. Prove that  $18 + 17 = 35$ . Prove that  $17 \times 3 = 51$ .

REMARK 12.19. In Kant's analysis, statements like the ones in the previous exercise were viewed as synthetic; in contemporary mathematics, hence in the approach we follow, all these statements are, on the contrary, analytic statements. (The definition of analytic/synthetic is taken here in the sense of Leibniz and Kant.)

EXERCISE 12.20. Prove that  $7 \leq 20$ .

DEFINITION 12.21. For any integers  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$  the set  $\{x \in \mathbb{Z}; a \leq x \leq b\}$  will be denoted, for simplicity, by  $\{a, \dots, b\}$ . This set is clearly empty if  $a > b$ . If other numbers in addition to  $a, b$  are specified then the meaning of our notation will be clear from the context; for instance  $\{0, 1, \dots, n\}$  means  $\{0, \dots, n\}$  whereas  $\{2, 4, 6, \dots, 2n\}$  will mean  $\{2x; 1 \leq x \leq n\}$ , etc. A similar convention applies if there are no numbers after the dots.

EXAMPLE 12.22.  $\{-2, \dots, 11\} = \{-2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11\}$ .

Recall that a subset  $A \subset \mathbb{N}$  is bounded (equivalently bounded from above) if there exists  $b \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $a \leq b$  for all  $a \in A$ ; we say that  $A$  is bounded by  $b$  from above.

EXERCISE 12.23. Prove that  $\mathbb{N}$  is not bounded.

EXERCISE 12.24. Prove that any subset of  $\mathbb{Z}$  bounded from above has a maximum. Hint: If  $A$  is bounded from above by  $b$  consider the set  $\{b - x; x \in A\}$ .

DEFINITION 12.25. An integer  $a$  is even if there exists an integer  $b$  such that  $a = 2b$ . An integer is odd if it is not even.

EXERCISE 12.26. Prove that if  $a$  is odd then  $a - 1$  is even. Hint: Consider the set  $\{b \in \mathbb{N}; 2b \geq a\}$ , and let  $c$  be the minimum element of  $S$ . Then show that  $2(c - 1) < a$ . Finally show that this implies  $a = 2c - 1$ .

EXERCISE 12.27. Prove that if  $a$  and  $b$  are odd then  $ab$  is odd. Hint: Write  $a = 2c + 1$  and  $b = 2d + 1$  (cf. the previous exercise) and compute  $(2c + 1)(2d + 1)$ .

EXERCISE 12.28. Consider the following sentence: There is no bijection between  $\mathbb{N}$  and  $\mathbb{Z}$ . Explain the mistake in the following wrong proof; this is an instance of a fallacy discussed earlier.

“*Proof.*” Assume there is a bijection  $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ . Define  $f(x) = x$ . Then  $f$  is not surjective so it is not a bijection.

EXERCISE 12.29. Prove that there is a bijection between  $\mathbb{N}$  and  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

## CHAPTER 13

### Induction

Induction is the single most important method to prove elementary theorems about the integers. (More subtle theorems, such as many of the theorems of “number theory,” require more sophisticated methods.) Let  $P(x)$  be a formula in the language  $L_{set}$  of sets, with free variable  $x$ . For each such  $P(x)$  we have:

PROPOSITION 13.1. (*Induction Principle*) Assume

1)  $P(1)$ .

2) For all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  if  $n \neq 1$  and  $P(n - 1)$  then  $P(n)$ .

Then for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  we have  $P(n)$ .

The above is expressed, as usual, in Argot. The same expressed as a sentence in  $L_{set}$  reads:

$$(P(1) \wedge (\forall x((x \in \mathbb{N}) \wedge (x \neq 0) \wedge P(x - 1)) \rightarrow P(x))) \rightarrow (\forall x((x \in \mathbb{N}) \rightarrow P(x))).$$

We refer to the above as *induction on  $n$* . For each explicit  $P(x)$  this is a genuine theorem. Note that the above Proposition does not say “for all  $P$  something happens”; that would not be a sentence in the language of sets.

*Proof.* Let  $S = \{n \in \mathbb{N}; \neg P(n)\}$ . We want to show that  $S = \emptyset$ . Assume  $S \neq \emptyset$  and seek a contradiction. Let  $m$  be the minimum of  $S$ . By 1)  $m \neq 1$ . By Exercise 12.11  $m - 1 \in \mathbb{N}$ . By minimality of  $m$ , we have  $P(m - 1)$ . By 2) we get  $P(m)$ , a contradiction.  $\square$

EXERCISE 13.2. Define  $n^2 = n \times n$  and  $n^3 = n^2 \times n$  for any integer  $n$ . Prove that for any natural  $n$  there exists an integer  $m$  such that  $n^3 - n = 3m$ . (Later we will say that 3 divides  $n^3 - n$ .) Hint: Proceed by induction on  $n$  as follows. Let  $P(n)$  be the sentence: for all natural  $n$  there exists an integer  $m$  such that  $n^3 - n = 3m$ .  $P(1)$  is true because  $1^3 - 1 = 3 \times 0$ . Assume now that  $P(n - 1)$  is true i.e.,  $(n - 1)^3 - (n - 1) = 3q$  for some integer  $q$  and let us check that  $P(n)$  is true i.e., that  $n^3 - n = 3m$  for some integer  $m$ . The equality  $(n - 1)^3 - (n - 1) = 3q$  reads  $n^3 - 3n^2 + 3n - 1 - n + 1 = 3q$ . Hence  $n^3 - n = 3(n^2 - n)$  and we are done.

EXERCISE 13.3. Define  $n^5 = n^3 \times n^2$ . Prove that for any natural  $n$  there exists an integer  $m$  such that  $n^5 - n = 5m$ .

PROPOSITION 13.4. *If there exists a bijection  $\{1, \dots, n\} \rightarrow \{1, \dots, m\}$  then  $n = m$ .*

*Proof.* We proceed by induction on  $n$ . Let  $P(n)$  be the statement of the Proposition. Clearly  $P(1)$  is true; cf. the Exercise below. Assume now  $P(n - 1)$  is true and let's prove that  $P(n)$  is true. So consider a bijection  $F : \{1, \dots, n\} \rightarrow \{1, \dots, m\}$ ; we want to prove that  $n = m$ . Let  $i = F(n)$  and define the map  $G : \{1, \dots, n - 1\} \rightarrow \{1, \dots, m\} \setminus \{i\}$  by  $G(j) = F(j)$  for all  $1 \leq j \leq n - 1$ . Then

clearly  $G$  is a bijection. Now consider the map  $H : \{1, \dots, m\} \setminus \{i\} \rightarrow \{1, \dots, m-1\}$  defined by  $H(j) = j$  for  $1 \leq j \leq i-1$  and  $H(j) = j-1$  for  $i+1 \leq j \leq m$ . (The definition is correct because for any  $j \in \{1, \dots, m\} \setminus \{i\}$  either  $j \leq i-1$  or  $j \geq i+1$ ; cf. Exercise 12.10.) Clearly  $H$  is a bijection. We get a bijection

$$H \circ G : \{1, \dots, n-1\} \rightarrow \{1, \dots, m-1\}.$$

Since  $P(n-1)$  is true we get  $n-1 = m-1$ . Hence  $n = m$  and we are done.  $\square$

EXERCISE 13.5. Check that  $P(1)$  is true in the above Proposition.

REMARK 13.6. Note the general strategy of proofs by inductions. Say  $P(n)$  is “about  $n$  objects.” There are two steps. The first step is the verification of  $P(1)$  i.e., one verifies the statement “for one object.” For the second step (called the induction step) one considers a situation with  $n$  objects; one “removes” from that situation “one object” to get a “situation with  $n-1$  objects”; one uses the “induction hypothesis”  $P(n-1)$  to conclude the claim for the “situation with  $n-1$  objects.” Then one tries to “go back” and prove that the claim is true for the situation with  $n$  objects. So the second step is performed by “removing” one object from an arbitrary situation with  $n$  objects and NOT by adding one object to an arbitrary situation with  $n-1$  objects. Below is an example of a fallacious reasoning by induction based on “adding” instead of “subtracting” an object.

EXAMPLE 13.7. Here is a wrong argument for the induction step in the proof of Proposition 13.4.

“Proof.” Let  $G : \{1, \dots, n-1\} \rightarrow \{1, \dots, m-1\}$  be any bijection and let  $F : \{1, \dots, n\} \rightarrow \{1, \dots, m\}$  be defined by  $F(i) = G(i)$  for  $i \leq n-1$  and  $F(n) = m$ . Clearly  $F$  is a bijection. Now by the induction hypothesis  $n-1 = m-1$ . Hence  $n = m$ . This ends the proof.

The mistake is that the above does not end the proof: the above argument only covers bijections  $F : \{1, \dots, n\} \rightarrow \{1, \dots, m\}$  constructed from bijections  $G : \{1, \dots, n-1\} \rightarrow \{1, \dots, m-1\}$  in the special way described above. In other words an arbitrary bijection  $F : \{1, \dots, n\} \rightarrow \{1, \dots, m\}$  does not always arise the way we defined  $F$  in the above “proof.” In some sense the mistake we just pointed out is that of defining the same constant twice (cf. Example 12.28): we were supposed to define the symbol  $F$  as being an arbitrary bijection but then we redefined  $F$  in a special way through an arbitrary  $G$ . The point is that if  $G$  is arbitrary and  $F$  is defined as above in terms of  $G$  then  $F$  will not be arbitrary (because  $F$  will always send  $n$  into  $m$ ).

DEFINITION 13.8. A set  $A$  is finite if there exists an integer  $n \geq 0$  and a bijection  $F : \{1, \dots, n\} \rightarrow A$ . (Note that  $n$  is then unique by Proposition 13.4.) We write  $|A| = n$  and we call this number the *cardinality* of  $A$  or the *number of elements* of  $A$ . (Note that  $|\emptyset| = 0$ .) If  $F(i) = a_i$  we write  $A = \{a_1, \dots, a_n\}$ . A set is infinite if it is not finite.

EXERCISE 13.9. Prove that  $|\{2, 4, -6, 9, -100\}| = 5$ .

EXERCISE 13.10. For any finite sets  $A$  and  $B$  we have that  $A \cup B$  is finite and

$$|A \cup B| + |A \cap B| = |A| + |B|.$$

Hint: Reduce to the case  $A \cap B = \emptyset$ . Then if  $F : \{1, \dots, a\} \rightarrow A$  and  $G : \{1, \dots, b\} \rightarrow B$  are bijections prove that  $H : \{1, \dots, a + b\} \rightarrow A \cup B$  defined by  $H(i) = F(i)$  for  $1 \leq i \leq a$  and  $H(i) = G(i - a)$  for  $a + 1 \leq i \leq a + b$  is a bijection.

EXERCISE 13.11. For any finite sets  $A$  and  $B$  we have that  $A \times B$  is finite and

$$|A \times B| = |A| \times |B|.$$

Hint: Induction on  $|A|$ .

EXERCISE 13.12. Let  $F : \{1, \dots, n\} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  be an injective map and write  $F(i) = a_i$ . We refer to such a map as a (finite) family of numbers. Prove that there exists a unique map  $G : \{1, \dots, n\} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $G(1) = a_1$  and  $G(k) = G(k - 1) + a_k$  for  $2 \leq k \leq n$ . Hint: Induction on  $n$ .

DEFINITION 13.13. In the notation of the above Exercise define the (finite) sum  $\sum_{i=1}^n a_i$  as the number  $G(n)$ . We also write  $a_1 + \dots + a_n$  for this sum. If  $a_1 = \dots = a_n = a$  the sum  $a_1 + \dots + a_n$  is written as  $a + \dots + a$  ( $n$  times).

EXERCISE 13.14. Prove that for any  $a, b \in \mathbb{N}$  we have

$$a \times b = a + \dots + a \text{ (} b \text{ times)} = b + \dots + b \text{ (} a \text{ times)}.$$

EXERCISE 13.15. Define in a similar way the (finite) product  $\prod_{i=1}^n a_i$  (which is also denoted by  $a_1 \dots a_n = a_1 \times \dots \times a_n$ ). Prove the analogues of associativity and distributivity for sums and products of families of numbers. Define  $a^b$  for  $a, b \in \mathbb{N}$  and prove that  $a^{b+c} = a^b \times a^c$  and  $(a^b)^c = a^{bc}$ .

EXERCISE 13.16. Prove that if  $a$  is an integer and  $n$  is a natural number then

$$a^n - 1 = (a - 1)(a^{n-1} + a^{n-2} + \dots + a + 1).$$

Hint: Induction on  $n$ .

EXERCISE 13.17. Prove that if  $a$  is an integer and  $n$  is an integer then

$$a^{2n+1} + 1 = (a + 1)(a^{2n} - a^{2n-1} + a^{2n-2} - \dots - a + 1).$$

Hint: Set  $a = -b$ .

EXERCISE 13.18. Prove that a subset  $A \subset \mathbb{N}$  is bounded if and only if it is finite. Hint: To prove that bounded sets are finite assume this is false and let  $b$  be the minimum natural number with the property that there is a set  $A$  bounded from above by  $b$  and infinite. If  $b \notin A$  then  $A$  is bounded from above by  $b - 1$  (Exercise 12.10) and we are done. If  $b \in A$  then, by minimality of  $b$ , there is a bijection  $A \setminus \{b\} \rightarrow \{1, \dots, m\}$  and one constructs a bijection  $A \rightarrow \{1, \dots, m + 1\}$  which is a contradiction. To prove that finite sets are bounded assume this is false and let  $n$  be minimum natural number with the property that there is a finite subset  $A \subset \mathbb{N}$  of cardinality  $n$  which is not bounded. Let  $F : \{1, \dots, n\} \rightarrow A$  be a bijection,  $a_i = F(i)$ . Then  $\{a_1, \dots, a_{n-1}\}$  is bounded from above by some  $b$  and conclude that  $A$  is bounded from above by either  $b$  or  $a_n$ .

EXERCISE 13.19. Prove that any subset of a finite set is finite. Hint: Use the previous exercise.

DEFINITION 13.20. Let  $A$  be a set and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Define the set  $A^n$  to be the set  $A^{\{1, \dots, n\}}$  of all maps  $\{1, \dots, n\} \rightarrow A$ . Call

$$A^* = \bigcup_{n=1} A^n$$

the set of words with letters in  $A$ .

DEFINITION 13.21. If  $f : \{1, \dots, n\} \rightarrow A$  and  $f(i) = a_i$  we write  $f$  as a “tuple”  $(a_1, \dots, a_n)$  and sometimes as a “word”  $a_1 \dots a_n$ ; in other words we add to the definitions of set theory the following definitions

$$f = (a_1, \dots, a_n) = a_1 \dots a_n.$$

EXERCISE 13.22. Show that the maps  $A^n \times A^m \rightarrow A^{n+m}$ ,

$$((a_1, \dots, a_n), (b_1, \dots, b_m)) \mapsto (a_1, \dots, a_n, b_1, \dots, b_m)$$

(called concatenations), are bijections. They induce a non-injective binary operation  $A^* \times A^* \rightarrow A^*$ ,  $(u, v) \rightarrow uv$ . Prove that  $u(vw) = (uv)w$ .

## CHAPTER 14

# Rationals

With the integers at our disposal one can use the axioms of set theory to construct a whole array of familiar sets of numbers such as the rationals, the reals, the imaginaries, etc. We start here with the rationals.

**DEFINITION 14.1.** For any  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$  with  $b \neq 0$  define the fraction  $\frac{a}{b}$  to be the set of all pairs  $(c, d)$  with  $c, d \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $d \neq 0$  such that  $ad = bc$ . Denote by  $\mathbb{Q}$  the set of all fractions. So

$$\frac{a}{b} = \{(c, d) \in \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}; d \neq 0, ad = bc\},$$

$$\mathbb{Q} = \left\{ \frac{a}{b}; a, b \in \mathbb{Z}, b \neq 0 \right\}.$$

**EXAMPLE 14.2.**

$$\frac{6}{10} = \{(6, 10), (-3, -5), (9, 15), \dots\} \in \mathbb{Q}.$$

**EXERCISE 14.3.** Prove that  $\frac{a}{b} = \frac{c}{d}$  if and only if  $ad = bc$ . Hint: Assume  $ad = bc$  and let us prove that  $\frac{a}{b} = \frac{c}{d}$ . We need to show that  $\frac{a}{b} \subset \frac{c}{d}$  and that  $\frac{c}{d} \subset \frac{a}{b}$ . Now if  $(x, y) \in \frac{a}{b}$  then  $xb = ay$ ; hence  $xbd = ayd$ . Since  $ad = bc$  we get  $xbd = bcy$ . Hence  $b(xd - cy) = 0$ . Since  $b \neq 0$  we have  $xd - cy = 0$  hence  $xd = cy$  hence  $(x, y) \in \frac{c}{d}$ . We proved that  $\frac{a}{b} \subset \frac{c}{d}$ . The other inclusion is proved similarly. So the equality  $\frac{a}{b} = \frac{c}{d}$  is proved. Conversely if one assumes  $\frac{a}{b} = \frac{c}{d}$  one needs to prove  $ad = bc$ ; we leave this to the reader.

**EXERCISE 14.4.** On the set  $A = \mathbb{Z} \times (\mathbb{Z} \setminus \{0\})$  one can consider the relation:  $(a, b) \sim (c, d)$  if and only if  $ad = bc$ . Prove that  $\sim$  is an equivalence relation. Then observe that  $\frac{a}{b}$  is the equivalence class

$$\widehat{(a, b)}$$

of  $(a, b)$ . Also observe that  $\mathbb{Q} = A / \sim$  is the quotient of  $A$  by the relation  $\sim$ .

**EXERCISE 14.5.** Prove that the map  $\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$ ,  $a \mapsto \frac{a}{1}$  is injective.

**DEFINITION 14.6.** By abuse we identify  $a \in \mathbb{Z}$  with  $\frac{a}{1} \in \mathbb{Q}$  and write  $\frac{a}{1} = a$ ; this identifies  $\mathbb{Z}$  with a subset of  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Such identifications are very common and will be done later in similar contexts.

**DEFINITION 14.7.** Define  $\frac{a}{b} + \frac{c}{d} = \frac{ad+bc}{bd}$ ,  $\frac{a}{b} \times \frac{c}{d} = \frac{ac}{bd}$ .

**EXERCISE 14.8.** Show that the above definition is correct (i.e., if  $\frac{a}{b} = \frac{a'}{b'}$ ,  $\frac{c}{d} = \frac{c'}{d'}$  then  $\frac{ad+bc}{bd} = \frac{a'd'+b'c'}{b'd'}$  and similarly for the product).

**EXERCISE 14.9.** Prove that  $\mathbb{Q}$  (with the operations  $+$  and  $\times$  defined above and with the elements  $0, 1$ ) is a field.

DEFINITION 14.10. For  $\frac{a}{b}, \frac{c}{d}$  with  $b, d > 0$  write  $\frac{a}{b} \leq \frac{c}{d}$  if  $ad - bc \leq 0$ . Also write  $\frac{a}{b} < \frac{c}{d}$  if  $\frac{a}{b} \leq \frac{c}{d}$  and  $\frac{a}{b} \neq \frac{c}{d}$ .

EXERCISE 14.11. Prove that  $\mathbb{Q}$  equipped with  $\leq$  is an ordered ring but it is not a well ordered ring.

EXERCISE 14.12. Let  $A$  be a non-empty finite set and define  $\mu : \mathcal{P}(A) \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$  by

$$\mu(X) = \frac{|X|}{|A|}.$$

- 1)  $(A, \mathcal{P}(A), \mu)$  is a finite probability measure space.
- 2) Prove that if  $X = Y \neq A$  then  $X$  and  $Y$  are not independent.
- 3) Prove that if  $X \cap Y = \emptyset$  and  $X \neq \emptyset, Y \neq \emptyset$  then  $X$  and  $Y$  are not independent.
- 4) Prove that if  $A = B \times C, X = B' \times C, Y = B \times C', B' \subset B, C' \subset C$ , then  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent.

EXERCISE 14.13. Prove by induction the following equalities:

$$1 + 2 + \dots + n = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}.$$

$$1^2 + 2^2 + \dots + n^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}.$$

$$1^3 + 2^3 + \dots + n^3 = \frac{n^2(n+1)^2}{4}.$$



## CHAPTER 15

# Combinatorics

Combinatorics is about counting elements in (i.e., finding cardinalities of) finite sets. The origins of combinatorics are in the work of Pascal, Jakob Bernoulli, and Leibniz; these origins are intertwined with the origins of probability theory and the early development of calculus.

DEFINITION 15.1. For  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  define the factorial of  $n$  (read  $n$  factorial) by

$$n! = 1 \times 2 \times \dots \times n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

Also set  $0! = 1$ .

DEFINITION 15.2. For  $0 \leq k \leq n$  in  $\mathbb{N}$  define the binomial coefficient

$$\binom{n}{k} = \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!} \in \mathbb{Q}.$$

One also reads this “ $n$  choose  $k$ .”

EXERCISE 15.3. Prove that

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

and

$$\binom{n}{0} = 1, \quad \binom{n}{1} = n.$$

EXERCISE 15.4. Prove that

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

Hint: Direct computation with the definition.

EXERCISE 15.5. Prove that

$$\binom{n}{k} \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

Hint: Fix  $k$  and proceed by induction on  $n$ ; use Exercise 15.4.

EXERCISE 15.6. For any  $a, b$  in any ring we have

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

Here if  $c$  is in a ring  $R$  and  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  then  $mc = c + \dots + c$  ( $m$  times). Hint: Induction on  $n$  and use Exercise 15.4.

EXERCISE 15.7. (Subsets) Prove that if  $|A| = n$  then  $|\mathcal{P}(A)| = 2^n$ . (A set with  $n$  elements has  $2^n$  subsets.) Hint: Induction on  $n$ ; if  $A = \{a_1, \dots, a_{n+1}\}$  use

$$\mathcal{P}(A) = \{B \in \mathcal{P}(A); a_{n+1} \in B\} \cup \{B \in \mathcal{P}(A); a_{n+1} \notin B\}.$$

EXERCISE 15.8. (Combinations) Let  $A$  be a set with  $|A| = n$ , let  $0 \leq k \leq n$ , and set

$$\text{Comb}(k, A) = \{B \in \mathcal{P}(A); |B| = k\}.$$

Prove that

$$|\text{Comb}(k, A)| = \binom{n}{k}.$$

In other words a set of  $n$  elements has exactly  $\binom{n}{k}$  subsets with  $k$  elements. A subset of  $A$  having  $k$  elements is called a combination of  $k$  elements from the set  $A$ .

Hint: Fix  $k$  and proceed by induction on  $n$ . If  $A = \{a_1, \dots, a_{n+1}\}$  use Exercise 15.4 plus the fact that  $\text{Comb}(k, A)$  can be written as

$$\{B \in \mathcal{P}(A); |B| = k, a_{n+1} \in B\} \cup \{B \in \mathcal{P}(A); |B| = k, a_{n+1} \notin B\}.$$

EXERCISE 15.9. (Permutations) For a set  $A$  let  $\text{Perm}(A) \subset A^A$  be the set of all bijections  $F : A \rightarrow A$ . A bijection  $F : A \rightarrow A$  is also called a permutation. Prove that if  $|A| = n$  then

$$|\text{Perm}(A)| = n!.$$

So the exercise says that a set of  $n$  elements has  $n!$  permutations. Hint: Let  $|A| = |B| = n$  and let  $\text{Bij}(A, B)$  be the set of all bijections  $F : A \rightarrow B$ ; it is enough to show that  $|\text{Bij}(A, B)| = n!$ . Proceed by induction on  $n$ ; if  $A = \{a_1, \dots, a_{n+1}\}$ ,  $B = \{b_1, \dots, b_{n+1}\}$  then use the fact that

$$\text{Bij}(A, B) = \bigcup_{k=1}^{n+1} \{F \in \text{Bij}(A, B); F(a_1) = b_k\}.$$

For  $d \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $X$  a set let  $X^d$  be the set of all maps  $\{1, \dots, d\} \rightarrow X$ . We identify a map  $i \mapsto a_i$  with the tuple  $(a_1, \dots, a_d)$ .

EXERCISE 15.10. (Combinations with repetition) Let

$$\text{Combrep}(n, d) = \{(x_1, \dots, x_d) \in \mathbb{Z}^d; x_i \geq 0, x_1 + \dots + x_d = n\}.$$

Prove that

$$|\text{Combrep}(n, d)| = \binom{n+d-1}{d-1}.$$

Hint: Let  $A = \{1, \dots, n+d-1\}$ . Prove that there is a bijection

$$\text{Comb}(d-1, A) \rightarrow \text{Combrep}(n, d).$$

The bijection is given by attaching to any subset

$$\{i_1, \dots, i_{d-1}\} \subset \{1, \dots, n+d-1\}$$

(where  $i_1 < \dots < i_{d-1}$ ) the tuple  $(x_1, \dots, x_{d-1})$  where

- 1)  $x_1 = |\{i \in \mathbb{Z}; 1 \leq i < i_1\}|$ ,
- 2)  $x_k = |\{i \in \mathbb{Z}; i_k < i < i_{k+1}\}|$ , for  $2 \leq k \leq d-1$ , and
- 3)  $x_d = |\{i \in \mathbb{Z}; i_{d-1} < i \leq n+d-1\}|$ .

## CHAPTER 16

# Sequences

DEFINITION 16.1. A sequence in a set  $A$  is a map  $F : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow A$ . If we write  $F(n) = a_n$  we also say that  $a_1, a_2, \dots$  is a sequence in  $A$  or that  $(a_n)$  is a sequence in  $A$ .

THEOREM 16.2. (*Recursion theorem*) Let  $A$  be a set,  $a \in A$  an element, and let  $F_1, F_2, \dots$  be a sequence of maps  $A \rightarrow A$ . Then there is a unique map  $G : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow A$  such that  $G(1) = a$  and  $G(n+1) = F_n(G(n))$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

*Sketch of proof.* First one proves by induction on  $n$  that for any  $n$  there exists a unique map

$$G_n : \{1, \dots, n\} \rightarrow A$$

such that for any  $k < n$

$$G_n(k+1) = F_k(G_n(k)).$$

Next by uniqueness one gets that for any  $n$  and any  $k \leq n$  we have

$$G_n(k) = G_{n+1}(k).$$

Finally, seeing  $G_n$  as a subset of  $\{1, \dots, n\} \times A$  one defines

$$G := \bigcup G_n \subset \mathbb{N} \times A$$

and one proves  $G$  is a map with the desired properties.  $\square$

Here are some applications of recursion.

PROPOSITION 16.3. Let  $(A, \leq)$  be an ordered set that has no maximal element. Then there is a sequence  $F : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow A$  such that for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  we have  $F(n) < F(n+1)$ .

*Proof.* Let  $B = \{(a, b) \in A \times A; a < b\}$ . By hypothesis the first projection  $F : B \rightarrow A$ ,  $(a, b) \mapsto a$  is surjective. By the axiom of choice there exists  $G : A \rightarrow B$  such that  $F \circ G = I_A$ . Then  $G(a) > a$  for all  $a$ . By the recursion theorem there exists  $F : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow A$  such that  $F(n+1) = G(F(n))$  for all  $n$  and we are done.  $\square$

EXERCISE 16.4. (Uniqueness of the ring of integers) Let  $Z$  and  $Z'$  be two well ordered rings with identities  $1$  and  $1'$ . Prove that there exists a unique ring homomorphism  $F : Z \rightarrow Z'$ ; prove that this  $F$  is bijective and increasing. Hint: Let  $Z_+$  be the set of all elements in  $Z$  which are  $> 0$  and similarly for  $Z'$ . By recursion (which is, of course, valid in any well ordered ring) there is a unique  $F : Z_+ \rightarrow Z'_+$  satisfying  $F(1) = 1'$  and  $F(n+1) = F(n) + 1'$ . Define  $F$  on  $Z$  by  $F(-n) = F(n)$  for  $-n \in Z_+$ .

DEFINITION 16.5. A set  $A$  is countable if there exists a bijection  $F : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow A$ . A set is at most countable if it is either finite or countable.

EXAMPLE 16.6. The set of all squares  $S = \{n^2; n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  is countable; indeed  $F : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow S$ ,  $F(n) = n^2$  is a bijection.

EXERCISE 16.7. Any infinite subset of a countable set is countable. Hint: It is enough to show that any subset  $A \subset \mathbb{N}$  is countable. Let  $F \subset \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$  be the set

$$F = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}; y = \min(A \cap \{z \in \mathbb{N}; z > x\})\}$$

which is of course a map. By the recursion theorem there exists  $G : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  such that  $G(n+1) = F(G(n))$ . One checks that  $G$  is injective and its image is  $A$ .

EXERCISE 16.8. Prove that  $\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$  is countable. Hint: One can find injections  $\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ ; e.g.,  $(m, n) \mapsto (m+n)^2 + m$ .

EXERCISE 16.9. Prove that  $\mathbb{Q}$  is countable.

EXERCISE 16.10. Prove that  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N})$  is not countable.

Hint. Indeed this is a consequence of the more general theorem we proved that there is no bijection between a set  $A$  and its power set  $\mathcal{P}(A)$ . However it is interesting to give a reformulation of the argument in this case (Cantor's diagonal argument). Assume  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N})$  is countable and seek a contradiction. Since  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N})$  is in bijection with  $\{0, 1\}^{\mathbb{N}}$  we get that there is a bijection  $F : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^{\mathbb{N}}$ . Denote  $F(n)$  by  $F_n : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$ . Construct a map  $G : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$  by the formula

$$G(n) = \neg(F_n(n))$$

where  $\neg : \{0, 1\} \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$ ,  $\neg 0 = 1$ ,  $\neg 1 = 0$ . (The definition of  $G$  does not need the recursion theorem; one can define  $G$  as a "graph" directly (check!).) Since  $F$  is surjective there exists  $m$  such that  $G = F_m$ . In particular:

$$G(m) = F_m(m) = \neg G(m),$$

a contradiction.

EXERCISE 16.11. Prove that if  $(A_n)$  is a sequence of sets such that each  $A_n$  is at most countable then the union

$$\bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} A_n$$

is at most countable. Deduce that the set of words  $A^*$  with letters in a finite non-empty set  $A$  is countable.

EXERCISE 16.12. Let us call  $\mathcal{F}$  the set of all functions  $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N} \cup \{\infty\}$  where  $\infty \notin \mathbb{N}$ . If  $f(n) = \infty$  we say that  $f$  with input  $n$  does not terminate (runs forever without giving an output). If  $f(n) = m \in \mathbb{N}$  we say that  $f$  with input  $n$  terminates and gives output  $m$ .

Let  $(f_n)$  be a sequence of elements of  $\mathcal{F}$ . Its oracle is defined as the function  $g \in \mathcal{F}$  satisfying:

- 1)  $g(n) \in \{1, 2\}$  for all  $n$ ; in particular  $g$  with any input  $n$  always terminates.
- 2)  $g(n) = 1$  if  $f_n$  with input  $n$  terminates (i.e.  $f_n(n) \in \mathbb{N}$ ),
- 3)  $g(n) = 2$  if  $f_n$  with input  $n$  does not terminate (i.e.  $f_n(n) = \infty$ ).

Given  $(f_n)$  one can define a function  $f \in \mathcal{F}$  (which we refer to as the Turing function attached to  $(f_n)$ ) as follows. Let  $g$  be the oracle of  $(f_n)$ . Then we let  $f(n) = f_n(n) + 1$  if  $g(n) = 1$  and we let  $f(n) = 1$  if  $g(n) = 2$ .

Prove that if  $(f_n)$  is a sequence of functions in  $\mathcal{F}$  then the Turing function  $f$  attached to  $(f_n)$  is not a member of  $(f_n)$ .

Hint: if  $f_n$  with input  $n$  does not terminate then  $f$  cannot be equal to  $f_n$  because  $f$  terminates with input  $n$ ; on the other hand if  $f_n$  with input  $n$  terminates then again  $f \neq f_n$  because they have different outputs.

(This is Turing's proof that there is no "program" that decides if a given "program" with a given input terminates. Indeed Turing defined the notion of "program" as being a special type of function in  $\mathcal{F}$ . One proves there are countably many programs. Let  $(f_n)$  be the sequence of all programs. One proves that if the oracle  $g$  of this sequence is a program then the Turing function attached to  $(f_n)$  is a program. One concludes that  $g$  cannot be a program.)

REMARK 16.13. Consider the following sentence called the continuum hypothesis:

*For any set  $A$  if there exists an injection  $A \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N})$  then either there exists an injection  $A \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  or there exists a bijection  $A \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N})$ .*

One can ask if the above is a theorem. Answering this question (raised by Cantor) leads to important investigations in set theory. The answer (given by two theorems of Gödel and Cohen in the framework of mathematical logic rather than logic) turned out to be rather surprising.



## Part 4

# The continuum





## Reals

Real numbers have been implicitly around throughout the history of mathematics as an expression of the idea of continuity of magnitudes. What amounts to an axiomatic introduction of the reals can be found in Euclid (and is attributed to Eudoxus). The first construction of the reals from the “discrete” (i.e., from the rationals) is due to Dedekind.

**DEFINITION 17.1.** (Dedekind) A real number is a subset  $u \subset \mathbb{Q}$  of the set  $\mathbb{Q}$  of rational numbers with the following properties:

- 1)  $u \neq \emptyset$  and  $u \neq \mathbb{Q}$ ,
- 2) if  $x \in u$ ,  $y \in \mathbb{Q}$ , and  $x \leq y$  then  $y \in u$ .

Denote by  $\mathbb{R}$  the set of real numbers.

**EXAMPLE 17.2.**

- 1) Any rational number  $x \in \mathbb{Q}$  can be identified with the real number

$$u_x = \{y \in \mathbb{Q}; x < y\}.$$

It is clear that  $u_x = u_{x'}$  for  $x, x' \in \mathbb{Q}$  implies  $x = x'$ . We identify any rational number  $x$  with  $u_x$ . So we may view  $\mathbb{Q} \subset \mathbb{R}$ .

- 2) One defines, for instance, for any  $r \in \mathbb{Q}$  with  $\geq 0$ ,

$$\sqrt{r} = \{x \in \mathbb{Q}; x \geq 0, x^2 > r\}.$$

**DEFINITION 17.3.** A real number  $u \in \mathbb{R}$  is called irrational if  $u \notin \mathbb{Q}$ .

**DEFINITION 17.4.** If  $u$  and  $v$  are real numbers we write  $u \leq v$  if and only if  $v \subset u$ . For  $u, v \geq 0$  define

$$\begin{aligned} u + v &= \{x + y; x \in u, y \in v\} \\ u \times v &= uv = \{xy; x \in u, y \in v\}. \end{aligned}$$

Note that this extends addition and multiplication on the non-negative rationals.

**EXERCISE 17.5.**

- 1) Prove that  $\leq$  is a total order on  $\mathbb{R}$ .
- 2) Prove that  $\sqrt{r}$  is a real number for  $r \in \mathbb{Q}$ ,  $r \geq 0$ .
- 3) Prove that  $u + v$  and  $u \times v$  are real numbers.
- 4) Naturally extend the definition of addition  $+$  and multiplication  $\times$  of real numbers to the case when the numbers are not necessarily  $\geq 0$ . Prove that  $(\mathbb{R}, +, \times, -, 0, 1)$  is a field. Naturally extend the order  $\leq$  on  $\mathbb{Q}$  to an order on  $\mathbb{R}$  and prove that  $\mathbb{R}$  with  $\leq$  is an ordered ring.

**EXERCISE 17.6.** Define the sum and the product of a family of real (or complex) numbers indexed by a finite set. Hint: Use the already defined concept for integers (and hence for the rationals).

EXERCISE 17.7. Prove that for  $r \in \mathbb{Q}$ ,  $r \geq 0$ , we have  $(\sqrt{r})^2 = r$ . (Hint: The harder part is to show that if  $z \in \mathbb{Q}$  satisfies  $z > r$  then there exist  $x, y \in \mathbb{Q}$  such that  $x \geq 0$ ,  $y \geq 0$ ,  $z = xy$ ,  $x^2 > r$ ,  $y^2 > r$ . It is enough to show that there exists a rational number  $\rho$  with  $z > \rho^2 > r$  because then we can write  $z = xy$  with  $x = \rho$  and  $y = z/\rho > \rho$ . To show this it is enough to prove that for any  $n$  natural there exist rational numbers  $t_n$  and  $s_n$  such that  $t_n^2 < r < s_n^2$  and  $s_n - t_n \leq (s_1 - t_1)/2^{n-1}$ . For  $n = 1$  take  $t_1 = 0$  and  $s_1$  such that  $s_1^2 > r$ . Assuming the above is true for  $n$  one sets  $t_{n+1} = t_n$  and  $s_{n+1} = (t_n + s_n)/2$  if  $t_n^2 \leq r < ((t_n + s_n)/2)^2$  and one sets  $t_{n+1} = (t_n + s_n)/2$  and  $s_{n+1} = s_n$  if  $((t_n + s_n)/2)^2 < r < s_n^2$ ; the case  $r = ((t_n + s_n)/2)^2$  is left to the reader.

EXERCISE 17.8. Prove that for any  $r \in \mathbb{R}$  with  $r > 0$  there exists a unique number  $\sqrt{r} \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $\sqrt{r} > 0$  and  $(\sqrt{r})^2 = r$ .

EXERCISE 17.9. Prove that  $\sqrt{2}$  is irrational i.e.,  $\sqrt{2} \notin \mathbb{Q}$ . Hint: Assume there exists a rational number  $x$  such that  $x^2 = 2$  and seek a contradiction. Let  $a \in \mathbb{N}$  be minimal with the property that  $x = \frac{a}{b}$  for some  $b$ . Now  $\frac{a^2}{b^2} = 2$  hence  $2b^2 = a^2$ . Hence  $a^2$  is even. Hence  $a$  is even (because if  $a$  were odd then  $a^2$  would be odd). Hence  $a = 2c$  for some integer  $c$ . Hence  $2b^2 = (2c)^2 = 4c^2$ . Hence  $b^2 = 2c^2$ . Hence  $b^2$  is even. Hence  $b$  is even. Hence  $b = 2d$  for some integer  $d$ . Hence  $x = \frac{2c}{2d} = \frac{c}{d}$  and  $c < a$ . This contradicts the minimality of  $a$  which ends the proof.

REMARK 17.10. The above proof is probably one of the “first” proofs by contradiction in the history of mathematics; this proof appears, for instance, in Aristotle, and it is believed to have been discovered by the Pythagoreans. The irrationality of  $\sqrt{2}$  was translated by the Greeks as evidence that arithmetic is insufficient to control geometry ( $\sqrt{2}$  is the length of the diagonal of a square with side 1) and arguably created the first crisis in the history of mathematics, leading to a separation of algebra and geometry that lasted until Fermat and Descartes.

EXERCISE 17.11. Prove that the set

$$\{r \in \mathbb{Q}; r > 0, r^2 < 2\}$$

has no supremum in  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

REMARK 17.12. Later we will prove that  $\mathbb{R}$  is not countable.

DEFINITION 17.13. For any  $a \in \mathbb{R}$  we let  $|a|$  be  $a$  or  $-a$  according as  $a \geq 0$  or  $a \leq 0$ , respectively.

EXERCISE 17.14. Prove the so-called triangle inequality:

$$|a + b| \leq |a| + |b|$$

for all  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ .

DEFINITION 17.15. For  $a < b$  in  $\mathbb{R}$  we define the open interval

$$(a, b) = \{c \in \mathbb{R}; a < c < b\} \subset \mathbb{R}.$$

(Not to be confused with the pair  $(a, b) \in \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$  which is denoted by the same symbol.)

## CHAPTER 18

# Topology

Topology is about geometric properties that are invariant under *continuous* transformations. An early topological result is the formula of Descartes-Euler relating the number of vertices, edges, and faces of a convex polyhedron. (We will not discuss this here as it is surprisingly difficult to present things rigorously.) After Riemann's work on surfaces defined by algebraic functions, topology became a key feature in geometry and analysis and nowadays topological ideas are to be found everywhere in mathematics, including number theory. Here we will restrict ourselves to explaining the basic idea of continuity.

DEFINITION 18.1. A topology on a set  $X$  is a subset  $\mathcal{T} \subset \mathcal{P}(X)$  of the power set of  $X$  with the following properties:

- 1)  $\emptyset \in \mathcal{T}$  and  $X \in \mathcal{T}$ ;
- 2) If  $U, V \in \mathcal{T}$  then  $U \cap V \in \mathcal{T}$ ;
- 3) If  $(U_i)_{i \in I}$  is a family of subsets  $U_i \subset X$  and if for all  $i \in I$  we have  $U_i \in \mathcal{T}$  then  $\bigcup_{i \in I} U_i \in \mathcal{T}$ .

A subset  $U \subset X$  is called open if  $U \in \mathcal{T}$ . A subset  $Z \subset X$  is called closed if  $X \setminus Z$  is open. Elements of  $X$  are called points of  $X$ .

EXAMPLE 18.2.  $\mathcal{T} = \mathcal{P}(X)$  is a topology on  $X$ .

EXAMPLE 18.3.  $\mathcal{T} = \{\emptyset, X\} \subset \mathcal{P}(X)$  is a topology on  $X$ .

EXAMPLE 18.4. A subset  $U \subset \mathbb{R}$  is called open if for any  $x \in U$  there exists an open interval containing  $x$  and contained in  $U$ ,  $x \in (a, b) \subset U$ . Let  $\mathcal{T} \subset \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R})$  be the set of all open sets of  $\mathbb{R}$ . Then  $\mathcal{T}$  is a topology on  $\mathbb{R}$ ; we call this the Euclidean topology.

EXERCISE 18.5. Prove that  $\mathcal{T}$  in Example 18.4 is a topology.

EXERCISE 18.6. Prove that if  $U, V \subset X$  then

$$\mathcal{T} = \{\emptyset, U, V, U \cup V, U \cap V, X\}$$

is a topology. Find the closed sets of  $X$ .

EXERCISE 18.7. Prove that if  $(\mathcal{T}_j)_{j \in J}$  is a family of topologies  $\mathcal{T}_j \subset \mathcal{P}(X)$  on  $X$  then  $\bigcap_{j \in J} \mathcal{T}_j$  is a topology on  $X$ .

DEFINITION 18.8. If  $\mathcal{T}_0 \subset \mathcal{P}(X)$  is a subset of the power set then the intersection

$$\mathcal{T} = \bigcap_{\mathcal{T}' \supset \mathcal{T}_0} \mathcal{T}'$$

of all topologies  $\mathcal{T}'$  containing  $\mathcal{T}_0$  is called the topology generated by  $\mathcal{T}_0$ .

EXERCISE 18.9. Let  $\mathcal{T}_0 = \{U, V, W\} \subset \mathcal{P}(X)$ . Find explicitly the topology generated by  $\mathcal{T}_0$ . Find all the closed sets in that topology.

DEFINITION 18.10. A topological space is a pair  $(X, \mathcal{T})$  consisting of a set  $X$  and a topology  $\mathcal{T} \subset \mathcal{P}(X)$  on  $X$ . Sometimes one writes  $X$  instead of  $(X, \mathcal{T})$  if  $\mathcal{T}$  is understood from context.

DEFINITION 18.11. Let  $X$  and  $X'$  be two topological spaces. A map  $F : X \rightarrow X'$  is continuous if for all open  $V \subset X'$  the set  $F^{-1}(V) \subset X$  is open.

EXERCISE 18.12. If  $\mathcal{T}$  is a topology on  $X$  and  $\mathcal{T}'$  is the topology on  $X'$  defined by  $\mathcal{T}' = \{\emptyset, Y\}$  then any map  $F : X \rightarrow X'$  is continuous.

EXERCISE 18.13. If  $\mathcal{T}$  is the topology  $\mathcal{T} = \mathcal{P}(X)$  on  $X$  and  $\mathcal{T}'$  is any topology on  $X'$  then any map  $F : X \rightarrow X'$  is continuous.

EXERCISE 18.14. Prove that if  $X, X', X''$  are topological spaces and  $G : X \rightarrow X', F : X' \rightarrow X''$  are continuous maps then the composition  $F \circ G : X \rightarrow X''$  is continuous.

EXERCISE 18.15. Give an example of two topological spaces  $X, X'$  and of a bijection  $F : X \rightarrow X'$  such that  $F$  is continuous but  $F^{-1}$  is not continuous. (This is to be contrasted with the situation of algebraic structures to be discussed later. See Exercise 11.20.)

Motivated by the above phenomenon, one gives the following

DEFINITION 18.16. A homeomorphism between two topological spaces is a continuous bijection whose inverse is also continuous.

DEFINITION 18.17. If  $X$  is a topological space and  $Y \subset X$  is a subset then the set of all subsets of  $Y$  of the form  $U \cap Y$  with  $U$  open in  $X$  form a topology on  $Y$  called the induced topology.

EXERCISE 18.18. Prove that if  $X$  is a topological space and  $Y \subset X$  is open then the induced topology on  $Y$  consists of all open sets of  $X$  that are contained in  $Y$ .

DEFINITION 18.19. Let  $X$  be a topological space and let  $A \subset X$  be a subset. We say that  $A$  is connected if whenever  $U$  and  $V$  are open in  $X$  with  $U \cap V \cap A = \emptyset$  and  $A \subset U \cup V$  it follows that  $U \cap A = \emptyset$  or  $V \cap A = \emptyset$ .

EXERCISE 18.20. Prove that if  $F : X \rightarrow X'$  is continuous and  $A \subset X$  is connected then  $F(A) \subset X'$  is connected.

DEFINITION 18.21. Let  $X$  be a topological space and let  $A \subset X$  be a subset. A point  $x \in X$  is called an accumulation point of  $A$  if for any open set  $U$  in  $X$  containing  $x$  the set  $U \setminus \{x\}$  contains a point of  $A$ .

EXERCISE 18.22. Let  $X$  be a topological space and let  $A \subset X$  be a subset. Prove that  $A$  is closed if and only if  $A$  contains all its accumulation points.

DEFINITION 18.23. Let  $X$  be a topological space and  $A \subset X$ . We say  $A$  is compact if whenever

$$A \subset \bigcup_{i \in I} U_i$$

with  $(U_i)_{i \in I}$  a family of open sets in  $X$  indexed by some set  $I$  there exists a finite subset  $J \subset I$  such that

$$A \subset \bigcup_{j \in J} U_j.$$

We sometimes refer to  $(U_i)_{i \in I}$  as an open cover of  $A$  and to  $(U_j)_{j \in J}$  as a finite open subcover. So  $A$  is compact if and only if any open cover of  $A$  has a finite open subcover.

EXERCISE 18.24. Prove that if  $X$  is a topological space and  $X$  is a finite set then it is compact.

EXERCISE 18.25. Prove that  $\mathbb{R}$  is not compact in the Euclidean topology. Hint: Consider the open cover

$$\mathbb{R} = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} (-n, n)$$

and show it has no finite open subcover.

EXERCISE 18.26. Prove that no open interval  $(a, b)$  in  $\mathbb{R}$  is compact ( $a < b$ ).

EXERCISE 18.27. Prove that if  $F : X \rightarrow X'$  is a continuous map of topological spaces and  $A \subset X$  is compact then  $F(A) \subset X'$  is compact.

DEFINITION 18.28. A topological space  $X$  is a Hausdorff space if for any two points  $x, y \in X$  there exist open sets  $U \subset X$  and  $V \subset X$  such that  $x \in U$ ,  $y \in V$ , and  $U \cap V = \emptyset$ .

EXERCISE 18.29. Prove the  $\mathbb{R}$  with the Euclidean topology is a Hausdorff space.

EXERCISE 18.30. Prove that if  $X$  is a Hausdorff space,  $A \subset X$ , and  $x \in X \setminus A$  then there exist open sets  $U \subset X$  and  $V \subset X$  such that  $x \in U$ ,  $A \subset V$ , and  $U \cap V = \emptyset$ . In particular any compact subset of a Hausdorff space is closed.

Hint: For any  $a \in A$  let  $U_a \subset X$  and  $V_a \subset X$  be open sets such that  $x \in U_a$ ,  $a \in V_a$ ,  $U_a \cap V_a = \emptyset$ . Then  $(V_a)_{a \in A}$  is an open covering of  $A$ . Select  $(V_b)_{b \in B}$  a finite subcover of  $A$  where  $B \subset A$  is a finite set,  $B = \{b_1, \dots, b_n\}$ . Then let

$$\begin{aligned} U &= U_{b_1} \cap \dots \cap U_{b_n} \\ V &= V_{b_1} \cup \dots \cup V_{b_n}. \end{aligned}$$

DEFINITION 18.31. Let  $X, X'$  be topological spaces. Then the set  $X \times X'$  may be equipped with the topology generated by the family of all sets of the form  $U \times U'$  where  $U$  and  $U'$  are open in  $X$  and  $X'$  respectively. This is called the product topology on  $X \times X'$ . Iterating this we get a product topology on a product  $X_1 \times \dots \times X_n$  of  $n$  topological spaces.

EXERCISE 18.32. Prove that for any  $r \in \mathbb{R}$  with  $r > 0$ , the set

$$D = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2; x^2 + y^2 < r^2\}$$

is open in the product topology of  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .

DEFINITION 18.33. A topological manifold is a topological space  $X$  such that for any point  $x \in X$  there exists an open set  $U \subset X$  containing  $x$  and a homeomorphism  $F : U \rightarrow V$  where  $V \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  is an open set in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  for the Euclidean topology. (Here  $U$  and  $V$  are viewed as topological spaces with the topologies induced from  $X$  and  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , respectively.)

REMARK 18.34. If  $\mathcal{X}$  is a set of topological manifolds then one can consider the following relation  $\sim$  on  $\mathcal{X}$ : for  $X, X' \in \mathcal{X}$  we let  $X \sim X'$  if and only if there exists a homeomorphism  $X \rightarrow X'$ . Then  $\sim$  is an equivalence relation on  $\mathcal{X}$  and one of the basic problems of topology is to “describe” the set  $\mathcal{X}/\sim$  of equivalence classes in various specific cases.

More properties of the Euclidean topology of  $\mathbb{R}$  will be examined in the chapter on limits.

## CHAPTER 19

### Imaginaries

Complex numbers (also called imaginary numbers) appeared in work of Cardano, Bombelli, d'Alembert, Gauss, and others, in relation to solving polynomial equations. The modern definition below is due to Hamilton.

**DEFINITION 19.1.** (Hamilton) A complex number is a pair  $(a, b)$  where  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ . We denote by  $\mathbb{C}$  the set of complex numbers. Hence  $\mathbb{C} = \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$ . Define the sum and the product of two complex numbers by

$$\begin{aligned}(a, b) + (c, d) &= (a + c, b + d) \\ (a, b) \times (c, d) &= (ac - bd, ad + bc).\end{aligned}$$

**REMARK 19.2.** Identify any real number  $a \in \mathbb{R}$  with the complex number  $(a, 0) \in \mathbb{C}$ ; hence write  $a = (a, 0)$ . In particular  $0 = (0, 0)$  and  $1 = (1, 0)$ .

**EXERCISE 19.3.** Prove that  $\mathbb{C}$  equipped with 0, 1 above and with the operations  $+$ ,  $\times$  above is a field. Also note that the operations  $+$  and  $\times$  on  $\mathbb{C}$  restricted to  $\mathbb{R}$  are the “old” operations  $+$  and  $\times$  on  $\mathbb{R}$ .

**DEFINITION 19.4.** We set  $i = (0, 1)$ .

**REMARK 19.5.**  $i^2 = -1$ . Indeed

$$i^2 = (0, 1) \times (0, 1) = (0 \times 0 - 1 \times 1, 0 \times 1 + 1 \times 0) = (-1, 0) = -1.$$

**REMARK 19.6.** For any complex number  $(a, b) = a + bi$ . Indeed

$$(a, b) = (a, 0) + (0, b) = (a, 0) + (b, 0)(0, 1) = a + bi.$$

**DEFINITION 19.7.** For any complex number  $z = a + bi$  we define its absolute value

$$|z| = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}.$$

**EXERCISE 19.8.** Prove the so-called triangle inequality:

$$|a + b| \leq |a| + |b|$$

for all  $a, b \in \mathbb{C}$ .

**DEFINITION 19.9.** For any complex number  $z = a + bi$  we define its conjugate

$$\bar{z} = a - bi.$$

(The upper bar is not to be confused with the notation used in the chapter on residues.)

**EXERCISE 19.10.** Prove that for any  $z, w \in \mathbb{C}$  we have

- 1)  $\overline{z + w} = \bar{z} + \bar{w}$ ;
- 2)  $\overline{z \cdot w} = \bar{z} \cdot \bar{w}$ ;
- 3)  $\overline{z^{-1}} = \bar{z}^{-1}$  for  $z \neq 0$ ;
- 4)  $z \cdot \bar{z} = |z|^2$ .

DEFINITION 19.11. For any complex number  $z = a + bi \in \mathbb{C}$  and any real number  $r > 0$  we define the open disk with center  $z$  and radius  $r$ ,

$$D(z, r) = \{w \in \mathbb{C}; |w - z| < r\} \subset \mathbb{C}.$$

A subset  $U \subset \mathbb{C}$  is called open if for any  $z \in U$  there exists an open disk centered at  $z$  and contained in  $U$ . Let  $\mathcal{T} \subset \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{C})$  be the set of all open sets of  $\mathbb{C}$ .

EXERCISE 19.12. Prove that  $\mathcal{T}$  is a topology on  $\mathbb{C}$ ; we call this the Euclidean topology.

EXERCISE 19.13. Prove that  $\mathbb{C}$  cannot be given the structure of an ordered ring.



**Part 5**

**Algebra**



## Arithmetic

Our main aim here is to introduce some of the basic “arithmetic” of  $\mathbb{Z}$ . In its turn arithmetic can be used to introduce the finite rings  $\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}$  of residue classes modulo  $m$  and, in particular, the finite fields  $\mathbb{F}_p = \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$ , where  $p$  is a prime. The arithmetic of  $\mathbb{Z}$  to be discussed below already appears in Euclid. Congruences and residue classes were introduced by Gauss.

**DEFINITION 20.1.** For integers  $a$  and  $b$  we say  $a$  divides  $b$  if there exists an integer  $n$  such that  $b = an$ . We write  $a|b$ . We also say  $a$  is a divisor of  $b$ . If  $a$  does not divide  $b$  we write  $a \nmid b$ .

**EXAMPLE 20.2.**  $4|20$ ;  $-4|20$ ;  $6 \nmid 20$ .

**EXERCISE 20.3.** Prove that

- 1) if  $a|b$  and  $b|c$  then  $a|c$ ;
- 2) if  $a|b$  and  $a|c$  then  $a|b + c$ ;
- 3)  $a|b$  defines an order relation on  $\mathbb{N}$  but not on  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

**THEOREM 20.4. (Euclid division)** For any  $a \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $b \in \mathbb{N}$  there exist unique  $q, r \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $a = bq + r$  and  $0 \leq r < b$ .

*Proof.* We prove the existence of  $q, r$ . The uniqueness is left to the reader. We may assume  $a \in \mathbb{N}$ . We proceed by contradiction. So assume there exists  $b$  and  $a \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for all  $q, r \in \mathbb{Z}$  with  $0 \leq r < b$  we have  $a \neq qb + r$ . Fix such a  $b$ . We may assume  $a$  is minimum with the above property. If  $a < b$  we can write  $a = 0 \times b + a$ , a contradiction. If  $a = b$  we can write  $a = 1 \times a + 0$ , a contradiction. If  $a > b$  set  $a' = a - b$ . Since  $a' < a$ , there exist  $q', r \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $0 \leq r < b$  and  $a' = q'b + r$ . But then  $a = qb + r$ , where  $q = q' + 1$ , a contradiction.  $\square$

**DEFINITION 20.5.** For  $a \in \mathbb{Z}$  denote  $\langle a \rangle$  the set  $\{na; n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$  of integers divisible by  $a$ . For  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$  denote by  $\langle a, b \rangle$  the set  $\{ma + nb; m, n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$  of all numbers expressible as a multiple of  $a$  plus a multiple of  $b$ .

**PROPOSITION 20.6.** For any integers  $a, b$  there exists an integer  $c$  such that  $\langle a, b \rangle = \langle c \rangle$ .

*Proof.* If  $a = b = 0$  we can take  $c = 0$ . Assume  $a, b$  are not both 0. Then the set  $S = \langle a, b \rangle \cap \mathbb{N}$  is non-empty. Let  $c$  be the minimum of  $S$ . Clearly  $\langle c \rangle \subset \langle a, b \rangle$ . Let us prove that  $\langle a, b \rangle \subset \langle c \rangle$ . Let  $u = ma + nb$  and let us prove that  $u \in \langle c \rangle$ . By Euclidean division  $u = cq + r$  with  $0 \leq r < c$ . We want to show  $r = 0$ . Assume  $r \neq 0$  and seek a contradiction. Write  $c = m'a + n'b$ . Then  $r \in \mathbb{N}$  and also

$$r = u - cq = (ma + nb) - (m'a + n'b)q = (m - m'q)a + (n - n'q)b \in \langle a, b \rangle.$$

Hence  $r \in S$ . But  $r < c$ . So  $c$  is not the minimum of  $S$ , a contradiction.  $\square$

PROPOSITION 20.7. *If  $a$  and  $b$  are integers and have no common divisor  $> 1$  then there exist integers  $m$  and  $n$  such that  $ma + nb = 1$ .*

*Proof.* By the above Proposition  $\langle a, b \rangle = \langle c \rangle$  for some  $c \geq 1$ . In particular  $c|a$  and  $c|b$ . The hypothesis implies  $c = 1$  hence  $1 \in \langle a, b \rangle$ .  $\square$

One of the main definitions of number theory is

DEFINITION 20.8. An integer  $p$  is prime if  $p > 1$  and if its only positive divisors are 1 and  $p$ .

PROPOSITION 20.9. *If  $p$  is a prime and  $a$  is an integer such that  $p \nmid a$  then there exist integers  $m, n$  such that  $ma + np = 1$ .*

*Proof.*  $a$  and  $p$  have no common divisor  $> 1$  and we conclude by Proposition 20.7.  $\square$

PROPOSITION 20.10. (*Euclid Lemma*) *If  $p$  is a prime and  $p|ab$  for integers  $a$  and  $b$  then either  $p|a$  or  $p|b$ .*

*Proof.* Assume  $p|ab$ ,  $p \nmid a$ ,  $p \nmid b$ , and seek a contradiction. By Proposition 20.9  $ma + np = 1$  for some integers  $m, n$  and  $m'b + n'p = 1$  for some integers  $m', n'$ . We get

$$1 = (ma + np)(m'b + n'p) = mm'ab + p(nm' + n'm + nn').$$

Since  $p|ab$  we get  $p|1$ , a contradiction.  $\square$

THEOREM 20.11. (*Fundamental Theorem of Arithmetic*) *Any integer  $n > 1$  can be written uniquely as a product of primes, i.e., there exist primes  $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_s$ , where  $s \geq 1$ , such that*

$$n = p_1 p_2 \dots p_s.$$

Moreover any such representation is unique in the following sense: if

$$p_1 p_2 \dots p_s = q_1 q_2 \dots q_t$$

with  $p_i$  and  $q_j$  prime and  $p_1 \leq p_2 \leq \dots$ ,  $q_1 \leq q_2 \leq \dots$  then  $s = t$  and  $p_1 = q_1$ ,  $p_2 = q_2$ ,  $\dots$

*Proof.* Uniqueness follows from Euclid's Lemma 20.10. To prove the existence part let  $S$  be the set of all integers  $> 1$  which are not products of primes. We want to show  $S = \emptyset$ . Assume the contrary and seek a contradiction. Let  $n$  be the minimum of  $S$ . Then  $n$  is not prime. So  $n = ab$  with  $a, b > 1$  integers. So  $a < n$  and  $b < n$ . So  $a \notin S$  and  $b \notin S$ . So  $a$  and  $b$  are products of primes. So  $n$  is a product of primes, a contradiction.  $\square$

EXERCISE 20.12. Prove the uniqueness part in the above theorem.

DEFINITION 20.13. Fix an integer  $m \neq 0$ . Define a relation  $\equiv_m$  on  $\mathbb{Z}$  by  $a \equiv_m b$  if and only if  $m|a - b$ . Say  $a$  is congruent to  $b$  mod  $m$  (or modulo  $m$ ). Instead of  $a \equiv_m b$  one usually writes (following Gauss):

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

EXAMPLE 20.14.  $3 \equiv 17 \pmod{7}$ .

EXERCISE 20.15. Prove that  $\equiv_m$  is an equivalence relation. Prove that the equivalence class  $\bar{a}$  of  $a$  consists of all the numbers of the form  $mb + a$  where  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

EXAMPLE 20.16. If  $m = 7$  then  $\bar{3} = \bar{10} = \{\dots, -4, 3, 10, 17, \dots\}$ .

DEFINITION 20.17. For the equivalence relation  $\equiv_m$  on  $\mathbb{Z}$  the set of equivalence classes  $\mathbb{Z}/\equiv_m$  is denoted by  $\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}$ . The elements of  $\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}$  are called residue classes mod  $m$ .

EXERCISE 20.18. Prove that

$$\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z} = \{\overline{0}, \overline{1}, \dots, \overline{m-1}\}.$$

So the residue classes mod  $m$  are:  $\overline{0}, \overline{1}, \dots, \overline{m-1}$ . Hint: Use Euclid division.

EXERCISE 20.19. Prove that if  $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$  and  $c \equiv d \pmod{m}$  then  $a + c \equiv b + d \pmod{m}$  and  $ac \equiv bd \pmod{m}$ .

DEFINITION 20.20. Define operations  $+$ ,  $\times$ ,  $-$  on  $\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}$  by

$$\begin{aligned}\overline{a} + \overline{b} &= \overline{a+b} \\ \overline{a} \times \overline{b} &= \overline{ab} \\ -\overline{a} &= \overline{-a}.\end{aligned}$$

EXERCISE 20.21. Check that the above definitions are correct, in other words that if  $\overline{a} = \overline{a'}$  and  $\overline{b} = \overline{b'}$  then

$$\begin{aligned}\overline{a+b} &= \overline{a'+b'} \\ \overline{ab} &= \overline{a'b'} \\ \overline{-a} &= \overline{-a'}.\end{aligned}$$

Furthermore check that  $(\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}, +, \times, -, \overline{0}, \overline{1})$  is a ring.

DEFINITION 20.22. If  $p$  is a prime we write  $\mathbb{F}_p$  in place of  $\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$ .

EXERCISE 20.23. Prove that  $\mathbb{F}_p$  is a field. Hint: Use Proposition 20.9.



## CHAPTER 21

# Groups

Our next chapters investigate a few topics in algebra. Recall that algebra is the study of algebraic structures, i.e., sets with operations on them. We already introduced, and constructed, some elementary examples of algebraic structures such as rings and, in particular, fields. With rings/fields at our disposal one can study some other fundamental algebraic objects such as groups, vector spaces, polynomials. In what follows we briefly survey some of these. We begin with groups. In some sense groups are more fundamental than rings and fields; but in order to be able to look at more interesting examples we found it convenient to postpone the discussion of groups until this point. Groups appeared in mathematics in the context of symmetries of roots of polynomial equations; cf. the work of Galois that involved finite groups. Galois' work inspired Lie who investigated differential equations in place of polynomial equations; this led to (continuous) Lie groups, in particular groups of matrices. Groups eventually penetrated most of mathematics and physics (Klein, Poincaré, Einstein, Cartan, Weyl).

**DEFINITION 21.1.** A group is a tuple  $(G, \star, ', e)$  consisting of a set  $G$ , a binary operation  $\star$  on  $G$ , a unary operation  $'$  on  $G$  (write  $'(x) = x'$ ), and an element  $e \in G$  (called the identity element) such that for any  $x, y, z \in G$  the following axioms are satisfied:

- 1)  $x \star (y \star z) = (x \star y) \star z$ ;
- 2)  $x \star e = e \star x = x$ ;
- 3)  $x \star x' = x' \star x = e$ .

If in addition  $x \star y = y \star x$  for all  $x, y \in G$  we say  $G$  is commutative (or Abelian in honor of Abel).

**REMARK 21.2.** For any group  $G$ , any element  $g \in G$ , and any  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$  one defines  $g^n \in G$  exactly as in Exercise 13.15.

**EXERCISE 21.3.** Check the above.

**DEFINITION 21.4.** Sometimes one writes  $e = 1$ ,  $x \star y = xy$ ,  $x' = x^{-1}$ ,  $x \star \dots \star x = x^n$  ( $n \geq 1$  times). In the Abelian case one sometimes writes  $e = 0$ ,  $x \star y = x + y$ ,  $x' = -x$ ,  $x \star \dots \star x = nx$  ( $n \geq 1$  times). These notations depend on the context and are justified by the following examples.

**EXAMPLE 21.5.** If  $R$  is a ring then  $R$  is an Abelian group with  $e = 0$ ,  $x \star y = x + y$ ,  $x' = -x$ . Hence  $\mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{F}_p, \mathbb{Z}_p, \mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}$  are groups "with respect to addition."

**EXAMPLE 21.6.** If  $R$  is a field then  $R^\times = R \setminus \{0\}$  is an Abelian group with  $e = 1$ ,  $x \star y = xy$ ,  $x' = x^{-1}$ . Hence  $\mathbb{Q}^\times, \mathbb{R}^\times, \mathbb{C}^\times, \mathbb{F}_p^\times$  are groups "with respect to multiplication."

EXAMPLE 21.7. The set  $\text{Perm}(X)$  of bijections  $\sigma : X \rightarrow X$  from a set  $X$  into itself is a group with  $e = 1_X$  (the identity map),  $\sigma * \tau = \sigma \circ \tau$  (composition),  $\sigma^{-1}$  = inverse map. If  $X = \{1, \dots, n\}$  then one writes  $S_n = \text{Perm}(X)$  and calls this group the symmetric group. If  $\sigma(1) = i_1, \dots, \sigma(n) = i_n$  one usually writes

$$\sigma = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & \dots & n \\ i_1 & i_2 & \dots & i_n \end{pmatrix}.$$

EXERCISE 21.8. Compute

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 \\ 3 & 2 & 5 & 4 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \circ \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 \\ 5 & 4 & 2 & 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Also compute

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 \\ 3 & 2 & 5 & 4 & 3 \end{pmatrix}^{-1}.$$

EXAMPLE 21.9. A  $2 \times 2$  matrix with coefficients in a field  $R$  is a map

$$A : \{1, 2\} \times \{1, 2\} \rightarrow R.$$

If the map is given by

$$A(1, 1) = a$$

$$A(1, 2) = b$$

$$A(2, 1) = c$$

$$A(2, 2) = d$$

we write  $A$  as

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}.$$

Define the sum and the product of two matrices by

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} a' & b' \\ c' & d' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a + a' & b + b' \\ c + c' & d + d' \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} a' & b' \\ c' & d' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} aa' + bc' & ab' + bd' \\ ca' + dc' & cb' + dd' \end{pmatrix}.$$

Define the product of an element  $r \in R$  with a matrix  $A = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$  by

$$r \cdot \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} ra & rb \\ rc & rd \end{pmatrix}.$$

For a matrix  $A = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$  define its determinant by

$$\det(A) = ad - bc.$$

Say that  $A$  is invertible if  $\det(A) \neq 0$  and setting  $\delta = \det(A)$  define the inverse of  $A$  by

$$A^{-1} = \delta^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} d & -b \\ -c & a \end{pmatrix}.$$

Define the identity matrix by

$$I = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$



and the zero matrix by

$$O = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Let  $M_2(R)$  be the set of all matrices and  $GL_2(R)$  be the set of all invertible matrices. Then the following are true:

- 1)  $M_2(R)$  is a group with respect to addition of matrices;
- 2)  $GL_2(R)$  is a group with respect to multiplication of matrices; it is called the general linear group of  $2 \times 2$  matrices;
- 3)  $(A + B)C = AC + BC$  and  $C(A + B) = CA + CB$  for any matrices  $A, B, C$ ;
- 4) There exist matrices  $A, B$  such that  $AB \neq BA$ ;
- 5)  $\det(AB) = \det(A) \cdot \det(B)$ .

EXERCISE 21.10. Prove 1), 2), 3), 4), 5) above.

EXAMPLE 21.11. Groups are examples of algebraic structures so there is a well-defined notion of homomorphism of groups (or group homomorphism). According to the general definition a group homomorphism is a map between the two groups  $F : G \rightarrow G'$  such that for all  $a, b \in G$ :

- 1)  $F(a \star b) = F(a) \star' F(b)$ ,
- 2)  $F(a^{-1}) = F(a)^{-1}$  (this is automatic !),
- 3)  $F(e) = e'$  (this is, again, automatic !).

Here  $\star$  and  $\star'$  are the operations on  $G$  and  $G'$ ; similarly  $e$  and  $e'$  are the corresponding identity elements.

DEFINITION 21.12. A subset  $H$  of a group  $G$  is called a subgroup if

- 1) For all  $a, b \in H$  we have  $a \star b \in H$ .
- 2) For all  $a \in H$  we have  $a^{-1} \in H$ .
- 3)  $e \in H$ .

EXERCISE 21.13. Show that if  $H$  is a subgroup of  $G$  then  $H$ , with the natural operation induced from  $G$ , is a group.

EXERCISE 21.14.

- 1)  $\mathbb{Z}$  is a subgroup of  $\mathbb{Q}$ .
- 2)  $\mathbb{Q}$  is a subgroup of  $\mathbb{R}$ .
- 3)  $\mathbb{R}$  is a subgroup of  $\mathbb{C}$ .
- 4) If  $R$  is a field then the set

$$SL_2(R) = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}; a, b \in R, ad - bc = 1 \right\}$$

is a subgroup of  $GL_2(R)$ ; it is called the special linear group.

- 5) If  $R$  is a field then the set

$$SO_2(R) = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ -b & a \end{pmatrix}; a, b \in R, a^2 + b^2 = 1 \right\}$$

is a subgroup of  $SL_2(R)$ ; it is called the special orthogonal group.

DEFINITION 21.15. If  $F : G \rightarrow G'$  is a group homomorphism define the kernel of  $F$ ,

$$Ker F = \{a \in G; F(a) = e'\}$$

and the image of  $F$ :

$$Im F = \{b \in G'; \exists a \in G, F(a) = b\}.$$

EXERCISE 21.16. Prove that  $\text{Ker } F$  is a subgroup of  $G$  and  $\text{Im } F$  is a subgroup of  $G'$ .

## CHAPTER 22

### Order

We continue our investigation of groups and introduce the concept of order of elements in a group. (This has nothing to do with the word *order* used in the phrase *order relations*.)

DEFINITION 22.1. Let  $G$  be a group and  $g \in G$ ; we denote by  $\langle g \rangle$  the set of all elements  $a \in G$  for which there exists  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $a = g^n$ .

EXERCISE 22.2. Prove that  $\langle g \rangle$  is a subgroup of  $G$ . We call  $\langle g \rangle$  the subgroup generated by  $g$ .

DEFINITION 22.3. We say that a group  $G$  is cyclic if there exists  $g \in G$  such that  $G = \langle g \rangle$ ;  $g$  is called a generator of  $G$ .

EXAMPLE 22.4.  $\mathbb{Z}$  is cyclic. 1 is a generator of  $\mathbb{Z}$ ;  $-1$  is also a generator of  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

EXERCISE 22.5. Prove that  $\mathbb{Q}$  is not cyclic.

DEFINITION 22.6. Let  $G$  be a group and  $g \in G$ . We say the order of  $g$  is infinite if  $g^n \neq e$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . We say the order of  $g$  is  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  if:

- 1)  $g^n = e$ ;
- 2)  $g^k \neq e$  for all  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $k < n$ .

We denote by  $o(g)$  the order of  $g$ .

DEFINITION 22.7. The order of a finite group  $G$  is the cardinality  $|G|$  of  $G$ .

EXERCISE 22.8. The order  $o(g)$  of  $g$  equals the order  $|\langle g \rangle|$  of  $\langle g \rangle$ .

EXERCISE 22.9.  $g$  has order  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  if and only if:

- 1')  $g^n = e$ ;
- 2') If  $g^N = e$  for some  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  then  $n|N$ .

Hint: If 1') and 2') above hold then clearly  $g$  has order  $n$ . Conversely if  $g$  has order  $n$  then 1') clearly holds. To check that 2') holds use Euclidean division to write  $N = nq + r$  with  $0 \leq r < n$ . Then  $g^r = (g^n)^q g^r = g^N = e$ . By condition 2) in the definition of order  $r = 0$  hence  $n|N$ .

In what follows we say that two integers are coprime if they have no common divisor  $> 1$ .

PROPOSITION 22.10. Assume  $a, b$  are two elements in a group such that  $ab = ba$  and assume  $o(a)$  and  $o(b)$  are coprime. Then

$$o(ab) = o(a)o(b).$$

*Proof.* Set  $k = o(a)$ ,  $l = o(b)$ . Clearly, since  $ab = ba$  we have

$$(ab)^{kl} \equiv (a^k)^l (b^l)^k = e.$$

Now assume  $(ab)^N = e$ . Raising to power  $l$  we get  $a^{Nl}b^{Nl} = e$ , hence  $a^{Nl} = e$ , hence, by Exercise 22.9,  $k|Nl$ . Since  $k$  and  $l$  are coprime  $k|N$  (by the Fundamental Theorem of Arithmetic). In a similar way raising  $(ab)^N = e$  to power  $k$  we get  $a^{Nk}b^{Nk} = e$ , hence  $b^{Nk} = e$ , hence  $l|Nk$ , hence  $l|N$ . Again, since  $k$  and  $l$  are coprime,  $l|N$  and  $k|N$  imply  $kl|N$  and we are done.  $\square$

EXERCISE 22.11. Prove that if  $o(a) = kl$  then  $o(a^k) = l$ .

THEOREM 22.12. (*Lagrange*) *If  $H$  is a subgroup of a finite group  $G$  then the order of  $H$  divides the order of  $G$ : if  $n = |H|$ ,  $m = |G|$  then  $n|m$ . In particular if  $a \in G$  then the order  $o(a)$  of  $a$  divides the order  $|G|$  of the group. So if  $n = |G|$  then  $a^n = e$ .*

*Proof.* For each  $g \in G$  we let  $gH$  be the set of all elements of  $G$  of the form  $gh$  with  $h \in H$ . Let  $\pi : G \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(G)$  be the map  $\pi(g) = gH \in \mathcal{P}(G)$ . Let  $\mathcal{X} = \pi(G)$  and let  $\sigma : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow G$  be any map such that  $\pi \circ \sigma$  is the identity of  $\mathcal{X}$ . (The existence of  $\sigma$  follows by induction.) We claim that the map

$$(22.1) \quad \mathcal{X} \times H \rightarrow G, \quad (X, h) \mapsto \sigma(X)h, \quad X \in \mathcal{X}, \quad h \in H$$

is a bijection. Assuming the claim for a moment note that the claim implies

$$|\mathcal{X}| \times |H| = |G|,$$

from which the theorem follows. Let us check the claim. To prove that 22.1 is surjective let  $g \in G$ . Let  $g' = \sigma(gH)$ . Then  $g'H = \pi(g') = \pi(\sigma(gH)) = gH$ . So there exists  $h \in H$  such that  $g'h = ge = g$ ; hence  $g = \sigma(gH)h$  which ends the proof of surjectivity. We leave the proof of injectivity to the reader.  $\square$

EXERCISE 22.13. Check the injectivity of 22.1.

THEOREM 22.14. (*Fermat's Little Theorem*) *For any  $a \in \mathbb{Z}$  and any prime  $p$  we have*

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

*Proof.* If  $p|a$  this is clear. If  $p \nmid a$  let  $\bar{a}$  be the image of  $a$  in  $\mathbb{F}_p^\times$ . By Lagrange's theorem applied to the group  $\mathbb{F}_p^\times$  we have  $\bar{a}^{p-1} = \bar{1}$ . Hence  $a^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ . So  $a^p \equiv a \pmod{p}$ .  $\square$

## CHAPTER 23

### Vectors

Vectors implicitly appeared in a number of contexts such as mechanics (Galileo, Newton, etc.), hypercomplex numbers (Hamilton, Cayley, etc.), algebraic number theory (Dirichlet, Kummer, Eisenstein, Kronecker, etc.), and analysis (Hilbert, Banach, etc.). They are now a basic concept in linear algebra which is itself part of abstract algebra.

**DEFINITION 23.1.** Let  $R$  be a field. A vector space is an Abelian group  $(V, +, -, 0)$  together with a map  $R \times V \rightarrow V$ ,  $(a, v) \mapsto av$  satisfying the following conditions for all  $a, b \in R$  and all  $u, v \in V$ :

- 1)  $(a + b)v = av + bv$ ;
- 2)  $a(u + v) = au + av$ ;
- 3)  $a(bv) = (ab)v$ ;
- 4)  $1v = v$ .

The elements of  $V$  are called vectors.

**EXAMPLE 23.2.**  $R^n$  is a vector space over  $R$  viewed with the operations

$$\begin{aligned}(a_1, \dots, a_n) + (b_1, \dots, b_n) &= (a_1 + b_1, \dots, a_n + b_n), \\ -(a_1, \dots, a_n) &= (-a_1, \dots, -a_n), \\ c(a_1, \dots, a_n) &= (ca_1, \dots, ca_n).\end{aligned}$$

**DEFINITION 23.3.** The elements  $u_1, \dots, u_n \in V$  are linearly independent if whenever  $a_1, \dots, a_n \in R$  satisfies  $(a_1, \dots, a_n) \neq (0, \dots, 0)$  it follows that  $a_1u_1 + \dots + a_nu_n \neq 0$ .

**DEFINITION 23.4.** The elements  $u_1, \dots, u_n \in V$  generate  $V$  if for any  $u \in V$  there exist  $a_1, \dots, a_n \in R$  such that  $u = a_1u_1 + \dots + a_nu_n$ . (We also say that  $u$  is a linear combination of  $u_1, \dots, u_n$ .)

**DEFINITION 23.5.** The elements  $u_1, \dots, u_n \in V$  are a basis of  $V$  if they are linearly independent and generate  $V$ .

**EXERCISE 23.6.**

- 1) Show that  $(-1, 1, 0)$  and  $(0, 1, -1)$  are linearly independent in  $R^3$  but they do not generate  $R^3$ .
- 2) Show that  $(-1, 1, 0), (0, 1, -1), (1, 0, 1), (0, 2, -1)$  generate  $R^3$  but are not linearly independent in  $R^3$ .
- 3) Show that  $(-1, 1, 0), (0, 1, -1), (1, 0, 1)$  is a basis in  $R^3$ .

**EXERCISE 23.7.** If  $V$  has a basis  $u_1, \dots, u_n$  then the map  $R^n \rightarrow V$ ,  $(a_1, \dots, a_n) \mapsto a_1u_1 + \dots + a_nu_n$  is bijective. Hint: Directly from definitions.

**EXERCISE 23.8.** If  $V$  is generated by  $u_1, \dots, u_n$  then  $V$  has a basis consisting of at most  $n$  elements. Hint: Considering a subset of  $\{u_1, \dots, u_n\}$  minimal with the property that it generates  $V$  we may assume that any subset obtained from  $\{u_1, \dots, u_n\}$

does not generate  $V$ . We claim that  $u_1, \dots, u_n$  are linearly independent. Assume not. Hence there exists  $(a_1, \dots, a_n) \neq (0, \dots, 0)$  such that  $a_1u_1 + \dots + a_nu_n = 0$ . We may assume  $a_1 = 1$ . Then one checks that  $u_2, \dots, u_n$  generate  $V$ , contradicting minimality.

EXERCISE 23.9. Assume  $R = \mathbb{F}_p$  and  $V$  has a basis with  $n$  elements. Then  $|V| = p^n$ .

THEOREM 23.10. *If  $V$  has a basis  $u_1, \dots, u_n$  and a basis  $v_1, \dots, v_m$  then  $n = m$ .*

*Proof.* We prove  $m \leq n$ ; similarly one has  $n \leq m$ . Assume  $m > n$  and seek a contradiction. Since  $u_1, \dots, u_n$  generate  $V$  we may write  $v_1 = a_1u_1 + \dots + a_nu_n$  with not all  $a_1, \dots, a_n$  zero. Renumbering  $u_1, \dots, u_n$  we may assume  $a_1 \neq 0$ . Hence  $v_1, u_2, \dots, u_n$  generates  $V$ . Hence  $v_2 = b_1v_1 + b_2u_2 + \dots + b_nu_n$ . But not all  $b_2, \dots, b_n$  can be zero because  $v_1, v_2$  are linearly independent. So renumbering  $u_2, \dots, u_n$  we may assume  $b_2 \neq 0$ . So  $v_1, v_2, u_3, \dots, u_n$  generates  $V$ . Continuing (one needs induction) we get that  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n$  generates  $V$ . So  $v_{n+1} = d_1v_n + \dots + d_nv_n$ . But this contradicts the fact that  $v_1, \dots, v_m$  are linearly independent.  $\square$

EXERCISE 23.11. Give a quick proof of the above theorem in case  $R = \mathbb{F}_p$ . Hint: We have  $p^n = p^m$  hence  $n = m$ .

DEFINITION 23.12. We say  $V$  is finite dimensional (or that it has a finite basis) if there exists a basis  $u_1, \dots, u_n$  of  $V$ . Then we define the dimension of  $V$  to be  $n$ ; write  $\dim V = n$ . (The definition is correct due to Theorem 23.10.)

DEFINITION 23.13. If  $V$  and  $W$  are vector spaces a map  $F : V \rightarrow W$  is called linear if for all  $a \in K$ ,  $u, v \in V$  we have:

- 1)  $F(au) = aF(u)$ ,
- 2)  $F(u + v) = F(u) + F(v)$ .

EXAMPLE 23.14. If  $a, b, c, d, e, f \in R$  then the map  $F : R^3 \rightarrow R^2$  given by

$$F(u, v, w) = (au + bv + cw, du + ev + fw)$$

is a linear map.

EXERCISE 23.15. Prove that if  $F : V \rightarrow W$  is a linear map of vector spaces then  $V' = F^{-1}(0)$  and  $V'' = F(V)$  are vector spaces (with respect to the obvious operations). If in addition  $V$  and  $W$  are finite dimensional then  $V'$  and  $V''$  are finite dimensional and

$$\dim V = \dim V' + \dim V''.$$

Hint: Construct corresponding bases.

EXERCISE 23.16. Give an example of a vector space that is not finite dimensional.

## Matrices

Matrices appeared in the context of linear systems of equations and were studied in the work of Leibniz, Cramer, Cayley, Eisenstein, Hamilton, Sylvester, Jordan, etc. They were later rediscovered and applied in the context of Heisenberg's matrix mechanics. Nowadays they are a standard concept in linear algebra courses.

DEFINITION 24.1. Let  $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$ . An  $m \times n$  matrix with coefficients in a field  $R$  is a map

$$A : \{1, \dots, m\} \times \{1, \dots, n\} \rightarrow R.$$

If  $A(i, j) = a_{ij}$  for  $1 \leq i \leq m$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq n$  then we write

$$A = (a_{ij}) = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots \\ a_{m1} & \dots & a_{mn} \end{pmatrix}.$$

We denote by

$$R^{m \times n} = M_{m \times n}(R)$$

the set of all  $m \times n$  matrices. We also write  $M_n(R) = M_{n \times n}(R)$ . Note that  $R^{1 \times n}$  identifies with  $R^n$ ; its elements are of the form

$$(a_1, \dots, a_n)$$

and are called row matrices. Similarly the elements of  $R^{m \times 1}$  are of the form

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_1 \\ \dots \\ \dots \\ a_m \end{pmatrix}$$

and are called column matrices. If  $A = (a_{ij}) \in R^{m \times n}$  then

$$u^1 = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} \\ \dots \\ \dots \\ a_{m1} \end{pmatrix}, \dots, u^n = \begin{pmatrix} a_{1n} \\ \dots \\ \dots \\ a_{mn} \end{pmatrix}$$

are called the columns of  $A$  and we also write

$$A = (u^1, \dots, u^n).$$

Similarly

$$(a_{11}, \dots, a_{1n}), \dots, (a_{m1}, \dots, a_{mn})$$

are called the rows of  $A$ .

DEFINITION 24.2. Let  $0 \in R^{m \times n}$  the matrix  $0 = (z_{ij})$  with  $z_{ij} = 0$  for all  $i, j$ ;  $0$  is called the zero matrix. Let  $I \in R^{m \times n}$  the matrix  $I = (\delta_{ij})$  where  $\delta_{ii} = 1$  for all  $i$  and  $\delta_{ij} = 0$  for all  $i \neq j$ ;  $I$  is called the identity matrix and  $\delta_{ij}$  is called the Kronecker symbol.

DEFINITION 24.3. If  $A = (a_{ij}), B = (b_{ij}) \in R^{m \times n}$  we define the sum

$$C = A + B \in R^{m \times n}$$

as

$$C = (c_{ij}), \quad c_{ij} = a_{ij} + b_{ij}.$$

If  $A = (a_{is}) \in R^{m \times k}, B = (b_{sj}) \in R^{k \times n}$ , we define the product

$$C = AB \in R^{m \times n}$$

as

$$C = (c_{ij}), \quad c_{ij} = \sum_{s=1}^k a_{is} b_{sj}.$$

EXERCISE 24.4. Prove that:

- 1)  $R^{m \times n}$  is a group with respect to  $+$ .
- 2)  $A(BC) = (AB)C$  for all  $A \in R^{m \times k}, B \in R^{k \times l}, C \in R^{l \times n}$ .
- 3)  $A(B + C) = AB + AC$  for all  $A \in R^{m \times k}$  and  $B, C \in R^{k \times n}$ .
- 4)  $(B + C)A = BA + CA$  for all  $B, C \in R^{m \times k}$  and  $A \in R^{k \times n}$ .
- 5)  $AI = IA$  for all  $A \in R^{n \times n}$ .

EXERCISE 24.5. If  $A \in R^{m \times k}, B \in R^{k \times n}$ , and the columns of  $B$  are  $b^1, \dots, b^n \in R^{k \times 1}$  then the columns of  $AB$  are  $Ab^1, \dots, Ab^n \in R^{m \times 1}$  (where  $Ab^i$  is the product of the matrices  $A$  and  $b^i$ ). In other words

$$B = (b^1, \dots, b^n) \Rightarrow AB = (Ab^1, \dots, Ab^n).$$

DEFINITION 24.6.

$$\left( \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ 0 \\ \dots \\ 0 \end{array} \right), \left( \begin{array}{c} 0 \\ 1 \\ \dots \\ 0 \end{array} \right), \dots, \left( \begin{array}{c} 0 \\ 0 \\ \dots \\ 1 \end{array} \right)$$

is called the standard basis of  $R^{m \times 1}$

EXERCISE 24.7. Prove that the above is indeed a basis of  $R^{m \times 1}$ .

Here is the link between linear maps and matrices:

DEFINITION 24.8. If  $F: V \rightarrow W$  is a linear map of vector spaces and  $v_1, \dots, v_n$  and  $w_1, \dots, w_m$  are bases of  $V$  and  $W$ , respectively, then for  $j = 1, \dots, n$  one can write uniquely

$$F(v_j) = \sum_{i=1}^m a_{ij} w_i.$$

The matrix  $A = (a_{ij}) \in R^{m \times n}$  is called the matrix of  $F$  with respect to the bases  $v_1, \dots, v_n$  and  $w_1, \dots, w_m$ .



EXERCISE 24.9. Consider a matrix  $A = (a_{ij}) \in R^{m \times n}$  and consider the map

$$F : R^{n \times 1} \rightarrow R^{m \times 1}, \quad F(u) = Au \quad (\text{product of matrices}).$$

Then the matrix of  $F$  with respect to the canonical bases of  $R^{n \times 1}$  and  $R^{m \times 1}$  is  $A$  itself.

Hint: Let  $e^1, \dots, e^n$  be the standard basis of  $R^{n \times 1}$  and let  $f^1, \dots, f^m$  be the standard basis of  $R^{m \times 1}$ . Then

$$F(e^1) = Ae^1 = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ \cdots & \cdots & \cdots \\ a_{m1} & \cdots & a_{mn} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ \cdots \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} \\ a_{21} \\ \cdots \\ a_{m1} \end{pmatrix} = a_{11}f^1 + \cdots + a_{m1}f^m.$$

A similar computation can be done for  $e^2, \dots, e^n$ .

EXERCISE 24.10. Let  $F : R^{n \times 1} \rightarrow R^{m \times 1}$  be a linear map and let  $A \in R^{m \times n}$  be the matrix of  $F$  with respect to the standard bases. Then for all  $u \in R^{n \times 1}$  we have  $F(u) = Au$ .

EXERCISE 24.11. Let  $G : R^{n \times 1} \rightarrow R^{k \times 1}$  and let  $F : R^{k \times 1} \rightarrow R^{m \times 1}$  be linear maps. Let  $A$  be the matrix of  $F$  with respect to standard bases and let  $B$  be the matrix of  $G$  with respect to the standard bases. Then the matrix of  $F \circ G$  with respect to the standard bases is  $AB$  (product of matrices). Hint:  $F(G(u)) = A(Bu) = (AB)u$ .

DEFINITION 24.12. If  $A = (a_{ij}) \in R^{m \times n}$  is a matrix one defines the transpose of  $A$  as the matrix  $A^t = (a'_{ij}) \in R^{n \times m}$  where  $a'_{ij} = a_{ji}$ .

EXAMPLE 24.13.

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & b & c \\ d & e & f \end{pmatrix}^t = \begin{pmatrix} a & d \\ b & e \\ c & f \end{pmatrix}.$$

EXERCISE 24.14. Prove that:

- 1)  $(A + B)^t = A^t + B^t$ ;
- 2)  $(AB)^t = B^t A^t$ ;
- 3)  $I^t = I$ .



## Determinants

A fundamental concept in the theory of matrices is that of determinant of a matrix. The main results are due to Cauchy, Kronecker, and Weierstrass. In spite of the computational aspect of this concept the best way to approach it is via an axiomatic method as follows.

DEFINITION 25.1. Let  $V$  and  $W$  be vector spaces over a field  $R$  and let

$$f : V^n = V \times \dots \times V \rightarrow W$$

be a map. We say  $f$  is multilinear if for any  $v_1, \dots, v_n \in V$  and any  $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$  we have:

1) If  $v_i = v'_i + v''_i$  then

$$f(v_1, \dots, v_n) = f(v_1, \dots, v'_i, \dots, v_n) + f(v_1, \dots, v''_i, \dots, v_n).$$

2) If  $v_i = cv'_i$  then

$$f(v_1, \dots, v_n) = cf(v_1, \dots, v'_i, \dots, v_n).$$

EXAMPLE 25.2.  $f : R^{3 \times 1} \times R^{3 \times 1} \rightarrow R$  defined by

$$f \left( \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} d \\ e \\ f \end{pmatrix} \right) = ad + 3bf - ce$$

is multilinear.

DEFINITION 25.3. A multilinear map  $f : V^n = V \times \dots \times V \rightarrow W$  is called alternating if whenever  $v_1, \dots, v_n \in V$  and there exist indices  $i \neq j$  such that  $v_i = v_j$  we have  $f(v_1, \dots, v_n) = 0$ .

EXAMPLE 25.4.  $f$  in Example 25.2 is not alternating. On the other hand  $g : R^{2 \times 1} \times R^{2 \times 1} \rightarrow R$  defined by

$$g \left( \begin{pmatrix} a \\ c \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} b \\ d \end{pmatrix} \right) = 2ad - 2bc = 2 \det \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$$

is alternating.

LEMMA 25.5. If  $f : V^n \rightarrow W$  is multilinear alternating and  $v_1, \dots, v_n \in V$  then for any indices  $i < j$  we have

$$f(v_1, \dots, v_i, \dots, v_j, \dots, v_n) = -f(v_1, \dots, v_j, \dots, v_i, \dots, v_n).$$

Here  $v_1, \dots, v_j, \dots, v_i, \dots, v_n$  is obtained from  $v_1, \dots, v_i, \dots, v_j, \dots, v_n$  by replacing  $v_i$  with  $v_j$  and  $v_j$  with  $v_i$  while leaving all the other  $v$ s unchanged.

*Proof.* We have

$$\begin{aligned}
f(v_1, \dots, v_i + v_j, \dots, v_i + v_j, \dots, v_n) &= f(v_1, \dots, v_i, \dots, v_i, \dots, v_n) \\
&\quad + f(v_1, \dots, v_i, \dots, v_j, \dots, v_n) \\
&\quad + f(v_1, \dots, v_j, \dots, v_i, \dots, v_n) \\
&\quad + f(v_1, \dots, v_j, \dots, v_j, \dots, v_n).
\end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$0 = f(v_1, \dots, v_i, \dots, v_j, \dots, v_n) + f(v_1, \dots, v_j, \dots, v_i, \dots, v_n).$$

□

EXERCISE 25.6. Let  $\sigma : \{1, \dots, n\} \rightarrow \{1, \dots, n\}$  be a bijection. Then there exists  $\epsilon(\sigma) \in \{-1, 1\}$  with the following property. Let  $f : V^n \rightarrow W$  be any multilinear alternating map and  $v_1, \dots, v_n \in V$ . Then

$$f(v_{\sigma(1)}, \dots, v_{\sigma(n)}) = \epsilon(\sigma) \cdot f(v_1, \dots, v_n).$$

Hint: Induction on  $n$ . For the induction step distinguish two cases:  $\sigma(1) = 1$  and  $\sigma(1) \neq 1$ . In the first case one concludes directly by the induction hypothesis. The second case can be reduced to the first case via Lemma 25.5.

We identify  $(R^{n \times 1})^n$  with  $R^{n \times n}$  by identifying a tuple of columns  $(b^1, \dots, b^n)$  with the  $n \times n$  matrix whose columns are  $b^1, \dots, b^n$ . We denote  $I = I_n$  the identity  $n \times n$  matrix.

LEMMA 25.7. *There exists a multilinear alternating map*

$$f : R^{n \times n} \rightarrow R$$

such that  $f(I) = 1$ .

*Proof.* We proceed by induction on  $n$ . For  $n$  we take  $f(a) = a$ . Assume we constructed a multilinear alternating map

$$f_{n-1} : R^{(n-1) \times (n-1)} \rightarrow R$$

such that  $f_{n-1}(I_{n-1}) = 1$ . Let  $A = (a_{ij})$  be an  $n \times n$  matrix and let  $A_{ij}$  be the  $(n-1) \times (n-1)$  matrix obtained from  $A$  by deleting the  $i$ -th row and the  $j$ -th column. Fix  $i$  and define

$$f_n(A) = \sum_{j=1}^n (-1)^{i+j} a_{ij} f_{n-1}(A_{ij}).$$

One easily checks that  $f_n$  is multilinear, alternating, and takes value 1 on the identity matrix  $I_n$ . □

EXERCISE 25.8. Check the last sentence in the proof above.

LEMMA 25.9. *If  $f$  and  $g$  are multilinear alternating maps  $R^{n \times n} \rightarrow R$  and  $f(A) \neq 0$  then there exists  $c \in R$  such that  $g(A) = cf(A)$  for all  $A$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $A = (a_{ij})$ . Let  $e^1, \dots, e^n$  be the standard basis of  $R^{n \times 1}$ . Then

$$g(A) = g\left(\sum_{i_1} a_{i_1 1} e^{i_1}, \dots, \sum_{i_n} a_{i_n n} e^{i_n}\right) = \sum_{i_1} \dots \sum_{i_n} a_{i_1 1} \dots a_{i_n n} g(e^{i_1}, \dots, e^{i_n}).$$

The terms for which  $i_1, \dots, i_n$  are not distinct are zero. The terms for which  $i_1, \dots, i_n$  are distinct are indexed by permutations  $\sigma$ . By Exercise 25.6 we get

$$g(A) = \left( \sum_{\sigma} \epsilon(\sigma) a_{\sigma(1)1} \dots a_{\sigma(n)n} \right) g(I).$$

A similar formula holds for  $f(A)$  and the Lemma follows.  $\square$

By Lemmas 25.7 and 25.9 we get:

**THEOREM 25.10.** *There exists a unique multilinear alternating map (called determinant)*

$$\det : R^{n \times n} \rightarrow R$$

such that  $\det(I) = 1$ .

**EXERCISE 25.11.** Using the notation in the proof of Lemma 25.7 prove that:

1) For all  $i$  we have

$$\det(A) = \sum_{j=1}^n (-1)^{i+j} a_{ij} \det(A_{ij}).$$

2) For all  $j$  we have

$$\det(A) = \sum_{i=1}^n (-1)^{i+j} a_{ij} \det(A_{ij}).$$

Hint: Use Lemma 25.9.

We also have:

**THEOREM 25.12.** *For any two matrices  $A, B \in R^{n \times n}$  we have*

$$\det(AB) = \det(A) \det(B).$$

*Proof.* Consider the multilinear alternating map  $f : R^{n \times n} \rightarrow R$  defined by

$$f(u^1, \dots, u^n) = \det(Au^1, \dots, Au^n)$$

for  $u^1, \dots, u^n \in R^{n \times 1}$ . By Lemma 25.9 there exists  $c \in R$  such that

$$f(u^1, \dots, u^n) = c \cdot \det(u^1, \dots, u^n).$$

Hence

$$\det(Au^1, \dots, Au^n) = c \cdot \det(u^1, \dots, u^n).$$

Setting  $u^i = e^i$  we get  $\det(A) = c \cdot \det(I) = c$ . Setting  $u^i = b^i$ , the columns of  $B$ , we get  $\det(AB) = c \cdot \det(B)$  and the theorem is proved.  $\square$

**EXERCISE 25.13.** Prove that  $\epsilon(\sigma\tau) = \epsilon(\sigma)\epsilon(\tau)$  for any permutations  $\sigma, \tau \in S_n$ ; in other words  $\epsilon : S_n \rightarrow \{1, -1\}$  is a group homomorphism.

**EXERCISE 25.14.** Prove that if  $A \in R^{n \times n}$  is a matrix such that  $\det(A) \neq 0$  then  $A$  is invertible i.e., there exists  $B \in R^{n \times n}$  such that  $AB = BA = I$ .

Hint: Define  $B = (b_{ij})$  where

$$b_{ij} = (-1)^{i+j} \det(A_{ji})$$

(notation as in Lemma 25.7). Prove that  $AB = BA = I$  using Exercise 25.11.

**EXERCISE 25.15.** Prove that if  $A \in R^{n \times n}$  is a matrix then  $\det(A) = \det(A^t)$ .

Hint. Use Lemma 25.9.

EXERCISE 25.16. Let  $R$  be a field.

1) Prove that the set  $GL_n(R) = \{A \in R^{n \times n}; \det(A) \neq 0\}$  is a group with respect to multiplication;  $GL_n(R)$  is called the general linear group.

2) Prove that the set  $SL_n(R) = \{A \in R^{n \times n}; \det(A) = 1\}$  is a subgroup of  $GL_n(R)$ ;  $SL_n(R)$  is called the special linear group.

3) Prove that the set  $SO_n(R) = \{A \in R^{n \times n}; \det(A) = 1, AA^t = I\}$  is a subgroup of  $SL_n(R)$ ;  $SO_n(R)$  is called the special orthogonal group.

Check that for  $n = 2$  the above correspond to the previously defined groups  $GL_2(R), SL_2(R), SO_2(R)$ .

EXERCISE 25.17.

1) Prove that if a linear map  $F : V \rightarrow W$  is bijective then its inverse  $F^{-1} : W \rightarrow V$  is also linear. Such a map will be called an isomorphism (of vector spaces).

2) Prove that the set  $GL(V)$  of all isomorphisms  $V \rightarrow V$  is a group under composition.

3) Assume  $V$  has a basis  $v_1, \dots, v_n$  and consider the map  $GL(V) \rightarrow GL_n(R)$ ,  $F \mapsto A_F$  where  $A_F$  is the matrix of  $F$  with respect to  $v_1, \dots, v_n$ . Prove that  $GL(V) \rightarrow GL_n(R)$  is an isomorphism of groups.

## Polynomials

Determining the roots of polynomials was one of the most important motivating problems in the development of algebra, especially in the work of Cardano, Lagrange, Gauss, Abel, and Galois. Here we introduce polynomials and discuss some basic facts about their roots.

DEFINITION 26.1. Let  $R$  be a ring. We define the ring of polynomials  $R[x]$  in one variable with coefficients in  $R$  as follows. An element of  $R[x]$  is a map  $f : \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\} \rightarrow R$ ,  $i \mapsto a_i$  with the property that there exists  $i_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for all  $i \geq i_0$  we have  $a_i = 0$ ; we also write such a map as

$$f = (a_0, a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots).$$

We define  $0, 1 \in R[x]$  by

$$0 = (0, 0, 0, 0, \dots),$$

$$1 = (1, 0, 0, 0, \dots).$$

If  $f$  is as above and  $g = (b_0, b_1, b_2, b_3, \dots)$  then addition and multiplication are defined by

$$\begin{aligned} f + g &= (a_0 + b_0, a_1 + b_1, a_2 + b_2, a_3 + b_3, \dots), \\ fg &= (a_0b_0, a_0b_1 + a_1b_0, a_0b_2 + a_1b_1 + a_2b_0, a_0b_3 + a_1b_2 + a_2b_1 + a_3b_0, \dots). \end{aligned}$$

We define the degree of  $f = (a_0, a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots)$  as

$$\deg(f) = \min\{i; a_i \neq 0\}$$

if  $f \neq 0$  and  $\deg(0) = 0$ . We also define

$$x = (0, 1, 0, 0, \dots)$$

and we write

$$a = (a, 0, 0, 0, \dots)$$

for any  $a \in R$ .

EXERCISE 26.2.

- 1) Prove that  $R[x]$  with the operations above is a ring.
- 2) Prove that the map  $R \rightarrow R[x]$ ,  $a \mapsto a = (a, 0, 0, 0, \dots)$  is a ring homomorphism.
- 3) Prove that  $x^2 = (0, 0, 1, 0, \dots)$ ,  $x^3 = (0, 0, 0, 1, 0, \dots)$ , etc.
- 4) Prove that if  $f = (a_0, a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots)$  then

$$f = a_n x^n + \dots + a_1 x + a_0$$

where  $n = \deg(f)$ . (We also write  $f = f(x)$  but we DO NOT SEE  $f(x)$  as a function; this is just a notation.)

EXAMPLE 26.3. If  $R = \mathbb{Z}$  then

$$\begin{aligned} & (3x^2 + 5x + 1)(8x^3 + 7x^2 - 2x - 1) = \\ & = (3 \times 8)x^5 + (3 \times 7 + 5 \times 8)x^4 + (3 \times (-2) + 5 \times 7 + 1 \times 8)x^3 + \dots \end{aligned}$$

DEFINITION 26.4. For any  $b \in R$  we define an element  $f(b) \in R$  by

$$f(b) = a_n b^n + \dots + a_1 b + a_0.$$

So for any polynomial  $f \in R[x]$  we can define a map (called the polynomial map defined by the polynomial  $f$ ):

$$R \rightarrow R, b \mapsto f(b).$$

(The polynomial map defined by  $f$  should not be confused with the polynomial  $f$  itself; they are two different entities.) An element  $b \in R$  is called a root of  $f$  (or a zero of  $f$ ) if  $f(b) = 0$ . (Sometimes we say “a root in  $R$ ” instead of “a root.”)

EXAMPLE 26.5. If  $R = \mathbb{F}_2$  and we consider the polynomial  $f(x) = x^2 + x \in R[x]$  then  $f = (\bar{0}, \bar{1}, \bar{1}, \bar{0}, \dots) \neq (\bar{0}, \bar{0}, \bar{0}, \dots) = 0$  as an element of  $R[x]$ ; but the polynomial map  $R \rightarrow R$  defined by  $f$  sends  $\bar{1} \mapsto \bar{1}^2 + \bar{1} = \bar{0}$  and  $\bar{0} \mapsto \bar{0}^2 + \bar{0} = \bar{0}$  so this map is the constant map with value  $\bar{0}$ . This shows that different polynomials (in our case  $f$  and 0) can define the same polynomial map.

EXERCISE 26.6. Let  $R = \mathbb{R}$ . Show that

- 1)  $x^2 + 1$  has no root in  $\mathbb{R}$ .
- 2)  $\sqrt{\sqrt{3} + 1}$  is a root of  $x^4 - 2x^2 - 1 = 0$ .

REMARK 26.7. One can ask if any root in  $\mathbb{C}$  of a polynomial with coefficients in  $\mathbb{Q}$  can be expressed, using (possibly iterated) radicals of rational numbers. The answer to this is negative as shown by Galois in the early 19th century.

EXERCISE 26.8. Let  $R = \mathbb{C}$ . Show that

- 1)  $i$  is a root of  $x^2 + 1$  in  $\mathbb{C}$ .
- 2)  $\frac{1+i}{\sqrt{2}}$  is a root of  $x^4 + 1 = 0$  in  $\mathbb{C}$ .

REMARK 26.9. Leibniz mistakenly thought that the polynomial  $x^4 + 1$  should have no root in  $\mathbb{C}$ .

EXERCISE 26.10. Let  $R = \mathbb{F}_7$ . Show that:

- 1)  $x^2 + \bar{1}$  has no root in  $R$ .
- 2)  $\bar{2}$  is a root of  $x^3 - x + \bar{1}$  in  $R$ .

EXERCISE 26.11. Let  $R = \mathbb{F}_5$ . Show that:

- 1)  $\bar{2}$  is a root of  $x^2 + \bar{1}$  in  $R$ .
- 2)  $x^5 - x + 1$  has no root in  $\mathbb{F}_5$ .

The study of roots of polynomial functions is one of the main concerns of algebra. Here are two of the main basic theorems about roots.

THEOREM 26.12. (*Lagrange*) If  $R$  is a field then any polynomial of degree  $d \geq 1$  has at most  $d$  roots in  $R$ .

THEOREM 26.13. (*Fundamental Theorem of Algebra, Gauss*) If  $R = \mathbb{C}$  is the complex field then any polynomial of degree  $\geq 1$  has at least one root in  $\mathbb{C}$ .

In what follows we prove Theorem 26.12. (Theorem 26.13 is beyond the scope of this course.) We need a preparation.



DEFINITION 26.14. A polynomial  $f(x) = a_n x^n + \dots + a_1 x + a_0$  of degree  $n$  is monic if  $a_n = 1$ .

PROPOSITION 26.15. (Long division) Let  $f(x), g(x) \in R[x]$  with  $g(x)$  monic of degree  $\geq 1$ . Then there exist unique  $q(x), r(x) \in R[x]$  such that

$$f(x) = g(x)q(x) + r(x)$$

and  $\deg(r) < \deg(g)$ .

*Proof.* Fix  $g$  (of degree  $m$ ) and let us prove by induction on  $n$  that the statement above is true if  $\deg(f) \leq n$ . The case  $\deg(f) = 0$  is clear because we can then take  $q(x) = 0$  and  $r(x) = f(x)$ . For the induction step we may take  $f$  of degree  $n$  and let  $f(x) = a_n x^n + \dots + a_0$ ,  $a_n \neq 0$ . We may assume  $n \geq m$ . Then

$$\deg(f - a_n x^{n-m} g) \leq n - 1$$

so by the induction hypothesis

$$f(x) - a_n x^{n-m} g(x) = g(x)q(x) + r(x)$$

with  $\deg(r) < m$ . So

$$f(x) = g(x)(a_n x^{n-m} + q(x)) + r(x)$$

and we are done.  $\square$

*Proof of Theorem 26.12.* Assume there exists a polynomial  $f$  of degree  $d \geq 1$  that has  $d + 1$  roots. Choose  $f$  such that  $d$  is minimal and seek a contradiction. Let  $a_1, \dots, a_{d+1} \in R$  be distinct roots of  $f$ . By Long Division we can write

$$f(x) = (x - a_{d+1})g(x) + r(x)$$

with  $\deg(r) < \deg(x - a_{d+1}) = 1$ . So  $\deg(r) = 0$  i.e.,  $r(x) = c \in R$ . Since  $f(a_{d+1}) = 0$  we get  $r(x) = 0$  hence  $c = 0$ . Since  $0 = f(a_k) = (a_k - a_{d+1})g(a_k) + c$  for  $k = 1, \dots, d$  it follows that  $0 = (a_k - a_{d+1})g(a_k)$ . Since  $R$  is a field and  $a_k - a_{d+1} \neq 0$  for  $k = 1, \dots, d$  it follows that  $g(a_k) = 0$  for  $k = 1, \dots, d$ . But  $\deg(g) = d - 1$  which contradicts the minimality of  $d$ .  $\square$

DEFINITION 26.16. A number  $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}$  is called algebraic if there exists a polynomial  $f(x) = a_n x^n + \dots + a_1 x + a_0$  of degree  $n \geq 1$  with coefficients in  $\mathbb{Q}$  such that  $f(\alpha) = 0$ . A number  $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}$  is called transcendental if it is not algebraic.

EXAMPLE 26.17.  $\sqrt{2}$  is algebraic because it is a root of  $x^2 - 2$ .

EXERCISE 26.18. Prove that  $\sqrt{\sqrt{3} + 4} + 5\sqrt{7}$  is algebraic.

REMARK 26.19. It is not clear that transcendental numbers exist. We will check that later.

EXERCISE 26.20. Prove that the set of algebraic numbers in  $\mathbb{C}$  is countable.

REMARK 26.21. The main problems about roots are:

1) Find the number of roots; in case  $R = \mathbb{F}_p$  this leads to some of the most subtle problems in number theory.

2) Understand when roots of polynomials with rational coefficients, say, can be expressed by radicals; this leads to Galois theory.

DEFINITION 26.22. Let  $R$  be a ring. We defined the ring of polynomials  $R[x]$  in one variable  $x$  with coefficients in  $R$ . Now  $R[x]$  is again a ring so we can consider the ring of polynomials  $R[x][y]$  in one variable  $y$  with coefficients in  $R[x]$  which we simply denote by  $R[x, y]$  and refer to as the ring of polynomials in two variables  $x, y$  with coefficients in  $R$ . Again  $R[x, y]$  is a ring so we can consider the ring of polynomials  $R[x, y][z]$  in one variable  $z$  with coefficients in  $R[x, y]$  which we denote by  $R[x, y, z]$  and which we refer to as the ring of polynomials in 3 variables  $x, y, z$  with coefficients in  $R$ , etc.

EXAMPLE 26.23.

$$3x^7y^4z - x^8 + x^4y^9z^2 + 5xyz^2 = ((x^4)y^9 + (5x)y)z^2 - ((3x^7)y^4)z - (x^8) \in \mathbb{Z}[x, y, z].$$

CHAPTER 27

## Congruences

We discuss here polynomial congruences which lie at the heart of number theory. The main results below are due to Fermat, Lagrange, Euler, and Gauss.

DEFINITION 27.1. Let  $f(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$  be a polynomial and  $p$  a prime. An integer  $c \in \mathbb{Z}$  is called a root of  $f(x) \pmod p$  (or a solution to the congruence  $f(x) \equiv 0 \pmod p$ ) if  $f(c) \equiv 0 \pmod p$ ; in other words if  $p|f(c)$ . Let  $\bar{f} \in \mathbb{F}_p[x]$  be the polynomial obtained from  $f \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$  by replacing the coefficients of  $f$  with their images in  $\mathbb{F}_p$ . Then  $c$  is a root of  $f \pmod p$  if and only if the image  $\bar{c}$  of  $c$  in  $\mathbb{F}_p$  is a root of  $\bar{f}$ . We denote by  $N_p(f)$  the number of roots of  $f(x) \pmod p$  contained in  $\{0, 1, \dots, p-1\}$ ; equivalently  $N_p(f)$  is the number of roots of  $\bar{f}$  in  $\mathbb{F}_p$ . If  $f, g$  are polynomials in  $\mathbb{Z}[x]$  we write  $N_p(f = g)$  for  $N_p(f - g)$ . If  $Z_p(f)$  is the set of roots of  $\bar{f}$  in  $\mathbb{F}_p$  then of course  $N_p(f) = |Z_p(f)|$ .

EXERCISE 27.2.

- 1) 3 is a root of  $x^3 + x - 13 \pmod{17}$ .
- 2) Any integer  $a$  is a root of  $x^p - x \pmod p$ ; this is Fermat's Little Theorem. In particular  $N_p(x^p - x) = p$ ,  $N_p(x^{p-1} - 1) = p - 1$ .
- 3)  $N_p(ax - b) = 1$  if  $p \nmid a$ .
- 4)  $N_p(x^2 - 1) = 2$  if  $p \neq 2$ .

PROPOSITION 27.3. For any two polynomials  $f, g \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$  we have

$$N_p(fg) \leq N_p(f) + N_p(g).$$

*Proof.* Clearly  $Z_p(fg) \subset Z_p(f) \cup Z_p(g)$ . Hence

$$|Z_p(fg)| = |Z_p(f) \cup Z_p(g)| \leq |Z_p(f)| + |Z_p(g)|.$$

□

EXERCISE 27.4. Consider the polynomials

$$f(x) = x^{p-1} - 1 \text{ and } g(x) = (x-1)(x-2)\dots(x-p+1) \in \mathbb{Z}[x].$$

Prove that all the coefficients of the polynomial  $f(x) - g(x)$  are divisible by  $p$ . Conclude that  $p$  divides the sums

$$\sum_{a=1}^{p-1} a = 1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + (p-1)$$

and

$$\sum_{1 \leq a < b \leq p-1} ab = 1 \times 2 + 1 \times 3 + \dots + 1 \times (p-1) + 2 \times 3 + \dots + 2 \times (p-1) + \dots + (p-2) \times (p-1).$$

EXERCISE 27.5. Assume  $p \geq 5$  is a prime. Prove that the numerator of any fraction that is equal to

$$1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \dots + \frac{1}{p-1}$$

is divisible by  $p^2$ .

REMARK 27.6. Fix a polynomial  $f(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ . Some of the deepest problems and theorems in number theory can be formulated as special cases of the following two problems:

1) Understand the set of primes  $p$  such that the congruence  $f(x) \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$  has a solution or, equivalently, such that  $p|f(c)$  for some  $c \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

2) Understand the set of primes  $p$  such that  $p = f(c)$  for some  $c \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

In regards to problem 1) one would like more generally to understand the function whose value at a prime  $p$  is the number  $N_p(f)$ . In particular one would like to understand the set of all primes  $p$  such that  $N_p(f) = k$  for a given  $k$  (equivalently such that the congruence  $f(x) \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$  has  $k$  solutions in  $\{0, 1, \dots, p-1\}$ ). We note that if  $\deg(f) = 1$  the problem is trivial. For  $\deg(f) = 2$  the problem is already highly non-trivial although a complete answer was given by Gauss in his Quadratic Reciprocity Law (to be proved later). For the quadratic polynomial  $f(x) = x^2 + 1$ , for instance, we will prove below (without using quadratic reciprocity) that  $p|f(c)$  for some  $c$  if and only if  $p$  is of the form  $4k+1$ . For  $\deg(f)$  arbitrary the problem (and its generalizations for polynomials  $f(x, y, z, \dots)$  of several variables) is essentially open and part of an array of tantalizing conjectures (part of the Langlands program) that link the function  $N_p(f)$  to Fourier analysis and the theory of complex analytic functions. This is beyond the scope of our course.

In regards to problem 2), by a theorem of Dirichlet, for any linear polynomial  $f(x) = ax + b$  for which  $a$  and  $b$  are coprime there exist infinitely many integers  $k$  such that  $f(k)$  is prime. But it is not known, for instance, if there are infinitely many integers  $k$  such that  $f(k)$  is prime when  $f(x)$  is a quadratic polynomial such as  $f(x) = x^2 + 1$ . Problem 2) has an obvious analogue for polynomials in several variables.

The following is a direct consequence of Lagrange's Theorem 26.12:

COROLLARY 27.7. Assume  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{d}$ . Then  $N_p(x^d - 1) = d$ .

*Proof.* By Lagrange's Theorem  $N_p(x^d - 1) \leq d$ . Assume  $N_p(x^d - 1) < d$  and seek a contradiction. If  $p - 1 = kd$  then  $x^{p-1} - 1 = (x^d - 1)g(x)$  where

$$g(x) = x^{d(k-1)} + x^{d(k-2)} + \dots + x^d + 1.$$

Since by Lagrange's Theorem  $N_p(g) \leq d(k-1)$  we get

$$p-1 = N_p(x^{p-1}-1) = N_p((x^d-1)g) \leq N_p(x^d-1) + N_p(g) < d + d(k-1) = dk = p-1,$$

a contradiction.  $\square$

COROLLARY 27.8.

1) If  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$  then  $N_p(x^2 - 1) = 2$ . Equivalently any prime  $p$  of the form  $4k + 1$  divides some number of the form  $c^2 + 1$  where  $c$  is an integer.

2) If  $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$  then  $N_p(x^2 - 1) = 0$ . Equivalently no prime  $p$  of the form  $4k + 3$  can divide a number of the form  $c^2 + 1$  where  $c$  is an integer.

*Proof.* 1) By Corollary 27.7 if  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$  then  $N_p(x^4 - 1) = 4$ . But  $4 = N_p(x^4 - 1) \leq N_p((x^2 - 1)(x^2 + 1)) \leq N_p(x^2 - 1) + N_p(x^2 + 1) \leq N_p(x^2 + 1) + 2$  hence  $N_p(x^2 + 1) \geq 2$  and we are done.

2) Assume  $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$  so  $p = 4k + 3$  and assume  $N_p(x^2 = -1) > 0$  so there exists  $c \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $c^2 \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$ ; we want to derive a contradiction. We have (by Fermat's Little Theorem) that  $c^p \equiv c \pmod{p}$ . Since  $p \nmid c$  we get  $c^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ . But

$$c^{p-1} \equiv c^{4k+2} \equiv (c^2)^{2k+1} \equiv (-1)^{2k+1} \equiv -1 \pmod{p},$$

a contradiction.  $\square$

EXERCISE 27.9. Prove that:

1) If  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$  then  $N_p(x^2 + x + 1) = 2$ . Equivalently any prime  $p$  of the form  $3k + 1$  divides some number of the form  $c^2 + c + 1$ .

2) If  $p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$  then  $N_p(x^2 + x + 1) = 0$ . Equivalently no prime  $p$  of the form  $3k + 2$  can divide a number of the form  $c^2 + c + 1$ .

DEFINITION 27.10. Let  $a$  be an integer not divisible by a prime  $p$ . The order of  $a \pmod{p}$  is the smallest positive integer  $k$  such that  $a^k \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ . We write  $k = o_p(a)$ . Clearly  $o_p(a)$  equals the order  $o(\bar{a})$  of the image  $\bar{a}$  of  $a$  in  $\mathbb{F}_p$ .

DEFINITION 27.11. An integer  $g$  is a primitive root mod  $p$  if it is not divisible by  $p$  and  $o_p(g) = p - 1$ , equivalently, if the image  $\bar{g}$  of  $g$  in  $\mathbb{F}_p^\times$  is a generator of the group  $\mathbb{F}_p^\times$ .

EXERCISE 27.12. Prove that  $g$  is a primitive root mod  $p$  if and only if it is not divisible by  $p$  and

$$g^{(p-1)/q} \not\equiv 1 \pmod{p}$$

for all primes  $q|p - 1$ .

EXERCISE 27.13. Prove that 3 is a primitive root mod 7 but 2 is not a primitive root mod 7.

The following Theorem about the existence of primitive roots was proved by Gauss:

THEOREM 27.14. (Gauss) If  $p$  is a prime there exists a primitive root mod  $p$ . Equivalently the group  $\mathbb{F}_p^\times$  is cyclic.

*Proof.* By the Fundamental Theorem of Arithmetic,  $p - 1 = p_1^{e_1} \dots p_s^{e_s}$  with  $p_1, \dots, p_s$  distinct primes and  $e_1, \dots, e_s \geq 1$ . Let  $i \in \{1, \dots, s\}$ . By Corollary 27.7  $N_p(x^{p_i^{e_i}} - 1) = p_i^{e_i}$  and  $N_p(x^{p_i^{e_i-1}} - 1) = p_i^{e_i-1}$ . So  $x^{p_i^{e_i}} - 1$  has a root  $c_i \pmod{p}$  which is not a root mod  $p$  of  $x^{p_i^{e_i-1}} - 1$ . So

$$\begin{aligned} c_i^{p_i^{e_i}} &\equiv 1 \pmod{p}, \\ c_i^{p_i^{e_i-1}} &\not\equiv 1 \pmod{p}. \end{aligned}$$

It follows that the order of  $c_i$  is a divisor of  $p_i^{e_i}$  but not a divisor of  $p_i^{e_i-1}$ . Hence

$$o_p(c_i) = p_i^{e_i}.$$

By Proposition 22.10

$$o_p(c_1 \dots c_s) = p_1^{e_1} \dots p_s^{e_s} = p - 1$$

so  $c_1 \dots c_s$  is a primitive root mod  $p$ .  $\square$



**Part 6**

**Geometry**





## CHAPTER 28

### Lines

We start exploring topics in geometry. Geometry is the study of shapes such as lines and planes, or, more generally, curves and surfaces, etc. There are two paths towards this study: the synthetic one and the analytic (or algebraic) one. Synthetic geometry is geometry without algebra. Analytic geometry is geometry through algebra. Synthetic geometry originates with the Greek mathematics of antiquity (e.g., the treatise of Euclid). Analytic geometry was invented by Fermat and Descartes. We already encountered the synthetic approach in the discussion of the affine plane and the projective plane which were purely combinatorial objects. Here we introduce some of the most elementary structures of analytic geometry. We start with lines. Later we will look at more complicated curves.

**DEFINITION 28.1.** Let  $R$  be a field. The affine plane  $\mathbb{A}^2 = \mathbb{A}^2(R)$  over  $R$  is the set  $R^2 = R \times R$ . A point  $P = (x, y)$  in the plane is an element of  $R \times R$ . A subset  $L \subset R \times R$  is called a line if there exist  $a, b, c \in R$  such that  $(a, b) \neq (0, 0)$  and

$$L = \{(x, y) \in R^2; ax + by + c = 0\}.$$

We say a point  $P$  lies on the line  $L$  (or we say  $L$  passes through  $P$ ) if  $P \in L$ . Two lines are said to be parallel if they either coincide or their intersection is empty (in the last case we say they don't meet). Three points are collinear if they lie on the same line.

**DEFINITION 28.2.** We sometimes write  $L = L(R)$  if we want to stress that coordinates are in  $R$ .

**EXERCISE 28.3.** Prove that:

- 1) There exist 3 points which are not collinear.
- 2) For any two distinct points  $P_1$  and  $P_2$  there exists a unique line  $L$  (called sometimes  $P_1P_2$ ) passing through  $P_1$  and  $P_2$ . Hint: If  $P_1 = (x_1, y_1)$ ,  $P_2 = (x_2, y_2)$ , and if

$$m = (y_2 - y_1)(x_2 - x_1)^{-1}$$

then the unique line through  $P_1$  and  $P_2$  is:

$$L = \{(x, y) \in R \times R; y - y_1 = m(x - x_1)\}.$$

In particular any two non-parallel distinct lines meet in exactly one point.

- 3) Given a line  $L$  and a point  $P$  there exists exactly one line  $L'$  passing through  $P$  and parallel to  $L$ . (This is called Euclid's fifth postulate but in our exposition here this is not a postulate.)

Hence  $\mathbb{A}^2 = R^2 = R \times R$  together with the set  $\mathcal{L}$  of all lines (in the sense above) is an affine plane in the sense of Definition 10.41.

**REMARK 28.4.** Not all affine planes in the sense of Definition 10.41 are affine planes over a field in the sense above. Hilbert proved that an affine plane is the

affine plane over some field if and only if the theorems of Desargues (Parts I and II) and Pappus (stated below) hold. See below for the “only if direction.”

EXERCISE 28.5. Prove that any line in  $\mathbb{F}_p \times \mathbb{F}_p$  has exactly  $p$  points.

EXERCISE 28.6. How many lines are there in the plane  $\mathbb{F}_p \times \mathbb{F}_p$ ?

EXERCISE 28.7. (Desargues’ Theorem, Part I) Let  $A_1, A_2, A_3, A'_1, A'_2, A'_3$  be distinct points in the plane. Also for all  $i \neq j$  assume  $A_i A_j$  and  $A'_i A'_j$  are not parallel and let  $P_{ij}$  be their intersection. Assume the 3 lines  $A_1 A'_1, A_2 A'_2, A_3 A'_3$  have a point in common. Then prove that the points  $L_{12}, L_{13}, L_{23}$  are collinear (i.e., lie on some line). Hint: Consider the “space”  $R \times R \times R$  and define planes and lines in this space. Prove that if two planes meet and don’t coincide then they meet in a line. Then prove that through any two points in space there is a unique line and through any 3 non-collinear points there is a unique plane. Now consider the projection  $R \times R \times R \rightarrow R \times R, (x, y, z) \mapsto (x, y)$  and show that lines project onto lines. Next show that configuration of points  $A_i, A'_i \in R \times R$  can be realized as the projection of a similar configuration of points  $B_i, B'_i \in R \times R \times R$  not contained in a plane. (Identifying  $R \times R$  with the set of points in space with zero third coordinate we take  $B_i = A_i, B'_i = A'_i$  for  $i = 1, 2$ , we let  $B_3$  have a nonzero third coordinate, and then we choose  $B'_3$  such that the lines  $B_1 B'_1, B_2 B'_2, B_3 B'_3$  have a point in common.) Then prove “Desargues’ Theorem in Space” (by noting that if  $Q_{ij}$  is the intersection of  $B_i B_j$  with  $B'_i B'_j$  then  $Q_{ij}$  is in the plane containing  $B_1, B_2, B_3$  and also in the plane containing  $B'_1, B'_2, B'_3$ ; hence  $Q_{ij}$  is in the intersection of these planes which is a line). Finally deduce the original plane Desargues by projection.

EXERCISE 28.8. (Desargues’ Theorem, Part II) Let  $A_1, A_2, A_3, A'_1, A'_2, A'_3$  be distinct points in the plane. Assume the 3 lines  $A_1 A'_1, A_2 A'_2, A_3 A'_3$  have a point in common or they are parallel. Assume  $A_1 A_2$  is parallel to  $A'_1 A'_2$  and  $A_1 A_3$  is parallel to  $A'_1 A'_3$ . Prove that  $A_2 A_3$  is parallel to  $A'_2 A'_3$ . Hint: Compute coordinates. There is an alternative proof that reduces Part II to Part I by using the “projective plane over our field.”

EXERCISE 28.9. (Pappus’ Theorem) Let  $P_1, P_2, P_3$  be points on a line  $L$  and let  $Q_1, Q_2, Q_3$  be points on a line  $M \neq L$ . Assume the lines  $P_2 Q_3$  and  $P_3 Q_2$  are not parallel and let  $A_1$  be their intersection; define  $A_2, A_3$  similarly. Then prove that  $A_1, A_2, A_3$  are collinear. Hint (for the case  $L$  and  $M$  meet): One can assume  $L = \{(x, 0); x \in R\}, M = \{(0, y); y \in R\}$  (explain why). Let the points  $P_i = (x_i, 0)$  and  $Q_i = (0, y_i)$  and compute the coordinates of  $A_i$ . Then check that the line through  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  passes through  $A_3$ .

REMARK 28.10. One can identify the projective plane  $(\overline{\mathbb{A}^2}, \overline{\mathcal{L}})$  attached to the affine plane  $(\mathbb{A}^2, \mathcal{L})$  with the pair  $(\mathbb{P}^2, \check{\mathbb{P}}^2)$  defined as follows. Let  $\mathbb{P}^2 = R^3 / \sim$  where  $(x, y, z) \sim (x', y', z')$  if and only if there exists  $0 \neq \lambda \in R$  such that  $(x', y', z') = (\lambda x, \lambda y, \lambda z)$ . Denote the equivalence class of  $(x, y, z)$  by  $(x : y : z)$ . Identify a point  $(x, y)$  in the affine plane  $\mathbb{A}^2 = R^2 = R \times R$  with the point  $(x : y : 1) \in \mathbb{P}^2$ . Identify a point  $(x_0 : y_0 : 0)$  in the complement  $\mathbb{P}^2 \setminus \mathbb{A}^2$  with the class of lines in  $\mathbb{A}^2$  parallel to the line  $y_0 x - x_0 y = 0$ . This allows one to identify the complement  $\mathbb{P}^2 \setminus \mathbb{A}^2$  with the line at infinity  $L_\infty$  of  $\mathbb{A}^2$ . Hence we get an identification of  $\mathbb{P}^2$  with  $\overline{\mathbb{A}^2}$ . Finally define a line in  $\mathbb{P}^2$  as a set of the form

$$\overline{L} = \{(x : y : z); ax + by + cz = 0\}.$$

So under the above identifications,

$$\bar{L} = \{(x : y : 1); ax + by + c = 0\} \cup \{(x : y : 0); ax + by = 0\} = L \cup \{\widehat{L}\}$$

where  $L$  is the line in  $R^2$  defined by  $ax + by + c = 0$ . Then define  $\check{\mathbb{P}}^2$  to be the set of all lines  $\bar{L}$  in  $\mathbb{P}^2$ . We get an identification of  $\check{\mathbb{P}}^2$  with  $\bar{\mathcal{L}}$ .

Some familiar concepts such as area and distance can be defined in the above context. Assume in what follows that  $R$  is a field such that  $2 \neq 0$  and identify  $R^2$  with  $R^{2 \times 1}$ .

DEFINITION 28.11. Let  $P_1, P_2, P_3 \in R^{2 \times 1}$  be 3 points in the plane. Define

$$\text{area}(P_1, P_2, P_3) = \frac{1}{2} \det(P_2 - P_1, P_3 - P_1) \in R.$$

EXERCISE 28.12. Prove that

- 1)  $\text{area}(P_{\sigma(1)} P_{\sigma(2)} P_{\sigma(3)}) = \epsilon(\sigma) \cdot \text{area}(P_1, P_2, P_3)$  for all permutations  $\sigma \in S_3$ .
- 2)  $\text{area}(P_1, P_2, P_3) = 0$  if and only if  $P_1, P_2, P_3$  are collinear.
- 3) Let  $F : R^2 \rightarrow F^2$  be an isomorphism of vector spaces and  $A$  its matrix with respect to the canonical basis. Then  $A \in SL_2(R)$  if and only if “ $F$  preserves areas” in the sense that for all  $P_1, P_2, P_3 \in R^2$  we have

$$\text{area}(F(P_1), F(P_2), F(P_3)) = \text{area}(P_1, P_2, P_3).$$

- 4) For any  $P_0 \in R^{2 \times 1}$  area is “invariant under translation by  $P_0$ ” in the sense that

$$\text{area}(P_1 + P_0, P_2 + P_0, P_3 + P_0) = \text{area}(P_1, P_2, P_3).$$

DEFINITION 28.13. Let  $P_1, P_2 \in R^{2 \times 1}$  be 2 points in the plane. Define the distance squared between these points as

$$\text{dist}^2(P_1, P_2) = (P_2 - P_1)^t (P_2 - P_1) \in R.$$

EXERCISE 28.14. Prove that

- 1)  $\text{dist}^2(P_1, P_2) = \text{dist}^2(P_2, P_1)$ .
- 2) If  $R = \mathbb{R}$  then  $\text{dist}^2(P_1, P_2) = 0$  if and only if  $P_1 = P_2$ . (Show that this may fail for other fields.)
- 3) Let  $F : R^2 \rightarrow F^2$  be an isomorphism of vector spaces and  $A$  its matrix with respect to the canonical basis. Then  $A \in SO_2(R)$  if and only if “ $F$  preserves areas” and also “preserves distances” in the sense that for all  $P_1, P_2 \in R^{2 \times 1}$  we have

$$\text{dist}^2(F(P_1), F(P_2)) = \text{dist}^2(P_1, P_2).$$

- 4) For any  $P_0 \in R^{2 \times 1}$ ,  $\text{dist}^2$  is “invariant under translation by  $P_0$ ” in the sense that

$$\text{dist}^2(P_1 + P_0, P_2 + P_0) = \text{dist}^2(P_1, P_2).$$



## CHAPTER 29

### Conics

So far we were concerned with lines in the plane. Let us discuss now “higher degree curves.” We start with conics. Assume  $R$  is a field with  $2 = 1 + 1 \neq 0$ ; equivalently  $R$  does not contain the field  $\mathbb{F}_2$ .

DEFINITION 29.1. The circle of center  $(a, b) \in R \times R$  and radius  $r$  is the set

$$C(R) = \{(x, y) \in R \times R; (x - a)^2 + (y - b)^2 = r^2\}.$$

DEFINITION 29.2. A line is tangent to a circle if it meets it in exactly one point. (We say that the line is tangent to the circle at that point.) Two circles are tangent if they meet in exactly one point.

EXERCISE 29.3. Prove that for any circle and any point on it there is exactly one line tangent to the circle at that point.

EXERCISE 29.4. Prove that:

- 1) A circle and a line meet in at most 2 points.
- 2) Two circles meet in at most 2 points.

EXERCISE 29.5. How many points does a circle of radius 1 have if  $R = \mathbb{F}_{13}$ ? Same problem for  $\mathbb{F}_{11}$ .

EXERCISE 29.6. Prove that the circle  $C(R)$  with center  $(0, 0)$  and radius 1 is an Abelian group with  $e = (1, 0)$ ,  $(x, y)' = (x, -y)$ , and group operation

$$(x_1, y_1) \star (x_2, y_2) = (x_1x_2 - y_1y_2, x_1y_2 + x_2y_1).$$

Prove that the map

$$C(R) \rightarrow SO_2(R), \quad (a, b) \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ -b & a \end{pmatrix}$$

is a bijective group homomorphism. (Cf. Exercise 21.14 for  $SO_2(R)$ .)

EXERCISE 29.7. Consider the circle  $C(\mathbb{F}_{17})$ . Show that  $(\bar{3}, \bar{3}), (\bar{1}, \bar{0}) \in C(\mathbb{F}_{17})$  and compute  $(\bar{3}, \bar{3}) \star (\bar{1}, \bar{0})$  and  $2(\bar{1}, \bar{0})$  (where the latter is, of course,  $(\bar{1}, \bar{0}) \star (\bar{1}, \bar{0})$ ).

Circles are special cases of conics:

DEFINITION 29.8. A conic is a subset  $Q \subset R \times R$  of the form

$$Q = Q(R) = \{(x, y) \in R \times R; ax^2 + bxy + cy^2 + dx + ey + f = 0\}$$

for some  $(a, b, c, d, e, f) \in R \times \dots \times R$ , where  $(a, b, c) \neq (0, 0, 0)$ .

We refer to  $(a, b, c, d, e)$  as the equation of the conic and if the corresponding conic passes through a point we say that the equation of the conic passes through the point. We sometimes say “conic” instead of “equation of the conic.”

EXERCISE 29.9. Prove that if 5 points are given in the plane such that no 4 of them are collinear then there exists a unique conic passing through these given 5 points. Hint: Consider the vector space of all (equations of) conics that pass through a given set  $S$  of points. Next note that if one adds a point to  $S$  the dimension of this space of conics either stays the same or drops by one. Since the space of all conics has dimension 6 it is enough to show that for  $r \leq 5$  the conics passing through  $r$  points are fewer than those passing through  $r - 1$  of the  $r$  points. For  $r = 4$ , for instance, this is done by taking a conic that is a union of 2 lines.

## CHAPTER 30

### Cubics

DEFINITION 30.1. Let  $R$  be a field in which  $2 = 1 + 1 \neq 0$ ,  $3 = 1 + 1 + 1 \neq 0$ . Equivalently  $R$  does not contain  $\mathbb{F}_2$  or  $\mathbb{F}_3$ . A subset  $Z = Z(R) \subset R \times R$  is called an affine elliptic curve if there exist  $a, b \in R$  with  $4a^3 + 27b^2 \neq 0$  such that

$$Z(R) = \{(x, y) \in R \times R; y^2 = x^3 + ax + b\}.$$

We call  $Z(R)$  the elliptic curve over  $R$  defined by the equation  $y^2 = x^3 + ax + b$ . Next we define the projective elliptic curve defined by the equation  $y^2 = x^3 + ax + b$  as the set

$$E(R) = Z(R) \cup \{\infty\}$$

where  $\infty$  is an element not belonging to  $Z(R)$ . (We usually drop the word “projective” and we call  $\infty$  the point at infinity on  $E(R)$ .) If  $(x, y) \in E(R)$  define  $(x, y)' = (x, -y)$ . Also define  $\infty' = \infty$ . Next we define a binary operation  $\star$  on  $E(R)$  called the chord-tangent operation; we will see that  $E(R)$  becomes a group with respect to this operation. First define  $(x, y) \star (x, -y) = \infty$ ,  $\infty \star (x, y) = (x, y) \star \infty = (x, y)$ , and  $\infty \star \infty = \infty$ . Also define  $(x, 0) \star (x, 0) = \infty$ . Next assume  $(x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2) \in E(R)$  with  $(x_2, y_2) \neq (x_1, -y_1)$ . If  $(x_1, y_1) \neq (x_2, y_2)$  we let  $L_{12}$  be the unique line passing through  $(x_1, y_1)$  and  $(x_2, y_2)$ . Recall that explicitly

$$L_{12} = \{(x, y) \in R \times R; y - y_1 = m(x - x_1)\}$$

where

$$m = (y_2 - y_1)(x_2 - x_1)^{-1}.$$

If  $(x_1, y_1) = (x_2, y_2)$  we let  $L_{12}$  be the “line tangent to  $Z(R)$  at  $(x_1, y_1)$ ” which is by definition given by the same equation as before except now  $m$  is defined to be

$$m = (3x_1^2 + a)(2y_1)^{-1}.$$

(This definition is inspired by the definition of slope in analytic geometry.) Finally one defines

$$(x_1, y_1) \star (x_2, y_2) = (x_3, -y_3)$$

where  $(x_3, y_3)$  is the “third point of intersection of  $E(R)$  with  $L_{12}$ ”; more precisely  $(x_3, y_3)$  is defined by solving the system consisting of the equations defining  $E(R)$  and  $L_{12}$  as follows: replacing  $y$  in  $y^2 = x^3 + ax + b$  by  $y_1 + m(x - x_1)$  we get a cubic equation in  $x$ :

$$(y_1 + m(x - x_1))^2 = x^3 + ax + b$$

which can be rewritten as

$$x^3 - m^2x^2 + \dots = 0.$$

$x_1, x_2$  are known to be roots of this equation. We define  $x_3$  to be the third root which is then

$$x_3 = m^2 - x_1 - x_2;$$

so we define

$$y_3 = y_1 + m(x_3 - x_1).$$

Summarizing, the definition of  $(x_3, y_3)$  is

$$(x_3, y_3) = ((y_2 - y_1)^2(x_2 - x_1)^{-2} - x_1 - x_2, y_1 + (y_2 - y_1)(x_2 - x_1)^{-1}(x_3 - x_1))$$

if  $(x_1, y_1) \neq (x_2, y_2)$ ,  $(x_1, y_1) \neq (x_2, -y_2)$  and

$$(x_3, y_3) = ((3x_1^2 + a)^2(2y_1)^{-2} - x_1 - x_2, y_1 + (3x_1^2 + a)(2y_1)^{-1}(x_3 - x_1))$$

if  $(x_1, y_1) = (x_2, y_2)$ ,  $y_1 \neq 0$ .

Then  $E(R)$  with the above definitions is an Abelian group.

EXERCISE 30.2. Check the last statement. (N.B. Checking associativity is a very laborious exercise.)

EXERCISE 30.3. Consider the group  $E(\mathbb{F}_{13})$  defined by the equation  $y^2 = x^3 + \bar{8}$ . Show that  $(\bar{1}, \bar{3}), (\bar{2}, \bar{4}) \in E(\mathbb{F}_{13})$  and compute  $(\bar{1}, \bar{3}) \star (\bar{2}, \bar{4})$  and  $2(\bar{2}, \bar{4})$  (where the latter is, of course,  $(\bar{2}, \bar{4}) \star (\bar{2}, \bar{4})$ ).

Affine elliptic curves are special examples of cubics:

DEFINITION 30.4. A cubic is a subset  $X = X(R) \subset R \times R$  of the form

$$X(R) = \{(x, y) \in R \times R; ax^3 + bx^2y + cxy^2 + dy^3 + ex^2 + fxy + gy^2 + hx + iy + j = 0\}$$

where  $(a, b, c, \dots, j) \in R \times \dots \times R$ ,  $(a, b, c, d) \neq (0, \dots, 0)$ .

As usual we refer to the tuple  $(a, b, c, \dots, j)$  as the equation of a cubic (or, by abuse, simply a cubic).

EXERCISE 30.5. (Three Cubics Theorem) Prove that if two cubics meet in exactly 9 points and if a third cubic passes through 8 of the 9 points then the third cubic must pass through the 9th point. Hint: First show that if  $r \leq 8$  and  $r$  points are given then the set of cubics passing through them is strictly larger than the set of cubics passing through  $r - 1$  of the  $r$  points. (To show this show first that no 4 of the 9 points are on a line. Then in order to find, for instance, a cubic passing through  $P_1, \dots, P_7$  but not through  $P_8$  one considers the cubics  $C_i = Q_{1234i} + L_{jk}$ ,  $\{i, j, k\} = \{5, 6, 7\}$ , where  $Q_{1234i}$  is the unique conic passing through  $P_1, P_2, P_3, P_4, P_i$  and  $L_{jk}$  is the unique line through  $P_j$  and  $P_k$ . Assume  $C_5, C_6, C_7$  all pass through  $P_8$  and derive a contradiction as follows. Note that  $P_8$  cannot lie on 2 of the 3 lines  $L_{jk}$  because this would force us to have 4 collinear points. So we may assume  $P_8$  does not lie on either of the lines  $L_{57}, L_{67}$ . Hence  $P_8$  lies on both  $Q_{12345}$  and  $Q_{12346}$ . So these conics have 5 points in common. From here one immediately gets a contradiction.) Once this is proved let  $P_1, \dots, P_9$  be the points of intersection of the cubics with equations  $F$  and  $G$ . We know that the space of cubics passing through  $P_1, \dots, P_8$  has dimension 2 and contains  $F$  and  $G$ . So any cubic in this space is a linear combination of  $F$  and  $G$ , hence will pass through  $P_9$ .

EXERCISE 30.6. (Pascal's Theorem) Let  $P_1, P_2, P_3, Q_1, Q_2, Q_3$  be points on a conic  $C$ . Let  $A_1$  be the intersection of  $P_2Q_3$  with  $P_3Q_2$ , and define  $A_2, A_3$  similarly. (Assume the lines in question are not parallel.) Then prove that  $A_1, A_2, A_3$  are collinear. Hint: The cubics

$$Q_1P_2 \cup Q_2P_3 \cup Q_3P_1 \quad \text{and} \quad P_1Q_2 \cup P_2Q_3 \cup P_3Q_1$$



pass through all of the following 9 points:

$$P_1, P_2, P_3, Q_1, Q_2, Q_3, A_1, A_2, A_3.$$

On the other hand the cubic  $C \cup A_2A_3$  passes through all these points except possibly  $A_1$ . Then by the Three Cubics Theorem  $C \cup A_2A_3$  passes through  $A_1$ . Hence  $A_2A_3$  passes through  $A_1$ .

EXERCISE 30.7. Show how Pascal's Theorem implies Pappus' Theorem.

REMARK 30.8. An extended version of the Three Cubics Theorem implies the associativity of the chord-tangent operation on a cubic. (The extended version, to be used below, follows from the usual version by passing to the "projective plane"; we will not explain this proof here.) The rough idea is as follows. Let  $E$  be the elliptic curve and  $Q, P, R$  points on it. Let

$$\begin{aligned} PQ \cup E &= \{P, Q, U\} \\ \infty U \cup E &= \{\infty, U, V\} \\ VR \cup E &= \{V, R, W\} \\ PR \cap E &= \{P, R, X\} \\ \infty X \cap E &= \{\infty, X, Y\}. \end{aligned}$$

Here  $\infty A$  is the vertical passing through a point  $A$ . Note that

$$Q \star P = V, \quad V \star R = W', \quad P \star R = Y.$$

We want to show that

$$(Q \star P) \star R = Q \star (P \star R).$$

This is equivalent to

$$V \star R = Q \star Y$$

i.e., that

$$W' = Q \star Y$$

i.e., that  $Q, Y, W$  are collinear. Now the two cubics

$$E \quad \text{and} \quad PQ \cup WR \cup YX$$

both pass through the 9 points

$$P, Q, R, U, V, W, X, Y, \infty.$$

On the other hand the cubic

$$\Gamma = UV \cup PR \cup QY$$

passes through all 9 points except  $W$ . By a generalization of the Three Cubics Theorem (covering the case when one of the points is  $\infty$ ) we get that  $\Gamma$  passes through  $W$  hence  $QY$  passes through  $W$ . The above argument only applies to chords and not to tangents. When dealing with tangents one needs to repeat the argument and look at multiplicities. So making the argument rigorous becomes technical.



**Part 7**

**Analysis**



## CHAPTER 31

### Limits

We discuss now some simple topics in analysis. Analysis is the study of “passing to the limit.” The key words are sequences, convergence, limits, and later differential and integral calculus. Here we will discuss limits. Analysis emerged through work of Abel, Cauchy, Riemann, and Weierstrass, as a clarification of the early calculus of Newton, Leibniz, Euler, and Lagrange.

**DEFINITION 31.1.** A sequence in  $\mathbb{R}$  is a map  $F : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ; if  $F(n) = a_n$  we denote the sequence by  $a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots$  or by  $(a_n)$ . We let  $F(\mathbb{N})$  be denoted by  $\{a_n; n \geq 1\}$ ; the latter is a subset of  $\mathbb{R}$ .

**DEFINITION 31.2.** A subsequence of a sequence  $F : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a sequence of the form  $F \circ G$  where  $G : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  is an increasing map. If  $a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots$  is  $F$  then  $F \circ G$  is  $a_{k_1}, a_{k_2}, a_{k_3}, \dots$  (or  $(a_{k_n})$ ) where  $G(n) = k_n$ .

**DEFINITION 31.3.** A sequence  $(a_n)$  is convergent to  $a_0 \in \mathbb{R}$  if for any real number  $\epsilon > 0$  there exists an integer  $N$  such that for all  $n \geq N$  we have  $|a_n - a_0| < \epsilon$ . We write  $a_n \rightarrow a_0$  and we say  $a_0$  is the limit of  $(a_n)$ . A sequence is called convergent if there exists  $a \in \mathbb{R}$  such that the sequence converges to  $a$ . A sequence is called divergent if it is not convergent.

**EXERCISE 31.4.** Prove that  $a_n = \frac{1}{n}$  converges to 0.

Hint: Let  $\epsilon > 0$ ; we need to find  $N$  such that for all  $n \geq N$  we have

$$\left| \frac{1}{n} - 0 \right| < \epsilon;$$

it is enough to take  $N$  to be any integer such that  $N > \frac{1}{\epsilon}$ .

**EXERCISE 31.5.** Prove that  $a_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}$  converges to 0.

**EXERCISE 31.6.** Prove that  $a_n = \frac{1}{n^2}$  converges to 0.

**EXERCISE 31.7.** Prove that  $a_n = n$  is divergent.

**EXERCISE 31.8.** Prove that  $a_n = (-1)^n$  is divergent.

**EXERCISE 31.9.** Prove that if  $a_n \rightarrow a_0$  and  $b_n \rightarrow b_0$  then

1)  $a_n + b_n \rightarrow a_0 + b_0$

2)  $a_n b_n \rightarrow a_0 b_0$ .

If in addition  $b_0 \neq 0$  then there exists  $N$  such that for all  $n \geq N$  we have  $b_n \neq 0$ ; moreover if  $b_n \neq 0$  for all  $n$  then

3)  $\frac{a_n}{b_n} \rightarrow \frac{a_0}{b_0}$ .

Hint for 1: Consider any  $\epsilon > 0$ . Since  $a_n \rightarrow a_0$  there exists  $N_a$  such that for all  $n \geq N_a$  we have  $|a_n - a_0| < \frac{\epsilon}{2}$ . Since  $b_n \rightarrow b_0$  there exists  $N_b$  such that for all

$n \geq N_b$  we have  $|b_n - b_0| < \frac{\epsilon}{2}$ . Let  $N = \max\{N_a, N_b\}$  be the maximum between  $N_a$  and  $N_b$ . Then for all  $n \geq N$  we have

$$|(a_n + b_n) - (a_0 + b_0)| \leq |a_n - a_0| + |b_n - b_0| < \frac{\epsilon}{2} + \frac{\epsilon}{2} = \epsilon.$$

EXERCISE 31.10. Prove that if  $a_n \rightarrow a$ ,  $b_n \rightarrow b$ , and  $a_n \leq b_n$  for all  $n \geq 1$  then  $a \leq b$ .

DEFINITION 31.11. A sequence  $F$  is bounded if the set  $F(\mathbb{N}) \subset \mathbb{R}$  is bounded.

DEFINITION 31.12. A sequence  $F$  is increasing if  $F$  is increasing. A sequence  $F$  is decreasing if  $-F$  is increasing.

DEFINITION 31.13. A sequence  $(a_n)$  is Cauchy if for any real  $\epsilon > 0$  there exists an integer  $N$  such that for all integers  $m, n \geq N$  we have  $|a_n - a_m| < \epsilon$ .

EXERCISE 31.14. Prove that any convergent sequence is Cauchy.

EXERCISE 31.15. Prove the following statements in the prescribed order:

- 1) Any Cauchy sequence is bounded.
- 2) Any bounded sequence contains a sequence which is either increasing or decreasing.
- 3) Any bounded sequence which is either increasing or decreasing is convergent.
- 4) Any Cauchy sequence which contains a convergent subsequence is itself convergent.
- 5) Any Cauchy sequence is convergent.

Hints: For 1 let  $\epsilon = 1$ , let  $N$  correspond to this  $\epsilon$ , and get that  $|a_n - a_N| < 1$  for all  $n \geq N$ ; conclude from here. For 2 consider the sets  $A_n = \{a_m; m \geq n\}$ . If at least one of these sets has no maximal element we get an increasing subsequence by Proposition 16.3. If each  $A_n$  has a maximal element  $b_n$  then  $b_n = a_{k_n}$  for some  $k_n$  and the subsequence  $a_{k_n}$  is decreasing. For 3 we view each  $a_n \in \mathbb{R}$  as a Dedekind cut i.e., as a subset  $a_n \subset \mathbb{Q}$ ; the limit will be either the union of the sets  $a_n$  or the intersection. Statement 4 is easy. Statement 5 follows by combining the previous statements.

EXERCISE 31.16. Prove that any subset in  $\mathbb{R}$  which is bounded from below has an infimum; and any subset in  $\mathbb{R}$  which is bounded from above has a supremum.

DEFINITION 31.17. A function  $F : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is continuous at a point  $a_0 \in \mathbb{R}$  if for any sequence  $(a_n)$  converging to  $a_0$  we have that the sequence  $(F(a_n))$  converges to  $F(a_0)$ .

EXERCISE 31.18. ( $\epsilon$  and  $\delta$  criterion). Prove that a function  $F : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is continuous at  $a_0$  if and only if for any real  $\epsilon > 0$  there exists a real  $\delta > 0$  such that for any  $a \in \mathbb{R}$  with  $|a - a_0| < \delta$  we have  $|F(a) - F(a_0)| < \epsilon$ .

EXERCISE 31.19. Prove that a function  $F : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is continuous (for the Euclidean topology on both the source and the target) if and only if it is continuous at any point of  $\mathbb{R}$ .

EXERCISE 31.20. Prove that any polynomial function  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  (i.e., any function of the form  $a \mapsto f(a)$  where  $f$  is a polynomial) is continuous.

EXERCISE 31.21. Prove that  $\mathbb{R}$  with the Euclidean topology is connected.

Hint: Assume  $\mathbb{R} = A \cup B$  with  $A, B$  open, non-empty, and disjoint, and seek a contradiction. Let  $a \in A$  and  $b \in B$ . Assume  $a \leq b$ ; the case  $b \leq a$  is similar.

Show that there exists sequences  $(a_n)$  and  $(b_n)$ , the first increasing, the second decreasing, with  $a_n \leq b_n$  and  $b_n - a_n \rightarrow 0$ . (To check this use recursion to define  $a_{n+1}, b_{n+1}$  in terms of  $a_n, b_n$  by the following rule: if  $c_n = \frac{a_n + b_n}{2}$  then set  $a_{n+1} = c_n$  and  $b_{n+1} = b_n$  in case  $c_n \in A$ ; and set  $a_{n+1} = a_n$  and  $b_{n+1} = c_n$  in case  $c_n \in B$ .) Note that  $a_n \rightarrow a_0$  and  $b_n \rightarrow b_0$  and  $a_0 = b_0$ . Since  $A, B$  are open and disjoint they are closed. So  $a_0 \in A$  and  $b_0 \in B$ . But this contradicts the fact that  $A$  and  $B$  are disjoint.

DEFINITION 31.22. For  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$  the closed interval  $[a, b] \subset \mathbb{R}$  is defined as

$$[a, b] = \{x \in \mathbb{R}; a \leq x \leq b\}.$$

EXERCISE 31.23. Prove that  $[a, b]$  are closed in the Euclidean topology.

EXERCISE 31.24. Prove that the open intervals  $(a, b)$  and the closed intervals  $[a, b]$  are connected in  $\mathbb{R}$ .

EXERCISE 31.25. (Heine-Borel Theorem) Prove that any closed interval in  $\mathbb{R}$  is compact. Hint: Assume  $[a, b]$  is not compact and derive a contradiction as follows. We know  $[a, b]$  has an open covering  $(U_i)_{i \in I}$  that does not have a finite open subcovering. Show that there exists sequences  $(a_n)$  and  $(b_n)$ , the first increasing, the second decreasing, with  $a_n \leq b_n$  and  $b_n - a_n \rightarrow 0$ , such that  $[a_n, b_n]$  cannot be covered by finitely many  $U_i$ s. (To check this use recursion to define  $a_{n+1}, b_{n+1}$  in terms of  $a_n, b_n$  by the following rule: let  $c_n = \frac{a_n + b_n}{2}$ ; then at least one of the two intervals  $[a_n, c_n]$  or  $[c_n, b_n]$  cannot be covered by finitely many  $U_i$ s; if this is the case with the first interval then set  $a_{n+1} = a_n$  and  $b_{n+1} = c_n$ ; in the other case set  $a_{n+1} = c_n$  and  $b_{n+1} = b_n$ .) Note that  $a_n \rightarrow a_0$  and  $b_n \rightarrow b_0$  and  $a_0 = b_0$ . But  $a_0 = b_0$  is in one of the  $U_i$ s; this  $U_i$  will completely contain one of the intervals  $[a_n, b_n]$  which is a contradiction.





## CHAPTER 32

### Series

DEFINITION 32.1. Let  $(a_n)$  be a sequence and  $s_n = \sum_{k=1}^n a_k$ . The sequence  $(s_n)$  is called the sequence of partial sums. If  $(s_n)$  is convergent to some  $s$  we say  $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_n$  is a convergent series and that this series converges to  $s$ ; we write

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_n = s.$$

If the sequence  $(s_n)$  is divergent we say that  $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_n$  is a divergent series.

EXERCISE 32.2. Prove that

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n(n+1)} = 1.$$

Hint: Start with the equality

$$\frac{1}{n(n+1)} = \frac{1}{n} - \frac{1}{n+1}$$

and compute

$$\sum_{n=1}^N \frac{1}{n(n+1)} = 1 - \frac{1}{N}.$$

EXERCISE 32.3. Prove that the series

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2}$$

is convergent.

Hint: Prove the sequence of partial sums is bounded using the inequality

$$\frac{1}{n^2} \leq \frac{1}{n(n+1)}$$

plus Exercise 32.2.

EXERCISE 32.4. Prove that the series

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^k}$$

is convergent for  $k \geq 3$ .

EXERCISE 32.5. Prove that the series

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n}$$

is divergent. This series is called the harmonic series.

Hint: Assume the series is convergent. Then the sequence of partial sums is convergent hence Cauchy. Get a contradiction from the inequality:

$$\frac{1}{2^n + 1} + \frac{1}{2^n + 2} + \frac{1}{2^n + 3} + \dots + \frac{1}{2^n + 2^n} > 2^n \times \frac{1}{2^n + 2^n} = \frac{1}{2}.$$

EXERCISE 32.6. Prove that  $a^n \rightarrow 0$  if  $|a| < 1$ .

Hint: We may assume  $0 < a < 1$ . Note that  $(a^n)$  is decreasing. Since it is bounded it is convergent. Let  $\alpha$  be its limit. Assume  $\alpha \neq 0$  and get a contradiction by noting that

$$\frac{1}{a} = \frac{a^n}{a^{n+1}} \rightarrow \frac{\alpha}{\alpha} = 1.$$

EXERCISE 32.7. Prove that

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a^n = \frac{1}{1-a}$$

if  $|a| < 1$ .

EXERCISE 32.8. Prove that the series

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{a^n}{n!}$$

is convergent for all  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ ; its limit is denoted by  $e^a = \exp(a)$ ;  $e = e^1$  is called the Euler number; the map

$$\mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad a \mapsto \exp(a)$$

is called the exponential map. Prove that

$$\exp(a+b) = \exp(a)\exp(b).$$

EXERCISE 32.9. Prove that the function  $\exp : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is continuous.

Hint: Let  $a \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $\epsilon > 0$ . It is enough to show that there exists  $\delta > 0$  such that if  $|b-a| < \delta$  then  $|\exp(b) - \exp(a)| < \epsilon$ . Show that there is a  $\delta$  such that for any  $b$  with  $|b-a| < \delta$  there exists an  $n$  such that for all  $m \geq n$

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \sum_{k=0}^m \frac{a^k}{k!} - \sum_{k=0}^n \frac{a^k}{k!} \right| &< \frac{\epsilon}{3} \\ \left| \sum_{k=0}^m \frac{b^k}{k!} - \sum_{k=0}^n \frac{b^k}{k!} \right| &< \frac{\epsilon}{3} \\ \left| \sum_{k=0}^n \frac{b^k}{k!} - \sum_{k=0}^n \frac{a^k}{k!} \right| &< \frac{\epsilon}{3}. \end{aligned}$$

From the first two inequalities we get

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \exp(a) - \sum_{k=0}^n \frac{a^k}{k!} \right| &\leq \frac{\epsilon}{3} \\ \left| \exp(b) - \sum_{k=0}^n \frac{b^k}{k!} \right| &\leq \frac{\epsilon}{3}. \end{aligned}$$

Then

$$|\exp(b) - \exp(a)| < \frac{\epsilon}{3} + \frac{\epsilon}{3} + \frac{\epsilon}{3} = \epsilon.$$

EXERCISE 32.10. Let  $S \subset \{0, 1\}^{\mathbb{N}}$  be the set of all sequences  $(a_n)$  such that there exist  $N$  with  $a_n = 1$  for all  $n \geq N$ . Prove that the map

$$\{0, 1\}^{\mathbb{N}} \setminus S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad (a_n) \mapsto \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{a_n}{2^n}$$

is (well defined and) injective. Conclude that  $\mathbb{R}$  is not countable.

EXERCISE 32.11. Prove that there exist transcendental numbers in  $\mathbb{R}$ . Hint:  $\mathbb{R}$  is uncountable whereas the set of algebraic numbers is countable; cf. Exercise 26.20. This is Cantor's proof of existence of transcendental numbers.

Real analysis (analysis of sequences, continuity, and other concepts of calculus like differentiation and integration of functions on  $\mathbb{R}$ ) can be extended to complex analysis. Indeed we have:

DEFINITION 32.12. A sequence  $(z_n)$  in  $\mathbb{C}$  is convergent to  $z_0 \in \mathbb{C}$  if for any real number  $\epsilon > 0$  there exists an integer  $N$  such that for all  $n \geq N$  we have  $|z_n - z_0| < \epsilon$ . We write  $z_n \rightarrow z_0$  and we say  $z_0$  is the limit of  $(z_n)$ . A sequence is called convergent if there exists  $z \in \mathbb{C}$  such that the sequence converges to  $z$ . A sequence is called divergent if it is not convergent.

EXERCISE 32.13. Let  $(z_n)$  be a sequence in  $\mathbb{C}$  and let

$$z_n = a_n + b_n i,$$

$a_n, b_n \in \mathbb{R}$ . Let  $z_0 = a_0 + b_0 i$ . Prove that  $z_n \rightarrow z_0$  if and only if  $a_n \rightarrow a_0$  and  $b_n \rightarrow b_0$ .

DEFINITION 32.14. A sequence  $(z_n)$  in  $\mathbb{C}$  is Cauchy if for any real  $\epsilon > 0$  there exists an integer  $N$  such that for all integers  $m, n \geq N$  we have  $|z_n - z_m| < \epsilon$ .

EXERCISE 32.15. Prove that a sequence in  $\mathbb{C}$  is convergent if and only if it is Cauchy.

EXERCISE 32.16. Prove that:

1) The series

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{z^n}{n!}$$

is convergent for all  $z \in \mathbb{C}$ ; its limit is denoted by  $e^z = \exp(z)$ .

2)  $\exp(z+w) = \exp(z)\exp(w)$  for all  $z, w \in \mathbb{C}$ .

3)  $\overline{\exp(z)} = \exp(\bar{z})$  for all  $z \in \mathbb{C}$ .

4)  $|\exp(it)| = 1$  for all  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ .

5) The map

$$\mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}, \quad z \mapsto \exp(z),$$

is continuous. This map is called the (complex) exponential map.

There is a version of the above theory in  $p$ -adic analysis (which is crucial to number theory). Recall the ring of  $p$ -adic numbers  $\mathbb{Z}_p$  whose elements are denoted by  $[a_n]$ .

DEFINITION 32.17. Say that  $p^e$  divides  $\alpha = [a_n]$  if there exists  $\beta = [b_n]$  such that  $[a_n] = [p^e b_n]$ ; write  $p^e | \alpha$ . For any  $0 \neq \alpha = [a_n] \in \mathbb{Z}_p$  let  $v = v(\alpha)$  be the unique integer such that  $p^n | a_n$  for  $n \leq v$  and  $p^{v+1} \nmid a_{v+1}$ . Then define the norm of  $\alpha$  by the formula  $|\alpha| = p^{-v(\alpha)}$ . We also set  $|0| = 0$ .

EXERCISE 32.18. Prove that if  $\alpha = [a_n]$  and  $\beta = [b_n]$  then

$$|\alpha + \beta| \leq \max\{|\alpha|, |\beta|\}.$$

DEFINITION 32.19. Consider a sequence  $[a_{n1}], [a_{n2}], [a_{n3}], \dots$  of elements in  $\mathbb{Z}_p$  which for simplicity we denote by  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3, \dots$

1)  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3, \dots$  is called a Cauchy sequence if for any real (or, equivalently, rational)  $\epsilon > 0$  there exists an integer  $N$  such that for all  $m, m' \geq N$  we have  $|\alpha_m - \alpha_{m'}| \leq \epsilon$ .

2) We say that  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3, \dots$  converges to some  $\alpha_0 \in \mathbb{Z}_p$  if for any real (or, equivalently, rational)  $\epsilon > 0$  there exists an integer  $N$  such that for all  $m \geq N$  we have  $|\alpha_m - \alpha_0| \leq \epsilon$ . We say  $\alpha_0$  is the limit of  $(\alpha_n)$  and we write  $\alpha_n \rightarrow \alpha_0$ .

EXERCISE 32.20. Prove that a sequence in  $\mathbb{Z}_p$  is convergent if and only if it is Cauchy.

The following is in deep contrast with the case of  $\mathbb{R}$ :

EXERCISE 32.21. Prove that if  $(\alpha_n)$  is a sequence in  $\mathbb{Z}_p$  with  $\alpha_n \rightarrow 0$  then the sequence  $s_n = \sum_{k=1}^n \alpha_k$  is convergent in  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ ; the limit of the latter is denoted by  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \alpha_n$ .

EXERCISE 32.22.

1) Prove that  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} p^{n-1}$  is the inverse of  $1 - p$  in  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ .

2) Prove that if  $\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}_p$  has  $|\alpha| = 1$  then  $\alpha$  is invertible in  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ . Hint: Use the fact that if  $p$  does not divide an integer  $a \in \mathbb{Z}$  then there exist integers  $m, n \in \mathbb{A}$  such that  $ma + np = 1$ ; then use 1) above.

3) Prove that for all  $n \geq 1$  and all  $a \in \mathbb{Z}_p$  with  $|a| < 1$  there exists an element of  $\mathbb{Z}_p$  denoted by  $\frac{a^n}{n!}$  such that  $(n!) \cdot \frac{a^n}{n!} = a^n$ . Hint: Use 2) above.

4) Prove that  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{a^n}{n!}$  is convergent in  $\mathbb{Z}_p$  for all  $a \in \mathbb{Z}_p$  with  $|a| < 1$ . One denotes the limit by  $\exp_p(a)$ .

## CHAPTER 33

# Trigonometry

Trigonometry arose long before calculus mainly motivated by geometry and astronomy. A rigorous approach to trigonometry requires some elements of analysis that we already covered and hence can be used in what follows. We will define the functions  $\sin$  and  $\cos$  and also the number  $\pi$ .

DEFINITION 33.1. For all  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  define  $\cos t, \sin t \in \mathbb{R}$  as being the unique real numbers such that

$$\exp(it) = \cos t + i \sin t.$$

(This is called Euler's formula but here this is a definition and not a theorem.)

EXERCISE 33.2. Prove the following equalities:

- 1)  $\cos(t_1 + t_2) = \cos t_1 \cos t_2 - \sin t_1 \sin t_2$ ;
- 2)  $\sin(t_1 + t_2) = \sin t_1 \cos t_2 + \cos t_1 \sin t_2$ .

EXERCISE 33.3. Prove that the map  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow SO_2(\mathbb{R})$  defined by

$$f(t) = \begin{pmatrix} \cos t & \sin t \\ -\sin t & \cos t \end{pmatrix}$$

is a group homomorphism.

EXERCISE 33.4. Prove that if  $H$  is a closed subgroup of  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $H \neq \mathbb{R}, H \neq \{0\}$  then there exists a unique  $T \in \mathbb{R}, T > 0$ , such that

$$H = \{nT; n \in \mathbb{Z}\}.$$

Hint: One first shows that if  $T$  is the infimum of the set

$$\{a \in H; a > 0\}$$

then  $T \neq 0$ . In order to check this assume  $T = 0$  and seek a contradiction. Indeed from  $T = 0$  we get that there exists a sequence  $(a_n)$  with  $a_n \in H$ , and  $a_n \rightarrow 0$ . Deduce from this and the fact that  $H$  is closed that  $G = \mathbb{R}$ , a contradiction. Finally one shows that  $H = \{nT; n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$  using an argument similar to the one used to prove Proposition 20.6.

EXERCISE 33.5. Prove that the map

$$F : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times, F(t) = \exp(it)$$

is non-constant and non-injective. Conclude that there exists a unique real number  $\pi \in \mathbb{R}, \pi > 0$ , such that

$$\text{Ker } F = \{2n\pi; n \in \mathbb{Z}\}.$$

(This is our definition of the number  $\pi$ . In particular, by this very definition one gets  $\exp(\pi i) + 1 = 0$  which is a celebrated formula of Euler; for us this is a trivial consequence of our definition of  $\pi$ .)



## CHAPTER 34

# Calculus

Calculus was invented by Newton and Leibniz, motivated by problems in mechanics and analytic geometry. The main concept of calculus is that of derivative of a function which we briefly review here.

**DEFINITION 34.1.** Let  $F : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a map and  $a_0 \in \mathbb{R}$ . We say  $F$  is differentiable at  $a_0$  if there exists a real number (denoted by)  $F'(a_0) \in \mathbb{R}$  such that for any sequence  $a_n \rightarrow a_0$  with  $a_n \neq a_0$  we have

$$\frac{F(a_n) - F(a_0)}{a_n - a_0} \rightarrow F'(a_0).$$

**EXERCISE 34.2.** Prove that if  $F$  is differentiable at  $a_0 \in \mathbb{R}$  then it is continuous at  $a_0$ .

**EXERCISE 34.3.** Prove that if  $F$  is a constant function (i.e.,  $F(x) = F(y)$  for all  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ ) then  $F$  is differentiable at any  $a$  and  $F'(a) = 0$ .

**DEFINITION 34.4.** We say  $F : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is differentiable if  $F$  is differentiable at any  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ . If this is the case the map  $a \mapsto F'(a)$  is called the derivative of  $F$  and is denoted by  $F' = \frac{dF}{dx} : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . If  $F'$  is differentiable we say  $F$  is twice differentiable and  $F''$  is called the second derivative of  $F$ . One similarly defines what it means for  $F$  to be  $n$  times differentiable ( $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ). We say  $F$  is infinitely differentiable (or smooth) if it is  $n$  times differentiable for any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . One denotes by  $C^\infty(\mathbb{R})$  the set of smooth functions. We denote by  $D : C^\infty(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow C^\infty(\mathbb{R})$  the map  $D(F) = F'$ .

**EXERCISE 34.5.** Prove that for any  $F, G \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R})$  we have  $F+G, F \cdot G \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R})$  and

- 1)  $D(F + G) = D(F) + D(G)$  (additivity);
- 2)  $D(F \cdot G) = F \cdot D(G) + G \cdot D(F)$  (Leibniz rule);

here  $F + G, F \cdot G$  are the pointwise addition and multiplication of  $F$  and  $G$ . In particular  $C^\infty(\mathbb{R})$  is a ring with respect to  $+$  and  $\cdot$ ;  $0$  and  $1$  are the functions  $0(x) = 0$  and  $1(x) = 1$ .

**EXERCISE 34.6.** Prove that any polynomial function  $F : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is smooth and

$$F(x) = \sum_{k=0}^n a_n x^n \Rightarrow F'(x) = \sum_{k=0}^n n a_n x^{n-1}.$$

Hint: It is enough to look at  $F(x) = x^k$ . In this case

$$\frac{a_n^k - a_0^k}{a_n - a_0} = a_n^{k-1} + a_n^{k-2} a_0 + \dots + a_0^{k-1} \rightarrow k a_0^{k-1}.$$

**EXERCISE 34.7.** Prove that  $F(x) = \exp(x)$  is differentiable and  $F'(x) = \exp(x)$ . Hence  $F$  is smooth.

EXERCISE 34.8. Prove that  $F(x) = \sin(x)$  is differentiable and  $F'(x) = \cos(x)$ . Prove that  $G(x) = \cos(x)$  is differentiable and  $G'(x) = -\sin(x)$ . Hence  $F$  and  $G$  are smooth.

EXERCISE 34.9. (Chain rule) Prove that if  $F, G \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R})$  then  $F \circ G \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R})$  and

$$D(F \circ G) = (D(F) \circ G) \cdot D(G).$$

(Here, as usual,  $\circ$  denotes composition.)

More generally one can define derivatives of functions of several variables as follows:

DEFINITION 34.10. Let  $F : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a function. Let  $a = (a_1, \dots, a_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and define  $F_i : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  by

$$F_i(x) = F(a_1, \dots, a_{i-1}, x, a_{i+1}, \dots, a_n)$$

(with the obvious adjustment if  $i = 1$  or  $i = n$ ). We say that  $F$  is differentiable with respect to  $x_i$  at  $a$  if  $F_i$  is differentiable at  $a_i$ ; in this case we define

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial x_i}(a) = F'_i(a_i).$$

We say that  $F$  is differentiable with respect to  $x_i$  if it is differentiable with respect to  $x_i$  at any  $a \in \mathbb{R}^n$ . For such a function we have a well defined function  $\frac{\partial F}{\partial x_i} : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  which is also denoted by  $D_i F$ . We say that  $F$  is infinitely differentiable (or smooth) if  $F$  is differentiable, each  $D_i F$  is differentiable, each  $D_i D_j F$  is differentiable, each  $D_i D_j D_k F$  is differentiable, etc. We denote by  $C^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$  the set of smooth functions; it is a ring with respect to pointwise addition and multiplication.

DEFINITION 34.11. Let  $P \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R}^{r+2})$ . An equation of the form

$$P\left(x, F(x), \frac{dF}{dx}(x), \frac{d^2F}{dx^2}(x), \dots, \frac{d^r F}{dx^r}(x)\right) = 0$$

is called a differential equation. Here  $F \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R})$  is an unknown function and one defines  $\frac{d^i F}{dx^i} = D^{i+1}(F) = D(D^i(F))$ .

The study of differential equations has numerous applications within mathematics (e.g., geometry) as well as natural sciences (e.g., physics).

EXAMPLE 34.12. Here is a random example of a differential equation:

$$\exp\left(\left(\frac{d^2F}{dx^2}\right)^5\right) - x^3 \left(\frac{dF}{dx}\right) \left(\frac{d^3F}{dx^3}\right) - x^5 F^6 = 0.$$

The additivity and the Leibniz rule have an algebraic flavor. This suggests the following:

DEFINITION 34.13. Let  $R$  be a commutative unital ring. A map  $D : R \rightarrow R$  is called a derivation if

- 1)  $D(a + b) = D(a) + D(b)$  (additivity);
- 2)  $D(a \cdot b) = a \cdot D(b) + b \cdot D(a)$  (Leibniz rule).

EXAMPLE 34.14.  $D : C^\infty(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow C^\infty(\mathbb{R})$  is a derivation.



EXERCISE 34.15. Prove that any derivation  $D : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  is identically 0 i.e.,  $D(x) = 0$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

Hint: By additivity  $D(0) = 0$  and  $D(-n) = -D(n)$ . So it is enough to show  $D(n) = 0$  for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Proceed by induction on  $n$ . For the case  $n = 1$ , by the Leibniz rule,

$$D(1) = D(1 \cdot 1) = 1 \cdot D(1) + 1 \cdot D(1) = 2 \cdot D(1)$$

hence  $D(1) = 0$ . The induction step follows by additivity.

REMARK 34.16. Exercise 34.15 shows that there is no naive analogue of calculus in which rings of functions such as  $C^\infty(\mathbb{R})$  are replaced by rings of numbers such as  $\mathbb{Z}$ . An analogue of calculus for  $\mathbb{Z}$  is, however, considered desirable for the purposes of number theory. Such a theory has been developed. (Cf. A. Buium, *Arithmetic Differential Equations*, Mathematical Surveys and Monographs 118, American Mathematical Society, 2005.) In that theory the analogue of  $x$  is a fixed prime  $p$  and the analogue of the derivation  $D = \frac{d}{dx} : C^\infty(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow C^\infty(\mathbb{R})$  is the operator

$$\frac{d}{dp} : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}, \quad \frac{dx}{dp} = \frac{x - x^p}{p}$$

which is well defined by Fermat's Little Theorem. For example,

$$\frac{d4}{d5} = \frac{4 - 4^5}{5} = -204.$$