Lecture 0' - Sets, Functions, Relations...

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All set?

- *•* "Set" used to be the English word with the most definitions
- *•* A mathematical set is a very simple concept that contains multitudes
- *•* What is a set? A set is often defined as just "a collection of distinct things"
- *•* What things? Animals? People? Other sets? **Just about anything!**
- $\{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ is a set
- \bullet $\{$ Alice, Flamingos, Hedgehogs, Playing cards, Cheshire cat $\}$ is also a set!

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- Set builder notation: Write a set as $\{x \mid 0 \le x \le 5 \text{ and } x \in \mathbb{N}\}$

Some important sets

- *•* U: The *universal* set (every element we want to talk about is in here)
- *•* {}: The *empty* set (no element belongs to this set; often written as ∅)
- *•* Z: The set of all *integers* (both positive and negative)
- N: The set of all *natural* numbers (every integer \ge 0)
- \mathbb{Q} : The set of all *rational* numbers (expressed as p/q for some $p, q \in \mathbb{Z}$)
- *•* R: The set of all *real* numbers
- **B** = {True, False}: The set of Boolean values

Set membership

- Denote by $x \in S$ the fact that x is an element of the set *S* (negation: $x \notin S$)
- *•* Each element occurs only once in a set (*distinct* elements!)
	- *•* We take multiplicity into account for **multisets**
	- {1} is a set consisting of the singleton element 1
	- *•* {1, 1, 1} is a multiset consisting of the element 1 appearing thrice
- Set Equality: Sets S_1 and S_2 are defined to be equal (denoted $S_1 = S_2$) if, for every element x , it is the case that $x \in S^1$ **if and only if** $x \in S^2$.
	- *•* Reflexive, symmetric, and transitive congruence

Subset operation

- *• A* is a subset of *B* (denoted *A ⊆ B*) if, for every element *x* of *A*, the element *x* also appears in *B*
- *•* An element of a set might itself be a set
- *•* A subset of a set **must** be a set
- Chars = {Tintin, Haddock, Calculus, Snowy, {Thomson & Thompson}}
- {Thomson & Thompson} \in Chars
- *•* {Tintin, Snowy} *⊆* Chars
- *•* The **powerset** of a set *S* (denoted 2 *S*) is the set of all subsets of *S*
- *•* **Exercise**: For any set *S*, show that *S ⊆* U, as well as that ∅ *⊆ S*.

Union and Intersection

- **Union:** $S_1 \cup S_2 = \{x \mid x \in S_1 \text{ or } x \in S_2\}$
- **Intersection:** $S_1 \cap S_2 = \{x \mid x \in S_1 \text{ and } x \in S_2\}$
- Commutativity[†]: $S_1 \circ S_2 = S_2 \circ S_1$
- Associativity[†]: $S_1 \circ (S_2 \circ S_3) = (S_1 \circ S_2) \circ S_3$
- *•* Idempotence† : *S ◦ S* = *S*
- *•* **Duality** between union and intersection
	- *•* ∅ is an *identity* for union and an *annihilator* for intersection
	- *•* U is an *identity* for intersection and an *annihilator* for union
- *•* **Distributivity for union and intersection**:
	- $S_1 \cup (S_2 \cap S_3) = (S_1 \cup S_2) \cap (S_1 \cup S_3)$
	- $S_1 \cap (S_2 \cup S_3) = (S_1 \cap S_2) \cup (S_1 \cap S_3)$

†: *◦* can be union or intersection

Difference, Complement, and Cartesian product

- **Difference:** $S_1 \setminus S_2 = \{x \mid x \in S_1 \text{ and } x \notin S_2\}$
- **Complement**: $\overline{S} = \mathbb{U} \setminus S$
- **De Morgan's Laws:** $S_1 \cup S_2 = S_1 \cap S_2$ and $S_1 \cap S_2 = S_1 \cup S_2$
- $S \cup \overline{S} = \mathbb{U}$ and $S \cap \overline{S} = \emptyset$, and $\overline{\mathbb{U}} = \emptyset$ and $\overline{\emptyset} = \mathbb{U}$
- **Exercise**: Show that $S_1 \setminus S_2 = S_1 \cap S_2$
- **Cartesian product:** $S_1 \times S_2 = \{(x, y) | x \in S_1 \text{ and } y \in S_2\}$
- *• S ×* ∅ = ∅ *× S* = ∅
- *•* Is the Cartesian product associative?
- $S_1 \times S_2 \times ... S_n = \{(s_1, s_2, ..., s_n) \mid s_i \in S_i \text{ for each } i\}$

Cardinality

- *•* The number of elements in a set *S* is called its **cardinality**
- *•* We denote the cardinality of a set *S* by |*S*|
- $S = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$ is a finite set
- The set of real values in the interval [0,1] is infinite
- *•* Sets can be one or more of
	- *•* Bounded
	- *•* Finite
	- *•* Unbounded
	- *•* Infinite
- *•* Do any of these necessarily imply any others?
- *•* Are there combinations which are not possible?

Infinite sets

- *•* Not all infinite sets are equally infinite!
- *•* Infinite sets can be **countable** or **uncountable**
- *•* What does it mean to be countable?
- *•* "One can uniquely associate each element with a natural number"
- *•* How does one formally capture such an association? Via **functions**
- *•* But first, we will talk about **relations**

Relations

- *•* A **binary relation** *R* between two sets *A* and *B* is any subset of *A × B*
- We will often write xRy to denote that $(x, y) \in R$
- $dom(R) = \{a \in A \mid aRb \text{ for some } b \in B\}$
- $\text{rng}(R) = \{b \in B \mid aRb \text{ for some } a \in A\}$
- *• R ⊆ A × B* is
	- *total* if for each $x \in A$, there is $a y \in B$ such that *xRy*
	- *one-one* if *xRy* and *zRy* implies $x = z$ (any $y \in B$ related to at most one $x \in A$)
	- *onto* if for each $y \in B$, there is an $x \in A$ such that xRy
- *• R ⊆ A × B* a graph with edges from elements of *A* to elements of *B*

More about relations

- **Identity relation:** $id(S) = \{(x, x) | x \in S\}$
- **Relational composition:** If $R_1 \subseteq A \times B$ and $R_2 \subseteq B \times C$, then the relational composition of R ₁ and R ₂ (denoted R ₁ \circ R ₂) is: $R_1 \circ R_2 = \{(a, c) \mid \text{There is some } b \in R \text{ such that } (a, b) \in R_1 \text{ and } (b, c) \in R_2\}$
- For any $R \subseteq A \times B$, we have $id(A) \circ R = R = R \circ id(B)$
- **Exercise**: For binary relations $R_1, R'_1 \subseteq A \times B$ and $R_2, R'_2 \subseteq B \times C$ with $R_1 \subseteq R_1'$ and $R_2 \subseteq R_2'$, show that $R_1 \circ R_2 \subseteq R_1' \circ R_2'$.

More about relations

- *•* **Relational inverse**: For *R ⊆ A × B*, the *inverse* of *R* is defined as $R^- = \{(y, x) | xRy\}$
- *•* For every set *S*, (id(*S*))[−] = id(*S*), and for every relation *R*, (*R* −) [−] = *R*
- **Exercise**: Show that for any relations R_1 and R_2 , $(R_1 \circ R_2)^{-} = (R_2)^{-} \circ (R_1)^{-}$
- *•* Reflexivity: *R ⊆ S × S* is *reflexive* if *xRx* for every *x S*.
- *•* Symmetry: *R ⊆ S × S* is *symmetric* if *xRy* implies *yRx*.
- *•* Transitivity: *R ⊆ S × S* is *transitive* if *xRy* and *yRz* implies *xRz*.
- *• Equivalence relation*: Reflexive, symmetric, and transitive
- *• R* is *functional* (i.e. corresponding to a **function**) if *xRy* and *xRz* implies
	- $y = z$ (any $x \in A$ related to at most one $y \in B$)

Functions

- *•* Consider a functional relation *R^f ⊆ A × B*.
- We write $f : A \rightarrow B$ and $f(x) = y$ whenever $(x, y) \in R_f$ (often denoted $x \mapsto y$)
- *• A* is the pre-domain of *f* and *B* is the co-domain of *f*
- *• R^f* is the graph of *f*; dom(*f*) and rng(*f*) defined as for *R^f*
- *•* Unless explicitly mentioned otherwise, *f* is a *total* function, i.e. its domain and pre-domain are both *A*
- *•* We call *f* a *one-one/onto* function if *R^f* is one-one/onto
- *• f* is called a **bijection** if it is both one-one and onto
- *•* For a bijective *f*, there exists a natural inverse *f* −1 (whose graph is *R* − *f*)
- *•* Sets *A* and *B* are said to be *in bijection* with each other if there is a bijection *f* such that $f : A \rightarrow B$.

Back to infinite sets

- *•* A set *S* is *countable* if there is a function *f* which maps N **onto** *S*
- *•* Can use N to "uniquely count" the elements of *S*
- **N** is countable (obviously!)
- *•* **Exercise**: Show that the set of odd natural numbers is countable, and has cardinality *equal* to that of N.
- *•* **Exercise**: Show that N *×* N is countable.
- *•* The countable union of countable sets remains countable.

More infinite sets

- *•* More {infinite sets}:
	- *•* Q is countable
	- *Z* is countable
	- $A^n = \{(a_1, \ldots, a_n) \mid a_i \in A \text{ for each } i\}$ is countable
- *•* {More infinite} sets:
	- *•* The powerset of N is **uncountable**
	- *•* R is uncountable: Shown by Georg Cantor using **diagonalization**
- *•* Basically a proof by contradiction
- *•* If any subset of a set is uncountable, then the set itself must be uncountable

Cantor's diagonal argument

- Assume (0,1) is countable.
- *•* (Countable) set *S* of all non-terminating decimals in (0, 1)
	- *•* Each real number has just one representation
	- *•* Each rational has two choose the one with infinitely many trailing 9s
- *•* Some onto function *f* : N *→ S* exists
- *•* Can put each element of *S* in its own row (element *x* goes into row *i* if $f(i) = x$
- Each element of the form $\mathrm{o}.d_\mathrm{io}d_\mathrm{i1} \ldots$ for every i
- Put $r_i = d_{io} d_{i1} \dots$ in the *i*th row

Cantor's diagonal argument (contd.)

• Consider a non-terminating decimal $r = u_0 u_1 \dots$ s.t. $u_i \neq d_{ii}$.

For example,
$$
u_i = \begin{cases} d_{ii} + 1, & \text{if } d_{ii} < 9 \\ d_{ii} - 1, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}
$$

- Essentially: choose an *r* such that the digit at the *i*th position is different from that along the diagonal of our enumeration. $r \in S$.
- *•* For every *m* there is already some *r^m* in the *m*th row
- But the mth digit of *r* was chosen to be different from d_{mm} , so $r \neq r_m$
- There is no $k \in \mathbb{N}$ s.t. $f(k) = r$, which contradicts the onto-ness of $f!$