

# What is discrete math?

- The real numbers are continuous in the senses that:
  - \* between any two real numbers there is a real number
- The integers do not share this property.  
In this sense the integers are lumpy, or “discrete”

So discrete math is the study of mathematical objects that are discrete.

*“It’s all the math that counts”*

Some discrete mathematical concepts:

- Integers: Between two integers there is not another integer.
- Propositions: Either true or false, there are no 1/2 truths (in math)
- Sets: An item is either in a set or not in a set, never partly in and partly out.
- Relations: A pair of items are related or not.
- Networks (graphs): Between two terminals of a network connection there are no terminals.

# Propositional Logic

*Propositions* are statements that are either true or false.

Operators  $\wedge$ ,  $\vee$ ,  $\neg$ ,  $\rightarrow$ ,  $\leftrightarrow$

Algebraic laws: Commutativity, Associativity, Distributivity ( $\wedge$  over  $\vee$ , **and**  $\vee$  over  $\wedge$ ) Involution, De Morgan, definition of  $\rightarrow$ , definition of  $\leftrightarrow$  etc.

## Tautology, equivalence, and inference

**Defn:** *propositional statement, tautology, contradiction, conditional statement, equivalence  $\Leftrightarrow$ , inference  $\Rightarrow$*

**Principles:** *Substituting an equivalent statement. Replacing a logic variable in a tautology.*

**Defn** *algebraic proof*

## Applications

- Simplification of digital circuits
- Simplification of computer programs
- Provides foundation for proofs in more sophisticated realms of math.

# Sets

**Defns** *Set builder notation:*

$$\{x \in S \mid P(x)\}$$

*empty set* ( $\emptyset$ )

Is  $\{\emptyset\} = \emptyset$ ?

**Operations:** *Union*  $S \cup T$ , *Intersection*  $S \cap T$ , *Difference*  $S - T$ , *Symmetric Difference*  $S \Delta T$ , *Complement*  $\overline{S}$ , *Cardinality*  $|S|$ , *Power Set*  $\mathcal{P}(S)$ , *Cartesian product*  $S \times T$

**Relations:** Equality ( $=$ ), subset ( $\subseteq$ ), proper subset ( $\subset$ ), disjoint

## Applications

- Designing algorithms
- Error correcting codes

## Proofs about sets

Proofs of equality ( $=$ )

Proofs of subset ( $\subseteq$ )

# Predicate Logic

## Predicates (boolean expressions)

A **predicate** is an expression that is either true or false, but that might depend on the values of one or more variables.

**Concept** Free and bound variables.

- Bound occurrences are entirely local to some construct:

$$\{\underline{x} \in S \mid P(\underline{x})\} \quad \sum_{\underline{x} \in S} f(\underline{x}) \quad \int_a^b f(\underline{x}) d\underline{x}$$

$$\forall \underline{x} \in S, P(\underline{x}) \quad \exists \underline{x} \in S, P(\underline{x})$$

- Free variables define the interface of the expression to the outside world.

## Quantifiers

$$(\forall j \in S, f(j)) = f(s_0) \wedge f(s_1) \wedge \dots$$

$$(\exists j \in S, f(j)) = f(s_0) \vee f(s_1) \vee \dots$$

$$\text{DeMorgan's law } \neg(\forall j \in S, f(j)) \Leftrightarrow (\exists j \in S, \neg f(j))$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{DeMorgan's law } \neg (\exists j \in S, f(j)) &\Leftrightarrow (\forall j \in S, \neg f(j)) \\ (\exists x \in S, f(x)) &\Leftrightarrow (\{x \mid x \in S \wedge f(x)\} \neq \emptyset) \\ (\forall x \in S, f(x)) &\Leftrightarrow (\{x \mid x \in S \wedge f(x)\} = S) \end{aligned}$$

**Equivalence revisited.** We say that an expressions  $f$  and  $g$  ( $f \Leftrightarrow g$ ) are equivalent if they are equal for all values of their free variables.

## Applications

- Fundamental to all branches of math
- Describing states of programs.
- Describing the relation between the initial and final states of subprograms
  - \* Preconditions: free variables are variables representing program state.
  - \* Postcondition: free variables are
    - plain variables representing the initial program state
    - primed variables representing the final program state

# Integers & Mathematical Reasoning

**Theorem:** “*The Euclidean Division Algorithm*” For  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$  with  $b \neq 0$ , there exists a unique pair of integers  $(q, r)$  such that  $a = qb + r$  and  $0 \leq r < |b|$

**Operations:**  $a \operatorname{div} b$ ,  $a \bmod b$ ,  $\gcd(a, b)$

**Relations:** *divisibility*  $b \mid a$ , *congruence*. we write  $a_0 \equiv a_1 \pmod{b}$  to mean that  $b \mid (a_0 - a_1)$ .

## Primes

**Properties:** *prime, composite, prime decomposition*

**Theorem:** “*The fundamental theorem of arithmetic*”

## Proof methods

- Direct proof.
  - \*  $P \rightarrow Q$ 
    - Assume  $P$ ; show  $Q$
  - \*  $P \wedge Q$ 
    - Show  $P$ ; then show  $Q$
    - Show  $P$ ; then assume  $P$  and show  $Q$ .
  - \*  $P \vee Q$ 
    - Assume  $\neg P$ ; show  $Q$ .

- \*  $\forall x \in S, P(x)$ 
  - Let  $x$  be an arbitrary member of  $S$ ; show  $P(x)$
- \*  $\exists y \in S, P(x)$ 
  - Let  $y$  be some specified member of  $S$ ; show  $P(x)$
- Proof by contradiction
  - \*  $P$ 
    - Assume  $\neg P$ ; show  $0 = 1$  or some other contradiction.
- Proof by contrapositive
  - \*  $P \rightarrow Q$ 
    - Assume  $\neg Q$ ; show  $\neg P$
- Proof by cases
  - \*  $P$ 
    - Assume  $Q$  and show  $P$ ; then assume  $\neg Q$  and show  $P$ .
- Use of “let”
  - \* If you are assuming  $\exists x \in S, P(x)$ , then give a name to the item that is assumed to exist.

# Applications

- Integers: Public Key Cryptography (e.g. the RSA method)
- Mathematical Reasoning: Providing a tight argument about anything. E.g. that a design is correct with respect to some property.



# Induction

**Properties.** A property of integer numbers is a partial function from the integer numbers to  $\{T, F\}$ .

## Simple induction

**Principle:** The principle of (simple) mathematical induction

For any property  $P$  of integer numbers and  $n_0 \in \mathbb{Z}$

- if
  - \* [base step]  $P(n_0)$  and
  - \* [induction step] for all  $k \geq n_0$ ,
    - if  $\underline{P(k)}$
    - then  $P(k + 1)$
- then  $\forall n \geq n_0, P(n)$

## Using simple induction for proofs

- Prove the base step
- Prove inductive step
  - \* Assume  $k$  is an arbitrary integer  $\geq n_0$
  - \* Assume that the inductive hypothesis ( $P(k)$ ) is true

- \* Show that  $P(k + 1)$  is true under these assumptions

## Complete Induction

**Principle** The principle of complete induction (extended version)

For any  $n_0$  and  $n_1$  in  $\mathbb{Z}$  with  $0 \leq n_0 \leq n_1$  and property  $P$  of the integers

- If
  - \* [base step(s)]  $P(n_0)$  and  $P(n_0 + 1)$  and ... and  $P(n_1 - 1)$  and
  - \* [induction step] for all  $k \geq n_1$ 
    - if for all  $j$ , with  $n_0 \leq j < k$ ,  $P(j)$
    - then  $P(k)$
- then, for all  $n \in \{n_0, n_0 + 1, \dots\}$ ,  $P(n)$ .

Here there are  $n_1 - n_0$  base steps

## Using complete induction for proofs

- Prove the base step(s)
- Prove inductive step
  - \* Assume  $k$  is any large enough integer ( $k \geq n_1$ )

- \* Assume that the inductive hypothesis is true
- \* Show that  $P(k)$  is true under these assumptions

## **Applications**

- Proof of many useful theorems including proving solutions to recurrences
- Proving looping programs and recursive programs

# Recurrence Relations

- Substitute and simplify method
- Linear Homogeneous Recurrence Relations with Constant Coefficients of Degree  $k$
- Degree 2 case:

$$a(n) = c_1 a(n-1) + c_2 a(n-2) \quad (*)$$

- If  $r$  is root of the polynomial

$$x^n - c_1 x^{n-1} - c_2 x^{n-2} = 0 \quad (**)$$

then

$$r^n = c_1 r^{n-1} + c_2 r^{n-2}$$

so

$$a(n) = r^n$$

is a solution to (\*).

- If  $b(n)$  is a solution, then so is  $\theta b(n)$  for any  $\theta$ .
- If  $b(n)$  is a solution and  $c(n)$  is a solution then  $b(n) + c(n)$  is a solution.
- So  $a(n) = \theta_1 r_1^n + \theta_2 r_2^n$  is a solution.

## Repeated roots

Theorem: A RR of the form  $a(n) = c_1 a(n-1) + c_2 a(n-1)$  has a characteristic polynomial with one root  $r$  then  $nr^n$  is a solution.

Thus, for any  $\alpha_0, \alpha_1 \in \mathbb{R}$ , it has a solution of the form

$$a(n) = (\alpha_0 + \alpha_1 n)r^n$$

# Functions and Relations

**Defn:** *binary relation, domain, range, graph.*

**Properties.** *partial function, total relation, function, one-one, onto*

**Operations.** Inverse, composition.

Inverse of  $R$  is a partial function iff  $R$  is one-one.

Inverse of  $R$  is a total relation iff  $R$  is onto.

Inverse of  $R$  is a function iff  $R$  is one-one and onto.

## Relational Databases

**Defn:** *table (or  $n$ -ary relation)*

**Operations:** *projection, attribute renaming, selection, join*

## Applications

- Relations in system design (modeling meaning of components)
- Relations in databases
- Relations in many branches of mathematics

# Graphs

**Defns:** *(undirected) graph, directed graph, vertex, edge, loop, incidence function.*

**Properties:** *simple, connected*

**Defns:** *walk (undirected)*

$(v_0, e_1, v_1, e_2, \dots, e_k, v_k)$   $\phi(e_i) = \{v_{i-1}, v_i\}$  for all  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, k\}$

*walk (directed)*

$(v_0, e_1, v_1, e_2, \dots, e_k, v_k)$   $\phi(e_i) = (v_{i-1}, v_i)$  for all  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, k\}$

**Defn:** *adjacency matrix* (use of adjacency matrix to count walks and calculate connectivity)

**Algorithms:** Dijkstra's.

## Colouring graphs

**Defn:** *k-colouring*

if  $\phi(e) = \{u, v\}$  then  $f(u) \neq f(v)$  , for all  $u, v \in V, e \in E$

# Applications

- Modeling conflict over resources (colouring as solution)
- Modeling structure of systems
- Optimization: Shortest paths, minimum spanning tree, maximal flow.
- Many many others



# Automata

**Defns:** *finite state automaton, behaviour, complete behaviour.*

For describing

- behaviour of synchronous systems
- behaviour of asynchronous systems
- languages (sets of finite sequences)

Many-many other applications