

CS 373

Lecture #2

Sets, logic, induction, proofs,
strings, languages, countability,
undecidability .

Sets

\mathbb{N} - natural numbers

$$\{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$$

$$\mathbb{N}_0 = \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$$

$$= \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$$

$$\mathbb{Z} = \{0, -1, 1, 2, -2, \dots\}$$

$$\{0\}$$

↓ set

↓ not a set

$$X \cup 0$$

printf(5);

$X \cup Y$ is defined only if
 X and Y are sets.

$X \cap Y$

\overline{X}

$X \cup \{0\}$ - correct

$$X \setminus Y = X - Y = \{x \mid x \in X, x \notin Y\}$$
$$= X \cap \overline{Y}$$

Logic (Boolean)

\wedge - And

\vee - Or

\Rightarrow - implies

$\alpha \Rightarrow \beta$ means that "if α is true, then β is true".

$\equiv \neg \alpha \vee \beta$

"If I am a girl" \Rightarrow "I will win the Nobel prize" is true.

\swarrow set
 $\times \vee$ true
 \nwarrow incorrect

Induction

I want to prove: $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}_0, P(n)$.

Establishing:

- $P(0)$
- $P(n) \Rightarrow P(n+1) \quad \forall n$.

Claim. If you establish the above,
then $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}_0, P(n)$.

Assume : If $S \subseteq \mathbb{N}_0$, then S has
non-empty a minimal number (minimum
number)

Proof is by contradiction

Assume $P(0)$, $\forall n. P(n) \Rightarrow P(n+1)$

Assume $\forall n. P(n)$ is false.

Let $S = \{n \mid P(n) \text{ does not hold}\}$

S is non-empty. So S has a minimum
element - say r .

$r \neq 0$ because $P(0)$ holds. So $r > 0$.

$P(r-1)$ holds and $P(r)$ does not hold.

This contradicts $P(r-1) \Rightarrow P(r)$
Contradiction.

Proof by contradiction.

\sqrt{p} for any prime p is not rational

By way of contradiction, assume \sqrt{p} is rational, for some prime p .

$$\sqrt{p} = a/b \quad \text{where } a, b \in \mathbb{N}$$

$$p \cdot b^2 = a^2$$

$$p \cdot (q_1 q_2 q_3 \dots)^2 = (r_1 r_2 r_3 \dots)^2$$

Number of times p occurs on the left: odd
" " " " " " " " right: even
Contradiction.

Alphabet : Σ - finite set
(of "letters")


A string w over Σ is a finite sequence of
letters in the alphabet
(elements)

$$\Sigma = \{a, b, c\}$$

a, b, b, a, c

≡ abbac

$f: [1, n] \rightarrow \Sigma$



Languages

A language $L \subseteq \Sigma^*$ ↙ set of all strings/words

$L = \{ a, ab, aab, aaab, \dots \}$
is a language over Σ .

$L = \{ a \}$ is a language.

Machines decide languages.



M accepts some strings and rejects/does not accept

M defines a language $L(M)$, thus.
$$L(M) = \{x \mid M \text{ accepts } x\}.$$

Primes $L \subseteq \{0\}^*$
 $L = \{0^i \mid i \text{ is a prime}\}$
 \uparrow
 $\underbrace{0.0.0\dots 0}_i$



Central question

Which languages over Σ are
decidable using machines?

↓
TM

computers
automata.

Strings.

Concatenation : $x \circ y$

$abc \circ aab \equiv abcaab$

Epsilon $x \circ \epsilon = x = \epsilon \circ x$

ϵ - empty string

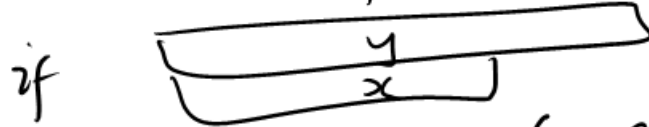
$aab \circ \epsilon = aab$

Length : $|x|$ is the number of letters
in the str.

$$|aab| = 3$$

$$|\epsilon| = 0$$

Prefix. x is a prefix of y



ab is a prefix of $abba$

$x, y \in \Sigma^*$ x is a prefix of y

if $\exists z \in \Sigma^* . xz = y$

x is a prefix of x :

(since z could be ϵ).

ϵ is a prefix of x , for any x .

Suffix. x is a suffix of y
if $\exists z \in \Sigma^* : zx = y$

Substring. x is a substring of y
if $\exists z_1, z_2 \in \Sigma^*.$
 $z_1 x z_2 = y$

Lex. ordering on strings. Fix ordering on Σ .

$$\Sigma = \{0, 1\} \quad 0 < 1$$

$$\Sigma^* = \{ \epsilon, 0, 1, 00, 01, 10, 11, 000, 001, 010, 011, 100, 101, \dots \}$$

Countable and uncountable sets

$$A = \{1, 2, 3\} \quad B = \{x, y, z\}$$

$$f: A \rightarrow B \quad \text{1-1 correspondence.}$$

↓ works for infinite sets

$|A| = |B|$ if there is a 1-1
correspondence $f: A \rightarrow B$

$$\mathbb{N} = \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$$

$$2\mathbb{N} = \{2, 4, 6, \dots\}$$

$$f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow 2\mathbb{N}$$

$$i \mapsto 2i$$

An infinite set A is countable
if $|A| = |\mathbb{N}|$

An infinite set is uncountable
if it is not countable.

Infinite strips over Σ :
 abbaabab-----

Σ^∞ = set of all infinite strips.
 Assume Σ^∞ non-countable

	1	2	3	4	...	j	...		
1	a	b	b	a	b	a	a	b	...
2	a	a	b	a	b	a	a	a	...
3	b	a	b	b	b
...									
j									
...									

Note: A red diagonal line is drawn from the top-left cell (1,1) to the bottom-right cell (j,j).

There is some language that no C-program can decide!

C-programs are strings over an alphabet.

Hence the set of all C-programs is countable.

$\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$.

The set of languages over Σ is uncountable.

A language $L \leftrightarrow$ infinite string

$\langle a b b a b a a \dots \rangle$

$\in 000011011, \dots$

