
Fundamentals of mathematics

1. | Introduction

Axiom 1 (Peano axioms).

1. $1 \in \mathbb{N}$.
2. $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}$, exists a “successor” $S(n) \in \mathbb{N}$ of n .
3. $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}$, $S(n) \neq 1$.
4. $\forall n, m \in \mathbb{N}$, $n = m \iff S(n) = S(m)$.
5. *Induction axiom*: If $K \subseteq \mathbb{N}$ is a set such that:
 - i) $1 \in K$.
 - ii) $\forall k \in K$, $S(k) \in K$.

Then, $K = \mathbb{N}$.

Axiom 2 (Induction axiom). Peano’s 5th axiom can be stated in the following way: Let ϕ be a predicate¹ such that:

1. $\phi(1)$ is true.
2. $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}$, $\phi(n)$ being true implies that $\phi(S(n))$ is true.

Then, $\phi(n)$ is true for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

Proposition 3. All non-empty subsets of $\mathbb{N}$ have a first element.

Proposition 4. If a set A satisfies the first four Peano’s axioms and has the property that all non-empty subsets of it have a first element, then A satisfies the induction axiom.

2. | Set theory

Definitions and basic operations

Definition 5. A *set* is a collection of distinct elements.

Definition 6. Let A be a finite set. The *cardinal* of A , $|A|$, is the number of elements in A .

Definition 7. Let A be a set. We say a set B is a *subset* of A , denoted by $B \subseteq A$, if and only if all elements of B are also elements of A .

Axiom 8 (Axiom of extensionality). Let A, B be two sets. We say that A and B are *equal*, $A = B$, if and only if $A \subseteq B$ and $B \subseteq A$.

Definition 9. Let A be set. The subset $\mathcal{P}(A)$, called *power set*, is the set of all subsets of A .

Definition 10. We define the *empty set* $\emptyset$ as the unique set having no elements.

Definition 11. Let A, B be two sets. The *intersection* of A and B , $A \cap B$, is the set of all elements of both A and B . That is,

$$A \cap B = \{x : x \in A \text{ and } x \in B\}$$

Proposition 12. Let A, B, C be three sets. Then:

1. $A \cap B = B \cap A$
2. $A \cap (B \cap C) = (A \cap B) \cap C$
3. $A \cap B \subseteq A$
4. $A \cap \emptyset = \emptyset$
5. $A \subseteq B \iff A \cap B = B$
6. If $C \subseteq A$ and $C \subseteq B$, then $C \subseteq A \cap B$.

Definition 13. Let A, B be two sets. The *union* of A and B , $A \cup B$, is the set of all elements of either A or B . That is,

$$A \cup B = \{x : x \in A \text{ or } x \in B\}$$

Proposition 14. Let A, B, C be three sets. Then:

1. $A \cup B = B \cup A$
2. $A \cup (B \cup C) = (A \cup B) \cup C$
3. $A \subseteq A \cup B$
4. $A \cup \emptyset = A$
5. $A \subseteq B \iff A \cup B = B$
6. If $A \subseteq C$ and $B \subseteq C$, then $A \cup B \subseteq C$.

Proposition 15. Let A, B, C be three sets. Then:

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

Definition 16. Let U be a set and $A \subseteq U$ be a subset of U . The *complement* of A in U is the set of elements not in A . That is,

$$A^c = \{x \in U : x \notin A\}$$

Proposition 17 (De Morgan’s laws). Let U be a set and A, B be two subsets of U . Then:

1. $(A \cup B)^c = A^c \cap B^c$
2. $(A \cap B)^c = A^c \cup B^c$

Definition 18. Let U be a set and A, B be two subsets of U . The *set difference* of A and B , $A \setminus B$, is the set of elements in A but not in B . That is,

$$A \setminus B = \{x \in A : x \notin B\}$$

Proposition 19. Let A, B, C be three sets. Then:

1. $A \setminus B = A \cap B^c$
2. $C \setminus (A \cap B) = (C \setminus A) \cup (C \setminus B)$

¹A *predicate* is a formula that can be evaluated to true or false in function of the values of the variables that occur in it.

$$3. C \setminus (A \cup B) = (C \setminus A) \cap (C \setminus B)$$

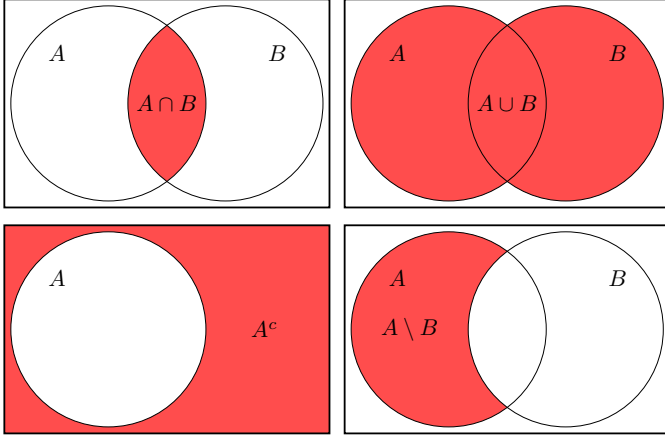


Figure 1: Venn diagrams

Definition 20. Let A, B be two sets. The *Cartesian product*, $A \times B$, is the set

$$A \times B = \{(a, b) : a \in A \text{ and } b \in B\}$$

Proposition 21. Let A, B, C be three sets. Then:

1. $A \times \emptyset = \emptyset \times A = \emptyset$
2. $A \times (B \cap C) = (A \times B) \cap (A \times C)$
3. $A \times (B \cup C) = (A \times B) \cup (A \times C)$

Functions between sets

Definition 22. Let A, B be two sets. A *function* from A to B is a binary relation between A and B that associates to each element of A exactly one element of B .

Definition 23. Let A, B, C be three sets and $f : A \rightarrow B$, $g : B \rightarrow C$ be two functions. The *composition* $g \circ f$ is:

$$\begin{aligned} g \circ f : A &\longrightarrow B \longrightarrow C \\ a &\longmapsto f(a) \longmapsto g(f(a)) \end{aligned}$$

Definition 24. Let A, B be two sets, $f : A \rightarrow B$ be a function and $U \subseteq A$ be a subset. The *image* of U is the subset of B defined by $f(U) = \{f(u) : u \in U\}$. If $U = A$, $f(U) = f(A) =: \text{im } f$ is the *image* of f .

Definition 25. Let A, B be two sets, $f : A \rightarrow B$ be a function and $b \in B$. The *preimage* of b is the set of elements $a \in A$ such that $f(a) = b$. More generally, if $V \subseteq B$, the *preimage* of V is the subset of A defined by:

$$f^{-1}(V) = \{a \in A : f(a) = v \in V\}$$

Proposition 26. Let A, B be two sets, $f : A \rightarrow B$ be a function, I be an index set and $U_i \subseteq A$ be subsets of A $\forall i \in I$. Then,

$$1. f\left(\bigcup_{i \in I} U_i\right) = \bigcup_{i \in I} f(U_i)$$

²Sometimes we will write $f : A \hookrightarrow B$ to denote an injective function between the sets A and B .

³Sometimes we will write $f : A \twoheadrightarrow B$ to denote a surjective function between the sets A and B .

⁴Note that, although the notation of inverse function and preimage are the same, the concepts are in general not the same. They only coincide when the function is bijective.

$$2. f\left(\bigcap_{i \in I} U_i\right) \subseteq \bigcap_{i \in I} f(U_i)$$

$$3. f^{-1}\left(\bigcup_{i \in I} U_i\right) = \bigcup_{i \in I} f^{-1}(U_i)$$

$$4. f^{-1}\left(\bigcap_{i \in I} U_i\right) = \bigcap_{i \in I} f^{-1}(U_i)$$

$$5. f(U^c) \subseteq f(U)^c$$

Definition 27. Let A, B be two sets and $f : A \rightarrow B$ be a function. The following statements are equivalent:

1. $\forall b \in B$, $f^{-1}(b)$ has no more than one element.
2. $\forall a_1, a_2 \in A$, if $a_1 \neq a_2$, then $f(a_1) \neq f(a_2)$.
3. $\forall a_1, a_2 \in A$, if $f(a_1) = f(a_2)$, then $a_1 = a_2$.

If f satisfies one of these conditions, then it satisfies the other two and we say that f is *injective*².

Proposition 28. Let A, B, C be sets and $f : A \rightarrow B$, $g : B \rightarrow C$ be two functions.

1. If f and g are injective, then $g \circ f$ is injective.
2. If $g \circ f$ is injective, then f is injective.

Definition 29. Let A, B be two sets and $f : A \rightarrow B$ be a function. The following statements are equivalent:

1. The preimage of each element of B has at least one element.
2. $\forall b \in B$, $\exists a \in A$ such that $f(a) = b$.
3. $\text{im } f = B$.

If f satisfies one of these conditions, then it satisfies the other two and we say that f is *surjective*³.

Proposition 30. Let A, B be two sets, $f : A \rightarrow B$ be a function and $U \subseteq A$, $V \subseteq B$ be subsets. Then:

1. $f^{-1}(f(U)) \supseteq U$ and the equality holds if and only if f is injective.
2. $f(f^{-1}(V)) \subseteq V$ and the equality holds if and only if f is surjective.

Proposition 31. Let A, B be two sets and $f : A \rightarrow B$, $g : B \rightarrow C$ be two functions.

1. If f and g are surjective, then $g \circ f$ is surjective.
2. If $g \circ f$ is surjective, then g is surjective.

Definition 32. Let A, B be two sets and $f : A \rightarrow B$ be a function. We say that f is *bijective* if it is both injective and surjective.

Proposition 33. Let A, B be two sets and $f : A \rightarrow B$ be a bijective function. The f has an associated *inverse function* $f^{-1} : B \rightarrow A$ ⁴ defined as:

$$\begin{aligned} f^{-1} : B &\longrightarrow A \\ b &\longmapsto f^{-1}(b) \end{aligned}$$

In that case, f is said to be *invertible*.

Theorem 34. Let A, B be two sets and $f : A \rightarrow B$ be a function. f is invertible if and only if f is bijective.

3. | Logic and propositional calculus

Definition 35. Let P be a proposition. Then, $\neg P$ expresses the *negation* of P .

Definition 36. Let P, Q be propositions. Then, $P \wedge Q$ expresses that P and Q are both true.

Definition 37. Let P, Q be propositions. Then, $P \vee Q$ expresses that either P or Q are true.

Definition 38. Let P, Q be propositions. Then, $P \Rightarrow Q$ expresses that Q is true whenever P is true. Note that $P \Rightarrow Q = Q \vee \neg P$.

Definition 39. Let P, Q be propositions. Then, $P \Leftrightarrow Q$ expresses that P and Q have the same truth-value. Note that $P \Leftrightarrow Q = (P \Rightarrow Q) \wedge (Q \Rightarrow P)$.

4. | Symmetric group

Definition 40. Let $n \in \mathbb{N}$. We denote by S_n the set of all the bijections $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ to itself. An element of S_n is a permutation of $\{1, \dots, n\}$.

Proposition 41. The pair $(S_n, \circ)$, where

$$\begin{aligned} \circ : S_n \times S_n &\longrightarrow S_n \\ (\sigma, \tau) &\longmapsto \sigma \circ \tau \end{aligned}$$

is a group⁵ called *symmetric group*.

Theorem 42. The cardinal of S_n is $n!$.

Definition 43. Let $\sigma \in S_n$. The set $\{m \in \mathbb{N} : \sigma^m = \text{id}\}$ is non-empty. Hence, it contains a minimal element $\text{ord}(\sigma)$. The integer $\text{ord}(\sigma)$ is called the *order* of σ .

Definition 44. Let $\sigma \in S_n$. The *support* of σ is:

$$\text{supp}(\sigma) = \{k \in \{1, \dots, n\} : \sigma(k) \neq k\}$$

Lemma 45. Let $\sigma \in S_n$. Then:

1. $p \in \text{supp}(\sigma) \implies \sigma(p) \in \text{supp}(\sigma)$.
2. $\text{supp}(\sigma) = \text{supp}(\sigma^{-1})$.

Lemma 46. Let $\sigma, \tau \in S_n$. If $\text{supp}(\sigma) \cap \text{supp}(\tau) = \emptyset$, then $\sigma \circ \tau = \tau \circ \sigma$.

Definition 47. Let $\sigma \in S_n$ and $k \in \{1, \dots, n\}$. The *orbit* of k is the finite set $\{k, \sigma(k), \sigma^2(k), \dots\}$.

Theorem 48 (Orbit structure). Let $\sigma \in S_n$ and $\Omega = \{\omega_1, \dots, \omega_k\}$ be the set of all the orbits of σ . Then:

1. $\bigcup_{j=1}^k \omega_j = \{1, \dots, n\}$.
2. If $\omega_i, \omega_j \in \Omega$ and $\omega_i \cap \omega_j \neq \emptyset$, then $\omega_i = \omega_j$.
3. All orbits are non-empty.

Theorem 49 (Orbit linear structure). Let $\sigma \in S_n$, ω be one of its orbits and $a \in \omega$. If $k = |\omega|$, then $\omega = \{a, \sigma(a), \dots, \sigma^{k-1}(a)\}$ and $\sigma^k(a) = a$.

⁵See ??.

⁶See ??.

Definition 50. If $\sigma \in S_n$ has a unique orbit with $k > 1$ elements, then we say that σ is a *cycle* of length k .

Definition 51. A *transposition* $\tau \in S_n$ is a cycle of length 2.

Theorem 52. Let $\sigma \in S_n$, then σ can be written uniquely (except for the order) as a product of cycles with pairwise disjoint supports.

Corollary 53. Let $\sigma \in S_n$ and $\sigma = \sigma_1 \cdots \sigma_\ell$ be its decomposition as product of disjoint cycles. Then, $\text{ord}(\sigma) = \text{lcm}(\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_\ell)$.

Corollary 54. Let $\sigma \in S_n$. Then, σ is a product of transpositions.

Definition 55. Let $\sigma \in S_n$. The *sign* of σ is $\text{sgn}(\sigma) = (-1)^{n-r}$, where r is the number of orbits of σ .

Theorem 56. Let $\sigma \in S_n$ be a permutation and $\tau \in S_n$ be a transposition. Then, $\text{sgn}(\sigma\tau) = \text{sgn}(\sigma)\text{sgn}(\tau) = -\text{sgn}(\sigma)$.

Corollary 57. Let $\sigma \in S_n$ be such that $\sigma = \tau_1 \cdots \tau_\ell$, where $\tau_i \in S_n$ are transpositions for $i = 1, \dots, \ell$. Then, $\text{sgn}(\sigma) = (-1)^\ell$.

Corollary 58. The parity of the number of transpositions in which $\sigma \in S_n$ can be written is invariant.

Corollary 59. The function

$$\begin{aligned} \text{sgn} : S_n &\longrightarrow \{-1, +1\} \\ \sigma &\longmapsto \text{sgn}(\sigma) \end{aligned}$$

is a group morphism⁶.

5. | Equivalence relations and order relations

Equivalence relations

Definition 60. Let A be a set and $\sim$ be a binary relation on A . We say that $\sim$ is an *equivalence relation* if and only if the following properties are satisfied:

1. Reflexivity:

$$a \sim a, \quad \forall a \in A$$

2. Symmetry:

$$\text{If } a \sim b, \text{ then } b \sim a, \quad \forall a, b \in A$$

3. Transitivity:

$$\text{If } a \sim b \text{ and } b \sim c, \text{ then } a \sim c, \quad \forall a, b, c \in A$$

Definition 61. Let $\sim$ be an equivalence relation on a set A and $a \in A$. The *equivalence class* of a under $\sim$ is the subset of A :

$$[a] := \bar{a} := \{b \in A : a \sim b\}$$

Theorem 62. Let $\sim$ be an equivalence relation on a set A . The equivalence classes $\sim$ form a partition of A . That is, if $\{\omega_i\}$ are the equivalence classes, then:

1. $\bigcup_{i \in I} \omega_i = A$.
2. If $i, j \in I$ and $\omega_i \cap \omega_j \neq \emptyset$, then $\omega_i = \omega_j$.
3. If $i \in I \implies \omega_i \neq \emptyset$.

Definition 63. Let $\sim$ be an equivalence relation on a set A . We define the quotient set, $A/\sim$, as the set of all equivalence classes of $\sim$.

Order relations

Definition 64. Let A be a set and $\leq$ be a binary relation on A . We say $\leq$ is a *partial order relation* if and only if the following properties are satisfied:

1. Reflexivity:

$$a \leq a, \quad \forall a \in A$$

2. Antisymmetry:

$$\text{If } a \leq b \text{ and } b \leq a, \text{ then } a = b, \quad \forall a, b \in A$$

3. Transitivity:

$$\text{If } a \leq b \text{ and } b \leq c, \text{ then } a \leq c, \quad \forall a, b, c \in A$$

The pair $(A, \leq)$ is called a *partially ordered set (poset)*.

Definition 65. Let $(A, \leq)$ be a partially ordered set. We say that $a \in A$ is a *minimal element* if and only if $b \leq a \implies b = a, \forall b \in A$. Furthermore, a is a *least element* if and only if $a \leq b, \forall b \in A$. Analogously, we say that $a \in A$ is a *maximal element* if and only if $b \geq a \implies b = a, \forall b \in A$. We say that $a \in A$ is a *greatest element* if and only if $a \geq b, \forall b \in A$.

Lemma 66. Let $(A, \leq)$ be a partially ordered set. If $(A, \leq)$ admits a minimum, this is unique.

Definition 67. Let A be a set. A *total order relation* on A is a partial order relation in which any two elements of A are comparable. That is, a total order is a binary relation $\leq$ satisfying the properties of a partial order relation and such that $\forall a, b \in A$, we have $a \leq b$ or $b \leq a$.

Definition 68. Let A be a set. A *well-order relation* on A is a total order on A with the property that every non-empty subset of A has a least element. A set A together with a well-order relation is a *well-ordered set*.

Theorem 69. All sets can be well-ordered.

6. | Cardinality and combinatorics

Definition 70. Let A, B be two sets. We say that A and B have the same cardinal if and only if there exists a bijection $A \rightarrow B$.

Definition 71. Let A, B be two sets. We say that $|A| \leq |B|$ if and only if there exists an injection function $A \hookrightarrow B$.

Theorem 72 (Cantor-Bernstein theorem). Let A, B be two sets. If there is an injection $A \hookrightarrow B$ and an injection $B \hookrightarrow A$, then there is a bijection $A \rightarrow B$. Comparative of cardinals is an order relation.

Proposition 73. Let A, B be two subsets of a set U . Then,

1. Inclusion-exclusion principle:

$$|A \cup B| = |A| + |B| - |A \cap B|$$

$$2. |A \times B| = |A||B|$$

$$3. |A^c| + |A| = |U|$$

$$4. |\mathcal{P}(A)| = 2^{|A|}$$

Theorem 74 (Cantor's theorem). Let A un set, then $|\mathcal{P}(A)| > |A|$.

Corollary 75. There is no set containing all sets.

Corollary 76. There are infinitely many sets with infinite cardinal:

$$|\mathbb{N}| < |\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N})| < |\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N}))| < \dots$$

We denote this cardinals by:

$$\aleph_0 = |\mathbb{N}| \quad \aleph_1 = |\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N})| \quad \aleph_2 = |\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N}))| \quad \dots$$

Proposition 77. Let A, B be two finite sets. The set of functions $f : A \rightarrow B$ has cardinal $|B|^{|A|}$.

Definition 78. Let U be a set and $A \in \mathcal{P}(U)$. We define the *characteristic function* $\mathbf{1}_A$ (or *indicator function*) of A as:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{1}_A : U &\longrightarrow \{0, 1\} \\ r &\longmapsto \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } r \in A \\ 0 & \text{if } r \notin A \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Proposition 79. Let U be a set and $A, B \in \mathcal{P}(U)$. Then:

1. $\mathbf{1}_U = 1$
2. $\mathbf{1}_{A^c} = 1 - \mathbf{1}_A$
3. $\mathbf{1}_{A \cap B} = \mathbf{1}_A \mathbf{1}_B$
4. $\mathbf{1}_{A \cup B} = \mathbf{1}_A + \mathbf{1}_B - \mathbf{1}_A \mathbf{1}_B$

Proposition 80 (Binomial coefficient formulas).

1. $\binom{n}{k} = \frac{n!}{(n-k)!k!}$
2. $\binom{n}{k} = \binom{n-1}{k} + \binom{n-1}{k-1}$
3. $\sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} = 2^n$
4. $k \binom{n}{k} = n \binom{n-1}{k-1}$
5. $(a+b)^n = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} a^k b^{n-k}$

Proposition 81. Let $f : A \rightarrow B$ be a function between two sets of the same finite cardinal. The following statements are equivalent:

1. f is injective.
2. f is surjective.

3. f is bijective.

Corollary 82. Let $f : A \rightarrow B$ be a function between finite sets. Then:

1. If f is injective, then $|A| \leq |B|$.
2. If f is surjective, then $|A| \geq |B|$.

Theorem 83 (Pigeonhole principle). Let A, B be two sets such that $|A| = n$ and $|B| = m$ and $f : A \rightarrow B$ be a function. If $n > m$, then $\exists a, b \in A$ such that $a \neq b$ $f(a) = f(b)$.

Proposition 84 (Combinations without repetition). A combination without repetition is an unordered list with m elements of a set with n elements. The number of such combinations is $\binom{n}{m}$.

Proposition 85 (Combinations with repetition). A combination with repetition is an unordered list with m elements (allowing repetitions) of a set with n elements. The number of such combinations is $\binom{n+m-1}{m}$.

Proposition 86 (Variations without repetition). A variation without repetition is an ordered list of length m elements (without repeating them) taken from a set with n elements. The number of such variations is $\frac{n!}{(n-m)!}$.

Proposition 87 (Variations with repetition). A variation with repetition is an ordered list of length m elements (allowing repetitions) taken from a set with n elements. The number of such variations is n^m .

7. | Arithmetic

Integer numbers

For some basic definitions in group and ring theory you might need to refer to ?? ?? and ?? ??.

Definition 88. Let $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$. We say that a is a *multiple* of b if there exists $c \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $a = cb$.

Theorem 89. Let $D, d \in \mathbb{Z}$, $d \neq 0$. Then, there are unique $q, r \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $D = qd + r$ and $0 \leq r < |d|$.

Proposition 90. Let $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$. $a\mathbb{Z} \subseteq b\mathbb{Z} \iff b \mid a$.

Corollary 91. Let $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$. $a\mathbb{Z} = b\mathbb{Z} \iff a = \pm b$.

Proposition 92. Let $a\mathbb{Z}, b\mathbb{Z}$ be two ideals of $\mathbb{Z}$. Then, $\exists! m \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $a\mathbb{Z} \cap b\mathbb{Z} = m\mathbb{Z}$. This integer m is called the *least common multiple* of a and b and it is denoted as $m := \text{lcm}(a, b)$.

Proposition 93. Let $a\mathbb{Z}, b\mathbb{Z}$ be two ideals of $\mathbb{Z}$. Then, $\exists! d \in \mathbb{N}^*$ such that $a\mathbb{Z} + b\mathbb{Z} = d\mathbb{Z}$. This integer d is called the *greatest common divisor* of a and b and it is denoted as $d := \text{gcd}(a, b)$.

Proposition 94. Let $a, b, m, d \in \mathbb{Z}$.

1. If $a \mid m$ and $b \mid m$, then $\text{lcm}(a, b) \mid m$.
2. If $d \mid a$ and $d \mid b$, then $d \mid \text{gcd}(a, b)$.

Definition 95. Let $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$. We say that a and b are *coprime* or *relatively prime* if and only if $\text{gcd}(a, b) = 1$.

Definition 96. We say that $p \in \mathbb{Z}$ is *prime* if and only if $p\mathbb{Z}$ is a maximal ideal. The set of prime numbers is denoted by $\mathbb{P}$.

Proposition 97. Let $a \in \mathbb{Z}$. Then, a is prime if and only if a has exactly 4 divisors: $a, -a, 1$ and -1 .

Lemma 98. Let $a, b, k \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $a \geq b > 0$. Then, common divisors of a and b are the same as common divisors of $a + kb$ and b .

Theorem 99 (Bézout's theorem). Let $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$, then there exists $u, v \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $au + bv = \text{gcd}(a, b)$. Moreover, $\text{gcd}(a, b) = 1 \iff \exists u, v \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $au + bv = 1$.

Theorem 100 (Gauß' theorem). Let $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$. If $a \mid bc$ and $\text{gcd}(a, b) = 1$ then $a \mid c$.

Corollary 101. Let $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}$ be integers such that a and b are relatively prime. If $a \mid c$ and $b \mid c$, then $ab \mid c$.

Theorem 102 (Prime number theorem). Let $x \in \mathbb{R}$. If $\pi(x)$ is the number of prime number less than or equal to x , then $\pi(x) \sim \frac{x}{\log(x)}$.

Theorem 103. Let $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$. Then:

$$\text{gcd}(a, b) \text{ lcm}(a, b) = |ab|$$

Lemma 104. Let p be a prime number and $a \in \mathbb{Z}$. Then, $p \mid a$ or $\text{gcd}(a, p) = 1$.

Corollary 105. Let $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ and p be a prime number. If $p \mid ab$, then $p \mid a$ or $p \mid b$.

Corollary 106. Let p, q be prime numbers. If $p \mid q$, then $p = \pm q$.

Theorem 107 (Fundamental theorem of arithmetic). Let $n \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $n > 1$. Then, n can be represented uniquely (except for the order) as the product of prime numbers.

Theorem 108 (Euclid's theorem). The set $\mathbb{P}$ is infinite.

Theorem 109. Let $a, b, c, x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$. The equation $ax + by = c$ has at least a solution if and only if $\text{gcd}(a, b) \mid c$. In this case, if $d = \text{gcd}(a, b)$, $a = a'd$ and $b = b'd$, the set $\mathcal{S}$ of solutions of the equation $ax + by = c$ is

$$\mathcal{S} = \{(x_0, y_0) + \lambda(-b', a') : \lambda \in \mathbb{Z}\}$$

where (x_0, y_0) is a particular solution of the equation.

Modular arithmetic

Definition 110. Let $n, x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$. We say $x \sim y \iff x - y \in n\mathbb{Z}$. A commonly used notation for this is $x \equiv y \pmod{n}$. The set of equivalence classes under $\sim$ is denoted by $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ and its elements are denoted by $\bar{x}$.

Lemma 111. $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ has n elements.

Proposition 112. Addition and multiplication are well-defined in $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ if we do it in the following way:

$$\begin{aligned} + : \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z} &\longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z} \\ (\bar{a}, \bar{b}) &\longmapsto \overline{a+b} \\ \cdot : \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z} &\longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z} \\ (\bar{a}, \bar{b}) &\longmapsto \overline{a \cdot b} \end{aligned}$$

Theorem 113. $(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}, +, \cdot)$ is a ring and the projection

$$\begin{aligned} f : \mathbb{Z} &\longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z} \\ a &\longmapsto \bar{a} \end{aligned}$$

is a ring morphism.

Lemma 114. Let $n \in \mathbb{Z}$. Then, $\bar{a} \in \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ has multiplicative inverse if and only if $\gcd(a, n) = 1$.

Corollary 115. $(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}, +, \cdot)$ is a field if and only if n is prime.

Theorem 116 (Chinese remainder theorem). Let $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$ be relatively prime. Then, the function

$$\begin{aligned} \psi : \mathbb{Z}/mn\mathbb{Z} &\longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z} \\ \bar{a} &\longmapsto (\bar{a}, \bar{a}) \end{aligned}$$

is ring isomorphism.

Corollary 117. Let $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$ be relatively prime and $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$. Then, the system of equations:

$$\begin{cases} x \equiv a \pmod{m} \\ x \equiv b \pmod{n} \end{cases}$$

has a solution. Moreover any two solutions x_1, x_2 of the system satisfy $x_1 \equiv x_2 \pmod{mn}$.

Definition 118 (Euler's totient function). Let $n \in \mathbb{N}$. We define the function $\varphi : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ as:

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(n) &= |\{\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z} : \alpha \text{ is invertible}\}| = \\ &= |\{0 < r \leq n : \gcd(r, n) = 1\}|. \end{aligned}$$

Lemma 119. Let $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$ be relatively prime. Then, $\varphi(m \cdot n) = \varphi(m) \cdot \varphi(n)$.

Theorem 120 (Euler's theorem). Let $a \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $n \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $\gcd(a, n) = 1$, then:

$$a^{\varphi(n)} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$$

In particular, $a^{-1} \equiv a^{\varphi(n)-1} \pmod{n}$.

Theorem 121 (Fermat's little theorem). Let p be a prime number. Then, $\varphi(p) = p - 1$ and

$$a^p \equiv a \pmod{p}$$

In particular, if $\gcd(a, p) = 1$, $a^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$.

8. | Polynomials

Definition 122. Let R be a ring. A *polynomial* p with coefficients in R is an expression of the form

$$p = p(x) = a_0 + a_1x + \cdots + a_nx^n$$

where x is a *variable* or an *indeterminate* and $a_i \in R$ are the *coefficients* of p . The term a_0 is called *constant term*, and the term a_n , *leading coefficient*. Finally, the set of all polynomials in the variable x and coefficients in R is denoted by $R[x]$.

Definition 123. Let $p(x) = \sum_{i=0}^n a_i x^i \in R[x]$ be a polynomial such that $a_n \neq 0$. Then, we define the *degree* of $p(x)$ as $\deg p(x) = n$ ⁷.

Definition 124. Let $p(x), q(x) \in R[x]$ such that $p(x) = \sum_{i=0}^n a_i x^i \in R[x]$ and $q(x) = \sum_{i=0}^n n_i x^i \in R[x]$. We define the *sum* of $p(x)$ and $q(x)$ as:

$$p(x) + q(x) = \sum_{i=0}^n (a_i + b_i) x^i$$

We define the *product* of $p(x)$ and $q(x)$ as:

$$p(x) \cdot q(x) = \sum_{i=0}^n c_i x^i \quad \text{where } c_i = \sum_{j=0}^i a_j b_{i-j}$$

Proposition 125. Let K be a field. If $p(x), q(x) \in K[x]$ and $p(x), q(x) \neq 0$, then $p(x) \cdot q(x) \neq 0$.

Theorem 126 (Euclidian division). Let K be a field. Let $p(x), s(x) \in K[x]$ with $s(x) \neq 0$. Then, $\exists! q(x), r(x) \in K[x]$ such that $p(x) = q(x) \cdot s(x) + r(x)$ and $0 \leq \deg(r(x)) < \deg(s(x))$.

Theorem 127. Let K be a field. Then, $K[x]$ is a principal ideal, that is, if $I \subset K[x]$ is an ideal, then $\exists p(x) \in K[x]$ such that $I = p(x) \cdot K[x]$.

Definition 128. Let K be a field. Let $p(x), q(x) \in K[x]$. Then, $\gcd(p(x), q(x))$ is a generator of the ideal $p(x) \cdot K[x] + q(x) \cdot K[x]$ and $\text{lcm}(p(x), q(x))$ is a generator of the ideal $p(x) \cdot K[x] \cap q(x) \cdot K[x]$.

Definition 129. We say that a polynomial $p(x) = \sum_{i=0}^n a_i x^i$ is *monic* if $a_n = 1$.

Theorem 130 (Bézout's theorem). Let K be a field and $p(x), q(x) \in K[x]$. Then, $\exists u(x), v(x) \in K[x]$ such that $p(x) \cdot u(x) + q(x) \cdot v(x) = \gcd(p(x), q(x))$.

Definition 131. Two polynomials $p(x), q(x)$ are *coprime* or *relatively prime* if and only if $\gcd(p(x), q(x)) = 1$.

Theorem 132 (Gauß' theorem). Let K be a field and $p(x), a(x), b(x) \in K[x]$. If $p(x) \mid a(x) \cdot b(x)$ and $\gcd(a(x), p(x)) = 1$, then $p(x) \mid b(x)$.

⁷To see properties relating degrees of polynomials see ??.

Definition 133. Let K be a field. A polynomial $p(x) \in K[x]$ is *prime* if and only if its ideal $p(x) \cdot K[x]$ is maximal, that is, for all ideals $I \subseteq K[x]$ if $p(x) \cdot K[x] \subset I$, then $I = K[x]$.

Definition 134. Let K be a field and $a \in K$. The *evaluation* in a is a function ϕ_a defined as:

$$\begin{aligned}\phi_a : K[x] &\longrightarrow K \\ p(x) &\longmapsto p(a)\end{aligned}$$

Definition 135. Let K be a field and $a \in K$. a is a *root* of $p(x)$ if and only if $\phi_a(p(x)) = p(a) = 0$.

Theorem 136 (Ruffini's rule). Let K be a field, $p(x) \in K[x]$ and $a \in K$. Then, $x - a \mid p(x) \iff p(a) = 0$.

Definition 137. Let K be a field and $p(x) \in K[x]$. Then, $p(x)$ is *irreducible* if and only if $p(x) \cdot K[x]$ is maximal.

Theorem 138. Let K be a field and $p(x) \in K[x]$. Then, $p(x)$ has at most $\deg(p(x))$ roots.

Theorem 139 (D'Alembert theorem). All non-constant polynomials $p(x) \in \mathbb{C}[x]$ has exactly $\deg(p(x))$ roots.

Corollary 140. Let $p(x) \in \mathbb{C}[x]$ be such that $\deg(p(x)) > 1$. Then, $\exists! \alpha, r_1, \dots, r_n \in \mathbb{C}$ such that

$$p(x) = \alpha(x - r_1) \cdots (x - r_n)$$

where r_i are the roots of $p(x)$ and α is the leading coefficient of $p(x)$.

Corollary 141. Let $p(x) \in \mathbb{C}[x]$. The roots of $p(x)$ in $\mathbb{C} \setminus \mathbb{R}$ come in pairs $(r, \bar{r})$, where $\bar{r}$ is the complex conjugate of r .

Theorem 142. In $\mathbb{R}[x]$ irreducible polynomials are of degree 1 or degree 2.