Mathematical Preliminaries

- Sets are collections in which order of elements and duplication of elements do not matter.
 - $\{1,a,1,1\} = \{a,a,a,1\} = \{a,1\}$
 - Notation for *membership*: $1 \in \{3,4,5\}$
 - Set-former notation: $\{x \mid P(x)\}$ is the set of all x which
 - satisfy the property P.
 - $\{x \mid x \in N \text{ and } 2 \ge x \ge 5 \}$
 - $\{x \in N \mid 2 \ge x \ge 5\}$
 - Often a *universe* is specified. Then all sets are assumed to be subsets of the universe (U), and the notation
 - $\{x \mid P(x)\} \text{ stands for } \{x \in U \mid P(x)\}$

Operations on Sets

- empty set : \varnothing
- Union: $A \cup B = \{x \mid x \in A \text{ or } x \in B\}$
- Intersection: $A \cap B = \{x \mid x \in A \text{ and } x \in B\}$
- Difference: $A B = \{x \mid x \in A \text{ and } x \notin B\}$
- Complement: $\underline{A} = U A$

Venn Diagrams



Laws

- A \cup A=A
- $A \cup B=B \cup A$
- $A \cup (B \cup C) = (A \cup B) \cup C$
- $A \cup (B \cap C) = (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C)$
- $\underline{A \cup B} = \underline{A} \cap \underline{B}$
- $A \cup \emptyset = A$
- A \cap A=A
- $A \cap B = B \cap A$
- $A \cap (B \cap C) = (A \cap B) \cap C$
- $A \cap (B \cup C) = (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$
- $\underline{A \cap B} = \underline{A} \cup \underline{B}$
- $A \cap \emptyset = \emptyset$

Subsets and Powerset

- A is a *subset* of B if all elements of A are elements of B as well. Notation: A⊆ B.
- The *powerset* P(A) is the set whose elements are all subsets of A: P(A) = {X | X⊆A }.
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- Fact. If A has n elements, then P(A) has 2ⁿ
- elements.
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- In other words, $|P(A)| = 2^{|A|}$, where |X| denotes the number of elements (*cardinality*) of X.

Proving Equality and non-equality

- To show that two sets A and B are equal, you need to do two proofs:
 - Assume $x \in A$ and then prove $x \in B$
 - Assume $x \in B$ and then prove $x \in A$
- **Example**. Prove that $P(A \cap B) = P(A) \cap P(B)$.
- To prove that two sets A and B are not equal, you need to produce a *counterexample* : an element x that belongs to one of the two sets, but does not belong to the other.
- **Example**. Prove that $P(A \cup B) \neq P(A) \cup P(B)$.
- Counterexample: A={1}, B={2}, X={1,2}. The set X belongs to $P(A \cup B)$, but it does not belong to $P(A) \cup P(B)$.

Strings

- Strings are defined with respect to an *alphabet*, which is an arbitrary *finite* set of symbols. Example alphabets are {0,1} (*binary*) and ASCII.
- A string over an alphabet Σ is any finite sequence of elements of Σ.
- Hello is an ASCII string; 0101011 is a binary string.
- The *length* of a string w is denoted |w|. The set of all strings of length n over Σ is denoted Σⁿ.

More strings

- $\Sigma^0 = \{\Lambda\}$, where Λ is the *empty string* (common to all alphabets).
- Σ^* is the set of *all* strings over Σ :
- $\Sigma^* = \{\Lambda\} \cup \Sigma \cup \Sigma^2 \cup \Sigma^3 \cup \dots$
- Σ^+ is Σ^* with the empty string excluded:
- $\Sigma^* = \Sigma \cup \Sigma^2 \cup \Sigma^3 \cup \dots$

String concatenation

- If u=one and v=two then u v=onetwo and
- v u=twoone. Dot is usually omitted; just write uv for u v.
- Laws:
- $u \bullet (v \bullet w) = (u \bullet v) \bullet w$
- u Λ = u
- ∧ u = u
- $|u \bullet v| = |u| + |v|$
- The nth power of the string u is uⁿ = u u ... u, the concatenation of n copies of u.
- E.g., $One^3 = one one one$.
- Note $u^0 = \Lambda$.

Can you tell the difference?

- There are three things that are sometimes confused.
 - Λ the empty string ("")
- \varnothing the empty set ({ })

 $\{\Lambda\} - \text{the set with just the empty string as an element}$

Languages

- A *language* over an alphabet Σ is any subset of Σ*. That is, any set of strings over Σ.
- Some languages over {0,1}:
 - {Λ,01,0011,000111, ... }
 - The set of all binary representations of prime numbers: {10,11,101,111,1011, ... }
- Some languages over ASCII:
 - The set of all English words
 - The set of all C programs

Language concatenation

 If L and L' are languages, their concatenation L • L' (often denoted LL') is the set

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$$\{u \bullet v \mid u \in L \text{ and } v \in L' \}.$$

- **Example**. {0,00} {1,11} = {01,011,001,0011}.
- The nth power Lⁿ of a language L is L L ... L, n
- times. The zero power L⁰ is the language $\{\Lambda\}$, by definition.
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- **Example**. $\{0,00\}^4 = \{0^4, 0^5, 0^6, 0^7, 0^8\}$

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 Elements of L^{*} are Λ and all strings obtained by concatenating a finite number of strings in L.

$$-L^* = L^0 \cup L^1 \cup L^2 \cup L^3 \cup \dots$$
$$-L^+ = L^1 \cup L^2 \cup L^3 \cup \dots$$

- Note: $L^* = L^+ \cup \{\Lambda\}$

• **Example**. {00,01,10,11}* is the language of all even length binary strings.

Class Exercise

• Fill in the blanks to define some laws:



Mathematical Statements

- *Statements* are sentences that are true or false:
 - [1.] 0=3
 - [2.] ab is a substring of cba
 - [3.] Every square is a rectangle

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- *Predicates* are parameterized statements; they are true or false depending on the values of their parameters.
 - [1.] x>7 and x<9</p>
 - [2.] x+y=5 or x-y=5
 - [3.] If x=y then $x^2=y^2$

Logical Connectives

- Logical connectives produce new statements from simple ones:
 - Conjunction; $A \land B$; A and B
 - Disjunction; $A \lor B$; A or B
 - Implication; $A \Rightarrow B$; if A then B
 - Negation; $\neg A$ not A
 - Logical equivalence; $A \Leftrightarrow B$
 - A if and only if B
 A iff B

Quantifiers

- The universal quantifier (∀ "for every") and the existential quantifier (∃ "there exists") turn predicates into other predicates or statements.
 - There exists x such that x+7=8.
 - For every x, x+y > y.
 - Every square is a rectangle.
- **Example**. True or false?
 - (∀ x)(∀ y) x+y=y
 - (∀ x)(∃ y) x+y=y
 - (∃ x)(∀ y) x+y=y
 - (∀ y)(∃ x) x+y=y
 - (∃ y)(∀ x) x+y=y
 - (∃ x)(∃ y) x+y=y

Proving Implications

- Most theorems are stated in the form of (universally quantified) implication: if A, then B
- To prove it, we *assume* that A is true and proceed to derive the truth of B by using logical reasoning and known facts.
- Silly Theorem. If 0=3 then 5=11.
- *Proof*. Assume 0=3. Then 0=6 (why?). Then 5=11 (why?).
- Note the implicit universal quantification in theorems:
- **Theorem A**. If x+7=13, then x^2=x+20.
- **Theorem B**. If all strings in a language L have even length, then all strings in L* have even length.

Converse

- The converse of the implication A ⇒ B is the implication B ⇒ A. It is quite possible that one of these implications is true, while the other is false.
- E.g., $0=1 \Rightarrow 1=1$ is true,
- but $1=1 \Rightarrow 0=1$ is false.
 - Note that the implication A \Rightarrow B is true in all cases except when A is true and B is false.
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- To prove an equivalence A ⇔ B, we need to prove a pair of converse implications:
 - (1) $A \Rightarrow B$,
 - (2) $B \Rightarrow A$.

Contrapositive

- The contrapositive of the implication $A \Rightarrow B$ is the implication $\neg B \Rightarrow \neg A$. If one of these implications is true, then so is the other. It is often more convenient to prove the contrapositive!
- **Example**. If L_1 and L_2 are non-empty languages such that $L_1^* = L_2^*$ then $L_1 = L_2$.
- *Proof.* Prove the contrapositive instead. Assume $L_1 \neq L_2$. Let w be the shortest possible non-empty string that belongs to one of these languages and does not belong to the other (e.g. $w \in L_1$ and $w \notin L_2$). Then $w \in L_1^*$ and it remains to prove $w \notin L_2^*$. [Finish the proof. Why is the assumption that $L_1, L_2 \neq \emptyset$ necessary?]

Reductio ad absurdum- Proof by Contradiction

- Often, to prove A ⇒ B, we assume both A and ¬ B, and then proceed to derive something absurd (obviously non-true).
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- **Example**. If L is a finite language and L L =L, then L= \emptyset or L={ Λ }.
- Proof. Assume L is finite, L L =L, L≠ Ø, and L≠ {Λ}. Let w be a string in L of maximum length. The assumptions imply that |w|>0. Since w² ∈ L², we must have w² ∈ L. But |w²|=2|w|>|w|, so L contains strings longer than w. Contradiction.
- qed
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Regular Languages

- A regular language over an alphabet Σ
- { a } where $a \in \Sigma$ (a singleton set with a string of length 1)
- Λ the empty string (i.e. "")
- Φ the empty set (i.e. { })
- (x \cup y) The union of two regular languages
- (x . y) The concatenation of two regular languages
- x* The Kleene closure of a regular language